

**BLANK FOR CHIEF'S PREFACE**

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

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## MOTTO, VISION STATEMENT, MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES

# *Yolo County Sheriff's Office*

### Motto

**Honored to Serve**

### Vision Statement

**To provide the highest level of law enforcement service in Yolo County, in partnership with our communities.**

### Mission Statement

**With a commitment to professionalism, integrity, and collaboration, we strive to uphold and respect the rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.**

### Core Values

#### **Service**

We proudly provide professional service to our community in a manner that is fair, courteous, consistent, and effective.

#### **Integrity**

We pledge to uphold our position of trust by maintaining the highest ethical standards that merits the respect of the people we serve.

#### **Community**

We value working together to create mutual trust with a goal of shared success and accomplishment.

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## *Motto, Vision Statement, Mission Statement and Core Values*

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### **Courage**

We strive to maintain strength of character and display bravery despite difficulties, obstacles, or challenges.

### **Commitment**

We will reflect our motto, "Honored to Serve," through our steadfast dedication to public service and the community we serve.

### **Leadership**

We are committed to leading by example and expect all of our members to be leaders within the organization and within the community.

### **Respect**

We treat all members of our community and organization with fairness, impartiality, and dignity by recognizing that respect is not granted, but earned.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

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## *Motto, Vision Statement, Mission Statement and Core Values*

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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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office to perform their functions based on established legal authority.

### 100.2 PEACE OFFICER POWERS

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

#### 100.2.1 ARREST AUTHORITY OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE YOLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The arrest authority outside the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 office except in cases of hot or fresh pursuit, while following up on crimes committed within the County, or while assisting another agency.

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.

#### 100.2.2 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.

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- (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.

### **100.2.3 ARREST AUTHORITY INSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE YOLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

The arrest authority within the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 presence of the deputy such as certain domestic violence offenses.
- (e) In compliance with an arrest warrant.

### **100.3 POLICY**

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

While this 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 office does not tolerate the abuse of law enforcement authority.

### **100.4 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

### 101.1 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.

#### 101.1.1 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).

#### 101.1.2 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

### 102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 102.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 102.3 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."

### 102.4 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

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

# Policy Manual

## 103.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The manual of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office is hereby established and shall be referred to as the Policy Manual or the manual. The manual is a statement of the current policies, rules and guidelines of this department. All members are to conform to the provisions of this manual.

All prior and existing manuals, orders and regulations that are in conflict with this manual are rescinded, except to the extent that portions of existing manuals, procedures, orders and other regulations that have not been included herein shall remain in effect, provided that they do not conflict with the provisions of this manual.

## 103.2 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.

### 103.2.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office reserves the right to revise any policy content, in whole or in part.

## 103.3 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 Special Orders, which shall modify those provisions of the manual to which they pertain. Special Orders shall remain in effect until such time as they may be permanently incorporated into the manual.

### 103.3.1 COMMAND STAFF

Command Staff shall consist of the following:

- Sheriff
- Undersheriff
- The Captain from each division



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The command staff shall review all recommendations regarding proposed changes to the manual at staff meetings.

### **103.4 FORMATTING CONVENTIONS / DEFINITIONS FOR THE POLICY MANUAL**

The purpose of this section is to provide examples of abbreviations and definitions used in this manual.

Acceptable abbreviations

The following abbreviations are acceptable substitutions in the manual:

Policy Manual sections may be abbreviated as "Section 106.X" or "§106.X"

#### 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 Yolo

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

**Department/YCSO** - The Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

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

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

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

**Manual** - The Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual.

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

**Member** - Any person employed or appointed by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, including full-time sworn deputies, reserve deputies, civilian employees and volunteers.

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

**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.

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**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.

**Supervisor** - A person in a position of authority regarding 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.

### **103.5 ISSUING THE POLICY MANUAL / DISTRIBUTION**

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 Special Orders. Members shall seek clarification as needed from an appropriate supervisor for any provisions that they do not fully understand.

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### 103.5.1 MANUAL ACCEPTANCE

As a condition of employment, all employees are required to read and obtain necessary clarification of this department's policies. All employees are required to sign a statement of receipt acknowledging that they have received a copy, or have been provided address to the Policy Manual and understand they are responsible to read and become familiar with its contents.

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

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

### **103.7 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.

## Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

### 104.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all peace officers are aware of their individual responsibilities to maintain their integrity and that of their office at all times.

### 104.2 POLICY

The Law Enforcement Code of Ethics shall be administered to all peace officer trainees during the Basic Academy course and to all other persons at the time of appointment (11 CCR 1013).

### 104.3 LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS

AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, my fundamental duty is to serve; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against abuse 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; 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 in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my office. 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, 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 the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before god to my chosen profession... law enforcement.

#### 104.3.1 OBJECTION TO RELIGIOUS AFFIRMATION

Reference to religious affirmation in the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics may be omitted where objected to by the deputy.

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

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# Organizational Structure and Responsibility

## 200.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The organizational structure of this department is designed to create an efficient means to accomplish our mission and goals and to provide for the best possible service to the public.

## 200.2 DEFINITION OF ORGANIZATIONAL GROUPS DIVISION

The largest group within the office, which performs numerous similar functions, i.e.; Detention Division. A Division is usually the direct responsibility of a Division Commander. The Division Commanders report directly to the Undersheriff.

### SECTION

A section is a group, usually dedicated to a specific function within the Division, i.e., the Civil Section is within the Field Operations Division. Sections may be supervised by line supervisors or mid-management personnel. Section supervisors will report to mid-management positions within their chain, if none, they will report to the Division Commander.

### UNIT

A unit is a sub-group within a section. Usually a unit will be assigned very specific tasks within a section that assists towards the performance of an overall task.; i.e., the C.S.I. Unit is in the Investigations Section. Unit members or supervisors will report to the Section Supervisor.

## 200.3 DIVISIONS

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

- Administration Division
- Detention Division
- Field Operations Division

### 200.3.1 ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administration Division is commanded by a Captain whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Administration Division. The Administration Division consists of the following sections:

- (a) Office of the Sheriff
- (b) Personnel
- (c) Planning
- (d) Legal Services

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- (e) Professional Standards
- (f) Coroner
- (g) Finance
- (h) Workers Compensation / Risk management
- (i) Civil
- (j) Training

### 200.3.2 DETENTION DIVISION

The Detention Division is commanded by a Captain whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for that Division. The Detention Division consists of the following sections:

- (a) Detention Facility
- (b) Court Holding
- (c) Records
- (d) Court Security
- (e) Baliffs
- (f) Transportation
- (g) Medical
- (h) Kitchen
- (i) Work furlough

### 200.3.3 FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Field Operations Division is commanded by a Captain whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for that Division. The Field Operations Division consists of the following sections:

- (a) Patrol
- (b) Marine Patrol
- (c) Investigations
- (d) Animal Services
- (e) Reserves
- (f) Aero Squadron
- (g) Community Services
- (h) S.T.A.R.S.

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(i) Search and Rescue

### **200.4 COMMAND PROTOCOL**

#### **200.4.1 SUCCESSION OF COMMAND**

The Sheriff exercises command over all personnel in the Sheriff's Office. During planned absences the Sheriff will designate the Undersheriff or 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) Administrative Division Commander
- (c) Field Operations Division Commander
- (d) Detention Division Commander
- (e) Sworn Lieutenant
- (f) Sworn Sergeant

#### **200.4.2 UNITY OF COMMAND**

The principles of unity of command ensure efficient supervision and control within the Office. 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., CNT, SWAT), any supervisor may temporarily direct any subordinate if an operational necessity exists.

#### **200.4.3 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.

#### **200.4.4 OPEN DOOR POLICY**

Our administration philosophy provides that Sheriff, Undersheriff, and all managers and supervisors will have an open door policy for all of our members. The open door policy provides members an opportunity to contact any level of supervisor/manager, etc, for the discussion of philosophies, personal problems, and general contact with those leaders where contact is not otherwise available. The open door policy is not for short cutting the chain of command or bypassing immediate supervisors. Each manager and supervisor is charged with responding to all members with any issue particular to the member, but not with day to day issues. As many issues may combine personal situations with day to day issues. The supervisor/manager will refer a member to the appropriate individual for any issues pertinent to day to day issues.



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### **200.5 OFFICER IN CHARGE**

The Officer in Charge (OIC) is a member of the agency who has been specifically designated by his/her supervisor or other appropriate authority to be in charge of a particular shift during the absence of the immediate supervisor. Unless otherwise stated, this will be for one shift only. The supervisor may appoint an OIC for a specific period during extended absences. The OIC is charged with the routine duties normally carried out by his/hersupervisor on a given shift. The OIC is charged with the responsibility of recording the information on any breach of rules, regulations, laws, etc., which occur during his/her time as an OIC. If this breach is of an emergency nature he/she will notify a supervisor immediately. When time off is requested, the OIC will forward the request to the next higher level of supervision for a decision or wait until the return of the absent supervisor.

### **200.6 COMPLIANCE**

All members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall be responsible to adhere to the policies and procedures set forth in this manual.

Any member violating his/her oath and trust by committing an offense punishable under the laws or statutes of the United States, the State of California, or the ordinances of the County of Yolo, or who violates any provision of the Rules and Regulations in this manual or written orders of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, or who disobeys any lawful verbal order, or who is incompetent to perform his/her duties is subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

## Interim Directive

### **201.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Special Orders establish an interdepartmental communication that may be used by the Sheriff to make immediate changes to policy and procedure consistent with the current Memorandum of Understanding and as permitted by Government Code § 3500 et seq. Special Orders will immediately modify or change and supersede sections of this manual to which they pertain.

#### **201.1.1 SPECIAL ORDER PROTOCOL**

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

All existing Special Orders have now been incorporated in the updated Policy Manual as of the below revision date.

Any Special Orders issued after publication of the manual shall be numbered consecutively starting with the last two digits of the year, followed by the number 01. For example, 12-01 signifies the first Special Order for the year 2012.

### **201.2 RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **201.2.1 COMMAND STAFF**

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

#### **201.2.2 SHERIFF**

The Sheriff shall issue all Special Orders.

### **201.3 ACCEPTANCE OF SPECIAL ORDERS**

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

## Administrative Communications

### 202.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 202.2 INFORMATION BULLETIN

Information Bulletins 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.

### 202.3 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.

### 202.4 SURVEYS

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

### 202.5 FORWARDING COMMUNICATIONS VIA CHAIN OF COMMAND

It is the responsibility of all members that appropriate written communications shall be transmitted through the member's chain-of-command. A supervisor receiving a written communication from a subordinate shall use the following procedure:

- (a) Review
- (b) Discuss, or make comments, recommendations of approval or disapproval.
- (c) Initial
- (d) Forward to addressee through the next level of the chain-of-command.
- (e) Return to originator with comments if appropriate, down through chain-of-command.

## Training Policy

### 203.1 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.

### 203.2 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).

### 203.3 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

### 203.4 TRAINING PLAN

A training plan will be developed and maintained by the Training Manager. It is the responsibility of the Training Manager to maintain, review, and update the training plan on an annual basis.

### 203.5 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 but no later than one hour prior to the start of training.

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2. Document his/her absence in a memorandum to his/her supervisor.
3. Make arrangements through his/her supervisor and the Training Manager to attend the required training on an alternate date.

### **203.6 DAILY TRAINING BULLETINS**

The Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) is a web-accessed system that provides training on the Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual and other important topics. Generally, one training bulletin is available for each day of the month. However, the number of DTBs may be adjusted by the Training Manager.

Personnel assigned to participate in DTBs should only use the password and login name assigned to them by the Training Manager. Personnel should not share their password with others and should frequently change their password to protect the security of the system. After each session, employees should log off the system to prevent unauthorized access. The content of the DTBs is copyrighted material and shall not be shared with others outside of the Department.

Employees who are assigned to participate in the DTB program should complete each DTB at the beginning of their shift or as otherwise directed by their supervisor. Employees should not allow uncompleted DTBs to build up over time. Personnel may be required to complete DTBs missed during extended absences (e.g., vacation, medical leave) upon returning to duty. Although the DTB system can be accessed from any Internet active computer, employees shall only take DTBs as part of their on-duty assignment unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

Supervisors will be responsible for monitoring the progress of personnel under their command to ensure compliance with this policy.

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## Electronic Mail

### 204.1 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.

### 204.2 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.

### 204.3 PROHIBITED USE OF E-MAIL

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

E-mail 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 the Sheriff or a Division Commander. 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 e-mail, name and/or password by others.

Examples of prohibited uses are as follows:

Commercial purposes- County resources for electronic communication shall not be used for personal commercial purposes.

Sending copies of documents in violation of copyright laws

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Sending messages, access to which is restricted by laws or regulations

Capturing and opening of undeliverable electronic communication except as required in order for authorized employees to diagnose and correct delivery problems.

Intimidating others or interfering with the ability of others to conduct County business

"Spoofing," i.e., constructing electronic communication so it appears to be from someone else.

"Snooping," i.e., obtaining access to the files or communications of others for the purpose of satisfying idle curiosity or otherwise without a substantial County business purpose.

"Spamming," i.e., sending mass mailings not directly related to County business

Unauthorized access or attempting to breach any security measures on any electronic communication system, or attempting to intercept any electronic communication transmissions without proper authorization.

Forwarding chain letters

Forwarding virus alerts and/or warnings (many of these are hoaxes and should be sent to the helpdesk for validation and dissemination).

Sending or forwarding attachments not related to County business.

### **204.4 PERMISSIBLE USES**

The use of any County resources for electronic communications should be related to County business.

#### **Authorized persons**

Only County staff and other authorized persons conducting County business may use the electronic communication systems.

#### **Personal use**

The County acknowledges that incidental personal use can and will occur. This is considered an acceptable use provided that such use does not cause direct cost to the County or significantly hinders productivity in the workplace. (An example of a use that does not create a direct cost is receiving an email from a friend. An example of a use that does create a direct cost is receiving an electronic book from a friend that involves printing, thus creating a direct cost.)

### **204.5 MANAGEMENT OF E-MAIL**

Email storage is limited to 15 megabytes per user. Notification will be sent out each month to all users that exceed this limit. Notification will be sent to the appropriate department head for any user that exceeds this limit for two consecutive months and the account will temporarily be disabled until such time that the mailbox size is reduced by the user. The user is responsible for maintaining their mailbox(es). Delete or archive files frequently. Contact the helpdesk with questions regarding archiving. Because the e-mail system is not designed for long-term retention of messages, e-

## *Electronic Mail*

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mail that the employee desires to save or that becomes part of an official record should be printed and/or stored in another database. Users of e-mail are solely responsible for the management of their mailboxes. Messages should be purged manually by the user at least once per week. All messages in excess of one month will be deleted at regular intervals from the server computer.

### **204.6 COUNTY ACCESS AND DISCLOSURE**

#### **Grounds required for access**

The county reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of staff and other authorized users' electronic communications, but will do so only when there is a legitimate business need and only with explicit authorization from the County Administrative Office in conjunction with County Counsel.

#### **Monitoring of messages**

The County will not monitor electronic messages as a routine matter. It will do so only in the course of an investigation triggered by suspicions of misconduct or in response to legal processes to fulfill County obligations.

Messages sent or received by an authorized user in the course and scope of his or her duties for the County, and which are protected by privileges and confidentiality guaranteed by the Constitution and Other laws of the United States and the State of California, are considered "confidential information" under this policy. All County officers, agents and employees, including but not limited to the Information Technology Division, its staff and all other persons who undertake monitoring activities or otherwise monitor, intercept or receive messages on this system, shall respect the privileges and confidentiality that apply to such confidential information. In the event that any message containing such confidential information is monitored, intercepted or received by any person other than the intended recipient, that person or persons shall be "agents" of the office from which the intercepted originated or was directed, being subject to all ethical and legal restrictions such agency entails. In the event that any reports are generated as a result of messages being intercepted by any of the aforementioned parties, a detailed report concerning such information may only be communicated to the Department head of the person sending or receiving the message being intercepted. Any other report generated concerning such monitored message shall be general in nature and not name either sender or recipient, nor refer to the content, or disclose the content of the message.

### **204.7 DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against individuals found to have engaged in prohibited use of the County's electronic communications systems.

### **204.8 INTERNET MAIL ATTACHMENTS**

All email attachments can contain hazards. Always use caution; do not open attachments unless the sender is known and trusted. Otherwise, forward the email and attachment to the helpdesk for inspection.



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### **204.9 EMPLOYEE DEPARTURE**

When an employee leaves the County service, the department shall notify the information technology division immediately. The email account will be assigned to the departing employee's supervisor for action and will be deleted from the system thirty days after the employee's departure date.

## License to Carry a Firearm

### 205.1 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.

#### 205.1.1 APPLICATION OF POLICY

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the Chief or other head of a municipal police department 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 to process all applications and license renewals for the carrying of concealed weapons (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).

### 205.2 POLICY

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

### 205.3 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 Yolo (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). The applicant shall provide at least three signed letters of character reference.
- (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) All firearms must be registered to the applicant.

## *License to Carry a Firearm*

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- (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).

### **205.4 APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application process for a license to carry a firearm 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.

#### **205.4.1 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. In the event of any discrepancies in the application or background investigation, the applicant may be required to undergo a polygraph examination, at no cost to the applicant.
  - 2. 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) Advance the incomplete package to phase two for conditional processing pending completion of all mandatory conditions.
    - (c) 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 payment for the required nonrefundable California DOJ and County of Yolo fees to cover the cost of processing the application (Penal Code § 26190).
  - (a) Additional fees may be required for fingerprinting, training or psychological testing, in addition to the application fee.
  - (b) Full payment of the remainder of the application fee will be required prior to issuance of a license.

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## *License to Carry a Firearm*

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- (c) Payment of related fees may be waived if the applicant is a duly appointed reserve peace officer as defined in Penal Code § 830.6 (a) or (b) (Penal Code § 26170).
- (c) The applicant shall be required to submit to fingerprinting and a complete criminal background check by the California DOJ. 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 should submit at least three signed letters of character reference from individuals other than relatives.
- (e) All firearms shall be registered to applicant.

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).

### 205.4.2 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 a personal interview with the Sheriff or authorized 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 will provide written notice to the applicant as to the determination of good cause (Penal Code § 26202).
- (b) The Sheriff may, based upon criteria established by the Sheriff, require that the applicant be referred to an authorized psychologist used by the Department for psychological testing. The cost of such psychological testing (not to exceed \$150) shall be paid by the applicant. The purpose of any such psychological testing is intended only to identify any outward indications or history of psychological problems that might

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render the applicant unfit to carry a firearm. This testing is not intended to certify in any other respect that the applicant is psychologically fit. If it is determined that the applicant is not a suitable candidate for carrying a firearm, the applicant shall be removed from further consideration (Penal Code § 26190).

- (c) The applicant shall complete a course of training approved by the agency, 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).
- (d) The applicant shall submit any firearm to be considered for a license to the Rangemaster or other departmentally authorized gunsmith, at no cost to the applicant, for a full safety inspection. The Sheriff reserves the right to deny a license for any firearm that has been altered from the manufacturer's specifications or that is unsafe (Penal Code § 31910).
- (e) The applicant shall successfully complete a firearms safety and proficiency examination with the firearm to be licensed, to be administered by the department Rangemaster, or provide proof of successful completion of another departmentally approved firearms safety and proficiency examination, including completion of all releases and other forms. The cost of any outside inspection/examination shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

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).

### 205.4.3 CRITERIA

- Examples of valid reasons to request a permit include, but are not limited to:
  - (a) Victim's of violent crime and/ or documented threats of violence
  - (b) Business owners who carry large sums of cash or valuable items.
  - (c) Business owners who work all hours in remote areas and are likely to encounter dangerous people and situations
- Examples of invalid reasons to request a permit include, but are not limited to:
  - (a) Recreation in remote areas
  - (b) Hunting or fishing
  - (c) Self-protection and protection of family without credible threat of violence

## *License to Carry a Firearm*

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- (d) Employment in the security field, i.e. security guard, body guard, VIP protection
- (e) Personal safety due to job conditions or duties placed on the applicant by their employer

### **205.5 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 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 Yolo (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).
- (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).

### **205.6 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 not be valid outside the state of California.
- (b) 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.
- (c) The license shall be laminated with the expiration date, type of firearm, restrictions and other pertinent information clearly visible.

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### *License to Carry a Firearm*

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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.
- (d) 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.
- (e) 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).
- (f) The licensee shall notify this department in writing within 10 days of any change of place of residency.

#### 205.6.1 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.

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## *License to Carry a Firearm*

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### 205.6.2 AMENDMENTS TO LICENSES

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

- (a) Add or delete authority to carry a firearm listed on the license.
- (b) Change restrictions or conditions previously placed on the license.
- (c) 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.

### 205.6.3 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.
- (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.
- (e) If the license is one to carry "loaded and exposed," the license shall be revoked immediately upon a change of the licensee's place of residence to another county (Penal Code § 26210).

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 will immediately notify the licensee in writing and the California DOJ (Penal Code § 26225).

### 205.6.4 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:



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- (a) Submitting a new application under penalty of perjury.
- (b) Completing a department-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).
- (c) Submitting any firearm to be considered for a license renewal to the Rangemaster for a full safety inspection. The Sheriff reserves the right to deny a license for any firearm that has been altered from the manufacturer's specifications or that is unsafe (Penal Code § 31910).
- (d) 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).

### **205.7 DEPARTMENT 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.

### **205.8 CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS**

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

Any information in an application or license which tends to indicate 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

### 206.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 206.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to provide identification cards to qualified former or retired deputies as provided in this policy.

### 206.3 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) Has not entered into an agreement with this department where the deputy acknowledges that he/she is not qualified to receive a firearm qualification certificate for reasons related to mental health.
- (e) Is not prohibited by federal law from receiving or possessing a firearm.

#### 206.3.1 LEOSA IDENTIFICATION CARD FORMAT

The LEOSA identification card should contain a photograph of the former deputy and identify him/her as having been employed as a deputy.

If the Yolo County Sheriff's Office qualifies the former deputy, the LEOSA identification card or separate certification should indicate the date the former deputy was tested or otherwise found by the Department to meet the active duty standards for qualification to carry a firearm.

#### 206.3.2 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

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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 for 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 agency in that state.
  - (b) Not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance.
  - (c) Not prohibited by federal 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.

### **206.4 CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUANCE**

Any full-time sworn deputy of this department who was authorized to, and did, carry a concealed 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. It 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).

#### **206.4.1 CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD FORMAT**

The identification card issued to any qualified and honorably retired deputy shall be 2 inches by 3 inches, and minimally contain (Penal Code § 25460):

- (a) A photograph of the retiree.
- (b) The retiree's name and date of birth.
- (c) The date of retirement.
- (d) The name and address of this department.
- (e) A stamped CCW Approved endorsement along with the date by which the endorsement must be renewed (not more than one year). If a CCW endorsement has been denied or revoked, the identification card shall be stamped "No CCW Privilege."

#### **206.4.2 QUALIFIED RETIREES FROM INCORPORATED JURISDICTION**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall 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):

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- (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 record 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.

#### 206.4.3 QUALIFIED RETIRED RESERVES

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

#### **206.5 FORMER DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

A former deputy with a card issued under this policy shall immediately notify the Shift Supervisor of his/her arrest or conviction in any jurisdiction, or that he/she is the subject of a court order, in accordance with the Reporting of Employee Convictions policy.

##### 206.5.1 RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER LEOSA

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

- (a) Sign a waiver of liability of the Department for all acts taken related to carrying a concealed firearm, acknowledging both his/her personal responsibility as a private person for all acts taken when carrying a concealed firearm as permitted by LEOSA and also that these acts were not taken as an employee or former employee of the Department.
- (b) Remain subject to all applicable department policies and federal, state and local laws.
- (c) Demonstrate good judgment and character commensurate with carrying a loaded and concealed firearm.

##### 206.5.2 MAINTAINING A CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD CCW ENDORSEMENT

In order to maintain a CCW Approved endorsement on an identification card issued under California law, the retired deputy shall (Penal Code § 26305):

- (a) Remain subject to all applicable department policies and federal, state and local laws.
- (b) Not engage in conduct that compromises public safety.

#### **206.6 DENIAL, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF A LEOSA IDENTIFICATION CARD**

A LEOSA identification card may be denied or revoked upon a showing of good cause as determined by the Department. In the event that an identification card is denied, suspended or revoked, the former deputy may request a review by the Sheriff. The decision of the Sheriff is final.

#### **206.7 DENIAL, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF A CALIFORNIA CCW ENDORSEMENT CARD**

A CCW endorsement under Penal Code § 25470 for any deputy retired from this department may be denied or revoked only upon a showing of good cause. The CCW endorsement may be

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### *Retiree Concealed Firearms*

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immediately and temporarily revoked by the Shift Supervisor when the conduct of a retired peace officer compromises public safety.

- (a) In the event that a CCW endorsement is initially denied, the retired deputy shall have 15 days from the date of denial to request a formal hearing. The failure to submit a timely written request for a hearing shall be deemed a waiver of such right. The hearing, absent written agreement between the parties, shall be held no later than 120 days after the request is received.
- (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.
  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) A 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."
- (d) Members who have reason to suspect the conduct of a retiree has compromised public safety shall notify the Shift Supervisor as soon as practicable. The Shift Supervisor should promptly take appropriate steps to look into the matter and, if warranted, contact the retiree in person and advise him/her of the temporary suspension and hearing information listed below.
  1. 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).
  2. The Shift Supervisor should document the investigation, the actions taken and, if applicable, any notification made to the retiree. The memo should be forwarded to the Sheriff.
  3. The personal and written notification should be as follows:
    - (a) The retiree's CCW endorsement is immediately and temporarily suspended.

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- (b) The retiree has 15 days to request a hearing to determine whether the temporary suspension should become permanent revocation.
  - (c) 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.
4. In the event that personal contact with the retiree cannot be reasonably achieved in a timely manner, the Shift Supervisor should attempt to make the above notice of temporary suspension through another law enforcement officer. For example, if a retiree was arrested or detained by a distant agency, the Shift Supervisor may request that a law enforcement officer from that agency act as the agent of the Department to deliver the written notification.

## **Chapter 3 - General Operations**

## Standards of Conduct

### 300.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and are expected of all office 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 office or a member's supervisors.

### 300.2 POLICY

The continued employment or appointment of every member of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall be based on conduct that reasonably conforms to the guidelines set forth herein. Failure to meet the guidelines set forth in this policy, whether on- or off-duty, may be cause for disciplinary action.

### 300.3 DIRECTIVES AND ORDERS

Members shall comply with lawful directives and orders from any office supervisor or person in a position of authority, absent a reasonable and bona fide justification.

#### 300.3.1 UNLAWFUL OR CONFLICTING ORDERS

Supervisors shall not knowingly issue orders or directives that, if carried out, would result in a violation of any law or office policy. Supervisors should not issue orders that conflict with any previous order without making reasonable clarification that the new order is intended to countermand the earlier order.

No member is required to obey any order that appears to be in direct conflict with any federal law, state law or local ordinance. Following a known unlawful order is not a defense and does not relieve the member from criminal or civil prosecution or administrative discipline. If the legality of an order is in doubt, the affected member shall ask the issuing supervisor to clarify the order or shall confer with a higher authority. The responsibility for refusal to obey rests with the member, who shall subsequently be required to justify the refusal.

Unless it would jeopardize the safety of any individual, members who are presented with a lawful order that is in conflict with a previous lawful order, office policy or other directive shall respectfully inform the issuing supervisor of the conflict. The issuing supervisor is responsible for either resolving the conflict or clarifying that the lawful order is intended to countermand the previous lawful order or directive, in which case the member is obliged to comply. Members who are compelled to follow a conflicting lawful order after having given the issuing supervisor the opportunity to correct the conflict, will not be held accountable for disobedience of the lawful order or directive that was initially issued.



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The person countermanning the original order shall notify, in writing, the person issuing the original order, indicating the action taken and the reason.

### 300.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors and managers are required to follow all policies and procedures and may be subject to discipline for:

- (a) Failure to be reasonably aware of the performance of their subordinates or to provide appropriate guidance and control.
- (b) Failure to promptly and fully report any known misconduct of a member to his/her immediate supervisor or to document such misconduct appropriately or as required by policy.
- (c) Directing a subordinate to violate a policy or directive, acquiesce to such a violation, or are indifferent to any such violation by a subordinate.
- (d) The unequal or disparate exercise of authority on the part of a supervisor toward any member for malicious or other improper purpose.

### 300.4 GENERAL STANDARDS

Members shall conduct themselves, whether on- or off-duty, in accordance with the United States and California Constitutions and all applicable laws, ordinances and rules enacted or established pursuant to legal authority.

Members shall familiarize themselves with policies and procedures and are responsible for compliance with each. Members should seek clarification and guidance from supervisors in the event of any perceived ambiguity or uncertainty.

Discipline may be initiated for any good cause. It is not mandatory that a specific policy or rule violation be cited to sustain discipline. This policy is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct.

### 300.5 CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE

The following are illustrative of causes for disciplinary action. This list is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct and does not preclude the recommendation of disciplinary action for violation of other rules, standards, ethics and specific action or inaction that is detrimental to efficient office service:

#### 300.5.1 LAWS, RULES AND ORDERS

- (a) Violation of, or ordering or instructing a subordinate to violate any policy, procedure, rule, order, directive, requirement or failure to follow instructions contained in office or County manuals.
- (b) Disobedience of any legal directive or order issued by any office member of a higher rank.
- (c) Violation of federal, state, local or administrative laws, rules or regulations.

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#### 300.5.2 ETHICS

- (a) Using or disclosing one's status as a member of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office in any way that could reasonably be perceived as an attempt to gain influence or authority for non--office business or activity.
- (b) The wrongful or unlawful exercise of authority on the part of any member for malicious purpose, personal gain, willful deceit or any other improper purpose.
- (c) The receipt or acceptance of a reward, fee or gift from any person for service incident to the performance of the member's duties (lawful subpoena fees and authorized work permits excepted).
- (d) Acceptance of fees, gifts or money contrary to the rules of this office and/or laws of the state.
- (e) Offer or acceptance of a bribe or gratuity.
- (f) Misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel or services.
- (g) Any other failure to abide by the standards of ethical conduct.

#### 300.5.3 DISCRIMINATION, OPPRESSION OR FAVORITISM

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.

#### 300.5.4 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 office.
- (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 office.

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#### 300.5.5 ATTENDANCE

- (a) Leaving the job to which the member is assigned during duty hours without reasonable excuse and proper permission and approval.
- (b) Unexcused or unauthorized absence or tardiness.
- (c) Excessive absenteeism or abuse of leave privileges.
- (d) Failure to report to work or to place of assignment at time specified and fully prepared to perform duties without reasonable excuse.

#### 300.5.6 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 office.
  - (a) Members of this office 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 office for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (d) Loaning, selling, allowing unauthorized use, giving away or appropriating any Yolo County Sheriff's Office badge, uniform, identification card or office property for personal use, personal gain or any other improper or unauthorized use or purpose.
- (e) Using office 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.

#### 300.5.7 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 Office within 24 hours of any change in residence address, contact telephone numbers or marital status.

#### 300.5.8 PERFORMANCE

- (a) Failure to disclose or misrepresenting material facts, or making 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.

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- (b) The falsification of any work-related records, making misleading entries or statements with the intent to deceive or the willful and unauthorized removal, alteration, destruction and/or mutilation of any office record, public record, book, paper or document.
- (c) Failure to participate in, or 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 office-related business.
- (d) Being untruthful or knowingly making false, misleading or malicious statements that are reasonably calculated to harm the reputation, authority or official standing of this office or its members where the language is not protected associational speech.
- (e) Disparaging remarks or conduct concerning duly constituted authority to the extent that such conduct disrupts the efficiency of this office or subverts the good order, efficiency and discipline of this office or that would tend to discredit any of its members.
- (f) Unlawful gambling or unlawful betting at any time or any place. Legal gambling or betting under any of the following conditions:
  - (a) While on office premises.
  - (b) At any work site, while on-duty or while in uniform, or while using any office equipment or system.
  - (c) Gambling activity undertaken as part of a deputy official duties and with the express knowledge and permission of a direct supervisor is exempt from this prohibition.
- (g) Improper political activity including:
  - (a) Unauthorized attendance while on-duty at official legislative or political sessions.
  - (b) Solicitations, speeches or distribution of campaign literature for or against any political candidate or position while on-duty or, on office property except as expressly authorized by County policy, the memorandum of understanding, or the Sheriff.
- (h) Engaging in political activities during assigned working hours except as expressly authorized by County policy, the memorandum of understanding, or the Sheriff.
- (i) Any act on- or off -duty that brings discredit to this office.

#### 300.5.9 CONDUCT

- (a) Failure of any member to promptly and fully report activities on his/her part or the part of any other member where such activities resulted in contact with any other law enforcement agency or that may result in criminal prosecution or discipline under this policy.
- (b) Unreasonable and unwarranted force to a person encountered or a person under arrest.
- (c) Exceeding lawful peace officer powers by unreasonable, unlawful or excessive conduct.

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- (d) Unauthorized or unlawful fighting, threatening or attempting to inflict unlawful bodily harm on another.
- (e) Engaging in horseplay that reasonably could result in injury or property damage.
- (f) Discourteous, disrespectful or discriminatory treatment of any member of the public or any member of this office or the County.
- (g) Use of obscene, indecent, profane or derogatory language while on--duty or in uniform.
- (h) Criminal, dishonest, or disgraceful conduct, whether on- or off-duty, that adversely affects the member's relationship with this office.
- (i) Unauthorized possession of, loss of, or damage to office property or the property of others, or endangering it through carelessness or maliciousness.
- (j) Attempted or actual theft of office property; misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel or the services or property of others; unauthorized removal or possession of office property or the property of another person.
- (k) Activity that is incompatible with a member's conditions of employment or appointment as established by law or that violates a provision of any memorandum of understanding or contract to include fraud in securing the appointment or hire.
- (l) Initiating any civil action for recovery of any damages or injuries incurred in the course and scope of employment or appointment without first notifying the Sheriff of such action.
- (m) Any other on-- or off- -duty conduct which any member knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming a member of this office, is contrary to good order, efficiency or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon this office or its members.

#### 300.5.10 SAFETY

- (a) Failure to observe or violating office safety standards or safe working practices.
- (b) Failure to maintain current licenses or certifications required for the assignment or position (e.g., driver license, first aid).
- (c) Failure to maintain good physical condition sufficient to adequately and safely perform law enforcement duties.
- (d) Unsafe firearm or other dangerous weapon handling to include loading or unloading firearms in an unsafe manner, either on- or off- duty.
- (e) Carrying, while on the premises of the work place, any firearm or other lethal weapon that is not authorized by the member's appointing authority.
- (f) Unsafe or improper driving habits or actions in the course of employment or appointment.
- (g) Any personal action contributing to a preventable traffic collision.
- (h) Concealing or knowingly failing to report any on-the-job or work-related accident or injury as soon as practicable but within 24 hours.

#### 300.5.11 INTOXICANTS

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- (a) Reporting for work or being at work while intoxicated or when the member's ability to perform assigned duties is impaired due to the use of alcohol, medication or drugs, whether legal, prescribed or illegal.
- (b) Possession or use of alcohol at any work site or while on-duty, except as authorized in the performance of an official assignment. A member who is authorized to consume alcohol is not permitted to do so to such a degree that it may impair on-duty performance.
- (c) Unauthorized possession, use of, or attempting to bring a controlled substance, illegal drug or non-prescribed medication to any work site.

## Use of Force

### 301.1 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 office is expected to use these guidelines to make such decisions in a professional, impartial, and reasonable manner (Government Code § 7286).

In addition to those methods, techniques, and tools set forth below, the guidelines for the reasonable application of force contained in this policy shall apply to all policies addressing the potential use of force, including but not limited to the Control Devices and Techniques and Conducted Energy Device policies.

#### 301.1.1 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).

**Feasible** - Reasonably capable of being done or carried out under the circumstances to successfully achieve the arrest or lawful objective without increasing risk to the deputy or another person (Government Code § 7286(a)).

**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.

**Serious bodily injury** - A serious impairment of physical condition, including but not limited to the following: loss of consciousness; concussion; bone fracture; protracted loss or impairment of function of any bodily member or organ; a wound requiring extensive suturing; and serious disfigurement (Penal Code § 243(f)(4)).

**Totality of the circumstances** - All facts known to the deputy at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of force (Penal Code § 835a).

### 301.2 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 Office 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.

## *Use of Force*

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### 301.2.1 DUTY TO INTERCEDE

Any deputy present and observing another law enforcement officer or an employee using force that is clearly beyond that which is necessary, as determined by an objectively reasonable deputy under the circumstances, shall, when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force.

When observing force used by a law enforcement officer, each deputy should take into account the totality of the circumstances and the possibility that other law enforcement officers may have additional information regarding the threat posed by the subject (Government Code § 7286(b)).

### 301.2.2 FAIR AND UNBIASED USE OF FORCE

Deputies are expected to carry out their duties, including the use of force, in a manner that is fair and unbiased (Government Code § 7286(b)). See the Bias-Based Policing Policy for additional guidance.

### 301.2.3 DUTY TO REPORT EXCESSIVE FORCE

Any deputy who observes a law enforcement officer or an employee use force that potentially exceeds what the deputy reasonably believes to be necessary shall promptly report these observations to a supervisor as soon as feasible (Government Code § 7286(b)).

## **301.3 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 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. Deputies may only use a level of force that they reasonably believe is proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance (Government Code § 7286(b)).

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 approved tools, weapons, or methods provided by the 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.



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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.

### 301.3.1 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).

### 301.3.2 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 (Government Code § 7286(b)). 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 (Penal Code § 835a).
- (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 leading up to the use of force (Penal Code § 835a).
- (e) The effects of suspected 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).
- (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 prior to and at the time force is used.
- (l) Training and experience of the deputy.
- (m) Potential for injury to deputies, suspects, bystanders, and others.
- (n) Whether the person appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the deputy.

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- (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.

### 301.3.3 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 office-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.

### 301.3.4 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CAROTID CONTROL HOLD

Deputies of this office are not authorized to use a carotid restraint hold. A carotid restraint means a vascular neck restraint or any similar restraint, hold, or other defensive tactic in which pressure is applied to the sides of a person's neck that involves a substantial risk of restricting blood flow and may render the person unconscious in order to subdue or control the person (Government Code § 7286.5).

### 301.3.5 ALTERNATIVE TACTICS - DE-ESCALATION

As time and circumstances reasonably permit, and when community and officer safety would not be compromised, deputies should consider actions that may increase deputy safety and may decrease the need for using force:

- (a) Summoning additional resources that are able to respond in a reasonably timely manner.
- (b) Formulating a plan with responding deputies before entering an unstable situation that does not reasonably appear to require immediate intervention.
- (c) Employing other tactics that do not unreasonably increase deputy jeopardy.

In addition, when reasonable, deputies should evaluate the totality of circumstances presented at the time in each situation and, when feasible, consider and utilize reasonably available alternative tactics and techniques that may persuade an individual to voluntarily comply or may mitigate the

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need to use a higher level of force to resolve the situation before applying force (Government Code § 7286(b)). Such alternatives may include but are not limited to:

- (a) Attempts to de-escalate a situation.
- (b) If reasonably available, the use of crisis intervention techniques by properly trained personnel.

#### **301.3.6 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF A CHOKE HOLD**

Deputies of this office are not authorized to use a choke hold. A choke hold means any defensive tactic or force option in which direct pressure is applied to a person's trachea or windpipe (Government Code § 7286.5).

#### **301.4 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS**

Where feasible, the deputy shall, prior to the use of deadly force, make reasonable efforts to identify him/herself 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 (Penal Code 835a).

If an objectively reasonable deputy would consider it safe and feasible to do so under the totality of the circumstances, deputies shall evaluate and use other reasonably available resources and techniques when determining whether to use deadly force. To the extent that it is reasonably practical, deputies should consider their surroundings and any potential risks to bystanders prior to discharging a firearm (Government Code § 7286(b)).

The use of deadly force is only justified when the deputy reasonably believes it is necessary 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.
- (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.

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).

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#### 301.4.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES

Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective and may involve additional considerations and risks. When feasible, deputies should take reasonable steps to 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 imminent threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the deputy or others (Government Code § 7286(b)).

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

#### 301.4.2 DISPLAYING OF FIREARMS

Given that individuals might perceive the display of a firearm as a potential application of force, deputies should carefully evaluate each tactical situation and use sound discretion when drawing a firearm in public by considering the following guidelines (Government Code § 7286(b)):

- (a) If the deputy does not initially perceive a threat but reasonably believes that the potential for such threat exists, firearms should generally be kept in the low-ready or other position not directed toward an individual.
- (b) If the deputy reasonably believes that a threat exists based on the totality of circumstances presented at the time (e.g., high-risk stop, tactical entry, armed encounter), firearms may be directed toward such threat until the deputy no longer perceives such threat.

Once it is reasonably safe to do so, deputies should carefully secure all firearms.

### **301.5 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE**

Any use of force by a member of this office 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 Office may require the completion of additional report forms, as specified in office policy, procedure, or law. See the Report Preparation Policy for additional circumstances that may require documentation.

#### 301.5.1 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.
- (d) The individual indicates intent to pursue litigation.
- (e) Any application of a TASER device or control device.

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- (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 unreasonable force was used or that any of the above has occurred.

#### 301.5.2 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 Section Policy.

#### **301.6 MEDICAL CONSIDERATION**

Once it is reasonably safe to do so, properly trained deputies should promptly provide or procure medical assistance for any person injured or claiming to have been injured in a use of force incident (Government Code § 7286(b)).

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 the on-scene supervisor is 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.

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### 301.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

A supervisor should respond to any reported use of force, if reasonably available. The responding supervisor is expected to (Government Code § 7286(b)):

- (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) When possible, separately obtain a recorded interview with the subject upon whom force was applied. If this interview is conducted without the person having voluntarily waived his/her *Miranda* rights, the following shall apply:
  1. The content of the interview should not be summarized or included in any related criminal charges.
  2. The fact that a recorded interview was conducted should be documented in a property or other report.
  3. The recording of the interview should be distinctly marked for retention until all potential for civil litigation has expired.
- (d) Once any initial medical assessment has been completed or first aid has been rendered, ensure that photographs have been taken of any areas involving visible injury or complaint of pain, as well as overall photographs of uninjured areas. These photographs should be retained until all potential for civil litigation has expired.
- (e) Identify any witnesses not already included in related reports.
- (f) Review and approve all related reports.
- (g) 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 notify the Administrative Division via the chain-of-command.
- (h) Evaluate the circumstances surrounding the incident and if there is a question of policy non-compliance or if for any reason further investigation may be appropriate, notify the Division Commander verbally or in writing depending on the urgency of the circumstances.

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.

#### 301.7.1 SHIFT SERGEANT RESPONSIBILITY

The Shift Sergeant shall review each use of force by any personnel within his/her command to ensure compliance with this policy and to address any training. An inter-office memorandum shall be forwarded to the Division Commander documenting the Shift Sergeant's findings and/or recommendations regarding the use of force.

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### **301.8 TRAINING**

Deputies, investigators, and supervisors will receive periodic training on this policy and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding (Government Code § 7286(b)).

Subject to available resources, the Training Manager should ensure that deputies receive periodic training on de-escalation tactics, including alternatives to force.

Training should also include (Government Code § 7286(b)):

- (a) Guidelines regarding vulnerable populations, including but not limited to children, elderly persons, pregnant individuals, and individuals with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities.
- (b) Training courses required by and consistent with POST guidelines set forth in Penal Code § 13519.10.

### **301.9 USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS**

At least annually, all Division Commanders should prepare an analysis report on use of force incidents. The report should be submitted to the Sheriff. The report should not contain the names of deputies, suspects or case numbers, and should include:

- (a) The identification of any trends in the use of force by members.
- (b) Training needs recommendations.
- (c) Equipment needs recommendations.
- (d) Policy revision recommendations.

### **301.10 USE OF FORCE COMPLAINTS**

The receipt, processing, and investigation of civilian complaints involving use of force incidents should be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy (Government Code § 7286(b)).

### **301.11 POLICY REVIEW**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee should regularly review and update this policy to reflect developing practices and procedures (Government Code § 7286(b)).

### **301.12 POLICY AVAILABILITY**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee should ensure this policy is accessible to the public (Government Code § 7286(c)).

### **301.13 PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS**

Requests for public records involving a deputy's personnel records shall be processed in accordance with Penal Code § 832.7 and the Personnel Records and Records Maintenance and Release policies (Government Code § 7286(b)).

## Firearms

### 302.1 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 a firearm that are addressed in the Use of Force or Yolo County Protocol for Response to Officer-Involved Fatal Incidents policy.

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

### 302.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will equip its members with firearms to address the risks posed to the public and office members by violent and sometimes well-armed persons. The Office will ensure firearms are appropriate and in good working order and that relevant training is provided as resources allow.

### 302.3 AUTHORIZED FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND OTHER WEAPONS

Members shall only use firearms that are issued or approved by the Office and have been thoroughly inspected by the Rangemaster or authorized designee. 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 office range.

All other weapons not provided by the 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 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.

A deputy working a plain clothes assignment may be authorized to carry a revolver as his/her primary handgun with approval of his/her supervisor.

#### 302.3.1 HANDGUNS

The authorized office-issued handguns are the Glock Model 17 and Glock Model 22. Additionally, the authorized office-issued handguns for SWAT Operators are the Glock Model 35 and Sig Sauer Model 1911. The following additional handguns by make and caliber are approved for on-duty use:

APPROVED MAKER	APPROVED CALIBER
Glock	9mm
Smith and Wesson	.357 Sig
Sig Sauer	.40 cal
Beretta	.45 ACP



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Heckler & Koch	
Springfield	
Colt	
Ruger	
Walther	

### 302.3.2 SHOTGUNS

The authorized office-issued shotgun is the Remington 870 12 gauge. The following additional shotguns by make and caliber are approved for on-duty use:

MAKE	CALIBER
Browning	12 gauge
Benelli	
Mossberg	
Winchester	
Weatherby	

When not deployed, the shotgun shall be properly secured in a locking weapons rack in the patrol vehicle with the magazine loaded, the action closed on an empty chamber, and the safety in the safe position.

### 302.3.3 PATROL RIFLES

The authorized office-issued patrol rifle is the Colt AR-15. Additional makes and models may be approved by the Rangemaster and Division Commander if the firearm meets military specifications. The calibers for additionally approved rifles is restricted to .223, 5.56 and .308.

Members may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the member 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 member reasonably anticipates an armed encounter.
- (b) When a member is faced with a situation that may require accurate and effective fire at long range.
- (c) Situations where a member reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower.
- (d) When a member reasonably believes that there may be a need to fire on a barricaded person or a person with a hostage.
- (e) When a member 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.

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When not deployed, the patrol rifle shall be properly secured in a locking weapons rack in the patrol vehicle with the chamber empty, magazine loaded and inserted into the magazine well, the bolt forward with the dust cover closed, and the selector lever in the safe position.

Optics or laser sights may only be installed on a firearm carried on- or off-duty after they have been examined and approved by the Rangemaster. Any approved sight shall only be installed in strict accordance with manufacturer specifications. Once approved sights have been properly installed on any firearm, the member shall qualify with the firearm to ensure proper functionality and sighting of the firearm prior to carrying it.

Except in an approved training situation, a member may only sight in on a target when the member would otherwise be justified in pointing a firearm at the target.

### 302.3.4 PERSONALLY OWNED DUTY FIREARMS

Members desiring to carry an authorized but personally owned duty firearm must receive written approval from the Sheriff or the authorized designee. Once approved, personally owned duty firearms are subject to the following restrictions:

- (a) The firearm shall be in good working order and on the office list of approved firearms.
- (b) The firearm shall be inspected by the Rangemaster prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.
- (c) Prior to carrying the firearm, members shall qualify under range supervision and thereafter shall qualify in accordance with the office qualification schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency and safe handling, and that the firearm functions properly.
- (d) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number and caliber of the firearm to the Rangemaster, who will maintain a list of the information.

### 302.3.5 AUTHORIZED SECONDARY HANDGUN

Members desiring to carry office or personally owned secondary handguns are subject to the following restrictions:

- (a) The handgun shall be in good working order and on the office list of approved firearms.
- (b) The purchase of the handgun and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member unless the handgun and ammunition are provided by the Office.
- (c) The handgun shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.
- (d) The handgun shall be inspected by the Rangemaster or authorized designee prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.
- (e) Ammunition shall be the same as office issue. If the caliber of the handgun is other than office issue, the Sheriff or the authorized designee shall approve the ammunition.
- (f) Prior to carrying the secondary handgun, members shall qualify under range supervision and thereafter shall qualify in accordance with the office qualification

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schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency and safe handling, and that the handgun functions properly.

- (g) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number and caliber of a secondary handgun to the Rangemaster, who will maintain a list of the information.
- (h) In addition to the approved calibers for authorized office-issued handguns, the following calibers are authorized for secondary handguns: .380, .38 Special and .357 Magnum.

#### 302.3.6 AUTHORIZED OFF-DUTY FIREARMS

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

- (a) The member may use his/her duty firearm or may use a personally owned firearm that is carried and inspected in accordance with the Personally Owned Duty Firearms requirements in this policy. A member carrying his/her duty firearm will be deemed to have complied with (c), (d) and (e) of this section.
  - 1. The purchase of the personally owned firearm and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member.
- (b) The firearm shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent accidental unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.
- (c) It will be the responsibility of the member to submit the firearm to the Rangemaster or authorized designee for inspection prior to being personally carried. Thereafter the firearm shall be subject to periodic inspection by the Rangemaster.
- (d) Prior to carrying any off-duty firearm, the member shall demonstrate to the Rangemaster or authorized designee that he/she is proficient in handling and firing the firearm and that it will be carried in a safe manner.
- (e) The member will successfully qualify with the firearm prior to it being carried.
- (f) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number and caliber of the firearm to the Rangemaster, who will maintain a list of the information.
- (g) If a member desires to use more than one firearm while off-duty, he/she may do so, as long as all requirements set forth in this policy for each firearm are met.
- (h) Members shall only carry office-authorized ammunition.
- (i) When armed, deputies shall carry their Yolo County Sheriff's Office identification cards under circumstances requiring possession of such identification.
- (j) In addition to the approved calibers for office-issued handguns, the following calibers are authorized for off-duty use: .380, .38 Special and .357 Magnum.

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### 302.3.7 AMMUNITION

Members shall carry only office-authorized ammunition. Members shall be issued fresh duty ammunition in the specified quantity for all office-issued firearms during the member's firearms qualification. Replacements for unserviceable or depleted ammunition issued by the Office shall be dispensed by the Rangemaster or authorized designee when needed, in accordance with established policy.

Members carrying personally owned authorized firearms of a caliber differing from office-issued firearms shall be responsible for obtaining fresh duty ammunition in accordance with the above, at their own expense.

### **302.4 EQUIPMENT**

Firearms carried on- or off-duty shall be maintained in a clean, serviceable condition. Maintenance and repair of authorized personally owned firearms are the responsibility of the individual member.

#### 302.4.1 REPAIRS OR MODIFICATIONS

Each member shall be responsible for promptly reporting any damage or malfunction of an assigned firearm to a supervisor or the Rangemaster.

Firearms that are the property of the Office or personally owned firearms that are approved for office use may be repaired or modified only by a person who is office-approved and certified as an armorer or gunsmith in the repair of the specific firearm. Such modification or repair must be authorized in advance by the Rangemaster.

Any repairs or modifications to the member's personally owned firearm shall be done at his/her expense and must be approved by the Rangemaster.

#### 302.4.2 HOLSTERS

Only office-approved holsters shall be used and worn by members. Members shall periodically inspect their holsters to make sure they are serviceable and provide the proper security and retention of the handgun.

#### 302.4.3 TACTICAL LIGHTS

Tactical lights may only be installed on a firearm carried on- or off-duty after they have been examined and approved by the Rangemaster. Once the approved tactical lights have been properly installed on any firearm, the member shall qualify with the firearm to ensure proper functionality and sighting of the firearm prior to carrying it.

#### 302.4.4 HANDGUN OPTIC SIGHTS (RED DOT SIGHTS)

Optic sights may only be installed on a firearm carried on-duty after examination by an approved Range Master. Any approved sighting system shall only be installed in strict accordance with manufacturer specifications.

Red Dot Sights (RDS) or Reflex optics shall only be mounted in conjunction with raised, fixed iron sights (back up iron sights/suppressor sights) and shall be mounted in such a way that will not

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obstruct the use of the fixed iron sights. The iron sights shall “co-witness” with optic sights. Red Dot Sights are not “laser” sights and do not cast a visible beam or laser to the target.

**CO-WITNESS:** This refers to the double verification of the target that occurs when you line up your iron sights with the red dot or reflex sight. In an absolute co-witness sight picture, the red dot sights dot image, should rest on the top of the front sight (touching the sight). In a lower third co-witness sight picture, the dot image should rest above or within the lower third of the sight window.

The co-witness position is up to the individual member.

Once approved sights and optics have been properly installed and examined by approved Range Master, the member shall show proficiency and pass an approved Yolo County Sheriff's Office handgun qualification.

If a member chooses to carry the approved RDS, it is the responsibility of the member to purchase their own firearm, RDS, back up iron sights and duty holster. At no time will department issued firearms be modified or machined to accommodate the RDS or back up iron sights. If the department issued firearm is factory milled to receive the RDS and back up iron sights, only then may members have them installed at their own expense by an approved Range Master.

Recommended RDS brands include Trijicon, Leupold and Vortex. Other brands may be considered with prior approval from the Range Master.

Except in an approved training situation, a member may only sight in on a target when the member would otherwise be justified in pointing a firearm at the target.

### 302.4.5 STORAGE IN VEHICLES

When leaving a handgun in an unattended vehicle, members shall ensure that it is locked in the trunk, or in a locked container that is placed out of view, or in a locked container that is permanently affixed to the vehicle's interior and not in plain view, or in a locked toolbox or utility box permanently affixed to the vehicle (Penal Code § 16850; Penal Code § 25140; Penal Code § 25452).

If the vehicle does not have a trunk or a locked container, then the firearm should be locked within the center utility console that can be locked with a padlock, keylock, combination lock, or other similar locking device (Penal Code § 25140).

Deputies are exempt from these requirements during circumstances requiring immediate aid or action in the course of official duties (Penal Code § 25140).

### 302.5 SAFE HANDLING, INSPECTION AND STORAGE

Members shall maintain the highest level of safety when handling firearms and shall consider the following:

- (a) Members shall not unnecessarily display or handle any firearm.
- (b) Members shall be governed by all rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the range and shall obey all orders issued by the Rangemaster. Members shall not dry fire or practice quick draws except under Rangemaster supervision.

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- (c) 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, using clearing barrels.
- (d) Members shall not place or store any firearm or other weapon on office 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 an arrestee, but shall place all firearms in a secured location. Members providing access to the jail section to persons from outside agencies are responsible for ensuring firearms are not brought into the jail section.
- (e) Members shall not use any automatic firearm, heavy caliber rifle, gas or other type of chemical weapon or firearm from the armory, except with approval of a supervisor.
- (f) Any firearm authorized by the Office to be carried on- or off-duty that is determined by a member to be malfunctioning or in need of service or repair shall not be carried. It shall be promptly presented to the Office or a Rangemaster approved by the Office for inspection and repair. Any firearm deemed in need of repair or service by the Rangemaster will be immediately removed from service. If the firearm is the member's primary duty firearm, a replacement firearm will be issued to the member until the duty firearm is serviceable.

#### 302.5.1 INSPECTION AND STORAGE

Handguns shall be inspected regularly and upon access or possession by another person. Shotguns and rifles shall be inspected at the beginning of the shift by the member to whom the weapon is issued. The member shall ensure that the firearm is carried in the proper condition and loaded with approved ammunition. Inspection of the shotgun and rifle shall be done while standing outside of the patrol vehicle. All firearms shall be pointed in a safe direction or into clearing barrels.

Firearms may be safely stored in lockers or another approved location at the end of the shift. Handguns may remain loaded if they are secured in an appropriate holster. Shotguns and rifles shall be unloaded in a safe manner outside the building and then stored in the appropriate equipment storage room.

#### 302.5.2 STORAGE AT HOME

Members shall ensure that all firearms are 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. Members shall not permit office-issued firearms to be handled by anyone not authorized by the Office to do so. Members should be aware that negligent storage of a firearm could result in civil and criminal liability (Penal Code § 25100 ).

#### 302.5.3 ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Firearms shall not be carried by any member, either on- or off-duty, who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage, has taken any drugs or medication, or has taken any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the member's senses or judgment.

## Firearms

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### **302.6 FIREARMS TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS**

All members who carry a firearm while on-duty are required to successfully complete training quarterly with their duty firearms. In addition to quarterly training, all members will qualify at least annually with their duty firearms. Members will qualify with off-duty and secondary firearms at least twice a year. Training and qualifications must be on an approved range course.

At least annually, all members carrying a firearm should receive practical training designed to simulate field situations including low-light shooting.

#### **302.6.1 NON-CERTIFICATION OR NON-QUALIFICATION**

If any member fails to meet minimum standards for firearms training or qualification for any reason, including injury, illness, duty status or scheduling conflict, that member shall submit a memorandum to his/her immediate supervisor prior to the end of the required training or qualification period. Those who fail to meet minimum standards or qualify on their first shooting attempt shall be provided remedial training and will be subject to the following requirements:

- (a) (a) Additional range assignments may be scheduled to assist the member in demonstrating consistent firearm proficiency.
- (b) (b) Members shall be given credit for a range training or qualification when obtaining a qualifying score or meeting standards after remedial training.
- (c) (c) No range credit will be given for the following:
  - (a) Unauthorized range make-up
  - (b) Failure to meet minimum standards or qualify after remedial training

Members who repeatedly fail to meet minimum standards will be removed from field assignment and may be subject to disciplinary action.

### **302.7 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. If the discharge results in injury or death to another person, additional statements and reports shall be made in accordance with the Yolo County Protocol for Response to Officer Involved Fatal Incidents. 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.

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### 302.7.1 DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS

Members 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 where there is sufficient advance notice that a potentially dangerous animal may be encountered, office members 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 member from shooting a dangerous animal if circumstances reasonably dictate that a contingency plan has failed or becomes impractical.

### 302.7.2 INJURED ANIMALS

With the approval of a supervisor, a member 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)). Injured dogs and cats found without their owners shall be taken to an appropriate veterinarian for determination of whether they should be treated or humanely destroyed.

### 302.7.3 WARNING AND OTHER SHOTS

Generally, warning shots or shots fired for the purpose of summoning aid are discouraged and may not be discharged.

## 302.8 RANGEMASTER DUTIES

The range will be under the exclusive control of the Rangemaster. All members attending will follow the directions of the Rangemaster or authorized designee. The Rangemaster or authorized designee 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 Rangemaster may result in non-qualification.

The range shall remain operational and accessible to Office members during hours established by the Office.

The Rangemaster has the responsibility of making periodic inspection, at least once a year, of all duty firearms carried by members of this office to verify proper operation. The Rangemaster has the authority to deem any 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 Rangemaster.

The Rangemaster 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.



## Firearms

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The Rangemaster 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 Office, a list of each member who completes the training. The Rangemaster should keep accurate records of all training shoots, qualifications, repairs, maintenance or other records as directed by the Training Manager.

### **302.9 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 deputies 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, and must have a need to have the firearm accessible, as determined by the Office based on the law and published TSA rules.
- (b) Deputies must carry their Yolo County Sheriff's Office identification card, bearing the deputy's name, a full-face photograph, identification number, the deputy's signature and the signature of the Sheriff or the official seal of the Office 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 license, passport).
- (c) The Yolo County Sheriff's Office must submit a National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) message prior to the deputy's travel. If approved, TSA will send the Yolo County Sheriff's Office an NLETS message containing a unique alphanumeric identifier. The deputy must present the message on the day of travel to airport personnel as authorization to travel while armed.
- (d) An official letter signed by the Sheriff authorizing armed travel may also accompany the deputy. The letter should outline the deputy's need to fly armed, detail his/her itinerary, and include that the deputy has completed the mandatory TSA training for a law enforcement officer flying while armed.
- (e) Deputies must have completed the mandated TSA security training covering deputies flying while armed. The training shall be given by the office-appointed instructor.
- (f) It is the deputy's responsibility to notify the air carrier in advance of the intended armed travel. This notification should be accomplished by early check-in at the carrier's check-in counter.
- (g) Any deputy flying while armed should discreetly contact the flight crew prior to take-off and notify them of his/her assigned seat.
- (h) Discretion must be used to avoid alarming passengers or crew by displaying a firearm. The deputy must keep the firearm concealed on his/her person at all times. Firearms are not permitted in carry-on luggage and may not be stored in an overhead compartment.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

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## Firearms

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- (i) Deputies should try to resolve any problems associated with flying armed through the flight captain, ground security manager, TSA representative or other management representative of the air carrier.
- (j) Deputies shall not consume alcoholic beverages while aboard an aircraft, or within eight hours prior to boarding an aircraft.

### **302.10 CARRYING FIREARMS OUT OF STATE**

Qualified, active, full-time deputies of this Office are authorized to carry a concealed firearm in all other states subject to the following conditions (18 USC § 926B ):

- (a) The deputy shall carry his/her Yolo County Sheriff's Office identification card whenever carrying such firearm.
- (b) The deputy is not the subject of any current disciplinary action.
- (c) The deputy may not be under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating or hallucinatory drug.
- (d) The deputy will remain subject to this and all other office 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 a deputy from arrest and prosecution in such locally restricted areas. Active sworn peace officers from other states are subject to all requirements set forth in 18 USC § 926B.

## Control Devices and Techniques

### 303.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 303.2 POLICY

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

### 303.3 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.

### 303.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 303.4.1 SHIFT SERGEANT RESPONSIBILITIES

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

#### 303.4.2 INVENTORY CONTROL RESPONSIBILITIES

Division Commanders 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 Division Commander or the designated instructor for a particular control device. The inspection shall be documented.

#### 303.4.3 USER RESPONSIBILITIES

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

## *Control Devices and Techniques*

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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 Division Commander or authorized designee 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.

### **303.5 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.

### **303.6 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 Special Weapons and Tactics 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.

### **303.7 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.

#### **303.7.1 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.

#### **303.7.2 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

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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.

Deputies encountering a situation that warrants the use of a pepper projectile system shall notify a supervisor as soon as practicable. A supervisor shall 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. This includes situations where the launcher was directed toward the suspect, whether or not the launcher was used. Unintentional 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.

### **303.7.3 TREATMENT FOR OC SPRAY EXPOSURE**

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

### **303.8 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.

### **303.9 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.

#### **303.9.1 DEPLOYMENT**

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.

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- (b) The suspect has made credible threats to harm him/herself or others.
- (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.

### 303.9.2 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.

### 303.9.3 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 will 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 unloaded and 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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Absent compelling circumstances, deputies who must transition from conventional ammunition to kinetic energy projectiles will employ the two-person rule for loading. The two-person rule is a safety measure in which a second deputy watches the unloading and loading process to ensure that the weapon is completely emptied of conventional ammunition.

### **303.10 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.

### **303.11 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

### 304.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

#### 304.1 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.

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.

#### 304.2 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.

#### 304.3 ISSUANCE AND CARRYING TASER DEVICE

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.

Members 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.



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- (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.

### **304.5 USE OF THE TASER**

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.

#### **304.5.1 APPLICATION OF THE TASER**

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.

#### **304.5.2 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.
- (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.

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- (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.

### 304.5.3 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.

### 304.5.4 MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE TASER

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.

### 304.5.5 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 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.

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### 304.5.6 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.

### 304.5.7 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.

## **304.6 DOCUMENTATION**

Deputies shall document all TASER device discharges in the related arrest/crime report. 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.

### 304.6.1 TASER USE REPORTING - REQUIRED CONTENT

Items that shall be included in a TASER device use report 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) The number of TASER device activations, the duration of each cycle, the duration between activations, and (as best as can be determined) 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.

### 304.6.2 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

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- (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

### **304.7 MEDICAL TREATMENT**

Consistent with local medical personnel protocols and absent extenuating circumstances, only appropriate medical personnel should remove TASER device probes from a person's body. 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. 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.

### **304.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

When possible, supervisors should respond to calls when they reasonably believe there is a likelihood the TASER device may be used. When possible, 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 TASER armorer and saved with the related arrest/crime report. Photographs of probe sites should be taken and witnesses interviewed.

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### **304.9 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 Division Commander. 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 Manager 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 Manager should ensure that all training includes:

- (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 unintentionally drawing and firing a firearm.
- (d) Target area considerations, to include techniques or options to reduce the unintentional 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.

# Yolo County Protocol for Response to Officer-Involved Fatal Incidents

## 305.1 PURPOSE

To establish a uniform protocol for the investigation of Officer-Involved Fatal Incidents (OIFI) by Outside Agency Assistance.

This protocol recognizes the need for independent review of uses of force by sworn peace officers employed in Yolo County, especially when the use of force results in the death or serious injury of any involved party. It considers available investigative resources within Yolo County while maintaining a best-practices approach of having an independent, outside agency investigate the major force application of another.

## 305.2 APPLICATION

This cooperative agreement establishes a reliance on designated resources and guidelines for outside assistance when this protocol is activated.

Each individual agency retains the discretion to adopt, reject, or modify any portion of these guidelines in accordance with existing rules and regulations of that agency.

Nothing contained herein is intended to increase, modify, or in any way affect the current legal standards, nor shall any deviation from these guidelines be considered a breach of any legal standard.

## 305.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Officer-Involved Fatal Incident:** Any force incident resulting in the death or serious injury of any party involved.
- (b) **Serious Injury:** For the purpose of this protocol, serious injury includes any gunshot wound and any injury that, upon initial assessment, is likely to lead to the death, paralysis or other permanent change in physical capability.
- (c) **Jurisdictional Agency:** The law enforcement agency with primary jurisdiction over the physical location of an incident. If an incident spans multiple jurisdiction areas, the Jurisdictional Agency will be determined as the location wherein the actual OIFI took place.
- (d) **Primary Agency:** The employing agency of the officer(s) involved in the actual OIFI force application and/or employing the officers that suffer serious injury or death as the result of an OIFI.
- (e) **Involved Agency:** Any agency involved in the OIFI, whether or not its officers were involved in the actual force application that led to the OIFI.
- (f) **Uninvolved Agency:** A local law enforcement agency that had no involvement in the OIFI and that has the capacity to conduct an independent investigation related to an OIFI.

## *Yolo County Protocol for Response to Officer-Involved Fatal Incidents*

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### **305.4 PROTOCOL**

Since OIFIs generally involve multiple considerations, it is recognized that several separate, but parallel and often overlapping investigations may be conducted.

#### **305.4.1 JURISDICTION**

A. The agency (hereinafter "jurisdictional agency"), having original jurisdiction over the location of the OIFI should have primary authority over the investigation. While cooperation among involved agencies is critical, control of the investigation should remain with the jurisdictional agency unless voluntarily relinquished in whole or in part.

1. Acknowledging that the jurisdictional and primary agencies may not always be the same, once the area has been secured to the extent that there no longer appears to be a threat to immediate safety, a supervisor from the primary agency should attempt to obtain a brief overview of the situation from any uninvolved officer.

In the event there are no uninvolved officers present during the actual event leading to the use of force or death, the supervisor should attempt to obtain a brief overview from one involved officer. If there is an immediate need for public safety information to secure the scene and pursue suspects, such as outstanding suspect information, number and direction of shots fired, parameters of the incident scene, identity of known witnesses, and similar information, a supervisor from the primary agency may administratively order any officer to immediately provide such public safety information.

Absent a voluntary statement from any involved officer(s), the initial scene supervisor should not attempt to compel or order an officer to provide any information, except for pertinent public safety information as specified above.

2. In accordance with primary and jurisdictional agency procedures, internal and supplemental resources should be requested as soon as practicable. These primary and jurisdictional agency resources should work in coordination with each other and/or those summoned from an uninvolved agency to lead the investigation of involved officer(s) actions.

- (a) The primary agency should request an immediate investigation by an uninvolved agency to determine the criminal culpability, if any, of those law enforcement officers involved in the OIFI.
- (b) The primary agency will conduct a parallel criminal investigation of any suspects involved in related crimes for the purpose of submitting a report to the District Attorney to review for criminal charging or issuance of arrest warrant(s), and/or to complete the criminal investigation initiated by their officer(s).
- (c) Each agency with officer(s) involved shall be responsible for its own internal administrative investigation of the conduct of its own officer(s).
- (d) Additional resources such as psychological counselors and civil liability response teams may be requested by any involved agency and should be accommodated to the extent reasonably practicable.

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## *Yolo County Protocol for Response to Officer-Involved Fatal Incidents*

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### 305.4.2 UNINVOLVED AGENCY INVESTIGATION

An uninvolved agency will respond, by request of the primary or jurisdictional agency head or their designee, to the scene of any police OIFI. The uninvolved agency will conduct an independent criminal investigation of the involved officer(s) use of force and prepare investigative reports to submit to the District Attorney for review. This review could lead to requests for further investigative work or could be sufficient for legal review of the OIFI.

- (a) It is not the duty of nor should the uninvolved agency be expected to conduct the requesting agency's internal administrative or potential civil liability investigations.
- (b) During the investigation of the Involved Officer(s) conduct, the Uninvolved Agency will honor the officer's legal rights pursuant to California Government Code 3300-3313 (Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights).
  - (a) It is recognized that there are times when officer(s) legal counsel will advise against making a voluntary statement. Instead, customarily, the police officer's legal counsel will offer an involuntary statement that is compelled by virtue of an administrative order from a superior officer from the involved officer's employing agency. Any compelled statement will be obtained exclusively by primary agency administrative investigators.
  - (b) The primary agency shall cooperate fully with the uninvolved agency charged with investigating the subject incident, to include providing copies of all investigative reports and all evidence; including but not limited to, car and body camera footage, involved uniforms, police equipment, crime scene video and photos. The primary agency will NOT furnish any administrative reports.
- (c) Upon conclusion of the investigation, those agencies (primary agency) whose officer(s) were directly involved in the OIFI will be given a complete copy of the uninvolved agency's investigation file.
  - 1. The Uninvolved Agency will give timely notice to each primary agency prior to the release of any information from the OIFI investigation file to other than involved law enforcement agencies. Each agency will then have the opportunity to raise appropriate objections and, if necessary, litigate for the protection of privileged information.
  - 2. Prior to any public dissemination, the District Attorney will advise the involved agency of the intent to file any criminal charges.

### 305.4.3 DEPARTMENTAL/INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS

Each involved agency will be individually responsible for conducting its own internal administrative investigation to evaluate its officer(s) conduct with respect to departmental policy.

### 305.4.4 RELEASE OF INVOLVED OFFICER(S) NAMES

It will be the decision and duty of the Primary Agency to determine if and when they will release the name of the officer(s) involved. If the District Attorney determines that criminal charges will be filed against an involved officer(s), those names will be available through public record.



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## *Yolo County Protocol for Response to Officer-Involved Fatal Incidents*

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### 305.4.5 ROLE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

During an OIFI investigation the District Attorney will:

- (a) Assist and advise the incident investigators regarding the various legal issues that may arise, including but not limited to search and seizure, taking of statements, identification procedures, arrests, elements of crimes, immunity and voluntariness.
- (b) Monitor the police investigation.
- (c) Provide investigative process and procedure consultation.
- (d) The District Attorney reserves the right to conduct a criminal investigation of the involved officer(s) actions. The District Attorney will notify the primary agency if an independent investigation is being conducted, except if such notification would compromise the integrity of the independent investigation.
  1. A District Attorney Investigator assigned to participate as an incident investigator assisting or teamed with a primary agency incident investigator will not be a member or participant of an independent District Attorney investigation unless the primary agency is notified of such a dual role.
- (e) Ultimately determine if criminal charges will be filed.
- (f) If the District Attorney's Office is a primary agency due to a DA Investigator becoming directly involved in an OIFI, the role of the District Attorney should be carried out by requesting the assistance of the Attorney General. If the Attorney General declines to participate, the uninvolved agency leading the investigation should seek assistance from another District Attorney's office.

### 305.4.6 NOTIFICATIONS

Upon identifying an incident as being an OIFI, the Jurisdictional Agency shall make the following notifications as promptly as possible after life- saving and scene safety considerations are satisfied:

- (a) Intra-department, as required by that agency's procedures;
- (b) Primary Agency (If different from the Jurisdictional Agency);
- (c) District Attorney's Chief Investigator or designee (via direct call or County Communications).

The Primary Agency shall make the following confirmations and notifications as promptly as possible:

- (a) Confirm that the District Attorney's Chief Investigator, or designee, has been notified;
- (b) Upon confirmation of a fatality, that notification to the Coroner's Office has been made.

### 305.4.7 NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS

A representative of the Primary Agency is in the best position to comment about the facts of the case and the progress of the investigation. When multiple agencies are involved or have knowledge of an OIFI, the following information release guidelines should be followed:

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- (a) The Primary Agency will assign a particular individual to be the sole contact with the news media to manage the release of information and to minimize interruptions to incident investigators. If this is not feasible, a particular job assignment (e.g., Watch Commander) should be designated.
- (b) If incident investigators determine that the release of a specific piece of information would materially jeopardize the investigation, they shall notify those agencies possessing that knowledge of the hazards of releasing it.
  - (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;
  - (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 and reasonably foreseeable defenses.
    - (a) If no charges are filed, the District Attorney will issue a succinct closing report summarizing the results of the investigation and analysis of the evidence. This report will address the question of whether or not there is proof beyond a reasonable doubt that an officer, deputy, or any other person involved in an OIFI committed a crime.
    - (b) It is not the purpose of the District Attorney's review, investigation or report to determine if any officer or deputy violated police policy or procedure, or committed any act that would be subject to civil sanctions.
    - (c) The District Attorney's Office will make every effort to issue a closing report containing its findings and conclusion within 90 days from receipt of the completed investigative package. This report shall be sent to the primary police agencies, the decedent's family and then released to the public.
- (c) Agencies and individuals that are not well informed and intimately involved with the investigation's progress and results should not make statements to the press. As in all other instances, care must be taken to insure that intentionally misleading, erroneous or false statements are not made.
- (d) The interest of the public's right to know what occurred must be balanced with sensibility and requirements of the investigation and with the right of the accused to receive a fair trial.

Other agencies may also be contacted by the news media for information about the Incident, including:

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The Jurisdictional Agency: If the jurisdictional agency is different than the primary agency, the jurisdictional agency should refer the media to the primary agency media point of contact. They can confirm the location and time of the incident, but should defer all other questions to the primary agency point of contact.

### The District Attorney

- (a) The District Attorney will not disseminate any of the following information:
  - 1. That an uncharged individual is "under investigation."
  - 2. An Involved Officer's statement, confession or refusal to give a statement.
  - 3. The subject of any gag order.
  - 4. The prior criminal history of any Involved party, unless it is part of the criminal pleading or crime under investigation.
  - 5. The result of any examinations.
  - 6. The pendency of a search warrant.
  - 7. Any statement that has a substantial likelihood of materially prejudicing an adjudicative proceeding in the matter
- (b) In cases where a criminal complaint is filed, the judicial record, such as a probable cause declaration, or preliminary hearing is open to the public. Additionally, the District Attorney may disseminate the following:
  - (a) Name of defendant.
  - (b) Area of residence.
  - (c) Occupation.
  - (d) Physical description.
  - (e) Age.
  - (f) Sex.
  - (g) Time, date and location of arrest.
  - (h) Factual circumstances of the crime.
  - (i) Amount of bail.
  - (j) Location held.
  - (k) All charges including warrants.
  - (l) Parole or probation holds.
  - (m) Schedule and explanation of the judicial process.
  - (n) Penalty range.

The Coroner's Office: Information obtained from the incident investigators or from the Involved Agencies will not be released by the Coroner's Office without prior clearance from those agencies. Release of information will generally be limited to the following:

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- (a) Autopsy findings, including the condition of the deceased, the cause of death, and toxicology test results (after the involved agencies have received this information). The Coroner's Office will not release any information to the media where there is a pending criminal prosecution.
- (b) The general role of the Coroner's Office in the investigation of any death.

### **305.4.8 FINAL ACTION**

All reasonable efforts should be made for the Officer-Involved Incident Investigation to be completed and all reports submitted to the Office of the District Attorney within 120 days of the incident if possible and absent unusual circumstances. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Office of the District Attorney will review and analyze all the evidence to determine whether or not the involved officer(s) will be charged with any crimes. The crime charging standards are the same for civilians and peace officers.

The District Attorney's policy regarding crime charging is as follows:

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

### **305.5 ADOPTION**

The operating protocol contained herein was officially adopted by the Yolo County Law Enforcement Administrator Coordinating Council as reflected by the signature of the respective Yolo County law enforcement agency heads.

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## Handcuffing and Restraints

### 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office authorizes the use of restraint devices in accordance with this policy, the Use of Force Policy, and office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office-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. Leg irons, waist chains, or handcuffs behind the body should not be used unless the deputy has a reasonable suspicion that the person may resist, attempt escape, injure self or others, or damage property.

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 person (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 Office. 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 person 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 office-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 Office 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 person.
- (b) Whether it is reasonably necessary to protect the person from his/her own actions (e.g., hitting his/her head against the interior of the patrol vehicle, 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 vehicle).

#### **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.
- (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.

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- (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 emergency medical services, 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 person (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

### **306.8 REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

If a person 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 a person is arrested, the use of handcuffs or other restraints shall be documented in the related report.

Deputies should document the following information in reports, as appropriate, when restraints other than handcuffs are used on a person:

- (a) The factors that led to the decision to use restraints.
- (b) Supervisor notification and approval of restraint use.
- (c) The types of restraint used.
- (d) The amount of time the person was restrained.
- (e) How the person was transported and the position of the person during transport.
- (f) Observations of the person's behavior and any signs of physiological problems.
- (g) Any known or suspected drug use or other medical problems.

### **306.9 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Training Manager should ensure that deputies receive periodic training on the proper use of handcuffs and other restraints, including:

- (a) Proper placement and fit of handcuffs and other restraint devices approved for use by the Office.
- (b) Response to complaints of pain by restrained persons.
- (c) Options for restraining those who may be pregnant without the use of leg irons, waist chains, or handcuffs behind the body.
- (d) Options for restraining amputees or those with medical conditions or other physical conditions that may be aggravated by being restrained.



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## Vehicle Pursuits

### 307.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for vehicle pursuits in order to protect the safety of involved deputies, the public, and fleeing suspects.

#### 307.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Blocking** - A low-speed tactic where one or more authorized sheriff's office emergency vehicles intentionally restrict the movement of a suspect vehicle, with the goal of containment or preventing a pursuit. Blocking is not boxing in or a roadblock.

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

**Pursuit Intervention** - An attempt to stop the suspect's ability to continue to flee in a vehicle through tactical application of technology, tire deflation devices, blocking or vehicle intercept, boxing-in, the PIT (known as Pursuit Intervention Technique or Precision Immobilization Technique), ramming, or roadblock procedures.

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

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

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

**Tire deflation device** - A device that extends across the roadway designed to puncture the tires of the pursued vehicle, sometimes referred to as spike strips.

**Terminate** - To discontinue a pursuit or stop chasing fleeing vehicles.

**Trail** - Following 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 vehicle will maintain sufficient distance from the pursuit vehicles so as to clearly indicate an absence of participation in the pursuit

**Vehicle Pursuit** - 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.

### 307.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Vehicle pursuits shall only be conducted using authorized sheriff's office emergency vehicles that are equipped with and displaying emergency lighting and sirens as required by Vehicle Code §

## Vehicle Pursuits

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21055. Deputies are responsible for continuously driving with due regard and caution for the safety of all persons and property (Vehicle Code § 21056).

### 307.2.1 WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT

Deputies are authorized to initiate a pursuit when the deputy reasonably believes that a suspect, who has been given appropriate signal to stop by a law enforcement officer, is attempting to evade arrest or detention by fleeing in a vehicle.

Factors that should be considered in deciding whether to initiate a pursuit include:

- (a) The 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) The 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 (e.g., school zones), and the speed of the pursuit relative to these factors.
- (d) The 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.
- (e) Whether weather, traffic, and road conditions unreasonably increase the danger of the pursuit when weighed against the risk of the suspect's escape.
- (f) Whether the identity of the suspect has been verified and whether there is comparatively minimal risk in allowing the suspect to be apprehended at a later time.
- (g) The performance capabilities of the vehicles used in the pursuit in relation to the speeds and other conditions of the pursuit.
- (h) Emergency lighting and siren limitations on unmarked sheriff's office vehicles that may reduce visibility of the vehicle, such as visor or dash-mounted lights, concealable or temporary emergency lighting equipment, and concealed or obstructed siren positioning.
- (i) Suspect and deputy vehicle speeds.
- (j) Other persons in or on the pursued vehicle (e.g., passengers, co-offenders, hostages).
- (k) Availability of other resources such as air support or vehicle locator or deactivation technology.

### 307.2.2 WHEN TO TERMINATE A PURSUIT

Pursuits should be terminated 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.

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The factors listed in this policy on when to initiate a pursuit will apply equally to the decision to terminate a pursuit. Deputies and supervisors must objectively and continuously weigh the seriousness of the offense against the potential danger to innocent motorists, themselves, and the public when electing to continue a pursuit.

In addition to the factors that govern when to initiate a pursuit, other factors should be considered in deciding whether to terminate a pursuit, including:

- (a) The distance between the pursuing vehicle 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) The pursued vehicle's location is no longer definitely known.
- (c) The pursuing vehicle sustains damage or a mechanical failure that renders it unsafe to drive.
- (d) The pursuing vehicle's emergency lighting equipment or siren becomes partially or completely inoperable.
- (e) Hazards to uninvolved bystanders or motorists.
- (f) The danger that the continued pursuit poses to the public, the deputies, or the suspect, balanced against the risk of allowing the suspect to remain at large.
- (g) The identity of the suspect is known and it does not reasonably appear that the need for immediate capture outweighs the risks associated with continuing the pursuit.
- (h) Extended pursuits of violators for misdemeanors not involving violence, risk of serious harm, or weapons (independent of the pursuit) are generally discouraged.

#### **307.2.3 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 should 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 should 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.

#### **307.3 PURSUIT UNITS**

When involved in a pursuit, unmarked sheriff's office emergency vehicles should be replaced by marked emergency vehicles whenever practicable

Vehicle pursuits should be limited to three vehicles (two units and a supervisor); however, the number of units involved may vary with the circumstances.

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A deputy or supervisor may request additional units to join a pursuit if, after assessing the factors outlined above, it reasonably appears that the number of deputies involved may be insufficient to safely arrest the suspects. 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.

### 307.3.1 VEHICLES WITHOUT EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Deputies operating vehicles not equipped with red light and siren are prohibited from initiating or joining in any pursuit.

### 307.3.2 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 the deputy is unable to remain reasonably close to the suspect's vehicle. The primary responsibility of the deputy initiating the pursuit is the apprehension of the suspects without unreasonable danger to any person.

The primary unit should notify the dispatcher commencing with a request for priority radio traffic, that a vehicle pursuit has been initiated, and as soon as practicable provide information including but not limited to:

- (a) The location, direction of travel, and estimated speed of the suspect's vehicle.
- (b) The description of the suspect's vehicle including license plate number, if known.
- (c) The reason for the pursuit.
- (d) Known or suspected weapons. Threat of force, violence, injuries, hostages, or other unusual hazards.
- (e) The suspected number of occupants and identity or description.
- (f) The weather, road, and traffic conditions.
- (g) The need for any additional resources or equipment.
- (h) The identity of other law enforcement agencies involved in the pursuit.

Until relieved by a supervisor or secondary unit, the deputy in the primary unit is responsible for the broadcasting of the progress of the pursuit. Unless circumstances reasonably indicate otherwise, the primary pursuing deputy should, as soon as practicable, relinquish the responsibility of broadcasting the progress of the pursuit to a secondary unit or air support joining the pursuit to minimize distractions and allow the primary pursuing deputy to concentrate foremost on safe pursuit tactics.

### 307.3.3 SECONDARY UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

The second deputy in the pursuit will be designated as the secondary unit and is responsible for:

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

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- (b) Remaining a safe distance behind the primary unit unless directed to assume the role of primary pursuit vehicle or if the primary pursuit vehicle is unable to continue the pursuit.
- (c) Broadcasting the progress, updating known or critical information, and providing changes in the pursuit, unless the situation indicates otherwise.
- (d) Identifying the need for additional resources or equipment as appropriate.
- (e) Serving as backup to the primary pursuing deputy once the suspect has been stopped.

### 307.3.4 PURSUIT DRIVING

The decision to use specific driving tactics requires the same assessment of the factors the deputy considered when determining whether to initiate and/or terminate a pursuit. 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 regard and caution when proceeding through controlled intersections.
- (c) As a general rule, deputies should not pursue a vehicle driving left of center (wrong way) against traffic. In the event that the pursued vehicle does so, the following tactics should be considered:
  - 1. Requesting assistance from available air support.
  - 2. Maintain visual contact with the pursued vehicle by paralleling it on the correct side of the roadway.
  - 3. Request other units to observe exits available to the suspects.
- (d) Notify the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and/or other law enforcement agency if it appears that the pursuit may enter its 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 and with a clear understanding of the maneuver process between the involved units.

### 307.3.5 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 information and assistance for the arrest of the suspects and reporting the incident.

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### **307.3.6 AIR SUPPORT ASSISTANCE**

When available, air support assistance should be requested. Once the air unit has established visual contact with the pursued vehicle, the unit should assume control over the pursuit. The primary and secondary ground units, or involved supervisor, will maintain operational control but should consider whether the participation of air support warrants the continued close proximity and/or involvement of ground units in 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 to continue the pursuit. If ground units are not within visual contact of the pursued vehicle and the air support unit determines that it is unsafe to continue the pursuit, the air support unit should recommend terminating the pursuit.

### **307.3.7 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.

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.

## **307.4 SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Available supervisory and management control will be exercised over all vehicle pursuits involving deputies from this office.

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

- (a) Immediately notifying involved unit and the dispatcher of supervisory presence and ascertaining all reasonably available information to continuously assess the situation and risk factors associated with the pursuit.
- (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 required number of units are involved in the pursuit under the guidelines set forth in this policy.
- (e) Directing that the pursuit be terminated if, in the supervisor's judgment, it is unreasonable to continue the pursuit under the guidelines of this policy.
- (f) Ensuring that assistance from air support, canines, or additional resources is requested, if available and appropriate.
- (g) Ensuring that the proper radio channel is being used.
- (h) Ensuring that the Shift Supervisor is notified of the pursuit as soon as practicable.

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- (i) Ensuring the notification and/or coordination of outside agencies if the pursuit either leaves or is likely to leave the jurisdiction of this office.
- (j) Controlling and managing Yolo County Sheriff's Office units when a pursuit enters another jurisdiction.
- (k) Preparing a post-pursuit review and documentation of the pursuit.
  - 1. Supervisors should initiate follow up or additional review when appropriate.

#### **307.4.1 SHIFT SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

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

#### **307.5 DISPATCH**

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 dispatcher. If the pursuit leaves the jurisdiction of this office or such is imminent, involved units should, whenever available, switch radio communications to a tactical or emergency channel most accessible by participating agencies and units.

#### **307.5.1 DISPATCH RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon notification or becoming aware that a pursuit has been initiated, the dispatcher is responsible for:

- (a) Clearing the radio channel of non-emergency traffic.
- (b) Coordinating pursuit communications of the involved units and personnel.
- (c) Broadcasting pursuit updates as well as other pertinent information as necessary.
- (d) Ensuring that a field supervisor is notified of the pursuit.
- (e) Notifying and coordinating with other involved or affected agencies as practicable.
- (f) Notify the Shift Supervisor as soon as practicable.
- (g) Assigning an incident number and logging all pursuit activities.

#### **307.5.2 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 or supervisor will be responsible for coordinating any further search for either the pursued vehicle or suspects fleeing on foot.



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### **307.6 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 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.

#### **307.6.1 ASSUMPTION OF PURSUIT BY ANOTHER AGENCY**

Deputies will relinquish control of the pursuit when another agency has assumed the pursuit, unless the continued assistance of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office is requested by the agency assuming the pursuit. Upon relinquishing control of the pursuit, the involved deputies may proceed, with supervisory approval, to the termination point of the pursuit to assist in the investigation. The supervisor should coordinate such assistance with the assuming agency and obtain any information that is necessary for any reports. 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.

#### **307.6.2 PURSUITS EXTENDING INTO THIS JURISDICTION**

The agency that initiates a pursuit is responsible for conducting the pursuit. Units from this office should not join a pursuit unless specifically requested to do so by the pursuing agency and with approval from a supervisor. The exception to this is when a single unit from the initiating agency is in pursuit. Under this circumstance, a supervisor may authorize units from this office to join the pursuit until sufficient units from the initiating agency join the pursuit or until additional information is provided allowing withdrawal of the pursuit.

When a request is made for this office to assist or take over a pursuit that has entered the jurisdiction of Yolo County Sheriff's Office, the supervisor should consider:

- (a) The public's safety within this jurisdiction.
- (b) The safety of the pursuing deputies.
- (c) Whether the circumstances are serious enough to continue the pursuit.
- (d) Whether there is adequate staffing to continue the pursuit.
- (e) The ability to maintain the pursuit.

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

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

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In the event that a pursuit from another agency terminates within this jurisdiction, deputies should 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 reasonable assistance requested or needed.

### **307.7 RESTRICTED PURSUIT DRIVING TACTICS**

- a. Officers involved in a pursuit shall not attempt to pass another police unit engaged in the pursuit except at the request of the officers in the unit to be passed.
- b. Except as a last resort, or under extreme circumstances, to protect themselves or others from an immediate threat of death or great bodily injury, or to effect the capture or prevent the escape of a suspect whose freedom is reasonably believed to represent an imminent threat of grave bodily harm or death to the officer or other person(s), there should be no attempts to stop pursued suspect(s) by any of the following:
  1. "Boxing in"
  2. "Ramming"
  3. Forcing off the road
  4. Driving in front of
  5. Driving parallel to suspect with police vehicle
  6. Slowdowns
- c. In addition to the foregoing, officers shall not ram motorcycles or similar vehicles except:
  1. When necessary in defense of the officer's life or the life of another, or;
  2. To prevent the commission of an assault with a deadly weapon with a vehicle, or;
  3. When necessary to prevent the escape of a person whom the officer reasonably believes has committed a felony through the use or threatened use of deadly force.
  4. When necessary to apprehend a person who has committed an A.D.W. with a vehicle that the officer reasonably believes has resulted in serious injury or death.
- d. The tactics above are discouraged when the pursued vehicle is driving in excess of 35 mph. Whenever possible, a supervisor's permission should be obtained before employing these tactics.
- e. The use of the patrol car to ram or force another vehicle off the roadway at high speeds requires the same justification as the use of lethal force.
- f. Off-road type vehicles shall not be pursued if the vehicle leaves the paved roadway.

### **307.8 ROADBLOCKS**

Blocking a roadway must be considered as a force likely to produce a death, therefore, this method should not be used in misdemeanor pursuits, and the use of vehicles to block a roadway shall only be used as a last resort in felony pursuits.

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If a road-block is determined necessary, it will be constructed in such a manner as to be readily visible to the violator from a sufficient distance away to allow the violator the opportunity to surrender, if it is his/her intent to do so.

### **307.9 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.

### **307.10 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

All appropriate reports should be completed to comply with applicable laws, policies, and procedures.

- (a) The primary deputy should complete appropriate crime/arrest reports.
- (b) The Shift Supervisor 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 Shift Supervisor for review and distribution.
- (c) After first obtaining the available information, the involved, or if unavailable on-duty, field supervisor shall promptly complete a Supervisor's Log or interoffice memorandum, briefly summarizing the pursuit to the Sheriff or the authorized designee. This log or memorandum should include, at a minimum:
  1. Date and time of pursuit.
  2. Initial reason and circumstances surrounding the pursuit.
  3. Length of pursuit in distance and time, including the starting and termination points.
  4. Involved units and deputies.
  5. Alleged offenses.
  6. Whether a suspect was apprehended, as well as the means and methods used.
  7. Any use of force that occurred during the vehicle pursuit.
    - (a) Any use of force by a member should be documented in the appropriate report (See the Use of Force Policy).
  8. Any injuries and/or medical treatment.
  9. Any property or equipment damage.
  10. Name of supervisor at scene or who handled the incident.

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- (d) After receiving copies of reports, logs, and other pertinent information, the Sheriff or the authorized designee should conduct or assign the completion of a post-pursuit review.

Annually, the Sheriff should direct a documented review and analysis of office vehicle pursuit reports to minimally include policy suitability, policy compliance, and training or equipment needs.

### 307.10.1 REGULAR AND PERIODIC PURSUIT TRAINING

The Training Manager shall make available to all deputies initial and supplementary Police Officer Standard Training (POST) training on pursuits required by Penal Code § 13519.8, and no less than annual training addressing:

- (a) This policy.
- (b) The importance of vehicle safety and protecting the public.
- (c) 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)).

### 307.10.2 POLICY REVIEW

Deputies of this office shall certify in writing that they have received, read, and understand this policy initially, upon any amendments, and whenever training on this policy is provided. The POST attestation form, or an equivalent form, may be used to document the compliance and should be retained in the member's training file.

### 307.11 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.

### 307.12 EVALUATION REPORTS

In the event of unusual pursuits involving more than one agency, each agency may request an evaluation of the pursuit from the other agencies involved. The evaluation shall only address the need for amendments or changes to the inter-agency vehicular pursuit guidelines, and not serve as a basis to critique the judgment or actions of personnel of another agency or the policies of another agency.

### 307.13 USE OF HOLLOW SPIKE STRIP(S)

The use of controlled tire deflation devices (hollow spike strips) is intended to reduce the risk associated with vehicle pursuits by assisting deputies in safely bringing a suspect vehicle to a stop with minimal danger to deputies, other motorists and the suspect.

Deputies may elect to deploy the hollow spike strip as an alternative to continuing a pursuit, when they believe its use will contribute to the safe conclusion of a pursuit and at the request of an outside agency. Whenever possible a supervisory permission should be obtained prior to deploying the spike strip. Once authorized to deploy the strip, the deputy retains the authority to not deploy it or discontinue its use.

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In evaluating whether to deploy the hollow spike strip, the factors considered in whether to terminate a pursuit should be evaluated on a continuous basis, as well. Hollow spike strips are authorized for use according to the procedures listed below.

### **PROCEDURE**

- a. The spike strip shall not be used to stop the following vehicles:
  1. Motorcycles, mopeds, or similar vehicles.
  2. Any bus carrying passengers.
  3. Any vehicle towing a trailer.
  4. Any vehicle that would pose an unusual hazard to innocent parties.
- b. The spike strip may only be used in locations where the deploying deputy is able to maintain constant observation of the strip. The deputy must, at all times, be able to retrieve the strip in order to prevent accidental contact with pedestrians and non- intended vehicles.
- c. In preparing to deploy the strip, the following precautions should be observed:
  1. At no time will a deputy attempt to overtake or pass a pursuit in order to position the spike strip.
  2. The deputy deploying the spike strip should be in position at a predetermined location to allow sufficient time for deployment.
  3. The spike strip should generally be deployed where the probable path of the suspect vehicle is reasonably straight, unobstructed, flat and has an adequate stopping distance. It shall not be used on curves or areas where the roadway is bordered by steep descending embankments.
  4. Deployment locations should have reasonably good sight distances to enable the deputy deploying the spike strip to observe the pursuit and other traffic as it approaches.
  5. The location of deployment shall be closely communicated to all units involved in the pursuit.
  6. There shall be close coordination between pursuing units and the deputy deploying the spike strip.
  7. The deputy intending to use the spike strip is responsible for its safe deployment and retrieval.
  8. That deputy is not expected to assist in the apprehension of the suspect or any other duties.
  9. All safety equipment stored with the spike strip should be used when handling it, for example, gloves, eye protection, etc.
  10. The deputy must be careful to avoid wrapping the spike strip's cord around the hand or wrist in order to prevent accidental injury when the suspect passes over the strip.
- d. Retrieval of the Spike Strip:

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1. Once the suspect vehicle has passed over the spike strip, the deputy is to retrieve it immediately to prevent accidental contact with law enforcement vehicles or other non-intended parties.
2. The deploying deputy is responsible for the proper re-assembly of the device after each use including the replacement of used, lost or damaged parts.

### **REPORTING**

Deployment of the hollow spike strip which results in contact with any vehicle shall be documented in the appropriate crime/incident reports. In addition, its use will be noted in the CHP Pursuit Report Form (CHP 187).

### **307.14 POLICY**

It is the policy of this office to balance the importance of apprehending suspects who unlawfully flee from law enforcement against the risks associated with vehicle pursuits.

## Foot Pursuits

### 308.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to assist deputies in making the decision to initiate or continue the pursuit of suspects on foot.

#### 308.1.1 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.

### 308.2 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.

### **308.3 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.

### 308.4 RESPONSIBILITIES IN FOOT PURSUITS

#### 308.4.1 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, at a minimum, broadcast the following information as soon as it becomes practicable and available:

- (a) Location and direction of travel
- (b) Call sign identifier
- (c) Reason for the foot pursuit, such as the crime classification
- (d) Number of suspects and description, to include name if known
- (e) Whether the suspect is known or believed to be armed with a dangerous weapon

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 foot 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 dispatcher of his/her location and the status of the pursuit termination (e.g., suspect in custody, lost sight of suspect), and will direct

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further actions as reasonably appear necessary, to include requesting medical aid as needed for deputies, suspects or members of the public.

### **308.4.2 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.

### **308.4.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

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 foot 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 shall promptly proceed to the termination point to direct the post-foot pursuit activity.

### **308.4.4 DISPATCH RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon notification or becoming aware that a foot pursuit is in progress, the dispatcher is responsible for:

- (a) Clearing the radio channel of non-emergency traffic.
- (b) Coordinating pursuit communications of the involved deputies.
- (c) Broadcasting pursuit updates as well as other pertinent information as necessary.
- (d) Ensuring that a field supervisor is notified of the foot pursuit.
- (e) Notifying and coordinating with other involved or affected agencies as practicable.
- (f) Notifying the Shift Supervisor as soon as practicable.
- (g) Assigning an incident number and logging all pursuit activities.

### **308.5 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.

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- (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.
- (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.

#### **308.6 POLICY**

It is the policy of this department that deputies, when deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit, continuously balance the objective of apprehending the suspect with the risk and potential for injury to department members, the public or the suspect.

Deputies are expected to act reasonably, based on the totality of the circumstances.

## Report Preparation

### 309.1 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.

#### 309.1.1 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 forms must be prepared legibly. If the form 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.

### 309.2 REQUIRED REPORTING

Written reports are required in all of the following situations on the appropriate office approved form unless otherwise approved by a supervisor.

#### 309.2.1 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

When a member responds to a call for service, or as a result of self-initiated activity becomes aware of any activity where a crime has occurred, the member shall document the incident regardless of whether a victim desires prosecution. Activity to be documented in a written report includes:

- (a) All arrests
- (b) All felony crimes
- (c) Non-Felony incidents involving threats or stalking behavior
- (d) Situations covered by separate policy. These include:
  - (a) Use of Force Policy
  - (b) Domestic Violence Policy

## Report Preparation

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- (c) Child Abuse Policy
- (d) Senior and Disability Victimization Policy
- (e) Hate Crimes Policy
- (f) Suspicious Activity Reporting Policy
- (e) All misdemeanor crimes where the victim desires a report

### 309.2.2 NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

The following incidents shall be documented using the appropriate approved report:

- (a) Anytime a deputy points a firearm at any person
- (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 Policy)
- (d) Anytime a person is reported missing, regardless of jurisdiction (see the Missing Persons Policy)
- (e) Any found property or found evidence
- (f) Any structure or significant wild/agricultural fire.
- (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
- (k) All industrial accidents

### 309.2.3 DEATH CASES

Death investigations require specific investigation methods depending on circumstances and should be handled in accordance with the Death Investigations Policy. 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).

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- (e) Found dead bodies or body parts.

### 309.2.4 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.

### 309.2.5 MISCELLANEOUS INJURIES

Any injury that is reported to this office shall require a report when:

- (a) The injury is a result of drug overdose
- (b) Attempted suicide
- (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.

### 309.2.6 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 Section shall notify the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) of the incident as required by CDPH (Penal Code § 23685).

### 309.2.7 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.

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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).

### **309.3 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.

### **309.4 REPORT CORRECTIONS**

Supervisors shall review reports for content and accuracy. If a correction is necessary, the reviewing supervisor should unapprove the report stating 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 unapproved report returned for correction is processed in a timely manner.

### **309.5 REPORT CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS**

Reports that have been approved by a supervisor and submitted to the Records Section 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 the Records Section may be corrected or modified by the authoring deputy only with the knowledge and authorization of the reviewing supervisor.

## Officer Response to Calls

### 310.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 310.2 RESPONSE TO CALLS

Deputies dispatched "Code-3" shall consider the call an emergency response and proceed immediately. 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.

### 310.3 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 Dispatch.

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

### 310.4 INITIATING CODE 3 RESPONSE

If a deputy believes a Code-3 response to any call is appropriate, the deputy shall immediately notify Dispatch and give the location from which he/she is responding. The Shift Supervisor or field supervisor will monitor and make a determination to reduce the number of deputies responding code 3.



## *Officer Response to Calls*

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### **310.5 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 Dispatch. A deputy shall also discontinue the Code-3 response when directed by a supervisor.

### **310.6 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon being notified that a Code-3 response has been initiated, the Shift Supervisor 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.

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 Shift Supervisor 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

### **310.7 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 Shift Supervisor, field supervisor, or Dispatch of the equipment failure so that another unit may be assigned to the emergency response.

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## *Officer Response to Calls*

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### **310.8 VEHICLE ACCIDENT RESPONSE**

This agency shall respond, assist and support organizations that are dispatched for services involving traffic accidents and/or medical aid. When a department member is dispatched to a traffic accident in conjunction with the California Highway Patrol or is dispatched prior to the Highway Patrol, it shall be the member's responsibility to respond, remain on the scene and assist as necessary.

### **310.9 MEDICAL AID RESPONSE**

Department members shall respond to all medical aid requests and assist the Volunteer Fire Department with whatever assistance is necessary. This would include traffic control, first aid assistance, directing or escorting ambulances to remote areas, etc.

## Search and Seizure

### 311.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office personnel to consider when dealing with search and seizure issues.

### 311.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 311.3 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.

## *Search and Seizure*

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### **311.4 SEARCH PROTOCOL**

- (a) Members of the Department will conduct person searches with dignity and courtesy.
- (b) Members of the Department will conduct property searches in a manner that returns the condition of the property to its pre-search status as nearly as reasonably practical.
- (c) Members of the Department should attempt to gain keys to locked property when a search is anticipated, and the time and effort required to gain the keys makes it a practical option.
- (d) When the person to be searched is of the opposite sex of the Deputy, a Deputy of the like sex should be summoned to the scene to conduct the search if practical. A search may be undertaken of a member of the opposite sex when it is not practical to summon a Deputy of the like sex. In these instances the Deputies will adhere to the following guidelines:
  - 1. A supervisor and/or one other Deputy should witness the search, if practical
  - 2. Deputies will use the quick-sweep, cursory search technique and not "linger" in searching sensitive areas. Deputies may also consider using blade edge and/or back edge of their hands to search sensitive areas of the opposite sex to include the breast, crotch and buttocks areas.
- (e) When practical, the Deputy will explain to the person being searched the reason for the search and how the Deputy will conduct the search.

### **311.5 RESIDENCE**

Absent a valid search warrant, exigent circumstances or valid consent, every person has a reasonable expectation of privacy inside their home. Individuals do not, however, generally have a reasonable expectation of privacy in areas around their home where the general public (e.g. mailmen & salesmen) would reasonably be permitted to go.

### **311.6 PLAIN VIEW**

Because an individual does not have an expectation of privacy as to items that are in plain view, no "search" has taken place in a constitutional sense when an object is viewed from a location where the Deputy has a right to be.

An item in plain view may generally be seized when:

- (a) It was viewed from a lawful location;
- (b) There is probable cause to believe that the item is linked to criminal activity; and
- (c) The location of the item can be legally accessed.

It is important to note that the so-called "Nexus Rule" requires that even items in plain view must not be seized unless there is probable cause to believe that the item will aid in an investigation. Such a nexus should be included in any related reports.

## *Search and Seizure*

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### **311.7 EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES**

Exigent circumstances permitting entry into premises without a warrant or valid consent generally include:

- (a) Imminent danger of injury or death; or
- (b) Serious damage to property; or
- (c) Imminent escape of a suspect; or
- (d) The destruction of evidence.

An exigency created by the Deputy's own conduct as an excuse for a warrantless entry is not generally permitted.

### **311.8 CONSENT**

Entry into a location for the purpose of conducting a search for any item reasonably believed relevant to any investigation is permitted once valid consent has been obtained. However, consent is only valid if it is:

- (a) Voluntary (i.e. clear, specific and unequivocal); and
- (b) Obtained from a person with authority to give the consent.

Whenever unusual circumstances would not otherwise prevent the use of the Department's "CONSENT TO SEARCH" form, Deputies should have the individual read the form, ensure they understand it, and provide them with a copy after they have signed it.

If unusual circumstances prevent the use of the "CONSENT TO SEARCH" form, Deputies should describe such circumstances in related report(s).

While there is no requirement that an individual be told of their right to refuse consent, such a warning and the use of the "CONSENT TO SEARCH" form provide strong support for the validity of any consent.

Consent must be obtained as the product of a free will. It cannot be obtained through submission to authority, expressed or implied.

At any point that an individual withdraws consent, any related search should be discontinued unless and until otherwise legally permitted.

### **311.9 DOCUMENTATION**

Deputies are responsible to ensure that any related reports have sufficient details of the search 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)

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## *Search and Seizure*

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- What, if any, injuries or damage occurred
- 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.

## Cite and Release Policy

### 312.1 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.

### 312.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 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.

### 312.3 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 person's 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 they deem necessary to ensure that the defendant understands their written promise to appear.

#### 312.3.1 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.

#### 312.3.2 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 Shift Supervisor or the authorized designee.

### 312.4 NON-RELEASE

## *Cite and Release Policy*

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### 312.4.1 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)

### 312.4.2 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 Shift Supervisor 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 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 they could be a danger to themselves 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 their own safety
  1. The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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) There are one or more outstanding arrest warrants for the person (see Misdemeanor Warrants elsewhere in this policy).
- (e) The person could not provide satisfactory evidence of personal identification.



## *Cite and Release Policy*

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1. If a person released on citation does not have satisfactory identification in their possession, a right thumbprint or fingerprint should be obtained on the citation form.
- (f) 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.
- (g) 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.
- (h) The person arrested demands to be taken before a magistrate or has refused to sign the notice to appear.
- (i) 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. Reasons may include:
  1. Previous failure to appear is on record
  2. The person lacks ties to the area, such as a residence, job, or family
  3. 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 Shift Supervisor for approval and included with the case file in the Records Section.

### **312.5 MISDEMEANOR WARRANTS**

An adult arrested on a misdemeanor warrant may be released, subject to Shift Supervisor 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 themselves or others due to intoxication or being under the influence of drugs or narcotics.
- (f) The person requires medical examination or medical care or was otherwise unable to care for their own safety.
- (g) The person has other ineligible charges pending against themselves.
- (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.

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- (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.

## Private Persons Arrests

### 313.1 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.

### 313.2 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.

### 313.3 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.

### 313.4 OFFICER 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)

## *Private Persons Arrests*

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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

### **313.5 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.

## Domestic Violence

### 314.1 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 office to take enforcement action when appropriate, to provide assistance to victims and to guide deputies in the investigation of domestic violence.

#### 314.1.1 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.

### 314.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office'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 office to facilitate victims' and offenders' access to appropriate civil remedies and community resources whenever feasible.

### 314.3 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.

### 314.4 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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### *Domestic Violence*

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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. Whether the suspect lives on the premises with the victim.
  - 2. Claims by the suspect that the victim provoked or perpetuated the violence.
  - 3. The potential financial or child custody consequences of arrest.
  - 4. The physical or emotional state of either party.
  - 5. Use of drugs or alcohol by either party.
  - 6. Denial that the abuse occurred where evidence indicates otherwise.
  - 7. A request by the victim not to arrest the suspect.
  - 8. Location of the incident (public/private).
  - 9. Speculation that the complainant may not follow through with the prosecution.
  - 10. Actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, disability, or marital status of the victim or suspect.
  - 11. The social status, community status, or professional position of the victim or suspect.

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## *Domestic Violence*

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### **314.4.1 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.

### **314.4.2 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.

### **314.5 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 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).

### **314.6 DISPATCH ASSISTANCE**

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

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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.

### **314.7 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).

### **314.8 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.

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.



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### **314.9 LEGAL MANDATES AND RELEVANT LAWS**

California law provides for the following:

#### **314.9.1 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 probable 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 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, 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.

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- (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).

### 314.9.2 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).

### 314.9.3 PUBLIC ACCESS TO POLICY

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

### 314.9.4 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.

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- (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)).

### 314.9.5 RECORD-KEEPING AND DATA COLLECTION

This office 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 Office, 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.

### 314.9.6 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).

## Missing Persons

### 315.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for handling missing person investigations.

#### 315.1.1 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).

### 315.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 an investigation reveals otherwise. The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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).

### 315.3 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:

- 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

### **315.4 ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

Any member 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 members who do not take such reports or who are unable to render immediate assistance shall promptly dispatch or alert a member 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).

### **315.5 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 § 14211).
- (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:
  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.

### **315.6 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.

#### **315.6.1 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 Section.
- (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.

#### **315.6.2 RECORDS SECTION 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).

### 315.7 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 Coroner.
- (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 § 566).

### **315.8 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 relatives and/or reporting party, as appropriate, 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.

#### **315.8.1 UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS**

Office 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.

### **315.9 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 is a resident of Yolo County or this office 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 office 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.

### **315.10 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Training Manager should ensure that members of this office 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 office 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

### 316.1 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.

### 316.2 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.

### 316.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 316.3.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office should notify their supervisor, Shift Supervisor 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.

#### 316.3.2 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

### 316.4 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.

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### 316.4.1 CRITERIA FOR AMBER ALERT

The following conditions must be met before activating an AMBER Alert (Government Code § 8594(a)):

- (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.

### 316.4.2 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 Office Dispatch 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

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2. National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)

### **316.5 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.

#### **316.5.1 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.

#### **316.5.2 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 Office Dispatch so that general broadcasts can be made to local law enforcement agencies.

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- (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

### **316.6 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).

#### 316.6.1 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 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.

#### 316.6.2 PROCEDURE FOR SILVER ALERT

Requests for a Silver Alert shall be made through the California Highway Patrol (Government Code § 8594.10).

### **316.7 ADDITIONAL ALERTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCIES**

Additional public safety emergency alerts may be authorized that utilize wireless emergency alert system (WEA) and emergency alert system (EAS) equipment for alerting and warning the public to protect lives and save property (Government Code § 8593.7).

#### 316.7.1 CRITERIA

Public safety emergency alerts may be issued to alert or warn the public about events including but not limited to:

- (a) Evacuation orders (including evacuation routes, shelter information, key information).
- (b) Shelter-in-place guidance due to severe weather.

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- (c) Terrorist threats.
- (d) HazMat incidents.

### 316.7.2 PROCEDURE

Public safety emergency alerts should be activated by following the guidelines issued by the Office of Emergency Services (Government Code § 8593.7).

## Child Abuse

### 317.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the investigation of suspected child abuse. This policy also addresses when Yolo County Sheriff's Office members are required to notify the county Child Protective Services (CPS) of suspected child abuse.

#### 317.1.1 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).

Child protective agency- means a police or Sheriff's office, a county probation department or a county welfare department. This section does not include school district police or security department.

### 317.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will investigate all reported incidents of alleged criminal child abuse and ensure CPS is notified as required by law.

### 317.3 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,

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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); 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.

### **317.3.1 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.

### **317.4 MDIC MULTI DISCIPLINARY INTERVIEW CENTER**

The MDIC is a child friendly, safe and supportive environment where child victims of sexual abuse come for forensic interviews, medical evidentiary examinations, advocacy, assessment, therapy, and support services. The MDIC serves all child victims in Yolo County.

The MDIC's primary focus is to reduce the additional trauma that child victims often experience when going through the processes necessary to bring their perpetrators to justice. When allegations of child abuse are made, the potential for a child to experience trauma and confusion from the responding systems is extremely high. Repetitive interviews and investigations by multiple agencies create problems for child victims and cases.

The MDIC is a specialized team of highly trained professionals representing a countywide effort to create the least traumatic and most effective system for responding to child abuse in our community. They accomplish this through intensive collaboration between the agencies currently responsible for child abuse cases and through partnerships with local agencies serving children and their families.

Referrals to the MDIC are made by Law Enforcement and Child Welfare Services.

### **317.5 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.



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- (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).

### **317.6 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.
- (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).

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### 317.6.1 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).

### 317.7 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.

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:

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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.

### 317.7.1 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.

### 317.7.2 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.

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.

## 317.8 INTERVIEWS

### 317.8.1 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.

### 317.8.2 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:

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- (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.

### **317.8.3 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).

### **317.9 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 medical examination, the notified supervisor should consider obtaining a court order for such an examination.

### **317.10 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.

#### **317.10.1 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.

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- (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.

### 317.10.2 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.

### 317.11 STATE MANDATES AND OTHER RELEVANT LAWS

California requires or permits the following:

#### 317.11.1 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).

#### 317.11.2 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 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.

#### 317.11.3 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.

#### 317.11.4 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.

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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.

### **317.11.5 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).

### **317.12 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.

## Senior and Disability Victimization

### 318.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the investigation and reporting of suspected abuse of certain adults who may be more vulnerable than others. This policy also addresses mandatory notification for Yolo County Sheriff's Office members as required by law (Penal Code § 368.6).

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing equal protection and demonstrating respect for all persons regardless of age or disabilities, and to conscientiously enforcing all criminal laws protecting elders, and adults and children with disabilities, regardless of whether these crimes also carry civil penalties (Penal Code § 368.6) (see Child Abuse Policy for child abuse investigations and reporting).

### 318.2 DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions are provided (Welfare and Institutions code § 15610 et seq. and Penal code § 368).

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).

**Elder**- Is any person residing in this state, 65 years of age or older.

**Financial Abuse**- Is a situation in which any person who has the care or custody of, or who stands in a position of trust to, an elder or a dependant adult, takes secretes, or appropriates their money or property to any use of purposes not in the due and lawful execution of his or her trust.

**Abuse of an Elder or a Dependant Adult**- Is physical abuse, neglect, financial abuse, abandonment, isolation or other treatment with resulting physical harm, pain, mental suffering, or the deprivation by a care custodian of goods or services that are necessary to avoid physical harm or mental suffering.

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**Neglect-** is the negligent failure of any person having the care of custody of an elder or a dependent adult to exercise that degree of care which is a reasonable person in a like position would exercise. Neglect includes, but not limited to, all of the following:

- (a) Failure to assist in personal hygiene, or in the provision of food, clothing or shelter.
- (b) Failure to provide medical care of 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 instead of medical treatment.

### **318.3 POLICY**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will investigate all reported incidents of alleged elder and dependent adult abuse and ensure proper reporting and notification as required by law.

#### **318.3.1 ARREST POLICY**

It is the office policy to make arrests or to seek arrest warrants for elder and dependent adult abuse in accordance with Penal Code § 836 and, in the case of domestic violence, as allowed by Penal Code § 13701 (Penal Code § 368.6) (see Law Enforcement Authority and Domestic Violence policies for additional guidance).

#### **318.3.2 ADHERENCE TO POLICY**

All deputies are required to be familiar with the policy and carry out the policy at all times, except in the case of an unusual compelling circumstance as determined and approved by a supervisor (Penal Code § 368.6).

Any supervisor who determines and approves a deputy's deviation from this policy shall provide a written report to the Sheriff that states the unusual compelling circumstances regarding the deviation. A copy of this report will be made available to the alleged victim and reporting party pursuant to office protocols (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(27)).

The Sheriff shall retain the report for a minimum of five years and shall make it available to the state protection and advocacy agency upon request (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(27)).

### **318.4 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING**

All reported or suspected cases of elder and dependent adult abuse require investigation and a report, even if the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated (Penal Code § 368.6).

Investigations and reports related to suspected cases of elder and dependent adult 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 elder and dependent adult abuse victim is contacted.
- (b) Any relevant statements the victim may have made and to whom he/she made the statements.
- (c) If a person is taken into protective custody, the reasons, the name and title of the person making the decision, and why other alternatives were not appropriate.



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- (d) Documentation of any visible injuries or any injuries identified by the victim. This should include photographs of such injuries, if practicable.
- (e) Whether the victim was transported for medical treatment or a medical examination.
- (f) Whether the victim identified a household member as the alleged perpetrator, and a list of the names of any other potential victims or witnesses who may reside in the residence.
- (g) Identification of any prior related reports or allegations of abuse, including other jurisdictions, as reasonably known.
- (h) Previous addresses of the victim and suspect.
- (i) Other potential witnesses who have not yet been interviewed, such as relatives or others close to the victim's environment.
- (j) Witness and suspect statements if available.
- (k) Review of all portable audio/video recorders, devices, and other available video.
- (l) Call history related to the elder or dependent adult including calls from mandated reporters or other individuals.
- (m) Whether the abuse is related to a disability-bias hate crime and related bias motivations (Penal Code § 368.6) (see the Hate Crimes Policy for additional guidance).
- (n) Results of investigations shall be provided to those agencies (Adult Protective Services (APS), long-term ombudsman) that referred or reported the elder or dependent adult abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(f)).
- (o) Whether a death involved the End of Life Option Act:
  - 1. Whether or not assistance was provided to the person beyond that allowed by law (Health and Safety Code § 443.14).
  - 2. Whether an individual knowingly altered or forged a request for an aid-in-dying drug to end a person's life without his/her authorization, or concealed or destroyed a withdrawal or rescission of a request for an aid-in-dying drug (Health and Safety Code § 443.17).
  - 3. Whether coercion or undue influence was exerted on the person to request or ingest an aid-in-dying drug or to destroy a withdrawal or rescission of a request for such medication (Health and Safety Code § 443.17).
  - 4. Whether an aid-in-dying drug was administered to a person without his/her knowledge or consent (Health and Safety Code § 443.17).

Any unexplained death of an adult who was in the care of a guardian or caretaker should be considered as potential elder or dependent adult abuse and investigated similarly.

An unexplained or suspicious death of an elder, dependent adult, or other adult or child with a disability should be treated as a potential homicide until a complete investigation including an autopsy is completed, and it should not be assumed that the death of an elder or person with a disability is natural simply because of the age or disability of the deceased (Penal Code § 368.6(c) (18)).

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### 318.4.1 ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

The following factors as provided in Penal Code § 368.6 should be considered when investigating incidents of elder and dependent adult abuse:

- (a) Elder and dependent adult abuse, sex crimes, child abuse, domestic violence, and any other criminal act, when committed in whole or in part because of the victim's actual or perceived disability, including disability caused by advanced age, is also a hate crime (Penal Code § 368.6) (see the Hate Crimes Policy for additional guidance).
- (b) Senior and disability victimization crimes are also domestic violence subject to the mandatory arrest requirements of Penal Code § 836 if they meet the elements described in Penal Code § 273.5, including but not limited to a violation by a caretaker or other person who is or was a cohabitant of the victim, regardless of whether the cohabitant is or was a relative of, or in an intimate personal relationship with, the victim (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(10)).
- (c) Many victims of sexual assault and other sex crimes delay disclosing the crimes for reasons including but not limited to shame, embarrassment, self-doubt, fear of being disbelieved, and fear of retaliation by the perpetrator or others (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(11)).
- (d) Victims and witnesses with disabilities, including cognitive and communication disabilities, can be highly credible witnesses when interviewed appropriately by trained officers or other trained persons (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(14)).

### 318.5 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS

Qualified investigators should be available to investigate cases of elder and dependent adult abuse. These investigators should:

- (a) Conduct interviews in appropriate interview facilities.
- (b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to elder and dependent adult abuse investigations.
- (c) Present all cases of alleged elder and dependent adult abuse to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies, and facility administrators as needed (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15650).
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians, and support for the victim and family as appropriate (see the Victim and Witness Assistance Policy for additional guidance).
  - 1. Ensure victims of sex crimes know their right to have a support person of their choice present at all times during an interview or contact (Penal Code § 368.6) (see the Sexual Assault Investigations Policy for additional guidance).
  - 2. Referrals to the crime victim liaison as appropriate for victims requiring further assistance or information regarding benefits from crime victim resources.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.55).

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- (g) Make reasonable efforts to determine whether any person committed unlawful interference in a mandated report.

### **318.6 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION**

Members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall notify the local office of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) APS agency when they reasonably suspect, have observed, or have knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be abuse of an elder or dependent adult, or are told by an elder or dependent adult that he/she has experienced abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).

Notification shall be made by telephone as soon as practicable and a written report shall be provided within two working days as provided in Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)(c).

Notification shall also be made to the following agencies as soon as practicable or as provided below (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630):

- (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.
  - 4. When a report of abuse is received by the Office, the local ombudsman shall be called to coordinate efforts to provide the most immediate and appropriate response (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).
- (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 as soon as practicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).
- (c) The California Department of Public Health (DPH) shall be notified of all known or suspected abuse in a long-term care facility.
- (d) The SDSS shall be notified of all known or suspected abuse occurring in a residential care facility for the elderly or in an adult day program.
- (e) If the abuse occurred in an adult day health care center, DPH and the California Department of Aging shall be notified.
- (f) 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.

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- (g) The District Attorney's office shall be notified of all cases of physical abuse and financial abuse in a long-term care facility.
- (h) If the abuse occurred at a state mental hospital or a state developmental center, notification shall be made to the designated investigators of the California Department of State Hospitals or the California Department of Developmental Services as soon as practicable but no later than two hours after law enforcement becomes aware of the abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).
  - 1. When a report of abuse is received by the Office, investigation efforts shall be coordinated with the designated investigators of the California Department of State Hospitals or the California Department of Developmental Services (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).
- (i) If during an investigation it is determined that the elder or dependent adult abuse is being committed by a licensed health practitioner as identified in Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(b), the appropriate licensing agency shall be immediately notified (Welfare and Institutions Code 15640(b)).
- (j) When the Office receives a report of abuse, neglect, or abandonment of an elder or dependent adult alleged to have occurred in a long-term care facility, the licensing agency shall be notified by telephone as soon as practicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(e)).

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).

Notification is not required for a person who was merely present when a person self-administered a prescribed aid-in-dying drug or a person prepared an aid-in-dying drug so long as the person did not assist the individual in ingesting the aid-in-dying drug (Health and Safety Code § 443.14; Health and Safety Code § 443.18).

Failure to report, or impeding or inhibiting a report of abuse of an elder or dependent adult, is a misdemeanor (Welfare and Institutions Code §15630(h)).

#### 318.6.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Notification should include the following information, if known (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(e)):

- (a) The name of the person making the report.
- (b) The name and age of the elder or dependent adult.
- (c) The present location of the elder or dependent adult.
- (d) The names and addresses of family members or any other adult responsible for the care of the elder or dependent adult.
- (e) The nature and extent of the condition of the elder or dependent adult.
- (f) The date of incident.

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- (g) Any other information, including information that led the person to suspect elder or dependent adult abuse.

### **318.7 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY**

Before taking an elder or dependent 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 adult should be left to the welfare authorities when they are present or have become involved in an investigation.

Generally, members of this office should remove an elder or dependent 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 elder or dependent 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 elder or dependent 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 elder or dependent 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.

#### **318.7.1 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)).

#### **318.7.2 VERIFICATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Whenever a deputy verifies that a relevant protective order has been issued, the deputy shall make reasonable efforts to determine if the order prohibits the person from possession of firearms or requires the relinquishment of firearms, and if the order does so, the deputy shall make reasonable efforts to (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(19)):

- (a) Inquire whether the restrained person possesses firearms. The deputy should make this effort by asking the restrained person and the protected person.
- (b) Query the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System to determine if any firearms are registered to the restrained person.

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- (c) Receive or seize prohibited firearms located in plain view or pursuant to a consensual or other lawful search in compliance with Penal Code § 18250 et seq. and in accordance with office procedures.

### **318.8 INTERVIEWS**

#### **318.8.1 PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS**

Absent extenuating circumstances or impracticality, deputies should audio record the preliminary interview with a suspected elder or dependent adult abuse victim. Deputies should avoid multiple interviews with the 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.

#### **318.8.2 DETAINING VICTIMS FOR INTERVIEWS**

A deputy should not detain an adult involuntarily who is suspected of being a victim of abuse solely for the purpose of an interview or physical exam without his/her consent or the consent of a guardian unless one of the following applies:

- (a) Exigent circumstances exist, such as:
  - 1. A reasonable belief that medical issues of the adult need to be addressed immediately.
  - 2. A reasonable belief that the adult is or will be in danger of harm if the interview or physical exam is not immediately completed.
  - 3. The alleged offender is a family member or guardian and there is reason to believe the adult may be in continued danger.
- (b) A court order or warrant has been issued.

#### **318.8.3 INTERVIEWS WITH A PERSON WITH DEAFNESS OR HEARING LOSS**

A deputy who is interviewing a victim or witness who reports or demonstrates deafness or hearing loss should secure the services of a qualified interpreter (as defined by Evidence Code § 754) prior to the start of the interview (Penal Code § 368.6) (see the Communications with Persons with Disabilities Policy for additional guidance).

### **318.9 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

When an elder or dependent adult abuse investigation requires a medical examination, the investigating deputy should obtain consent for such examination from the victim, guardian, agency, or entity having legal custody of the adult. The deputy should also arrange for the adult's transportation to the appropriate medical facility.

In cases where the alleged offender is a family member, guardian, agency, or entity having legal custody and is refusing to give 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 adult for a medical examination, the supervisor should consider other government agencies or services that may obtain a court order for such an examination.

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### **318.10 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 elder or dependent adult abuse victim who has been exposed to the manufacturing, trafficking, or use of narcotics.

#### **318.10.1 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Deputies responding to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where an elder or dependent adult abuse victim is present or where there is evidence that an elder or dependent adult abuse victim lives should:

- (a) Document the environmental, medical, social, and other conditions of the adult, using photography as appropriate and the checklist or form developed for this purpose.
- (b) Notify the Investigations supervisor so an interagency response can begin.

#### **318.10.2 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 elder or dependent 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 elder or dependent adult abuse victim is present or where evidence indicates that an elder or dependent adult abuse victim lives.
- (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.

### **318.11 TRAINING**

The Office should provide training on best practices in elder and dependent adult abuse investigations to members tasked with investigating these cases. The training should include:

- (a) Participating in multidisciplinary investigations, as appropriate.
- (b) Conducting interviews.
- (c) Availability of therapy services for adults and families.
- (d) Availability of specialized forensic medical exams.
- (e) Cultural competence (including interpretive services) related to elder and dependent adult abuse investigations.
- (f) Availability of victim advocates or other support.

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### 318.11.1 MANDATORY TRAINING

The Training Manager shall ensure that appropriate personnel receive the required training, including:

- (a) Materials from POST as described in Penal Code § 368.6(c)(5)(A).
- (b) Advanced training on senior and disability victimization available from POST, the United States Department of Justice, the Disability and Abuse Project of the Spectrum Institute, or other sources as provided by Penal Code § 368.6(c)(16)(A).
  1. Training should include the following:
    - (a) Information on the wide prevalence of elder and dependent adult abuse, sexual assault, other sex crimes, hate crimes, domestic violence, human trafficking, and homicide against adults and children with disabilities, including disabilities caused by advanced age, and including those crimes often committed by caretakers (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(1)).
    - (b) Information on the history of elder and dependent adult abuse and crimes against individuals with disabilities (see the POST Senior and Disability Victimization Policy Guidelines).

The Training Manager shall also ensure that appropriate training is provided on this policy to dispatchers, community services officers, front desk personnel, and other civilian personnel who interact with the public (Penal Code § 368.6 (c)(7)).

### **318.12 RECORDS SECTION RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Records Section is responsible for:

- (a) Providing a copy of the elder or dependent 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 elder or dependent adult abuse report with the initial case file.

### **318.13 JURISDICTION**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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, if consistent with federal law, in such cases. However, this office will retain responsibility for the criminal investigations (Penal Code § 368.5).

Additional jurisdiction responsibilities for investigations of abuse involving various facilities and agencies may be found in Welfare and Institutions Code § 15650.



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### **318.14 RELEVANT STATUTES**

#### **Penal Code § 288 (a) and Penal Code § 288 (b)(2)**

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (i), a person who willfully and lewdly commits any lewd or lascivious act, including any of the acts constituting other crimes provided for in Part 1 (Of Crimes and Punishments of the Penal Code) upon or with the body, or any part or member thereof, of a child who is under the age of 14 years, with the intent of arousing, appealing to, or gratifying the lust, passions, or sexual desires of that person or the child, is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for three, six, or eight years.

(b)(2) A person who is a caretaker and commits an act described in subdivision (a) upon a dependent person by use of force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury on the victim or another person, with the intent described in subdivision (a), is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for 5, 8, or 10 years.

#### **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)**

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.

Protections provided by the above Penal Code § 288 and Penal Code § 368 protect many persons with disabilities regardless of the fact they live independently.

#### **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**

“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**

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- (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, 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.

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- (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**

"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.
- (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.

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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.

### **318.15 SHERIFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee responsibilities include but are not limited to (Penal Code § 368.6):

- (a) Taking leadership within the Office and in the community, including by speaking out publicly in major cases of senior and disability victimization, to assure the community of office support for the victims and their families and for others in the community who are terrorized and traumatized by the crimes, and to encourage victims and witnesses to the crimes or similar past or future crimes to report those crimes to help bring the perpetrators to justice and prevent further crimes.
- (b) Developing and including office protocols in this policy, including but not limited to the following:
  1. Protocols for seeking emergency protective orders by phone from a court at any time of day or night pursuant to Family Code § 6250(d).
  2. Protocols for arrest warrants and arrests for senior and disability victimization for matters other than domestic violence and consistent with the requirements of Penal Code § 368.6(c)(9)(B) that include the following:
    - (a) In the case of a senior and disability victimization committed in a deputy's presence, including but not limited to a violation of a relevant protective order, the deputy shall make a warrantless arrest based on probable cause when necessary or advisable to protect the safety of the victim or others.

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- (b) In the case of a felony not committed in a deputy's presence, the officer shall make a warrantless arrest based on probable cause when necessary or advisable to protect the safety of the victim or others.
  - (c) In the case of a misdemeanor not committed in the deputy's presence, including but not limited to misdemeanor unlawful interference with a mandated report or a misdemeanor violation of a relevant protective order, or when necessary or advisable to protect the safety of the victim or others, the agency shall seek an arrest warrant based on probable cause.
  - (d) Protocol for seeking arrest warrants based on probable cause for crimes for which no arrest has been made.
3. Procedures for first responding deputies to follow when interviewing persons with cognitive and communication disabilities until deputies, or staff of other responsible agencies with more advanced training, are available. The procedure shall include an instruction to avoid repeated interviews whenever possible.
- (c) For each office protocol, include either a specific title-by-title list of deputy responsibilities or a specific office or unit in the Office responsible for implementing the protocol.
  - (d) Ensure an appendix is created and attached to this policy that describes requirements for elder and dependent adult abuse investigations consistent with Penal Code § 368.6(c)(8)(B).
  - (e) Ensure a detailed checklist is created and attached to this policy regarding first responding responsibilities that includes but is not limited to the requirements of Penal Code § 368.6(c)(23).
  - (f) Ensuring that all members carry out their responsibilities under this policy.
  - (g) Verifying a process is in place for transmitting and periodically retransmitting this policy and related orders to deputies, including a simple and immediate way for deputies to access the policy in the field when needed.
  - (h) Ensure this policy is available to the Protection and Advocacy Agency upon request.

### **318.16 ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE LIAISON**

A office member appointed by the Sheriff or the authorized designee will serve as the Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Liaison. Responsibilities of the liaison include but are not limited to (Penal Code § 368.6):

- (a) Acting as a liaison to other responsible agencies (defined by Penal Code § 368.6(b)(15)) to increase cooperation and collaboration among them while retaining the law enforcement agency's exclusive responsibility for criminal investigations (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15650).
- (b) Reaching out to the senior and disability communities and to the public to encourage prevention and reporting of senior and disability victimization.

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## Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)

### 319.1 PROTOCOL

The mission of SART is to counter the experience of sexual assault with a sensitive and competent multi-disciplinary response, to support efforts to restore well-being to the victim, and to bring the responsible person(s) to justice. Teamwork, cooperation, communication and flexibility are essential for the success of the SART program. To that end, the following protocol has been established and is provided for use by team members and participating agencies.

In order to better provide for the needs of the victim, facilitate a timely investigation, collect, preserve, and obtain evidence, and successfully prosecute sexual offenders, the Sexual Assault Response Team Protocol has been adopted by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, the Davis Police Department, UC Davis Police Department, Woodland Police Department, West Sacramento Police Department, Winters Police Department, Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center (SADVC), Campus Violence Prevention Program (CVPP), Children's Specialists Medical Group of Sacramento, Inc (BEAR Team- Bridging Evidence Assessment and Resources), Multi-Disciplinary Interview Center (MDIC), and County District Attorney's Office.

Teamwork, cooperation, communication and flexibility are essential for the success of the SART program. To that end, the following protocol has been established and is provided for use by team members and participating agencies.

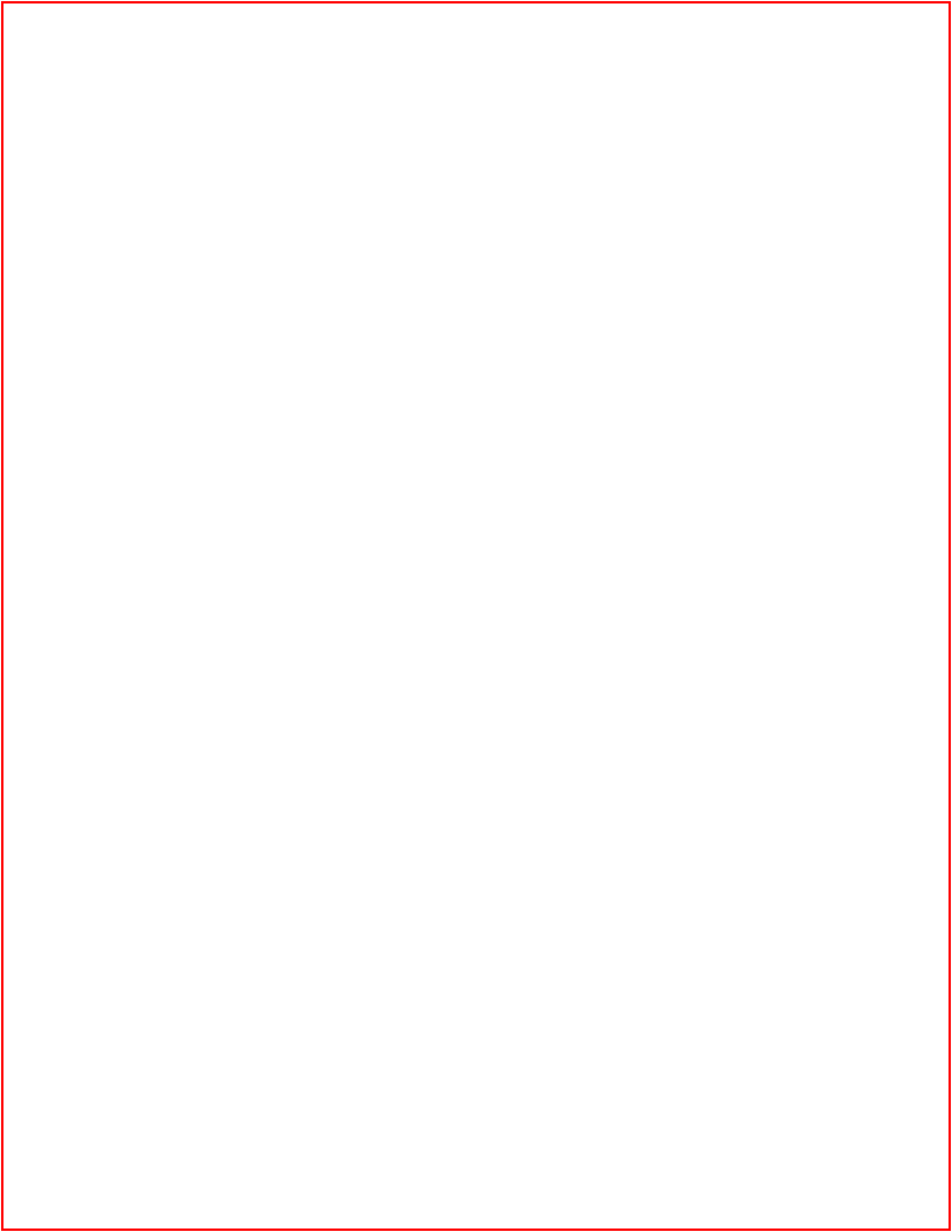
### 319.2 INITIAL RESPONSE

#### INITIAL RESPONSE- VICTIMS AGES 0-17 YEARS

A. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY- It is the responsibility of the First Responder(s) to obtain demographic information about the child and a brief written statement regarding the suspected abuse. When responding to a call of alleged child sexual abuse, officers will:

1. Identify the reporting party(s). Determine how the allegations came to their attention.
2. Identify the victim(s) and ensure their safety.
3. Coordinate with Child Welfare Services. All child sexual abuse reports must be cross reported to CPS. During business hours, call (530) 669-2345. After-hours, have dispatch contact the on-call worker. If the suspect is in the same home as the child, CPS must be contacted at the beginning of the call and conduct a joint investigation at the response location.
4. It is Yolo County's protocol that a SART Advocate is notified by the first responder to coordinate response. To request an advocate call SADVC's crisis line at (530) 662-1133. Law enforcement will notify the advocate of the extent of any injuries.
5. Place child in protective custody hold when necessary.
6. Obtain temporary agreement or Emergency Protective Order, EPO, (if necessary), for no contact between victim and suspect.







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7. Interview the victim or reporting party and gain minimal information establishing that a crime has occurred. Do not get every date, incident, act, or details of the act. That will be obtained during the MDIC interview. Focus on when the last contact with the suspect occurred, location of incident(s), witnesses, and current location of suspect.
  - i. REMEMBER: You may be able to get a lot of this from reliable parties other than the victim. Avoid interviewing the child about this if you are able to get the information from a reliable adult, parent, etc.
  - ii. REMEMBER: Do not interview the child at the scene of the crime. Do not interview the child in the vicinity of the suspect. Avoid interviewing the child in the presence of a parent, other adult, or another child victim. Interview the child with a CPS worker or an advocate.
8. Obtain a recent photograph, if possible, of the alleged perpetrator for identification purposes.
9. Identify other pertinent individuals who may have information regarding the allegations.
10. When possible, obtain detailed statements from these individuals regarding the incident(s) including ages of child at the time of abuse, dates, time, and location.
11. Gather relationship and contact information of all parties involved. If these individuals are not available, or it is not possible to obtain their statements during the preliminary investigation, include information necessary to locate them.
12. Provide the non-offending care provider information about the MDIC and explain that someone will contact them to schedule a forensic interview with the victim.
13. Record all interviews with all parties.
14. Collect evidence at the crime scene, if indicated and available.
  - i. Obtain a search warrant as you deem necessary to collect some of the listed items: cell phones, cameras, computers, laptops, clothing, bedding, laundry, and any items used during the assault (if known based on preliminary investigation). Items can include: lotion, lubricant, towels, pornography (pictures, videos), belts, and objects.
  - ii. Take pictures of crime scene, where the incident occurred: bedroom, bathrooms, layout of home (or park, school, etc.).
  - iii. Take a photograph(s) of the victim and any bruises, scratches, injuries. Please note that the Forensic Medical Examiner will do this as well.
15. Write the Police Report. If the responding officers talk to the child, do not summarize what the child said. Use direct quotes whenever possible. Avoid providing the child with explanations and definitions that they do not use. It is imperative that the officer use the child's own words and not introduce words for genitalia. Avoid Yes/No questions. Remember to keep discussion regarding the incident(s) brief. Write down what child says in an open narrative. Do not press the child for details or clarification.
16. Authorize Acute Medical Exam.

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i. If there is suspicion of sexual contact of any kind within the last 72 hours or if the victim has had any contact with the suspect within the last 72 hours (regardless of disclosure) you may need to arrange for an acute evidentiary exam. Exams can be authorized by MDIC and law enforcement.

ii. If the victim has had any contact with the suspect within the last week (regardless of disclosure), it is strongly recommended that the first responder call and consult with the BEAR Team (after hours) or MDIC (during regular business hours) to determine if an exam is indicated and when it should take place. Depending on the nature of the contact, an acute exam may still be indicated for up to a week after contact. Further, if the child has had any unsupervised contact with the suspect within one week of the initial response by law enforcement, scheduling the exam may take precedence over scheduling the MDIC interview.

iii. During regular business hours, call the MDIC at (530) 666-8186 and they can schedule the exam. MDIC will contact SADVC and request an advocate. MDIC can provide transportation to and from exams during business hours. Exams are paid for by the MDIC.

iv. After hours, you can page a BEAR Examiner at (916) 523-BEAR to let them know you will need an exam. The BEAR Examiner will inform the officer of where the exam will take place. Exams take place at the BEAR Center or Sutter Memorial Hospital in Sacramento. The advocate can assist you with these arrangements.

v. Law enforcement does not need to attend the exam or write a report.

vi. Notify the MDIC (via message) that an exam occurred and fax a copy of the initial police report to (530) 666-3931. MDIC staff will pick up the evidence and take it to DOJ the following business day. MDIC staff will follow-up on exam results and forward them to the assigned detective.

### 17. Initial Response for non-acute evidentiary exams (most of them):

i. Simply fax over the case with the MDIC referral (to the MDIC: 530 666- 3931) as you do now for interviews. You do not have to refer cases twice (once for the interview and once for the exam), just send the case over like you do now, using the same referral form, and the MDIC will handle the rest. It is important to remember that although the MDIC may not be able to interview very young children or, depending on the case, an MDIC interview is not indicated for an older child, we can still do an exam. Therefore send all cases of suspected sexual assault/exploitation of a minor and allow the MDIC staff, detectives and the DA's office to determine the best plan of action.

ii. These exams are set during business hours therefore, MDIC staff can transport if needed.

iii. MDIC staff will contact SADVC's crisis line to request an advocate.

iv. Law enforcement does not need to attend the medical exam or write a report about the results of the exam.

## **INITIAL RESPONSE- VICTIMS AGE 18 YEARS AND OLDER**

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### JURISDICTIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

1. Once an officer has obtained minimal information establishing a crime has occurred, law enforcement will contact SADVC or CVPP's crisis line and request an advocate. Advocates respond to all sexual assault investigations including but not limited to rape, attempted rape, sodomy, sexual battery, etc.
2. Law enforcement dispatch will provide the responding officer's cell phone number to the advocate as well as the name of the agency responding to the crime. Law enforcement will notify the advocate of the extent of any injuries.
3. Per penal code 679.04, an advocate shall be present during all law enforcement interviews with victims. Every effort shall be made by the responding officer to ask those questions necessary to establish that a crime has been committed and to obtain crucial evidence regarding the crime and the alleged assailant.
4. If a sexual assault has occurred within the last 72 hours an acute exam is indicated. If sexual contact has been within one week, law enforcement can contact the BEAR Examiner for case consultation. To set up the exam, call BEAR directly at (916) 523- BEAR as soon as you know you will need an exam. The BEAR Examiner will inform the officer of where the exam will take place. Exams take place at the BEAR Center CSMG Clinic or Sutter Memorial Hospital in Sacramento. The advocate can assist you with these arrangements. The BEAR Examiners have a 45-minute response time to the hospital.
5. At the time that a request is made for a forensic exam, if the responding officer has not requested an advocate they must do so. The advocate will be available to accompany the victim through the exam/interview process. Exams are not conducted without an advocate present, unless the victim refuses.
6. When the victims are in need of immediate emergency medical care, they are handled as any other medical emergency first. When a victim goes directly to the emergency medical department to make the first report, the emergency medical department staff gathers pertinent information regarding the assault and contacts the appropriate law enforcement agency. Once the crime has been determined, the law enforcement agency requests an advocate. Per contract, all Yolo County exams take place at the BEAR Clinic or Sutter Memorial Hospital. Law enforcement authorizes and pays for the exam.
7. The responding officer will arrange transportation of the victim (if needed) to and from the exam.

### **319.3 SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINER (SAFE)**

#### **A. SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINER (SAFE)**

1. All SAFE'S shall have completed the prescribed course and shall be certified as Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners.
2. SAFE Team members are available on an on-call basis 24 hours a day.

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3. SAFE examiners shall inform the law enforcement officer where to meet them (Sutter Memorial Hospital or Sutter Clinic/Professional Building).
4. When the advocate arrives at the hospital, the forensic examiner will give the advocate a moment to meet with the victim to explain the role of the SADVC or CVPP advocate. Once the victim has agreed, the advocate will speak further with the victim to discuss any immediate needs or concerns.
5. The examiner will provide money for parking when parked at the Sutter Clinic Building.
6. Sutter Memorial Hospital will provide a designated parking spot for the advocate.

The advocate must call Hospital Security while in route to be escorted to a designated parking stop. If the advocate fails to call Hospital Security, the parking attendant can provide a designated parking spot with valid ID. A security guard will escort the advocate to the exam room.

### **319.4 VICTIM ADVOCATE**

#### **A. VICTIM ADVOCATE**

1. SADVC and CVPP advocates are certified rape crisis counselors according to California Evidence Code Section 1035.2.
2. Advocates are called out by the jurisdictional law enforcement agency upon law enforcement's determination that a crime has occurred or at the request of the victim.
3. Advocates are available on an on-call basis 24 hours a day to provide accompaniment and advocacy to sexual assault victims.

#### **B. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

The DA's Office will provide consultation for all sexual assault cases if needed.

### **319.5 INTERVIEW**

#### **A. LAW ENFORCEMENT**

1. Unless there is a clearly articulated reason not to do so, all in-depth interviews of minor victims (0-17 years old) will be conducted and scheduled by the Yolo County MDIC. MDIC case referral forms are located in the investigation unit of each law enforcement agency. Decisions not to interview a minor at the MDIC shall be made in consultation with the District Attorney's Office.
2. For adult victims, law enforcement will designate a detective to conduct the interview.
3. The investigating officer determines the timing of the investigative interview. The officer will consider the victim's well being, the urgency of the investigation, and the ability to preserve evidence when deciding to interview the victim prior to the exam.
4. The interview of the victim, when conducted by the officer at the hospital, will include, whenever possible, the forensic examiner and the advocate. This is done in order to eliminate the need for repeated questioning of the victim and to foster a supportive setting for the victim. The forensic

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examiner and advocate will not interfere, impede, delay or obstruct the interview and investigation process with law enforcement.

5. The officer will make sure to relay any information concerning medical history or possible evidence to the forensic examiner prior to the evidentiary exam.
6. Any immediate conflicts arising between members of the team during the interview will be discussed by those team members privately in an effort to prevent additional trauma to the victim.
7. The interviewing officer will do their best to establish all sex crimes that occur. Please note that a victim may focus on one type of sex act (e.g. sodomy, penetration, etc). It is up to the interviewing officer to inquire about all additional acts they may have occurred.
8. Law Enforcement is encouraged to contact the Yolo County District Attorney's Office for any needed case consultation.

### **319.6 FORENSIC EXAMINER**

1. The primary focus of the forensic examiner is to obtain and fully document as complete a medical history as possible.
2. The clinician may assist during the interview process with the approval of the investigating law enforcement officer.

### **319.7 ADVOCATE**

1. The advocate's role is to support and comfort the victim during the interview and educate the victim regarding the criminal justice process.
2. Advocates are not to interview victims or submit written reports to law enforcement.
3. According to California PC 679.04, the victim has the right to have an advocate present during the interview and exam (California Penal Code Sections 264.2).
4. If a victim chooses to have a non-advocate for support (e.g., a family member or friend), it is the responsibility of the team to ensure that the chosen support person conducts her/himself appropriately. The support person may be excluded from the process if his/her presence is deemed detrimental to the purpose of the interview or exam. Advocates may not be excluded from law enforcement interviews.
5. Any problems arising between the advocate and law enforcement should be addressed in a professional and non-confrontational manner.

### **319.8 EVIDENTIARY EXAM PROCEDURES**

#### **EVIDENTIARY EXAM PROCEDURES (ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE VICTIM'S AUTHORIZATION)**

Authorization:

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For child exams (0-17 years old), MDIC pays for exams and can authorize exams as can law enforcement.

For adults, law enforcement authorizes payment for evidence collection by signing a consent form.

Transportation of victim:

For children, MDIC staff can provide transportation to and from the hospital (during business hours). Law enforcement can provide transportation after hours.

For adults, law enforcement will provide transportation to and from the exam if needed.

The victim may decline any or all of the procedure at any time.

For minors, MDIC staff will collect kits, transport to DOJ and coordinate with assigned law enforcement jurisdiction regarding other evidence (e.g, clothing, bedding, etc)

The law enforcement officer records the evidence per his/her agency's policies.

The law enforcement officer is not with the victim during the collection of evidence unless the officer is the same gender as the victim and the victim consents to the officer's presence. The officer may, with the victim's consent, stay for the portion of the medical exam that addresses acts attempted or completed.

### FORENSIC EXAMINER

The forensic examiner is responsible for the collection of evidence and documentation in accordance with the California Medical Protocol for examination of sexual assault and child sexual abuse victims.

Forensic examiner gives all evidence to law enforcement or MDIC evidence custodian.

### ADVOCATE

According to California Penal Code 264.2, a sexual assault advocate may be present during the evidentiary exam with the approval of the victim.

## **319.9 REPORTS**

### IV. REPORT

#### A. LAW ENFORCEMENT

- i. The law enforcement officer writes any reports required by agency.
- ii. The law enforcement officer obtains any required medical releases of information from the victim.

#### B. FORENSIC EXAMINER

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i. The forensic examiner is responsible for completing Cal-EMA form 923 or 925 to document forensic evidence in addition to the hospital record of the evidentiary exam.

### C. ADVOCATE

i. The Advocate does not write up any report for the criminal justice process.

## **319.10 FOLLOW UP CONTACT**

### FOLLOW UP CONTACT

#### A. LAW ENFORCEMENT

i. The responding officer or another law enforcement officer who is assigned to the case will stay in contact with the victim, when necessary, during the investigation and prosecution of the crime.

#### B. FORENSIC EXAM

i. The forensic examiner provides information and referrals for any needed medical follow-up (e.g. STI treatment, HIV testing, etc.)

ii. The forensic examiner will prescribe and as deemed medically necessary STI treatment and pregnancy prophylaxis to the victim.

#### C. ADVOCATE

i. The SADVC or CVPP advocate must offer to contact a sexual assault victim within three working days after the initial contact. The advocate provides the victim with information and referrals for community resources and counseling specific to the needs of the victim. Follow-up is provided with the victim's consent

ii. Upon advance notice and at the request of the victim, the advocate will accompany the victim to any interviews with law enforcement or the district attorney and any subsequent court appearances.

iii. The advocate provides a referral to the Victim Services Program located in the Yolo County District Attorney's Office.

## **319.11 SUSPECT EXAM PROCEDURES**

### A. LAW ENFORCEMENT

1. Will notify the BEAR Examiner that a suspect exam is needed.
2. Will transport alleged suspect(s) to the hospital or clinic.
3. Will authorize and pay for suspect exam.

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4. Will not leave clinician alone with alleged suspect(s) under any circumstance.
5. Will collect evidence kit and Cal-EMA 950 forms upon exit from hospital.
6. Will provide clothing a set of clothing (jumpsuit) for the alleged suspect to leave in.
7. Law enforcement will collect the kit from the examiner following the exam
8. Evidentiary exams will be conducted before booking suspect(s) into Yolo County Jail.

### **319.12 SUSPECT EXAM PROCEDURES**

#### **A. LAW ENFORCEMENT**

1. Will notify the BEAR Examiner that a suspect exam is needed.
2. Will transport alleged suspect(s) to the hospital or clinic.
3. Will authorize and pay for suspect exam.
4. Will not leave clinician alone with alleged suspect(s) under any circumstance.
5. Will collect evidence kit and Cal-EMA 950 forms upon exit from hospital.
6. Will provide clothing a set of clothing (jumpsuit) for the alleged suspect to leave in.
7. Law enforcement will collect the kit from the examiner following the exam
8. Evidentiary exams will be conducted before booking suspect(s) into Yolo County Jail.

### **319.13 MEDICAL CLINICIAN/ FORENSIC EXAMINER SUSPECT**

1. Will have forensic examiner available to conduct a Forensic Medical Report: Sexual Assault Suspect Examination, Cal-EMA 950 as requested by law enforcement.
2. Will respond within 45 minutes to officer's request for an exam.
3. Will secure a room or space that affords privacy to the alleged suspect(s) while waiting for the examination.
4. Will conduct the exam in a different exam room then where the victim's exam was conducted.
5. When the alleged suspect(s) is in need of immediate emergency medical care, they are handled as any other medical emergency. The clinician determines at what point the suspect is stable enough to undergo the exam.
6. Will be readily available to testify about evidence collected at trial when subpoenaed and in the rare circumstance when defense will not stipulate to their findings.
7. Will discontinue exam should the suspect become combative or withdraw his/her consent.



## Hate Crimes

### 320.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is designed to assist in identifying and handling crimes motivated by hate or other bias toward individuals and groups with legally defined protected characteristics, to define appropriate steps for assisting victims, and to provide a guide to conducting related investigations. It outlines the general policy framework for prevention, response, accessing assistance, victim assistance and follow-up, and reporting as related to law enforcement's role in handling hate crimes. It also serves as a declaration that hate crimes are taken seriously and demonstrates how the Yolo County Sheriff's Office may best use its resources to investigate and solve an offense, in addition to building community trust and increasing police legitimacy (Penal Code § 13519.6).

#### 320.1.1 DEFINITION AND LAWS

In accordance with Penal Code § 422.55; Penal Code § 422.56; Penal Code § 422.6; and Penal Code § 422.87, for purposes of all other state law, unless an explicit provision of law or the context clearly requires a different meaning, the following shall apply:

**Bias motivation** - Bias motivation is a pre-existing negative attitude toward actual or perceived characteristics referenced in Penal Code § 422.55. Depending on the circumstances of each case, bias motivation may include but is not limited to hatred, animosity, resentment, revulsion, contempt, unreasonable fear, paranoia, callousness, thrill-seeking, desire for social dominance, desire for social bonding with those of one's "own kind," or a perception of the vulnerability of the victim due to the victim being perceived as being weak, worthless, or fair game because of a protected characteristic, including but not limited to disability or gender.

**Disability** - Disability includes mental disability and physical disability as defined in Government Code § 12926, regardless of whether those disabilities are temporary, permanent, congenital, or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age, or illness.

**Disability bias** - In recognizing suspected disability-bias hate crimes, deputies should consider whether there is any indication that the perpetrator was motivated by hostility or other bias, occasioned by factors such as but not limited to dislike of persons who arouse fear or guilt, a perception that persons with disabilities are inferior and therefore "deserving victims," a fear of persons whose visible traits are perceived as being disturbing to others, or resentment of those who need, demand, or receive alternative educational, physical, or social accommodations.

In recognizing suspected disability-bias hate crimes, deputies should consider whether there is any indication that the perpetrator perceived the victim to be vulnerable and, if so, if this perception is grounded, in whole or in part, in anti-disability bias. This includes but is not limited to situations where a perpetrator targets a person with a particular perceived disability while avoiding other vulnerable-appearing persons, such as inebriated persons or persons with perceived disabilities different from those of the victim. Such circumstances could be evidence that the perpetrator's motivations included bias against persons with the perceived disability of the victim and that the crime must be reported as a suspected hate crime and not a mere crime of opportunity.

## *Hate Crimes*

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**Gender** - Gender means sex and includes a person's gender identity and gender expression.

**Gender expression** - Gender expression means a person's gender-related appearance and behavior, whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth.

**Gender identity**- Gender identity means each person's internal understanding of their gender, or the perception of a person's gender identity, which may include male, female, a combination of male and female, neither male nor female, a gender different from the person's sex assigned at birth, or transgender (2 CCR § 11030).

**Hate crime** - "Hate crime" includes but is not limited to a violation of Penal Code § 422.6, and means 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) Gender
- (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:
  1. "Association with a person or group with these actual or perceived characteristics" includes advocacy for, identification with, or being on the ground owned or rented by, or adjacent to, any of the following: a community center, educational facility, family, individual, office, meeting hall, place of worship, private institution, public agency, library, or other entity, group, or person that has, or is identified with people who have, one or more of those characteristics listed in the definition of "hate crime" under paragraphs 1 to 6, inclusive, of Penal Code § 422.55(a).

Note: A "hate crime" need not be motivated by hate but may be motivated by any bias against a protected characteristic.

**Hate incident** - A hate incident is an action or behavior motivated by hate or bias but legally protected by the First Amendment right to freedom of expression. Examples of hate incidents include:

- Name-calling
- Insults and epithets
- Distributing hate material in public places
- Displaying hate material on your own property

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**Hate speech** - The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects most speech, even when it is disagreeable, offensive, or hurtful. The following types of speech are generally not protected:

- Fighting words
- True threats
- Perjury
- Blackmail
- Incitement to lawless action
- Conspiracy
- Solicitation to commit any crime

**In whole or in part** - “In whole or in part because of” means that the bias motivation must be a cause in fact of the offense whether or not other causes also exist. When multiple concurrent motives exist, the prohibited bias must be a substantial factor in bringing about the particular result. There is no requirement that the bias be a main factor, or that a crime would not have been committed but for the actual or perceived characteristic.

**Nationality** - Nationality includes citizenship, country of origin, and national origin.

**Race or ethnicity** - Race or ethnicity includes ancestry, color, and ethnic background.

**Religion** - Religion includes all aspects of religious belief, observance, and practice and includes agnosticism and atheism.

**Sexual orientation** - Sexual orientation means heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality.

**Victim** - Victim includes but is not limited to:

- Community center
- Educational facility
- Entity
- Family
- Group
- Individual
- Office
- Meeting hall
- Person
- Place of worship
- Private institution
- Public agency

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- Library
- Other victim or intended victim of the offense

### **320.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of this office to safeguard the rights of all individuals irrespective of their disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and/or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Any acts or threats of violence, property damage, harassment, intimidation, or other crimes motivated by hate or bias should be viewed very seriously and given high priority.

This office will employ reasonably available resources and vigorous law enforcement action to identify and arrest hate crime perpetrators. Also, recognizing the particular fears and distress typically suffered by victims, the potential for reprisal and escalation of violence, and the far-reaching negative consequences of these crimes on the community, this office should take all reasonable steps to attend to the security and related concerns of the immediate victims and their families as feasible.

All deputies are required to be familiar with the policy and use reasonable diligence to carry out the policy unless directed by the Sheriff or other command-level officer to whom the Sheriff formally delegates this responsibility.

### **320.3 PLANNING AND PREVENTION**

In order to facilitate the guidelines contained within this policy, office members will continuously work to build and strengthen relationships with the community, engage in dialogue, and provide education to the community about this policy. Office personnel are also encouraged to learn about the inherent issues concerning their communities in relation to hate crimes.

Although hate incidents are not criminal events, they can be indicators of, or precursors to, hate crimes. Hate incidents should be investigated and documented as part of an overall strategy to prevent hate crimes.

#### **320.3.1 HATE CRIMES COORDINATOR**

A office member appointed by the Sheriff or the authorized designee will serve as the Hate Crimes Coordinator. The responsibilities of the Hate Crimes Coordinator should include but not be limited to (Penal Code § 422.87):

- (a) Meeting with residents in target communities to allay fears; emphasizing the office's concern over hate crimes and related incidents; reducing the potential for counter-violence; and providing safety, security, and crime-prevention information. Cultural diversity education and immersion programs (if available) could facilitate this process.
- (b) Finding, evaluating, and monitoring public social media sources to identify possible suspects in reported hate crimes; to identify suspects or suspect groups in future hate crimes or hate incidents affecting individuals, groups, or communities that may be victimized; and to predict future hate-based events.

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- (c) Providing direct and referral assistance to the victim and the victim's family.
- (d) Conducting public meetings on hate crime threats and violence in general.
- (e) Establishing relationships with formal community-based organizations and leaders.
- (f) Expanding, where appropriate, preventive programs such as hate, bias, and crime-reduction seminars for students.
- (g) Reviewing the Attorney General's latest opinion on hate crime statistics and targets in order to prepare and plan for future crimes, specifically for Arab/Middle Eastern and Muslim communities (Penal Code § 13519.6(b)(8)).
- (h) Providing orientation of and with communities of specific targeted victims such as immigrants, Muslims, Arabs, LGBTQ, black or African-American, Jewish, Sikh, and persons with disabilities.
- (i) Coordinating with the Training Manager to include in a training plan recognition of hate crime bias characteristics, including information on general underreporting of hate crimes.
- (j) Verifying a process is in place to provide this policy and related orders to deputies in the field; and taking reasonable steps to rectify the situation if such a process is not in place.
- (k) Taking reasonable steps to ensure hate crime data is provided to the Records Section for mandated reporting to the Department of Justice.
- (l) Reporting any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes to the agency Terrorism Liaison Officer, the assigned designee, or other appropriate resource; and verifying that such data is transmitted to the Joint Regional Information Exchange System in accordance with the protocols of the Records Section Policy.
- (m) Maintaining the office's supply of up-to-date hate crimes brochures (Penal Code § 422.92; Penal Code § 422.87).
- (n) Annually assessing this policy, including:
  - 1. Keeping abreast of the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) model policy framework for hate crimes for revisions or additions, including definitions, responsibilities, training resources, and planning and prevention methods.
  - 2. Analysis of the office's data collection as well as the available outside data (e.g., annual California Attorney General's report on hate crime) in preparation for and response to future hate crimes.

#### 320.3.2 RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Establishing a relationship with stakeholders, before any incident occurs, to develop a network and protocol for disclosure often assists greatly in any disclosure.

The benefit of public disclosure of hate crime incidents includes:

- (a) Dissemination of correct information.

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- (b) Assurance to affected communities or groups that the matter is being properly and promptly investigated.
- (c) The ability to request information regarding the commission of the crimes from the victimized community.

Information or records relating to hate crimes subject to public disclosure shall be released as provided by the Records Maintenance and Release Policy or as allowed by law. In accordance with the Media Relations Policy, the supervisor, public information officer, or the authorized designee should be provided with information that can be responsibly reported to the media. When appropriate, the office spokesperson should reiterate that hate crimes will not be tolerated, will be investigated seriously, and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

The Office should consider the following when releasing information to the public regarding hate crimes and hate incidents that have been reported within the jurisdiction:

- Inform community organizations in a timely manner when a community group has been the target of a hate crime.
- Inform the community of the impact of these crimes on the victim, the victim's family, and the community, and of the assistance and compensation available to victims.
- Inform the community regarding hate crime law and the legal rights of, and remedies available to, victims of hate crimes.
- Provide the community with ongoing information regarding hate crimes and/or hate incidents.

### **320.4 RESPONSE, VICTIM ASSISTANCE, AND FOLLOW-UP**

#### **320.4.1 INITIAL RESPONSE**

First responding deputies should know the role of all office personnel as they relate to the office's investigation of hate crimes and/or incidents. Responding deputies should evaluate the need for additional assistance and, working with supervision and/or investigations, access needed assistance if applicable.

At the scene of a suspected hate or bias crime, deputies should take preliminary actions reasonably deemed necessary, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Use agency checklist (per Penal Code § 422.87) to assist in the investigation of any hate crime (see Appendix).
- (b) Stabilize the victims and request medical attention when necessary.
- (c) Properly protect the safety of victims, witnesses, and perpetrators.
  - 1. Assist victims in seeking a Temporary Restraining Order (if applicable).
- (d) Notify other appropriate personnel in the chain of command, depending on the nature and seriousness of the offense and its potential inflammatory and related impact on the community.

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- (e) Properly protect, preserve, and process the crime scene, and remove all physical evidence of the incident as soon as possible after the offense is documented. If evidence of an inflammatory nature cannot be physically removed, the property owner should be contacted to facilitate removal or covering as soon as reasonably possible. Office personnel should follow up with the property owner to determine if this was accomplished in a timely manner.
- (f) Collect and photograph physical evidence or indicators of hate crimes such as:
  - 1. Hate literature.
  - 2. Spray paint cans.
  - 3. Threatening letters.
  - 4. Symbols used by hate groups.
- (g) Identify criminal evidence on the victim.
- (h) Request the assistance of translators or interpreters when needed to establish effective communication with witnesses, victims, or others as appropriate.
- (i) Conduct a preliminary investigation and record pertinent information including but not limited to:
  - 1. Identity of suspected perpetrators.
  - 2. Identity of witnesses, including those no longer at the scene.
  - 3. The offer of victim confidentiality per Government Code § 6254.
  - 4. Prior occurrences in this area or with this victim.
  - 5. Statements made by suspects; exact wording is critical.
  - 6. The victim's protected characteristics and determine if bias was a motivation "in whole or in part" in the commission of the crime.
- (j) Adhere to Penal Code § 422.93, which protects hate crime victims and witnesses from being reported to federal immigration authorities if they have not committed any crime under state law.
- (k) Provide information regarding immigration remedies available to victims of crime (e.g., U-Visa, T-Visa, S-Visa).
- (l) Provide the office's Hate Crimes Brochure (per Penal Code § 422.92) if asked, if necessary, or per policy.
- (m) Utilize proper techniques for interviewing people with disabilities and be aware of and provide appropriate accommodations (e.g., ADA standards, Braille, visuals, translators for the deaf or hard of hearing).
- (n) Document any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes.

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### 320.4.2 INVESTIGATION

Investigators at the scene of, or performing follow-up investigation on, a suspected hate or bias crime or hate incident should take all actions deemed reasonably necessary, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Consider typologies of perpetrators of hate crimes and incidents, including but not limited to thrill, reactive/defensive, and mission (hard core).
- (b) Utilize investigative techniques and methods to handle hate crimes or hate incidents in a professional manner.
- (c) Utilize proper techniques for interviewing people with disabilities and be aware of and provide appropriate accommodations (e.g., ADA standards, Braille, visuals, translators for the deaf or hard of hearing).
- (d) Properly investigate any report of a hate crime committed under the color of authority per Penal Code § 422.6 and Penal Code § 13519.6.
- (e) Document physical evidence or indicators of hate crimes, in accordance with the provisions of the Property and Evidence Policy, such as:
  1. Hate literature.
  2. Spray paint cans.
  3. Threatening letters.
  4. Symbols used by hate groups.
  5. Desecration of religious symbols, objects, or buildings.
- (f) Request the assistance of translators or interpreters when needed to establish effective communication.
- (g) Conduct a preliminary investigation and record information regarding:
  1. Identity of suspected perpetrators.
  2. Identity of witnesses, including those no longer at the scene.
  3. Offer of victim confidentiality per Government Code § 6254.
  4. Prior occurrences, in this area or with this victim.
  5. Statements made by suspects; exact wording is critical.
  6. Document the victim's protected characteristics.
- (h) Provide victim assistance and follow-up.
- (i) Canvass the area for additional witnesses.
- (j) Examine suspect's social media activity for potential evidence of bias motivation.
- (k) Coordinate the investigation with office, state, and regional intelligence operations. These sources can provide the investigator with an analysis of any patterns, organized hate groups, and suspects potentially involved in the offense.



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- (l) Coordinate the investigation with the crime scene investigation unit (if applicable) or other appropriate units of the Office.
- (m) Determine if the incident should be classified as a hate crime.
- (n) Take reasonable steps to provide appropriate assistance to hate crime victims, including the following measures:
  - 1. Contact victims periodically to determine whether they are receiving adequate and appropriate assistance.
  - 2. Provide ongoing information to victims about the status of the criminal investigation.
  - 3. Provide victims and any other interested persons the brochure on hate crimes per Penal Code § 422.92 and information on any local advocacy groups (if asked).
- (o) Document any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes.
- (p) Coordinate with other law enforcement agencies in the area to assess patterns of hate crimes and/or hate incidents, and determine if organized hate groups are involved.

#### 320.4.3 SUPERVISION

The supervisor shall confer with the initial responding deputy and take reasonable steps to ensure that necessary preliminary actions have been taken. The supervisor shall request any appropriate personnel necessary to accomplish the following:

- (a) Provide immediate assistance to the crime victim by:
  - 1. Expressing the office's official position on the importance of these cases and the measures that will be taken to apprehend the perpetrators.
  - 2. Expressing the office's interest in protecting victims' anonymity (confidentiality forms, Government Code § 6254) to the extent reasonably possible. Allow the victims to convey their immediate concerns and feelings.
  - 3. Identifying individuals or agencies that may provide victim assistance and support. Local victim assistance resources may include family members or close acquaintances, clergy, or a office chaplain, as well as community service agencies that provide shelter, food, clothing, child care, or other related services (per Penal Code § 422.92).
- (b) Take reasonable steps to ensure that all relevant facts are documented on an incident and/or arrest report and make an initial determination as to whether the incident should be classified as a hate crime for federal and state bias-crimes reporting purposes.
- (c) Notify other appropriate personnel in the chain of command, depending on the nature and seriousness of the offense and its potential inflammatory and related impact on the community.
- (d) In cases of large-scale hate crime waves, or in circumstances where the potential exists for subsequent hate crimes or incidents, consider directing resources to protect vulnerable sites (such as assigning a deputy to specific locations that could become targets).

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- (e) Verify hate crimes are being properly reported, including reporting to the Department of Justice, pursuant to Penal Code § 13023.
- (f) Verify adherence to Penal Code § 422.93, which protects hate crime victims and witnesses from being reported to federal immigration authorities if they have not committed any crime under state law. Supervisors should also be aware of the immigration remedies available to victims of crime (e.g., U-Visa, T-Visa, S-Visa).
- (g) Respond to and properly initiate an investigation of any reports of hate crimes committed under the color of authority.
- (h) Provide appropriate assistance, including activating the California Department of Justice hate crime rapid response protocol if necessary. For additional information refer to the California Department of Justice website.
- (i) Verify reporting of any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes to the agency Hate Crimes Coordinator.
- (j) Make a final determination as to whether the incident should be classified as a hate crime and forward to the Sheriff for approval.

### **320.5 TRAINING**

All members of this office will receive POST-approved training on hate crime recognition and investigation as provided by Penal Code § 13519.6. Training should include (Penal Code § 422.87):

- (a) Recognition of bias motivators such as ranges of attitudes and perceptions toward a specific characteristic or group, including disability bias and gender bias.
- (b) Accurate reporting by deputies, including information on the general underreporting of hate crimes.
- (c) Distribution of hate crime brochures.

### **320.6 APPENDIX**

See attachments:

[Statutes and Legal Requirements.pdf](#)

[Hate Crime Checklist.pdf](#)

## Victim and Witness Assistance

### 321.1 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.

### 321.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing guidance and assistance to the victims and witnesses of crime. The members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office will show compassion and understanding for victims and witnesses and will make reasonable efforts to provide the support and information identified in this policy.

### 321.3 CRIME VICTIM LIAISON

The Sheriff may appoint a member of the Office to serve as the crime victim liaison. The crime victim liaison will be the point of contact for individuals requiring further assistance or information from the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

#### 321.3.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction (Penal Code § 680.2).

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### **321.4 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 office material or available victim resources.

#### **321.4.1 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).

### **321.5 VICTIM INFORMATION**

The Field Operations Commander 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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## *Victim and Witness Assistance*

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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).

### **321.6 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.

## Death Investigation

### 322.1 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.

### 322.2 INVESTIGATION CONSIDERATIONS

Death investigation cases require certain actions be taken. Paramedics shall be called in all suspected death cases unless the death is obvious (e.g., decapitated, decomposed). A supervisor shall be notified in all death investigations.

Pronouncing of death is only done by a medical doctor. Declaration of death is done by all other lay persons such as peace officers, paramedics, nurses, etc. Although medical personnel should be utilized whenever possible, department personnel may also declare death. The decision to do so rests solely upon the member's training, experience, and confidence to make the call.

#### 322.2.1 TYPES OF DEATH INVESTIGATIONS

a. Patrol deputies are usually dispatched to all reports of deaths occurring within the unincorporated areas of the county. The responsibilities and actions taken by the responding officer will vary based upon the circumstances surrounding the death. These investigations can be categorized as non-criminal, criminal and custodial deaths.

b. Non criminal death cases include no evidence or suspicion of foul play, including natural deaths, industrial accidents, suicide, and traffic accidents. In the case of traffic accidents involving death, the California Highway Patrol will conduct an investigation in cooperation with the Coroner's office.

c. Criminal death cases involve homicides or deaths as the result of the criminal acts of another. In all cases, the responding officer must take steps to protect the scene, ascertain preliminary information about the death, and determine the need for additional resources.

d. Custodial deaths pose additional issues of concern. The coroner has additional responsibilities and reporting requirements. These investigations may also involve the interest of other agencies such as the district attorney's office in addition to detention personnel, as well as field operations investigators. The need for a planned organized response is essential.

#### 322.2.2 NON CRIMINAL DEATH INVESTIGATIONS

In cases of non-criminal death investigations, with the exception of traffic accidents, responding deputies shall take the following actions:

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- a. When death has been declared, notify the coroner's office and the Shift Supervisor immediately - by telephone whenever possible. Provide a contact telephone number.
- b. Take necessary steps to prevent disturbance of the body or the scene pending the arrival of the deputy coroner. Following any necessary medical intervention, the body shall not be moved or disturbed without the permission of the deputy coroner.
- c. Note actions of fire and medical personnel and prevent unnecessary scene intrusion by unnecessary personnel. Obtain identity and purpose of all who are found at the scene or who enter with authorization.
- d. Identify witnesses and obtain a brief initial statement.
- e. Upon the arrival of, or contact by, the deputy coroner be prepared to provide the following available information:
  1. Your name and badge number
  2. Your report case number.
  3. Time the call was received by communications.
  4. Time you arrived on scene.
  5. What time death was declared and by whom.
  6. Who is the decedent (name/birth date) if known.
  7. Who discovered the remains and circumstances.
  8. Who is the reporting party.
  9. Is there family or next of kin present.
  10. Does decedent have a primary care doctor (name/phone)
  11. Your observations and information obtained.
  12. Visible trauma to the body
- f. Stand by to assist unless released by the deputy coroner. In some cases of natural death, when death was expected and the decedent was under a doctor's care, the deputy coroner may not physically respond. It may also be determined such as in the case of a hospice death, the death may not fall under the coroner's jurisdiction unless specific circumstances are present. Additionally, in many cases the remains may be released by the deputy coroner to a funeral home immediately. The deputy coroner will guide you on the necessary protocol in these cases.
- g. Complete the appropriate incident or crime report documenting your response and actions taken with a copy directed to the coroner's office.
- h. If during the deputy coroner's investigation reasonable grounds to suspect that the person's death is the result of the actions of another or by criminal means, the deputy coroner shall immediately notify the Shift Supervisor and secure the scene until investigators arrive.

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### 322.2.3 CRIMINAL OR SUSPICIOUS DEATHS

Cases in which evidence or suspicion exists of homicide, or other suspicious circumstances involving possible criminal acts of another, or apparent suicide, take the following actions:

#### A. FIRST RESPONDER

1. Notify the Field Supervisor and summon additional personnel to assist. Using sound police practices and officer safety, clear the scene of possible perpetrators and additional victims. By using sufficient numbers of personnel, the crime scene can normally be cleared with minimal disturbance of the scene.

2. Summon medical aid when appropriate. Follow department guidelines for declaration of death. If medical intervention occurs, document actions taken and identities of service providers. If possible, photograph the scene prior to intrusion. Once death has been confirmed, the body shall not be moved or disturbed without the permission of the deputy coroner. When the scene is stable, immediately notify the Coroner's Office and Investigations Section.

3. Establish inner and outer perimeters. Post an officer to enforce scene integrity and issue instructions concerning the entry and exit of authorized personnel. A log shall be maintained documenting all personnel entering and leaving the scene to include identity, agency, purpose, and time entered and exited.

4. Protect the crime scene. In the case of suicide or homicide, do not touch the weapon unless necessary for public safety. The mere presence of a weapon in an area under the control of law enforcement personnel is often less dangerous when left in place and becomes more dangerous when handled. If possible, post a guard over the weapon where it was discovered. The collection of firearms whenever possible should be left to trained evidence collection personnel who have been trained to mark the weapon, unload it safely while preserving evidence such as fingerprints. Do not remove, tamper with or collect suicide notes or other evidence.

5. Maintain control of the crime scene until relieved by investigative personnel or superiors. Identify potential witnesses and segregate them preventing exchange of information about the event.

6. Be prepared to provide the following information to investigative personnel:

- a. Your name and badge number
- b. Your report case number.
- c. Time you arrived on scene.
- d. What time death was declared and by whom.
- e. Who is the decedent (name/birth date) if known.
- f. Who discovered the remains and circumstances.
- g. Who is the reporting party.
- h. Is there family or next of kin present.



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- i. Does decedent have a primary care doctor (name/phone)
- j. Your observations and information obtained.
- k. Visible trauma to the body

### B. INVESTIGATORS

1. The lead investigator will take charge of the crime scene. During initial assessment expand the crime scene perimeters if necessary. Investigators shall notify the on call Deputy District Attorney if a homicide is suspected.

2. Confer with the Deputy Coroner at the scene and exchange known information.

Establish initial plans for processing the scene. Determine if a search warrant is required for processing the entire crime scene and establish initial limitations if a search warrant is required. The coroner has broad authority to enter a residence and search for evidence of the cause and manner of death, however the use of this authority must be tempered in criminal cases. The coroner's authority shall not be used to negate search warrant requirements.

3. Plan a walk through of the crime scene to include the lead investigator, deputy coroner and Crime Scene Investigator. This walk through is conducted to establish the extent of the crime scene and to identify evidence to be collected and scene processing required. General overview photographs may be taken during the walk through prior to entering each area of the scene. Evidence should not be processed nor tampered with during the initial walk through.

4. Following the initial walk through, formulate a cooperative plan for processing the crime scene, examining the body and collection of evidence as well as removal of the remains.

5. Initiate extensive photographic documentation of the crime scene by the crime scene technician and deputy coroner. The crime scene technician and deputy coroner will take extensive photographs of the scene and deceased following the walk through to memorialize the scene as it was found. Processing the scene will include measurements necessary for the scene diagram, detecting latent prints, collection of trace evidence etc.

6. As soon as practical following scene processing in area of the body, the deputy coroner will examine the remains, advising the lead investigator or designee of the findings. Care should be taken to protect or collect trace evidence that might be lost or damaged during the transport of the body. Such evidence, if collected at the scene, will be done only under the direct supervision of the deputy coroner.

7. Statements and witness information obtained at the scene will be exchanged between the investigators and the deputy coroner. Detectives and Coroner personnel should attempt to coordinate interviews of witnesses. However do not hesitate to contact a witness before time elapses giving them time to speculate or formulate a fictitious statement of events. If separate interviews take place, it is important to compare statements for inconsistencies which in some cases can be more telling than the truth or no statement at all.

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8. The remains will be retrieved and transported under the direct supervision of the coroner. Any clothing will normally be removed at the time of autopsy and placed into evidence at that time. In those rare cases in which the removal of clothing at the scene is deemed imperative for the preservation of blood stain patterns etc., this will only be done with the approval and direct supervision of the deputy coroner. The deputy coroner is responsible for maintaining the chain of evidence as it applies to the remains and associated evidence.

9. Investigators and Coroner personnel will confer concerning availability of personnel to attend the autopsy and scheduling. Plan an information exchange meeting if possible prior to the autopsy. Be prepared to provide as much information for the pathologist as possible. The autopsy begins with information gathered at the scene and is essential for reconstructing the chain of events and relevant injuries to the victim.

10. The ultimate responsibility for oversight of processing the scene lies with the lead investigator. Crime scene technicians are highly skilled and can provide valuable insight and guidance but can not relieve the investigator of his/her responsibility.

### 322.2.4 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.

#### 322.2.5 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.

#### 322.2.6 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.

### 322.2.7 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.

### 322.2.8 DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORTING

All incidents involving a death shall be documented on the appropriate form.

### 322.2.9 SUSPECTED HOMICIDE

If the initially assigned deputy suspects that the death involves a homicide or other suspicious circumstances, the Investigations Section shall be notified to determine the possible need for a detective to respond to the scene for further immediate investigation.

### 322.2.10 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)).

### 322.2.11 AUTOPSY

Attending the autopsy although not required, is essential for the investigator's full understanding of events that will assist in reconstructing the crime. The Deputy Coroner will make arrangements and schedule an autopsy as soon as possible within the parameters of available personnel. Although a pathologist conducts the autopsy, the Deputy Coroner is responsible to insure the adherence to specific autopsy protocol. Determining the cause and manner of death is the responsibility of the deputy coroner.

In cases of criminal deaths, evidence obtained such as clothing, recovered bullets and other evidence will be collected by the Deputy Coroner. This evidence will be presented to the Crime Scene Investigator to be logged and packaged. The Crime Scene Investigator will book this evidence and will provide a receipt to Coroner's Office.

### 322.2.12 DEATHS WITHIN DETENTION FACILITY

In custody deaths by their nature create additional procedural issues and responsibilities for our department. In custody deaths can occur in a variety of circumstances and locations. In cases where the remains were transported to a medical facility, the Deputy Coroner should be consulted concerning jurisdictional issues and reporting requirements. The Coroner has the added responsibility of reporting to the Attorney General's office regarding all in custody deaths. The form is complex and therefore it is essential that the integrity of the scene be maintained, unaltered, and that a well organized approach to the investigation take place.

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### a. FIRST RESPONDER

Detention staff will normally be the first responders within the detention complex. The duties of a first responder for in custody deaths which occur within the detention complex should take the following action:

1. Summon medical aid when appropriate. Follow department guidelines for declaration of death. If medical intervention occurs, document actions taken and identify of service providers. If possible, photograph the scene prior to intrusion. Initiate lock down of prisoners if not already done.
2. Secure the crime scene; do not disturb the body or the scene.
3. When the scene is stable, immediately notify the Sheriff, Field Operations supervisor, Coroner's Office and Investigations supervisor.
4. Start a crime scene log.
5. Identify and isolate witnesses but do not interview.
6. Protect the scene until relieved.
7. Complete Inmate Death Response Checklist

### b. INVESTIGATORS

1. The same process is to be followed as with other criminal death investigations. It is essential that the Deputy Coroner is involved immediately. The evidence and scene must be viewed by the Deputy Coroner unaltered. Confer with the Deputy Coroner concerning the response by Coroner's Office personnel. Deputy Coroner is required to report findings to the State Attorney General's office.
2. Notify the following personnel; the on-call administrative staff officer, on-call Deputy District Attorney.
3. The property of the deceased held by the detention facility will be collected and secured by the Coroner's office.

#### 322.2.13 DISPOSITION OF DECEDENT'S PERSONAL PROPERTY

In accordance with Government Code Section 27491.3, in any death in which the coroner is required to inquire, the coroner may take charge of any personal property of the deceased, to hold or safeguard until lawful disposition can be made. The coroner may lock and seal the doors to the premises and prohibit entry. However this shall not be done in such a manner as to interfere with the investigation being conducted by other law enforcement agencies.

At the conclusion of such investigations by our field operations investigators, the coroner's office shall be contacted in order to insure the proper securing of the residence has taken place. Any property or evidence related to the investigation or prosecution of any known or suspected criminal

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death may, with knowledge of the coroner, be delivered to a law enforcement agency or district attorney, receipt for which shall be acknowledged.

No person shall, search for or remove any papers, moneys, valuable property or weapons constituting the estate of the deceased from the person of the deceased or from the premises, prior to the arrival of the coroner or without permission of the coroner, unless, an immediate safety concern exists.

A peace officer may search the person or property on or about the person of the deceased, whose death is due to a traffic accident, for a driver's license or identification card to determine if an anatomical donor card is attached. This card shall be immediately turned over to the coroner.

# Identity Theft

## 323.1 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.

## 323.2 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.

## Mandatory Employer Notification

### 324.1 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.

### 324.2 MANDATORY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE ARREST REPORTING

In the event a school employee is arrested for any offense enumerated below, the Sheriff or his/her designee is required to report the arrest as follows.

#### 324.2.1 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).

#### 324.2.2 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).

#### 324.2.3 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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### **324.2.4 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).

### **324.3 POLICY**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will meet the reporting requirements of California law to minimize the risks to children and others.

### **324.4 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).

## Gun Violence Restraining Orders

### 325.1 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).

#### 325.1.1 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).

### 325.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to petition and serve gun violence restraining orders in compliance with state law and to properly account for firearms and ammunition obtained by the Office pursuant to such orders.

### 325.3 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 a temporary order (Penal Code § 18140).

#### 325.3.1 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Deputies should also consider requesting permission to petition the court for a gun violence restraining order (Penal Code § 18108):

- (a) When responding to a domestic disturbance where the residence is associated with a firearm registration or record.
- (b) When responding to any call or incident when a firearm is present or when one of the involved parties owns or possesses a firearm.

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- (c) During a contact with a person exhibiting mental health issues, including suicidal thoughts, statements, or actions if that person owns or possesses a firearm.

Deputies should consider obtaining a mental health evaluation if the encounter involves a situation where there is a reasonable cause to believe that the person poses an immediate and present danger of causing personal injury to themselves or another person by having custody or control of a firearm (see the Mental Illness Commitments Policy) (Penal Code § 18108).

### **325.4 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).
- (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.

#### **325.4.1 TEMPORARY EMERGENCY GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS**

A deputy requesting a temporary emergency gun violence restraining order shall (Penal Code § 18140):

- (a) For oral requests, sign a declaration under penalty of perjury reciting the oral statements provided to the judicial officer and memorialize the order of the court on the form approved by the Judicial Council.
- (b) Serve the order on the restrained person if the person can be reasonably located.
- (c) Forward a copy of the order to the Records Manager for filing with the court and appropriate databases.

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### **325.5 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:
  - 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.

### **325.6 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) Temporary orders are entered into the California Restraining and Protective Order System (Penal Code § 18140).
- (c) Copies of temporary orders are filed with the court as soon as practicable, but no later than three court days, after issuance (Penal Code § 18140).
- (d) Copies of receipts of surrendered firearms or ammunition issued by other agencies for gun violence restraining orders issued by the Office are properly maintained (Penal Code § 18120).
- (e) 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).

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### **325.7 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.

### **325.8 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.

### **325.9 GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff will appoint a gun violence restraining order coordinator. The responsibilities of the coordinator include:

- (a) Developing and maintaining procedures for the filing of a petition for an order or a renewal of an order by office members, also including procedures for requesting and serving (Penal Code § 18108):
  1. A temporary emergency gun violence restraining order.
  2. An ex parte gun violence restraining order.
  3. A gun violence restraining order issued after notice and hearing.
- (b) Developing and maintaining factors to consider when assessing the need to seek an order, including:
  1. Whether threats have been made, and if so, whether the threats are credible and specific.
  2. Whether the potential victim is within close proximity.
  3. Whether the person has expressed suicidal tendencies.
  4. Whether the person has access to firearms.
  5. The criminal history of the person, in particular any history of criminal violence, including whether the person is currently on parole, probation, or monitored release.
  6. The mental health history of the person, in particular whether the person has any history of mental illness or has ever been detained for being a danger to themselves or others.

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### *Gun Violence Restraining Orders*

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7. Any upcoming holidays, anniversaries, or other dates of significance that may serve as a trigger for the person, such as the death of a family member.
  8. Whether the person has any history of drug or alcohol abuse.
- (c) Developing and maintaining procedures for the receipt and service of orders consistent with the requirements of Penal Code § 18115; Penal Code § 18120; Penal Code § 18135; Penal Code § 18140; and Penal Code § 18160. Procedures should include:
1. Evaluation of an order to determine appropriate service and necessary precautions (see the Warrant Service Policy and the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).
  2. Forwarding orders to the Records Manager for recording in appropriate databases and required notice to the court, as applicable.
  3. Preparing or obtaining a search warrant prior to attempting service of an order, when appropriate (Penal Code § 18108).
  4. Seizure procedures of firearms and ammunition at the time of issuance of a temporary emergency gun violence restraining order.
  5. Verification procedures for the removal of firearms and ammunition from the subject of a gun violence restraining order.
- (d) Coordinating with the Training Manager to provide deputies who may be involved in petitioning for or serving orders with training on such orders. Training should include determining when a petition is appropriate, the process for seeking an order, and the service of such orders.
- (e) Reviewing each petition and any associated court documents for an order prepared by members, for compliance with this policy, office procedures, and state law.
- (f) Developing and maintaining procedures for members to accept voluntarily surrendered prohibited items at times other than when an order is being served by the Office.
1. Procedures should include preparing and providing a receipt identifying all prohibited items to the person surrendering the items.
- (g) Coordinating review of notices of court hearings and providing notice to the appropriate deputy of the hearing date and the responsibility to appear (Penal Code § 18108).

#### **325.10 RENEWAL OF GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS**

The Investigations supervisor is responsible for the review of a gun violence restraining order obtained by the Office to determine if renewal should be requested within the time prescribed by law (Penal Code § 18190).

#### **325.11 POLICY AVAILABILITY**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall be responsible for making this policy available to the public upon request (Penal Code § 18108).

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### **325.12 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that members receive periodic training on the requirements of this policy (Penal Code § 18108).

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## Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions

### 326.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office with respect to taking law enforcement action while off-duty.

### 326.2 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.

### 326.3 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 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 or medications or any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the deputy's senses or judgment.

### 326.4 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.



## *Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions*

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- (c) The lack of equipment, such as handcuffs, OC or baton.
- (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.

### **326.4.1 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 a Yolo County Sheriff's Office deputy until acknowledged. Official identification should also be displayed.

### **326.4.2 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.

### **326.4.3 CIVILIAN RESPONSIBILITIES**

Civilian 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.

### **326.4.4 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.

## **326.5 REPORTING**

Any off-duty deputy who engages in any law enforcement activity, regardless of jurisdiction, shall notify the Shift Supervisor as soon as practicable. The Shift Supervisor 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.

## Reporting Police Activity Outside of Jurisdiction

### 327.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines for reporting police activity while on or off-duty and occurring outside the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

#### 327.1.1 ASSISTANCE TO AGENCIES OUTSIDE THE COUNTY

When a deputy is on-duty and is requested by an allied agency to participate in law enforcement activity in another jurisdiction, he/she shall obtain prior approval from the immediate supervisor or the Shift Supervisor. If the request is of an emergency nature, the deputy shall notify Dispatch before responding and thereafter notify a supervisor as soon as practical.

#### 327.1.2 LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY OUTSIDE THE COUNTY

Any on-duty deputy, who engages in law enforcement activities of any type outside the immediate jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall notify his or her supervisor or the Shift Supervisor at the earliest possible opportunity. Any off-duty deputy who engages in any law enforcement activities, regardless of jurisdiction shall notify the Shift Supervisor as soon as practical.

The supervisor shall determine if a case report or other documentation of the deputy's activity is required. The report or other documentation shall be forwarded to the deputy's Division Commander.

## Subpoenas and Court Appearances

### 328.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for department members who must appear in court. It will allow the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to cover any related work absences and keep the Department informed about relevant legal matters.

#### 328.1.1 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.

### 328.2 POLICY

Yolo County Sheriff's Office members will respond appropriately to all subpoenas and any other court-ordered appearances.

### 328.3 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 or
- (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.

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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)).

### **328.3.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office.
- (e) Any personnel or disciplinary matter when called to testify or to provide information by a government entity other than the Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

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.

### **328.3.2 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.

### **328.3.3 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.

### **328.4 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.

## *Subpoenas and Court Appearances*

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### **328.5 STANDBY**

To facilitate standby agreements, members are required to provide and maintain current information on their addresses and contact telephone numbers with the Department.

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.

### **328.6 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.

#### **328.6.1 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.

### **328.7 OVERTIME APPEARANCES**

When a member appears in court on his/her off-duty time, he/she will be compensated in accordance with the current memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement.

# Information Technology Use

## 329.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the proper use of office information technology resources, including computers, electronic devices, hardware, software and systems.

### 329.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Computer system** - All computers (on-site and portable), electronic devices, hardware, software, and resources owned, leased, rented or licensed by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office that are provided for official use by its members. This includes all access to, and use of, Internet Service Providers (ISP) or other service providers provided by or through the Office or office funding.

**Hardware** - Includes, but is not limited to, computers, computer terminals, network equipment, electronic devices, telephones, including cellular and satellite, pagers, modems or any other tangible computer device generally understood to comprise hardware.

**Software** - Includes, but is not limited to, all computer programs, systems and applications, including shareware. This does not include files created by the individual user.

**Temporary file, permanent file or file** - Any electronic document, information or data residing or located, in whole or in part, on the system including, but not limited to, spreadsheets, calendar entries, appointments, tasks, notes, letters, reports, messages, photographs or videos.

## 329.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office that members shall use information technology resources, including computers, software and systems, that are issued or maintained by the Office in a professional manner and in accordance with this policy.

## 329.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to emails, texts, or anything published, shared, transmitted, or maintained through file-sharing software or any internet site that is accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed on any office computer system.

The Office 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 Office, including the office email system, computer network, and/or any information placed into storage on any office system or device. This includes records of all keystrokes or Web-browsing history made at any office computer or over any office network. The fact that access to a database, service, or website requires a username or password will not create an expectation of privacy if it is accessed through office computers, electronic devices, or networks.

## *Information Technology Use*

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The Office shall not require a member to disclose a personal username or password for accessing personal social media or to open a personal social website; however, the Office may request access when it is reasonably believed to be relevant to the investigation of allegations of work-related misconduct (Labor Code § 980).

### **329.4 RESTRICTED USE**

Members shall not access computers, devices, software or systems for which they have not received prior authorization or the required training. Members shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of computers, devices, software or systems by another member to their supervisors or Shift Supervisors.

Members shall not use another person's access passwords, logon information and other individual security data, protocols and procedures unless directed to do so by a supervisor.

#### **329.4.1 SOFTWARE**

Members shall not copy or duplicate any copyrighted or licensed software except for a single copy for backup purposes in accordance with the software company's copyright and license agreement.

To reduce the risk of a computer virus or malicious software, members shall not install any unlicensed or unauthorized software on any office computer. Members shall not install personal copies of any software onto any office computer.

When related to criminal investigations, software program files may be downloaded only with the approval of the information systems technology (IT) staff and with the authorization of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

No member shall knowingly make, acquire or use unauthorized copies of computer software that is not licensed to the Office while on office premises, computer systems or electronic devices. Such unauthorized use of software exposes the Office and involved members to severe civil and criminal penalties.

Introduction of software by members should only occur as part of the automated maintenance or update process of office- or County-approved or installed programs by the original manufacturer, producer or developer of the software.

Any other introduction of software requires prior authorization from IT staff and a full scan for malicious attachments.

#### **329.4.2 HARDWARE**

Access to technology resources provided by or through the Office shall be strictly limited to office-related activities. Data stored on or available through office computer systems shall only be accessed by authorized members who are engaged in an active investigation or assisting in an active investigation, or who otherwise have a legitimate law enforcement or office-related purpose to access such data. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by a supervisor.

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#### **329.4.3 INTERNET USE**

Internet access provided by or through the Office shall be strictly limited to office-related activities. Internet sites containing information that is not appropriate or applicable to office use and which shall not be intentionally accessed include but are not limited to adult forums, pornography, gambling, chat rooms, and similar or related internet sites. Certain exceptions may be permitted with the express approval of a supervisor as a function of a member's assignment.

Downloaded information shall be limited to messages, mail, and data files.

#### **329.4.4 OFF-DUTY USE**

Members shall only use technology resources provided by the Office while on-duty or in conjunction with specific on-call assignments unless specifically authorized by a supervisor. This includes the use of telephones, cell phones, texting, email or any other "off the clock" work-related activities. This also applies to personally owned devices that are used to access office resources.

Refer to the Personal Communication Devices Policy for guidelines regarding off-duty use of personally owned technology.

#### **329.5 PROTECTION OF AGENCY SYSTEMS AND FILES**

All members have a duty to protect the computer system and related systems and devices from physical and environmental damage and are responsible for the correct use, operation, care, and maintenance of the computer system.

Members shall ensure office computers and access terminals are not viewable by persons who are not authorized users. Computers and terminals should be secured, users logged off and password protections enabled whenever the user is not present. Access passwords, logon information, and other individual security data, protocols, and procedures are confidential information and are not to be shared. Password length, format, structure, and content shall meet the prescribed standards required by the computer system or as directed by a supervisor and shall be changed at intervals as directed by IT staff or a supervisor.

It is prohibited for a member to allow an unauthorized user to access the computer system at any time or for any reason. Members shall promptly report any unauthorized access to the computer system or suspected intrusion from outside sources (including the internet) to a supervisor.

#### **329.6 INSPECTION OR REVIEW**

A supervisor or the authorized designee has the express authority to inspect or review the computer system, all temporary or permanent files, related electronic systems or devices, and any contents thereof, whether such inspection or review is in the ordinary course of his/her supervisory duties or based on cause.

Reasons for inspection or review may include, but are not limited to, computer system malfunctions, problems or general computer system failure, a lawsuit against the Office involving one of its members or a member's duties, an alleged or suspected violation of any office policy, a request for disclosure of data, or a need to perform or provide a service.



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The IT staff may extract, download or otherwise obtain any and all temporary or permanent files residing or located in or on the office computer system when requested by a supervisor or during the course of regular duties that require such information.

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## Media Relations

### 330.1 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.

### 330.2 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, Shift Supervisors and designated Public Information Officer(s) may prepare and release information to the media in accordance with this policy and the applicable law.

The Coroner's Section of the Sheriff's Office shall be responsible for the day to day release of information as to cause of death and the identity of a deceased. If the case involves a criminal offense, care should be given to insure the information does not jeopardize the investigation.

#### 330.2.1 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.
- (d) This section shall not prohibit protected associational speech.

### 330.3 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)):

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- (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 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 Shift Supervisor. 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.

#### 330.3.1 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.

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### **330.4 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 Shift Supervisor. 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
- (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 Shift Supervisor (Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.5).

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 Shift Supervisor. Such requests will generally be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Records Act (Government Code § 6250, et seq.).

#### **330.4.1 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.

### **330.5 RELEASE OF REPORTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Reports:** The new media shall routinely have access to the face sheet of the completed crime report and copies of the arrest reports. A completed crime and arrest report shall be defined as a report that has been approved and processed by records.

**Victims:** Unless otherwise restricted by this order and unless the release of the information would endanger the safety of the victim or jeopardize the successful completion of the investigation, the

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name, age and town or residence of the victim will be released. The release of victim information is in accordance with Government code § 6254 (f).

**Restricted Information:** When a crime involves any of the following ten (1) specific offenses, there is an exception to the rule of victim disclosure. The ten (10) specific offenses are: 261, 264., 264.1, 273a, 272, 282, 288, 288a, 289, 273.5, all sections of the California Penal code. The victim's name and address will not be released in these offenses.

**Juveniles suspects/victims:** The California Supreme Court has ruled that police records identifying juvenile suspects detained or arrested cannot be released to a third party. Additionally, all personnel shall not provide information in response to inquiries from the news media regarding the identification of a juvenile suspect. No formal mention of identity of a juvenile victim will be made in a press release. This section does not affect the current process involving the identity of victims in crime report face sheets.

**Photographs: (Juvenile)** The department shall not release photographs of juvenile suspects of juveniles in custody to the news media. Photographs of juveniles, listed as victims of a crime, or missing person, may be released to the media only after consent has been granted by the authorizing parent or guardian and with supervisory approval.

**Photographs: (Adults)** Only authorized members, as defined previously, may release photographs of adults to the news media of investigative purposes. Other members shall not release photographs of the subject to the news media without the approval of the Sheriff or his designee.

**Information on deceased persons:** No information regarding the identity of the decedent shall be released prior to the Coroner's office making notification of death to the next of kin.

**Suicide notes:** The contents of suicide notes shall not be released, although it may be reported a note was found.

### **330.6 GUIDELINES FOR PRESS RELEASES**

- Press releases should be single-spaced
- The most important fact of the story should appear in the first paragraph, followed with details. Answer fundamental questions, if possible.
- Supply background information for color. (example: brief description of the area of the crime scene, i.e. fast food market, self-service gas station in rural area, etc)
- Use simple, everyday English, short and direct sentences, and try to keep paragraphs short.
- Double check the story for accuracy, spelling, ages, addresses, and/or titles.
- Keep a record of inquiries for your information about what was not released and what questions you have answered for individual reporters.
- Do not engage in "idle chit chat" with members of the press at the time of release. Answer pertinent questions in a business-like manner.

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- If another organization assisted in some way, mention their organizational unit's name.
- When a newsworthy arrest is about to be made, try to have a brief summary prepared in advance, adding any releasable information when the arrest is made.
- Indicate the date and time the press release was prepared. Also date and time of all updates to the press release.
- Press releases must be completed on all major incidents and a copy filed, by case number, and maintained on the pressboard. Also a copy to records to be maintained in the crime report file.
- Contact person will be indicated in all press releases.

## Office Use of Social Media

### 331.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that any use of social media on behalf of the Office is consistent with the Office mission.

This policy does not address all aspects of social media use. Specifically, it does not address:

- Personal use of social media by Office 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 Office (see the Investigation and Prosecution Policy).

#### 331.1.1 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 Office website or social networking services

### 331.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office may use social media as a method of effectively informing the public about Office services, issues, investigations and other relevant events.

Office members shall ensure that the use or access of social media is done in a manner that protects the constitutional rights of all.

### 331.3 AUTHORIZED USERS

Only members authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee may utilize social media on behalf of the Office. Authorized members shall use only Office-approved equipment during the normal course of duties to post and monitor Office-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 Office social media by members who are not authorized to post should be made through the member's chain of command.

### 331.4 AUTHORIZED CONTENT

Only content that is appropriate for public release, that supports the Office mission and conforms to all Office policies regarding the release of information may be posted.

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### *Office 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 Office 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.

#### **331.4.1 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.

#### **331.5 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office or its members.
- (e) Any information that could compromise the safety and security of Office operations, members of the Office, 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 Office'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.

This section shall not apply to protected associational speech.

#### **331.5.1 PUBLIC POSTING PROHIBITED**

Office social media sites shall be designed and maintained to prevent posting of content by the public.



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The Office may provide a method for members of the public to contact department members directly.

### **331.6 MONITORING CONTENT**

The Sheriff will appoint a supervisor to review, at least annually, the use of Office 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.

### **331.7 RETENTION OF RECORDS**

The Administration Division Commander should work with the Custodian of Records to establish a method of ensuring that public records generated in the process of social media use are retained in accordance with established records retention schedules.

### **331.8 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 Office sites.

## Major Incident Notification

### 332.1 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.

### 332.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 332.3 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
- 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 Yolo County official
- Arrest of a department employee or prominent Yolo County official
- Aircraft crash with major damage and/or injury or death
- In-custody deaths

### 332.4 SHIFT SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

The Shift Supervisor is responsible for making the appropriate notifications. The Shift Supervisor shall make reasonable attempts to obtain as much information on the incident as possible before notification. The Shift Supervisor 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.

#### 332.4.1 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.

#### 332.4.2 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.

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## *Major Incident Notification*

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### 332.4.3 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.

## Disaster Plan

### **333.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The County has prepared an Emergency Management 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).

### **333.2 ACTIVATING THE EMERGENCY PLAN**

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

For the department, the Sheriff or the highest ranking official on duty may activate the Emergency Management Plan in response to a major emergency.

#### **333.2.1 RECALL OF PERSONNEL**

In the event that the Emergency Management Plan is activated, all employees of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### **333.3 LOCATION OF THE PLAN**

The Emergency Management Plan is available in Administration and the Shift Supervisor'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.

### **333.4 UPDATING OF MANUALS**

The Sheriff or designee shall review the Emergency Management 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.

## Outside Agency Assistance

### 334.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members when requesting or responding to a request for mutual aid or when assisting another law enforcement agency.

### 334.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to promptly respond to requests for assistance by other law enforcement agencies, subject to available resources and consistent with the applicable laws and policies of this department.

### 334.3 ASSISTING OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Generally, requests for any type of assistance from another agency should be routed to the Shift Supervisor's office for approval. In some instances, a memorandum of understanding or other established protocol may exist that eliminates the need for approval of individual requests.

When another law enforcement agency requests assistance from this department, the Shift Supervisor may authorize, if available, an appropriate number of personnel to assist. Members are reminded that their actions when rendering assistance must conform with applicable laws and be consistent with the policies of this department.

Deputies may respond to a request for emergency assistance, however, they shall notify a supervisor of their activity as soon as practicable.

Arrestees may be temporarily detained by this department until arrangements for transportation are made by the outside agency. Probation violators who are temporarily detained by this department will not ordinarily be booked at this department. Only in exceptional circumstances, and subject to supervisor approval, will this department provide transportation of arrestees to other facilities on behalf of another agency.

When transportation assistance is rendered, a report shall be prepared and submitted by the handling member unless otherwise directed by a supervisor.

#### 334.3.1 INITIATED ACTIVITY

Any on-duty deputy who engages in law enforcement activities of any type that are not part of a mutual aid request and take place outside the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall notify his/her supervisor or the Shift Supervisor and Dispatch as soon as practicable. This requirement does not apply to special enforcement details or multi-agency units that regularly work in multiple jurisdictions.

### 334.4 REQUESTING OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

If assistance is needed from another agency, the member requesting assistance should, if practicable, first notify a supervisor. The handling member or supervisor should direct assisting personnel to where they are needed and to whom they should report when they arrive.

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The requesting member should arrange for appropriate radio communication capabilities, if necessary and available, so that communication can be coordinated between assisting personnel.

### **334.5 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Incidents of outside assistance or law enforcement activities that are not documented in a crime report shall be documented in a general case report or as directed by the Shift Supervisor.

### **334.6 MANDATORY SHARING**

Equipment and supplies purchased with federal funds or grants that require such equipment and supplies be shared with other agencies should be documented and updated as necessary by the Administration Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The documentation should include:

- (a) The conditions relative to sharing.
- (b) The training requirements for:
  - 1. The use of the supplies and equipment.
  - 2. The members trained in the use of the supplies and equipment.
- (c) Any other requirements for use of the equipment and supplies.

Copies of the documentation should be provided to Dispatch and the Shift Supervisor to ensure use of the equipment and supplies is in compliance with the applicable sharing agreements.

The Training Manager should maintain documentation that the appropriate members have received the required training.

## Reserve Deputies

### 335.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office Reserve Unit was established to supplement and assist regular sworn sheriff's deputies in their duties. This unit provides professional, sworn, volunteer reserve deputies who can augment regular staffing levels.

### 335.2 SELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF POLICE RESERVE OFFICERS\_DEPUTIES

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall endeavor to recruit and appoint to the Reserve Unit only those applicants who meet the high ethical, moral and professional standards set forth by this department.

At the time of appointment, a candidate for the position of Reserve Deputy Sheriff shall meet the following minimum requirements:

- (a) Citizenship- Must be a citizen of the United States of America.
- (b) Education- Graduation from high school or possession of a general equivalence diploma (G.E.D.)
- (c) Physical- Weight in proportion to height, 21 years of age. Successful completion of a physical examination.
- (d) Character- Good moral character, police record clear of felony convictions, and good credit standing. Applicants must not have any current pending criminal actions in which they are listed as a suspect or defendant.
- (e) Driver's license- Possession of a valid, unrestricted (except corrective lenses restriction), California Driver's license (Class A, B or C ).
- (f) Successful completion of a California P.O.S.T. 162 hour level III module, which shall consist of a 64 hours PC 832 course and a 98 hour level III course as prescribed by the California Commission on Peace officer standards and training.

#### 335.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS FOR RESERVE DEPUTIES

As the need arises, the Sheriff's Office will initiate the selection process for Reserve Deputy Sheriff's. The process will consist of a background investigation using P.O.S.T. Form 261, physical examination, fingerprints, and oral interviews. All examinations will be in accordance with Yolo County Personnel Department Policy.

A candidate may be disqualified during any phase of the selection process. An unsuccessful candidate may re-apply if the disqualifying factor has been rectified. The re-application procedure is the same as the regular selection process.

#### 335.2.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST EMPLOYMENT

The rules which apply for regular deputies for outside employment do not apply to reserve deputies. However, no reserve deputy shall be employed in an occupation which may result in a conflict of interest between such employment and appointment as a reserve deputy sheriff.

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Generally, a reserve deputy shall not be employed:

- (a) In any employment or in any location which will tend to bring the Sheriff's Office into disrepute or to reduce his/her efficiency or usefulness as a reserve deputy, or any other occupation which may be in conflict with the operation of the Sheriff's Office.
- (b) In any employment requiring any affiliation, membership, or allegiance tending to influence his or her conduct in a manner inconsistent with the proper discharge of his or her duties as a reserve deputy sheriff or with his or her loyalty to the Sheriff's office or the public interest.
- (c) In the uniform of a reserve deputy at the performance of tasks other than in the performance of his or her duties as designated by the Sheriff.

#### **335.2.3 PROCEDURE**

All applicants shall be required to meet and pass the same pre-employment procedures as regular sheriff's deputies before appointment.

Before appointment to the Sheriff's Reserve Unit, an applicant must have completed, or be in the process of completing, a POST approved basic academy or extended basic academy.

#### **335.2.4 APPOINTMENT**

Applicants who are selected for appointment to the Reserve Deputy Unit shall, on the recommendation of the Sheriff, be sworn in by the Sheriff and take a loyalty oath to observe and obey all of the laws of the land and to carry out their duties to the best of their ability.

#### **335.2.5 EMPLOYEES WORKING AS RESERVE DEPUTIES**

Qualified employees of this department, when authorized, may also serve as reserve deputies. However, the Department must not utilize the services of a reserve or volunteer in such a way that it would violate employment laws or labor agreements (e.g., a detention deputy working as a reserve deputy for reduced or no pay). Therefore, the Reserve Coordinator should consult the Department of Human Resources prior to an employee serving in a reserve or volunteer capacity (29 CFR 553.30).

### **335.3 RESERVE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Reserve Deputies shall be assigned to the Field Operations Division. The overall responsibility for the Reserve Section shall be that of the Reserve Coordinator. The Reserve Coordinator shall be an assigned Sergeant of the Field Operations Division.

#### **335.3.1 RESERVE SUPERVISORY OFFICERS**

The selection of reserve supervisory personnel will be administered by the Reserve Coordinator. All reserve supervisory personnel shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Sheriff. The Reserve Coordinator will recommend candidates to the Sheriff. These candidates will be selected on the basis of qualifications, past performance, and oral interviews.



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The number and rank of reserve supervisory staff will be determined by the Sheriff, based on the needs of the Reserve Unit and the Sheriff's Office.

#### **335.4 HOURS OF SERVICE**

All reserve deputies, except Level I non-field trained reserve deputies, shall be required to serve a minimum of 16 hours per month in service time with the Sheriff's Office. Level I non-field trained reserves shall be required to serve a minimum of 24 hours per month in service time with the Sheriff's Office. This time is accumulated through patrol, special functions, meetings, training, qualifying shoots, administration, and other such details or duties as may be specifically assigned.

##### **335.4.1 DEFICIENT SERVICE HOURS**

Any reserve deputy who is deficient in the minimum number of service hours may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the Reserve Unit.

#### **335.5 RELATIONSHIP OF RESERVE DEPUTIES TO REGULAR DEPUTIES**

All reserve deputies will perform their assigned duties under the supervision and direction of regular deputies of the Sheriff's Office. Reserve deputies are to assist the regular deputies without interfering with the regular deputies' responsibilities and leadership roles.

#### **335.6 DESIGNATED LEVEL I RESERVE DEPUTIES- 24 HOUR AUTHORITY**

As provided by the penal code, the Sheriff may appoint reserve deputies as designated Level I reserve deputies after proper procedure by local ordinance or resolution by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, and provide such deputies with full-time peace officer powers. The Sheriff may, at any time, rescind such designation of a reserve deputy (830.1 PC). Designated Level I reserve deputies shall hold the same power and authority as that of a full time, sworn peace officer while off duty. Designated Level I reserve deputies shall not exercise their power and authority while off duty except during an extreme emergency.

#### **335.7 POWERS, AUTHORITY, AND CONDUCT OF ON-DUTY RESERVE DEPUTIES**

- A Level I reserve deputy, as defined within the California P.O.S.T. administrative manual, while on-duty, shall be able to perform special police functions or the duties of prevention and detection of crime and the general enforcement of the laws of the State of California and the County of Yolo, whether working alone or with another officer as prescribed by P.O.S.T.
- Reserve deputies and prior Yolo County Sheriff's Office sworn personnel who possess an active P.O.S.T Basic Academy certificate or possess current P.O.S.T. Level III, Level II, and Level I reserve module certificates, and who have successfully completed the Yolo County Sheriff's Office field training program are eligible for appointment to the position of Level I reserve deputy.

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- Applicants who have law enforcement experience outside of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office (laterals), who possess an active P.O.S.T. certificate, and have completed a field training program, are eligible for appointment to Level I reserve deputy. Level I laterals will be required to complete the Yolo County Sheriff's Office field training program prior to working as a solo deputy.
- Reserve deputies who possess an active P.O.S.T. Basic Academy certificate or possess current P.O.S.T. level III, Level II, Level I reserve module certificates and who have met the requirements for Level II reserve are eligible for appointment to the position of Level I non-field trained reserve deputy.
- A Level I non-field trained reserve deputy shall be required to work a minimum of 24 hours per month. In addition, from the date of appointment to a Level I non-field training reserve deputy, the reserve deputy has 2 years to successfully complete the field training program. The Sheriff or his designee can extend the time period to three years if the reserve deputy can show a hardship. Deputies who cannot complete the program within the designated time period are subject to administrative action including, but not limited to, reappointment to Level II reserve, suspension and dismissal.
- A Level I non-field trained reserve deputy, as defined above, while on duty, shall be able to perform the duties of prevention and detection of crime and the general enforcement of the laws of the State of California and the County of Yolo, so long as he or she is working under the immediate supervision of a Peace Officer, who has completed the basic training course for Deputy Sheriffs and Police Officers as prescribed in the California P.O.S.T. Administrative manual. As defined in this section, "immediate supervision" means that the reserve deputy acts under the direction of the Peace Officer and is routinely in the physical proximity of, and available to, the Peace Officer; however allowance is permitted for necessary temporary separations.
- A Level II reserve deputy, as defined within the California P.O.S.T. Administrative manual, while on duty, shall be able to perform the duties of prevention and detection of crime and the general enforcement of the laws of the State of California and the County of Yolo, so long as he or she is working under the immediate supervision of a Peace Officer, who has completed the basic training course for Deputy Sheriffs and Police Officers as prescribed in the California P.O.S.T. Administrative manual. As defined in this section "immediate supervision" means that the reserve deputy acts under the direction of the Peace Officer and is routinely in the physical proximity of, and available to, the Peace Officer; however, allowance is permitted for necessary temporary separations.

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- Prior to appointment to Level II reserve, deputies shall possess an active P.O.S.T. Basic Academy certificate or possess current P.O.S.T. Level III and Level II reserve module certificates. In addition to the P.O.S.T. training, Level II reserves shall have completed the following in-house training:
  - 24 hours of training in the detention division to include training on the operations of intake, booking, classification, and inmate housing units.
  - 24 hours of training in the court services section to include transportation of inmates, court operations and security, bailiff responsibilities.
- Prior to working patrol as a cover officer, deputies shall have completed the field training program Orientation Phase with an FTO, which includes; Agency Orientation/ Agency Policies, Officer Safety, Ethics, Use of Force, Patrol Vehicle Operations, Community Relations/ Professional Demeanor, and Radio Communications.
- A Level III reserve deputy, as defined within the California P.O.S.T. Administrative manual, while on duty, shall be able to perform limited support duties not requiring general law enforcement powers in their routine performance, as prescribed by the California P.O.S.T. Administrative manual, so long as he or she is supervised in the accessible vicinity by a Level I reserve deputy or a full time regular peace officer employed by a law enforcement agency authorized to have reserves. Limited support duties shall include traffic control, security at parades and sporting events, report taking, evidence transportation, parking enforcement and other duties not likely to result in physical arrest.
- All Level III reserves shall complete following training prior to being authorized to work any of the functions listed above:
  - 24 hours of training in the detention division to include training on the operations of intake, booking, classification, and inmate housing units.
  - 24 hours of training in the court services section to include transportation of inmates, court operations and security, and bailiff responsibilities.
- The conduct of all reserve deputies, while on duty, shall be professional and of good moral standards at all times.

### 335.7.1 POWERS, AUTHORITY, AND CONDUCT OF OFF-DUTY RESERVE DEPUTIES

Unless a reserve deputy holds the position of a designated Level I reserve deputy, as assigned by the Sheriff and local ordinance or resolution, he or she will have the authority of a peace officer only while on duty and serving in that capacity as assigned by the Sheriff's Office. Reserve deputies not holding the position of a designated Level I reserve deputy by law, have the same power of

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arrest as any private citizen when off-duty. The off-duty conduct of a reserve deputy shall never adversely reflect on the Sheriff's Office or the Reserve Unit.

### **335.8 DESIGNATED LEVEL 1 RESERVE DEPUTIES-24 HOUR AUTHORITY**

As provided by the Penal Code, the Sheriff may appoint Reserve Deputies as designated Level I Reserve Deputies, after proper procedure by local ordinance or resolution by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, and provide such Deputies with full-time Peace Officer powers. The Sheriff may, at any time, rescind such designation of a Reserve Deputy (830.1 P.C.). Designated Level I Reserve Deputies shall hold the same power and authority as that of a full time, sworn peace officer while off duty. Designated Level I Reserve Deputies shall not exercise their power and authority while off duty except during an extreme emergency.

### **335.9 GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

Grievance and disciplinary procedures for Reserve Deputies shall follow, as closely as practical, those procedures outlined for regular deputies as set forth in the Memorandums of Understanding between the Yolo County Deputy Sheriff's Association and the County of Yolo.

### **335.10 DUTIES OF RESERVE DEPUTIES**

Reserve deputies assist regular deputies in the enforcement of laws and in maintaining peace and order within the community. Assignments of reserve deputies will usually be to augment the Field Operations Division. Reserve deputies may be assigned to other areas within the Department as needed. Reserve deputies are required to work a minimum of 16 hours per month.

#### **335.10.1 POLICY COMPLIANCE**

Sheriff's reserve deputies shall be required to adhere to all departmental policies and procedures. The policies and procedures will be made available to each reserve deputy upon appointment and he/she shall become thoroughly familiar with these policies.

Whenever a rule, regulation, or guideline in this manual refers to a sworn regular full-time deputy, it shall also apply to a sworn reserve deputy unless by its nature it is inapplicable.

#### **335.10.2 RESERVE DEPUTY ASSIGNMENTS**

All reserve deputies will be assigned to duties by the Reserve Coordinator or his/her designee.

#### **335.10.3 RESERVE COORDINATOR**

The Reserve Coordinator shall have the responsibility of, but not be limited to:

- (a) Assignment of reserve personnel
- (b) Conducting reserve meetings
- (c) Establishing and maintaining a reserve call-out roster
- (d) Maintaining and ensuring performance evaluations are completed
- (e) Monitoring individual reserve deputy performance

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- (f) Monitoring overall Reserve Program
- (g) Maintaining liaison with other agency Reserve Coordinators

### **335.11 RESERVE DEPUTY TRAINING**

All Level I, II, and III reserve deputies shall meet the same standards of training as a full time deputy. This shall include all POST mandated training, Federal and State legislative mandated training, county required training, and Sheriff's Office mandated training. These training requirements are in place to maximize the safety of the agency member, agency, and the public as well as minimize liability to the agency member, agency, and county. Reserve deputies who are out of compliance, are subject to suspension, and/or release.

### **335.12 SUPERVISION OF RESERVE DEPUTIES**

Reserve deputies who have attained the status of Level II shall be under the immediate supervision of a regular sworn deputy (Penal Code 832.6). The immediate supervision requirement shall also continue for reserve deputies who have attained Level I status unless special authorization is received from the Reserve Coordinator with the approval of the Division Commander.

#### **335.12.1 SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

Reserve deputies certified as Level I may, with prior authorization of the Reserve Coordinator and on approval of the Division Commander, be relieved of the "immediate supervision" requirement. Level I reserve deputies may function under the authority of Penal Code § 832.6(a)(1) only for the duration of the assignment or purpose for which the authorization was granted.

In the absence of the Reserve Coordinator and the Division Commander, the Shift Supervisor may assign a certified Level I reserve deputy to function under the authority of Penal Code § 832.6(a)(1) for specific purposes and duration.

#### **335.12.2 RESERVE DEPUTY MEETINGS**

All reserve deputy meetings will be scheduled and conducted by the Reserve Coordinator. All reserve deputies are required to attend scheduled meetings. Any absences must be satisfactorily explained to the Reserve Coordinator.

#### **335.12.3 IDENTIFICATION OF RESERVE DEPUTIES**

All reserve deputies will be issued a uniform badge and a Department identification card. The uniform badge shall be the same as that worn by a regular full-time deputy. The identification card will be the standard identification card with the exception that "Reserve" will be indicated on the card.

#### **335.12.4 UNIFORM**

Reserve deputies shall conform to all uniform regulation and appearance standards of this department.

No reserve deputy shall wear his/her uniform except upon the occasion of an assignment or call to duty, or in reporting to or returning from a place of assignment. While in uniform, reserve deputies

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who are traveling to or from an assignment shall make only those stops reasonably necessary and shall avoid the unnecessary display of the uniform in public.

While off-duty, no reserve deputy shall wear his or her uniform in any attempt to gain favor, goods or special consideration or status unless authorized by the Sheriff or his or her designee.

Members assigned to duty shall report for duty in a complete uniform. Any non-uniformed assignment of a reserve deputy must be approved by the supervisor in charge of the detail.

### **335.12.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND COMPLAINTS**

If a reserve deputy has a complaint made against him/her or becomes involved in an internal investigation, that complaint or internal investigation may be investigated by the Reserve Coordinator, at the discretion of the Sheriff.

Reserve deputies are considered at-will employees. Government Code § 3300 et seq. applies to reserve deputies with the exception that the right to hearing is limited to the opportunity to clear their name.

Any disciplinary action that may have to be administered to a reserve deputy shall be accomplished as outlined in the Policy Manual.

### **335.13 FIREARMS REQUIREMENTS**

Penal Code § 830.6(a)(1) designates a reserve deputy as having peace officer powers during his/her assigned tour of duty, provided the reserve deputy qualifies or falls within the provisions of Penal Code § 832.6.

#### **335.13.1 CARRYING WEAPON ON DUTY OR OFF DUTY**

Penal Code § 830.6(a)(1) permits qualified reserve deputies to carry a loaded firearm while on-duty. It is the policy of this department to allow reserves to carry firearms only while on-duty or to and from duty.

Designated Level I Reserve Deputies, who hold the off-duty power of a peace officer, may carry a concealed weapon while off-duty so long as the carrying of such weapon is consistent with all laws within the applicable jurisdiction and Department policy.

Reserve Deputies not holding the status of Designated Level I Reserve may only carry a concealed weapon while off duty under the following conditions:

- a. Reserve Deputies may only carry concealed firearms while off-duty for which they have been granted a California Concealed Weapons Permit. The permit must be issued and used in a manner consistent with the laws within the jurisdiction under which the permit is to be used.
- b. The weapon must be of a type approved by the Sheriff's Office as outlined within this manual. The weapon shall be carried in a manner approved by the Sheriff's Office as outlined within this manual.
- c. The weapon must be examined and approved by a Sheriff's Office Firearms Instructor.

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d. The weapon shall only be carried in a manner consistent with the laws of the jurisdiction where the weapon is carried.

### **335.13.2 RESERVE DEPUTY FIREARM TRAINING**

All reserve deputies are required to maintain proficiency with firearms used in the course of their assignments. Reserve deputies shall comply with all areas of the firearms training section of the Policy Manual.

### **335.14 EMERGENCY CALL-OUT FOR RESERVE PERSONNEL**

The Reserve Coordinator shall develop a plan outlining an emergency call-out procedure for reserve personnel.

### **335.15 CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION**

Reserve deputies shall not discuss information that is related to any investigation, or law enforcement duties to which the reserve deputy has access with any member of the public or with any person outside the Sheriff's office unless that person is authorized to have access to the information. Reserve deputies shall not discuss confidential law enforcement related information with any member of the public or with any person outside the Sheriff's Office unless that person is authorized to have access to the information. Any authorization to discuss information of a type outlined in this section may only be made by the Sheriff, or his or her designee.

### **335.16 INJURY ON DUTY**

Any Sheriff's reserve deputy, who is injured in the line of duty, shall immediately notify the shift supervisor.

# Volunteer Program

## 336.1 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.

### 336.1.1 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.

## 336.2 VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

### 336.2.1 VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Volunteer Coordinator shall be appointed by the Field Operations 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.

### 336.2.2 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.

### 336.2.3 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.

### 336.2.4 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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### *Volunteer Program*

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#### 336.2.5 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 imply 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.

#### 336.2.6 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.

#### 336.2.7 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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### **336.3 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.

### **336.4 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.

### **336.5 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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### 336.5.1 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.

### 336.5.2 RADIO AND MDT USAGE

Volunteers shall successfully complete CLETS and radio procedures training prior to using the police radio or MDC and comply with all related provisions. The Volunteer Coordinator should ensure that radio and CLETS training is provided for volunteers whenever necessary.

## **336.6 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.

### 336.6.1 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.

## **336.7 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.

## Sheriff Cadets

### **337.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Cadets work under direct supervision, perform a variety of routine and progressively more advanced tasks in an apprenticeship program in preparation for a career in law enforcement.

### **337.2 EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

Cadets are required to maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 ("C" grade) for all courses taken.

### **337.3 PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

A Sergeant assigned by the Field Operations Commander will serve as the Program Coordinator. This supervisor will be responsible for tracking the educational and job performance of cadets as well as making their individual assignments throughout the Department. He/she will also monitor the training provided for all cadets and review all decisions affecting job assignments, status for compensation, school attendance and performance evaluations.

#### **337.3.1 PROGRAM ADVISORS**

The Program Coordinator may select individual deputies to serve as advisors for the Cadet Program. These deputies will serve as mentors for each cadet. Cadets will bring special requests, concerns, and suggestions to their program advisor for advice or direction before contacting the Program Coordinator. One advisor may be designated as the Coordinator's assistant to lead scheduled meetings and training sessions involving the cadets. Multiple cadets may be assigned to each program advisor. Program advisors are not intended to circumvent the established chain of command. Any issues that may be a concern of the individual's supervisor should be referred back to the Program Coordinator.

### **337.4 RIDE-ALONG PROCEDURES**

All cadets are authorized to participate in the Ride-Along Program on their own time and as approved by their immediate supervisor and the appropriate Shift Supervisor. Applicable waivers must be signed in advance of the ride-along.

## Discriminatory Harassment

### 338.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to prevent office members from being subjected to discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation. Nothing in this policy is intended to create a legal or employment right or duty that is not created by law.

### 338.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to creating and maintaining a work environment that is free of all forms of discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation (Government Code § 12940(k); 2 CCR 11023). The Office will not tolerate discrimination against a member in hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, fringe benefits and other privileges of employment. The Office will take preventive and corrective action to address any behavior that violates this policy or the rights it is designed to protect.

The nondiscrimination policies of the Office may be more comprehensive than state or federal law. Conduct that violates this policy may not violate state or federal law but still could subject a member to discipline.

### 338.3 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

#### 338.3.1 DISCRIMINATION

The Office prohibits all forms of discrimination, including any employment-related action by a member that adversely affects an applicant or member and is based on the actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status and other classifications protected by law.

Discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, is verbal or physical conduct that demeans or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual based upon that individual's protected class. It has the effect of interfering with an individual's work performance or creating a hostile or abusive work environment.

Conduct that may, under certain circumstances, constitute discriminatory harassment, can include making derogatory comments, crude and offensive statements or remarks; making slurs or off-color jokes, stereotyping; engaging in threatening acts; making indecent gestures, pictures, cartoons, posters or material; making inappropriate physical contact; or using written material or Office equipment and/or systems to transmit or receive offensive material, statements or pictures. Such conduct is contrary to Office policy and to a work environment that is free of discrimination.

#### 338.3.2 SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Office prohibits all forms of discrimination and discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment. It is unlawful to harass an applicant or a member because of that person's sex.

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Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- (a) Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment, position or compensation.
- (b) Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct is used as the basis for any employment decisions affecting the member.
- (c) Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with a member's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

### **338.3.3 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Discrimination and discriminatory harassment do not include actions that are in accordance with established rules, principles or standards, including:

- (a) Acts or omission of acts based solely upon bona fide occupational qualifications under the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the California Fair Employment and Housing Council guidelines.
- (b) Bona fide requests or demands by a supervisor that a member improve his/her work quality or output, that the member report to the job site on time, that the member comply with County or Office rules or regulations, or any other appropriate work-related communication between supervisor and member.

### **338.3.4 RETALIATION**

Retaliation is treating a person differently or engaging in acts of reprisal or intimidation against the person because he/she has engaged in protected activity, filed a charge of discrimination, participated in an investigation or opposed a discriminatory practice. Retaliation will not be tolerated.

## **338.4 RESPONSIBILITIES**

This policy applies to all Office personnel. All members shall follow the intent of these guidelines in a manner that reflects Office policy, professional law enforcement standards and the best interest of the Office and its mission.

Members are encouraged to promptly report any discriminatory, retaliatory or harassing conduct or known violations of this policy to a supervisor. Any member who is not comfortable with reporting violations of this policy to his/her immediate supervisor may bypass the chain of command and make the report to a higher-ranking supervisor or manager. Complaints may also be filed with the Sheriff, the Director of Human Services or the County Administrator.

Any member who believes, in good faith, that he/she has been discriminated against, harassed or subjected to retaliation, or who has observed harassment or discrimination, is encouraged to promptly report such conduct in accordance with the procedures set forth in this policy.

Supervisors and managers receiving information regarding alleged violations of this policy shall determine if there is any basis for the allegation and shall proceed with resolution as stated below.

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### 338.4.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of each supervisor and manager shall include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Continually monitoring the work environment and striving to ensure that it is free from all types of unlawful discrimination, including harassment or retaliation.
- (b) Taking prompt, appropriate action within their work units to avoid and minimize the incidence of any form of discrimination, harassment or retaliation.
- (c) Ensuring that his/her subordinates understand their responsibilities under this policy.
- (d) Ensuring that members who make complaints or who oppose any unlawful employment practices are protected from retaliation and that such matters are kept confidential to the extent possible.
- (e) Making a timely determination regarding the substance of any allegation based upon all available facts.
- (f) Notifying the Sheriff or Director of Human Services in writing of the circumstances surrounding any reported allegations or observed acts of discrimination, harassment or retaliation no later than the next business day.

### 338.4.2 SUPERVISOR'S ROLE

Because of differences in individual values, supervisors and managers may find it difficult to recognize that their behavior or the behavior of others is discriminatory, harassing or retaliatory. Supervisors and managers shall be aware of the following considerations:

- (a) Behavior of supervisors and managers should represent the values of the Office and professional law enforcement standards.
- (b) False or mistaken accusations of discrimination, harassment or retaliation can have negative effects on the careers of innocent members.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent supervisors or managers from discharging supervisory or management responsibilities, such as determining duty assignments, evaluating or counseling members or issuing discipline, in a manner that is consistent with established procedures.

### 338.4.3 QUESTIONS OR CLARIFICATION

Members with questions regarding what constitutes discrimination, sexual harassment, or retaliation are encouraged to contact a supervisor, a manager, the Sheriff, the Director of Human Services, the County Administrator, or the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) for further information, direction, or clarification (Government Code § 12950).

## **338.5 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS**

Various methods of resolution exist. During the pendency of any such investigation, the supervisor of the involved member should take prompt and reasonable steps to mitigate or eliminate any continuing abusive or hostile work environment. It is the policy of the Office that all complaints of discrimination, retaliation or harassment shall be fully documented and promptly and thoroughly investigated.



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### **338.5.1 SUPERVISORY RESOLUTION**

Members who believe they are experiencing discrimination, harassment or retaliation should be encouraged to inform the individual that his/her behavior is unwelcome, offensive, unprofessional or inappropriate. However, if the member feels uncomfortable or threatened or has difficulty expressing his/her concern, or if this does not resolve the concern, assistance should be sought from a supervisor or manager who is a rank higher than the alleged transgressor.

### **338.5.2 FORMAL INVESTIGATION**

If the complaint cannot be satisfactorily resolved through the process described above, a formal investigation will be conducted.

The person assigned to investigate the complaint will have full authority to investigate all aspects of the complaint. Investigative authority includes access to records and the cooperation of any members involved. No influence will be used to suppress any complaint and no member will be subject to retaliation or reprisal for filing a complaint, encouraging others to file a complaint or for offering testimony or evidence in any investigation.

Formal investigation of the complaint will be confidential to the extent possible and will include, but is not limited to, details of the specific incident, frequency and dates of occurrences and names of any witnesses. Witnesses will be advised regarding the prohibition against retaliation, and that a disciplinary process, up to and including termination, may result if retaliation occurs.

Members who believe they have been discriminated against, harassed or retaliated against because of their protected status, are encouraged to follow the chain of command but may also file a complaint directly with the Sheriff, Director of Human Services or the County Administrator.

### **338.5.3 ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT PROCESS**

No provision of this policy shall be construed to prevent any member from seeking legal redress outside the Office. Members who believe that they have been harassed, discriminated or retaliated against are entitled to bring complaints of employment discrimination to federal, state and/or local agencies responsible for investigating such allegations. Specific time limitations apply to the filing of such charges. Members are advised that proceeding with complaints under the provisions of this policy does not in any way affect those filing requirements.

## **338.6 DOCUMENTATION OF COMPLAINTS**

All complaints or allegations shall be thoroughly documented on forms and in a manner designated by the Sheriff. The outcome of all reports shall be:

- Approved by the Sheriff, the County Administrator or the Director of Human Services, depending on the ranks of the involved parties.
- Maintained in accordance with the office's established records retention schedule.

### **338.6.1 NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSITION**

The complainant and/or victim will be notified in writing of the disposition of the investigation and the actions taken to remedy or address the circumstances giving rise to the complaint.

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### **338.7 TRAINING**

All new members shall be provided with a copy of this policy as part of their orientation. The policy shall be reviewed with each new member. The member shall certify by signing the prescribed form that he/she has been advised of this policy, is aware of and understands its contents and agrees to abide by its provisions during his/her term with the Office.

All members shall receive annual training on the requirements of this policy and shall certify by signing the prescribed form that they have reviewed the policy, understand its contents and agree that they will continue to abide by its provisions.

#### **338.7.1 STATE-REQUIRED TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that employees receive the required state training and education regarding sexual harassment, prevention of abusive conduct, and harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation as follows (Government Code § 12950.1; 2 CCR 11024):

- (a) Supervisory employees shall receive two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education within six months of assuming a supervisory position.
- (b) All other employees shall receive one hour of classroom or other effective interactive training and education within six months of their employment or sooner for seasonal or temporary employees as described in Government Code § 12950.1.
- (c) All employees shall receive refresher training every two years thereafter.

If the required training is to be provided by DFEH online training courses, the Training Manager should ensure that employees are provided the link or website address to the training course (Government Code § 12950).

#### **338.7.2 TRAINING RECORDS**

The Training Manager shall be responsible for maintaining records of all discriminatory harassment training provided to members. Records shall be retained in accordance with established records retention schedules and for a minimum of two years (2 CCR 11024).

### **338.8 WORKING CONDITIONS**

The Administration Division Commander or the authorized designee should be responsible for reviewing facility design and working conditions for discriminatory practices. This person should collaborate with other County employees who are similarly tasked (2 CCR 11034).

### **338.9 REQUIRED POSTERS**

The Office shall display the required posters regarding discrimination, harassment and transgender rights in a prominent and accessible location for members (Government Code § 12950).

## Registered Offender Information

### 339.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines by which the Yolo County Sheriff's Office will address issues associated with certain offenders who are residing in the jurisdiction and how the Office will disseminate information and respond to public inquiries for information about registered sex, arson and drug offenders.

### 339.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to identify and monitor registered offenders living within this jurisdiction and to take reasonable steps to address the risks those persons may pose.

### 339.3 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.

#### 339.3.1 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.).

#### 339.3.2 SERIOUS SEX OFFENDERS

Serious sex offenders are those individuals who have been convicted of at least one sex offense set forth in Penal Code § 290.4 (a) (1), and who have currently been identified by DOJ as serious sex offenders. This group generally includes those convicted of felony sex offenses or child molestation.

#### 339.3.3 HIGH RISK SEX OFFENDERS

High-risk sex offenders are serious sex offenders who have been separately convicted of multiple sex offenses as defined in Penal Code § 290 (n)(1)(A) and who have currently been identified by DOJ as high-risk offenders.

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#### 339.3.4 OTHER REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

All other registered sex offenders will fall into the "Other" category. This will generally include misdemeanor sex crimes (other than child molestation). Information on these individuals **may not** be released to the public under Megan's Law.

#### **339.4 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.

The Investigations supervisor should also establish a procedure to routinely disseminate information regarding registered offenders to Yolo County Sheriff's Office personnel, including timely updates regarding new or relocated registrants.

#### **339.5 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office's website. Information on sex registrants placed on the Yolo County Sheriff's Office'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.

#### 339.5.1 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

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- (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).

### 339.5.2 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).

### 339.5.3 INFORMATION PERMITTED FOR INTERNET RELEASE

For those offenders listed in Penal Code § 290.46 (c)(2) and (d)(2), the following information may be included on the department website:

- (a) The offender's full name
- (b) The offender's known aliases
- (c) The offender's gender
- (d) The offender's race
- (e) The offender's physical description
- (f) The offender's photograph
- (g) The offender's date of birth

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- (h) Crimes resulting in the registration of the offender under Penal Code §290.
- (i) The community of residence and zip code in which the registrant resides or the county in which the person is registered as a transient.
- (j) Any other information which the department deems relevant
  - Description of the offender's vehicle(s) or vehicle(s) the offender is known to drive (only if the offender is currently wanted for a criminal offense).
  - Type of victim targeted by the offender.
  - Relevant parole or probation conditions, such as prohibiting contact with children.
  - Dates of crimes resulting in current classification.
  - Dates of release from confinement.
  - The offender's enrollment, employment, or vocational status with any university, college, community college, or other institution of higher learning.

For those offenders listed in Penal Code § 290.46 (b)(2), the address at which the offender resides may also be included on the department internet website in addition to the above.

Before releasing the address of any offender, the officer shall verify that the information is correct.

### 339.5.4 INFORMATION PROHIBITED FROM INTERNET RELEASE ON 290 REGISTRANTS

The following information shall not be released over the department Internet Web site (Penal Code § 290.46 (a) :

- Any information identifying the victim
- The name and address of the offender's employer
- All criminal history of the offender, other than the specific crimes for which the person is required to register.

### 339.5.5 LIMITATIONS ON EXTENDED RELEASE

Individuals and entities receiving information regarding registered sex offenders may only be authorized to disclose such information to additional persons if the department determines the appropriate scope and that such disclosure will enhance the public safety. The department may not authorize any disclosure of such information by its placement on a non-departmental internet web site (Penal Code § 290.45(c)(1)).

### 339.5.6 USE OF DISCLOSURE FORMS

Whenever information regarding any sex offender is publicly disseminated, the officer shall complete a Megan's law disclosure form which shall be promptly forwarded to the Investigations section.

The release of such information shall also be noted by entering the notification into the comment field on the offender's supervised release file record.

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## *Registered Offender Information*

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### 339.5.7 PUBLIC INQUIRIES

As a general rule information may not be given over the telephone. Members of the public may access detailed sexual offender information by way of their personal computer through the internet at the Megan's law web site maintained by the Department of Justice ([www.meganslaw.ca.gov](http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov)). They may also submit a list of at least six persons directly to the Department of Justice on a designated form to inquire whether any of those persons are required to register as a sex offender and are required to register as a sex offender and are subject to public notification (Department of Justice fees may apply) (Penal Code §290.4(a)).

# Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes Reporting

## 340.1 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.).

## 340.2 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

## 340.3 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 Records Manager.
- (c) By the tenth day of each month, it shall be the responsibility of the Records Manager 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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## *Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes Reporting*

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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

### 341.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) (42 USC § 2000d).

#### 341.1.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office, 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).

### 341.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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. Best efforts include using or offering to use a qualified translator or sign translator to provide services or assistance.

For the purposes of this policy, a qualified translator includes any person who can proficiently communicate in the same language of the LEP person, a close relative or friend of the person with LEP who can provide translation, or translators of a professional interpretation service (i.e., language line services).

## *Limited English Proficiency Services*

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### **341.3 LEP COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff shall delegate certain responsibilities to an LEP Coordinator. The LEP Coordinator shall be appointed by, and directly responsible to, the Field Operations Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the LEP Coordinator include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Coordinating and implementing all aspects of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office'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 Shift Supervisor and Dispatch Supervisor. 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.

## *Limited English Proficiency Services*

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### **341.4 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:

- (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.

### **341.5 TYPES OF LEP ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### **341.6 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.

### **341.7 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.

## *Limited English Proficiency Services*

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### **341.8 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.

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.

### **341.9 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.

#### **341.9.1 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.

## *Limited English Proficiency Services*

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- 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.

### **341.9.2 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.

### **341.10 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.

### **341.11 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will take reasonable steps and will work with the Department of Human Resources to develop in-house language capacity by hiring or appointing qualified members proficient in languages representative of the community being served.

#### **341.11.1 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

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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 Dispatch, 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.

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.

### **341.12 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.

### **341.13 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

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- Any other authorized interpreter

Any *Miranda* warnings shall 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.

### **341.14 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.

### **341.15 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.

### **341.16 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.

### **341.17 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



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to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

### **341.18 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.

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.

#### **341.18.1 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

## 342.1 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.

### 342.1.1 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.

## 342.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

## 342.3 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) COORDINATOR

The Sheriff shall delegate certain responsibilities to an ADA Coordinator (28 CFR 35.107). The ADA Coordinator shall be appointed by, and directly responsible, to the Field Operations Division Commander 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office'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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## *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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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 Shift Supervisor and Dispatch Supervisor. 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.

### **342.4 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.

## *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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### **342.5 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office, consideration should be given, safety permitting, to placing the handcuffs in the front of the body to facilitate communication using sign language or writing.

### **342.6 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

## *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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Department-provided auxiliary aids or services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

### **342.7 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.

### **342.8 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).

### **342.9 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.

### **342.10 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.

### **342.11 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.

### **342.12 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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### **342.13 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.

#### **342.13.1 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.

### **342.14 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.

### **342.15 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.

### **342.16 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.

### **342.17 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.



## *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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### **342.18 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.

## Biological Samples

### 343.1 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.

### 343.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 343.3 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.

### 343.4 PROCEDURE

When an individual is required to provide a biological sample, a trained employee shall obtain the sample in accordance with this policy.

#### 343.4.1 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.

## *Biological Samples*

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### **343.5 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.

#### **343.5.1 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).

#### **343.5.2 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).

### **343.6 PROCESSING DNA SAMPLES**

All DNA samples, and related materials shall be promptly forwarded to the DNA lab using DOJ mailing tubes, labels and instructions for prompt analysis. (Penal Code § 298 (a) and (b)(1)).

### **343.7 NOTICE OF A REJECTED SAMPLE**

In the event the Department of Justice notifies the Department that a DNA sample or print impression is not usable, the individual whose original sample or impression was provided is

## *Biological Samples*

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required to submit to collection of additional samples. The Department shall thereafter take all reasonable steps to collect additional samples from any such individual and promptly transmit these to the Department of Justice (Penal Code § 296.2)).

### **343.8 FOLLOW UP NOTICE TO DOJ**

Within two years of submitting any DNA specimen, sample or impression to the Department of Justice, this department shall notify DOJ whether the individual remains a suspect in a criminal investigation (Penal Code § 297 (c)(2)). It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Justice to thereafter purge samples of any individuals who are no longer a suspect in any criminal investigation from the DNA database.

### **343.9 RELATED STATUTES**

It is a felony for any qualifying individual to knowingly facilitate the collection of a wrongfully attributed DNA sample or identification information, or to knowingly tamper with any DNA sample or collection container with the intent to deceive the government as to his or her identity (Penal Code § 298.2)).

It is unlawful for any person to knowingly misuse or disclose to an unauthorized entity a DNA sample collected or profile obtained for DNA database purposes (Penal Code § 299.5 (i)(1)(A)).

### **343.10 LEGAL MANDATES AND RELEVANT LAWS**

California law provides for the following:

#### **343.10.1 DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO FORCE**

The Shift Supervisor 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.

#### **343.10.2 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)).

#### **343.10.3 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.

## Child and Dependent Adult Safety

### 344.1 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 office (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 Senior and Disability Victimization policies.

### 344.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this office to mitigate, to the extent reasonably possible, the stressful experience individuals may have when their parent or caregiver is arrested. The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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, including call-out availability and follow-up responsibilities.

### 344.3 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.

## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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### 344.3.1 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. Deputies should consider allowing the person to use his/her cell phone to facilitate arrangements through access to contact phone numbers, and to lessen the likelihood of call screening by the recipients due to calls from unknown sources.
- (b) 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.
  - 1. 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.
- (c) Provide for the immediate supervision of children or dependent adults until an appropriate caregiver arrives.
- (d) Notify Child Protective Services or the Division of Aging and Adult Services, if appropriate.
- (e) Notify the field supervisor or Shift Supervisor 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.

### 344.3.2 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)).

## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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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.

### 344.3.3 REPORTING

- (a) For all arrests where children are present or living in the household, the reporting member will document the following information:
  - 1. Name
  - 2. Sex
  - 3. Age
  - 4. Special needs (e.g., medical, mental health)
  - 5. How, where and with whom or which agency the child was placed
  - 6. Identities and contact information for other potential caregivers
  - 7. Notifications made to other adults (e.g., schools, relatives)
- (b) For all arrests where dependent adults are present or living in the household, the reporting member 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

### 344.3.4 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.

### **344.4 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 contact 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.

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## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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Under no circumstances should a child or dependent adult be left unattended or without appropriate care.

### **344.5 TRAINING**

The Training Manager is responsible to ensure that all personnel of this office 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

### 345.1 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).

#### 345.1.1 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)).

### 345.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 345.3 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.
- 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

## *Service Animals*

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schizophrenia to distinguish between hallucinations and reality, and helping people with traumatic brain injury to locate misplaced items or follow daily routines.

### **345.4 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office affords to all members of the public (28 CFR 35.136).

#### **345.4.1 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.

#### **345.4.2 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.

#### **345.4.3 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.

#### **345.4.4 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

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## *Service Animals*

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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).

# Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation

## 346.1 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.).

### 346.1.1 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.

## 346.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

## 346.3 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 - Coroner, when appropriate (Health and Safety Code § 7050.5)
- Tribal land - Responsible Indian tribal official

### **346.4 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).

## Chapter 4 - Patrol Operations

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## Patrol Function

### 400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the functions of the patrol unit of the Office to ensure intra-office cooperation and information sharing.

#### 400.1.1 FUNCTION

Deputies will generally patrol in clearly marked vehicles, patrol assigned jurisdictional areas of Yolo County, respond to calls for assistance, act as a deterrent to crime, enforce state and local laws and respond to emergencies 24 hours per day seven days per week.

Patrol will generally provide the following services within the limits of available resources:

- (a) Patrol that is directed at the prevention of criminal acts, traffic violations and collisions, the maintenance of public order, and the discovery of hazardous situations or conditions
- (b) Crime prevention activities such as residential inspections, business inspections, community presentations, etc.
- (c) Calls for service, both routine and emergency in nature
- (d) Investigation of both criminal and non-criminal acts
- (e) The apprehension of criminal offenders
- (f) Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving activities such as citizen assists and individual citizen contacts of a positive nature
- (g) The sharing of information between the Patrol and other division within the office, as well as other outside governmental agencies
- (h) The application of resources to specific problems or situations within the community, which may be improved or resolved by Community Oriented Policing and problem solving strategies
- (i) Traffic direction and control

#### 400.1.2 TERRORISM

It is the goal of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to make every reasonable effort to accurately and appropriately gather and report any information that may relate to either foreign or domestic terrorism. Deputies should advise a supervisor as soon as practicable of any activity believed to be terrorism related and should document such incidents with a written report or Field Interview (FI). The supervisor should ensure that all terrorism related reports and FIs are forwarded to the Investigations Supervisor in a timely fashion.

## *Patrol Function*

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### **400.2 PATROL INFORMATION SHARING PROCEDURES**

The following guidelines are intended to develop and maintain intra-office cooperation and information flow between the various divisions of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

#### **400.2.1 CRIME REPORTS**

A crime report may be completed by any patrol deputy who receives criminal information. The report will be processed and forwarded to the appropriate bureau for retention or follow-up investigation.

#### **400.2.2 PATROL BRIEFINGS**

Patrol supervisors, detective sergeants, and special unit sergeants are encouraged to share information as much as possible. All supervisors and/or deputies will be provided an opportunity to share information at the daily patrol Briefings as time permits.

#### **400.2.3 INFORMATION CLIPBOARDS**

Several information clipboards will be maintained in the briefing room and will be available for review by deputies from all divisions within the Office. These will include, but not be limited to, the patrol check clipboard, the wanted persons clipboard, and the written directive clipboard.

#### **400.2.4 BULLETIN BOARDS**

A bulletin board will be kept in the Briefing room and the Investigations for display of suspect information, intelligence reports and photographs. New Special Orders will be made available for patrol supervisors and will be discussed at briefings and shift meetings. A copy of the Special Order will be placed on the briefing room clipboard.

### **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.



## Staffing Levels

### **401.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that proper staffing 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.

### **401.2 MINIMUM STAFFING LEVELS - PATROL**

Minimum staffing levels for dayshift should be three deputies and one Sergeant or four deputies, including an OIC. Minimum staffing levels for nightshift should be four deputies and one Sergeant or five deputies including an OIC.

## Shift Sergeants

### **402.1 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 Sergeant heads each watch.

### **402.2 DESIGNATION AS ACTING SHIFT SERGEANT**

When a Sergeant is unavailable for duty as Shift Supervisor, in most instances the senior qualified officer in charge shall be designated as acting Shift Supervisor. This policy does not preclude designating a less senior officer in charge as an acting Shift Supervisor when operational needs require or training permits.

## Briefing Training

### 403.1 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 Special Orders or changes in Special Orders
- (d) Reviewing recent incidents for training purposes
- (e) Providing training on a variety of subjects

### 403.2 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.

## Bias-Based Policing

### 404.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to office members that affirms the Yolo County Sheriff's Office'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 office's relationship with its diverse communities (e.g., cultural and ethnicity awareness training, youth programs, community group outreach, partnerships).

#### 404.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Bias-based policing** - An inappropriate reliance on actual or perceived 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).

### 404.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 office to provide law enforcement services and to enforce the law equally, fairly, objectively and without discrimination toward any individual or group.

### 404.3 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.

#### 404.3.1 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.
- (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.

## *Bias-Based Policing*

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### **404.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Every member of this 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.

#### **404.4.1 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.

### **404.5 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 Digital Computer (MDC) data and any other available resource used 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 office who discloses information concerning bias-based policing.

### **404.6 ADMINISTRATION**

Each year, the Field Operations Division Commander should review the efforts of the Office to provide fair and objective policing and submit an annual report, including public concerns and complaints, to the Sheriff.

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The annual report should not contain any identifying information about 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 should review the annual report and discuss the results with those they are assigned to supervise.

### **404.7 TRAINING**

Training on fair and objective policing and review of this policy should be conducted as directed by the Training Unit.

- (a) All sworn members of this office will be scheduled to attend Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved training on the subject of bias-based policing.
- (b) Pending participation in such POST-approved training and at all times, all members of this office are encouraged to familiarize themselves with and consider racial and cultural differences among members of this community.
- (c) Each sworn member of this office who received initial bias-based policing 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)).

### **404.8 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

The Professional Standards 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 Section Policy.

## Contacts and Temporary Detentions

### 405.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for temporarily detaining but not arresting persons in the field, conducting field interviews (FI) and pat-down searches, and the taking and disposition of photographs.

#### 405.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Consensual encounter** - 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 purpose of determining the individual's identity and resolving the deputy's suspicions.

**Field photographs** - Posed photographs taken of a person during a contact, temporary 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, body-worn camera, or public safety camera when persons are not posed for the purpose of photographing are not considered field photographs.

**Pat-down search** - A type of search used by deputies in the field to check an individual for dangerous 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** - 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.

**Temporary detention** - When a deputy intentionally, through words, actions, or physical force, causes an individual to reasonably believe he/she is required to restrict his/her movement without an actual arrest. Temporary detentions also occur when a deputy actually restrains a person's freedom of movement.

### 405.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office respects the right of the public to be free from unreasonable searches or seizures. Due to an unlimited variety of situations confronting the deputy, the decision to temporarily detain a person and complete a field interview (FI), pat-down search, or field photograph shall be left to the deputy based on the totality of the circumstances, officer safety considerations, and constitutional safeguards.

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#### **405.3 FIELD INTERVIEWS**

Based on observance of suspicious circumstances or upon information from investigation, a deputy may initiate the stop of a person, and conduct an FI, when there is articulable, reasonable suspicion to do so. A person, however, shall not be detained longer than is reasonably necessary to resolve the deputy's suspicion.

Nothing in this policy is intended to discourage consensual contacts. Frequent casual contact with consenting individuals is encouraged by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to strengthen community involvement, community awareness, and problem identification.

##### **405.3.1 INITIATING A FIELD INTERVIEW**

When initiating the stop, the deputy should be able to point to specific facts which, when considered with the totality of the circumstances, reasonably warrant the stop. Such facts include but are not limited to an individual's:

- (a) Appearance or demeanor suggesting that he/she is part of a criminal enterprise or is engaged in a criminal act
- (b) Actions suggesting that he/she is engaged in a criminal activity
- (c) Presence in an area at an inappropriate hour of the day or night
- (d) Presence in a particular area is suspicious
- (e) Carrying of suspicious objects or items
- (f) Excessive clothes for the climate or clothes bulging in a manner that suggest he/she is carrying a dangerous weapon
- (g) Location in proximate time and place to an alleged crime
- (h) Physical description or clothing worn that matches a suspect in a recent crime
- (i) Prior criminal record or involvement in criminal activity as known by the deputy

#### **405.4 PAT-DOWN SEARCHES**

Once a valid stop has been made, and consistent with the deputy's training and experience, a deputy may pat a suspect's outer clothing for weapons if the deputy has a reasonable, articulable suspicion the suspect may pose a safety risk. The purpose of this limited search is not to discover evidence of a crime, but to allow the deputy to pursue the investigation without fear of violence. Circumstances that may establish justification for performing a pat-down search include but are not limited to:

- (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 weapons.
- (e) The actions and demeanor of the suspect.



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- (f) Visual indications which suggest that the suspect is carrying a firearm or other weapon.

Whenever practicable, a pat-down search should not be conducted by a lone deputy. A cover deputy should be positioned to ensure safety and should not be involved in the search.

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### **406.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The Crisis Response Unit (CRU) is comprised of two specialized teams: the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) and the Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT). The unit has been 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).

#### **406.1.1 OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY**

The Policy Manual sections pertaining to the Crisis Response Unit 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.

#### **406.1.2 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.

### **406.2 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.

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#### 406.2.1 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.

#### 406.2.2 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.
- (i) Specialized functions and supporting resources.

#### 406.2.3 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 CRU 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.

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- (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.
    - (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.

### **406.3 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

The SWAT/CRU 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).

#### **406.3.1 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.

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- (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.

### 406.3.2 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.

### 406.3.3 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.

### 406.3.4 SWAT ONGOING TRAINING

Training shall be coordinated by the CRU Commander. The CRU 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) Quarterly, each SWAT team member shall perform the mandatory SWAT handgun qualification course. The qualification course shall consist of the SWAT Basic Drill for the handgun. Failure to qualify will require that officer to seek remedial training from a team range master approved by the CRU 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.

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- (e) Each SWAT team member shall complete the quarterly SWAT qualification course for any specialty weapon issued to, or used by, the team member during SWAT operations. Failure to qualify will require the team member to seek remedial training from the Rangemaster who has been approved by the CRU commander. Team members who fail to qualify on their specialty weapon may not utilize the specialty weapon on SWAT operations until qualified. Team members who fail to qualify must retest within 30 days. Failure to qualify with specialty weapons within 30 days may result in the team member being removed from the team or permanently disqualified from use of that particular specialty weapon.

### 406.3.5 TRAINING SAFETY

Use of a designated safety officer should be considered for all tactical training.

### 406.3.6 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.

### 406.3.7 TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

Individual and team training shall be documented and records maintained by the Training Unit. 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.

## **406.4 UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIREARMS**

### 406.4.1 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.

### 406.4.2 EQUIPMENT

SWAT teams from this agency should be adequately equipped to meet the specific mission(s) identified by the agency.

### 406.4.3 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.

### 406.4.4 OPERATIONAL READINESS INSPECTIONS

The CRU Commander shall appoint a CRU supervisor to perform operational readiness inspections of all unit equipment at least quarterly. The result of the inspection will be forwarded to the CRU Commander in writing. The inspection will include personal equipment issued to members of the unit, operational equipment maintained in the CRU facility and equipment maintained or used in CRU vehicles.

## **406.5 MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The Commander of the CRU shall be selected by the Sheriff upon recommendation of staff.

## **406.6 CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

The Crisis 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 Crisis Negotiation Team.

### **406.6.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL**

Interested sworn personnel, who are off probation, shall submit a memorandum of interest to their appropriate Division Commander. A copy will be forwarded to the CRU Commander and the Crisis Negotiation Team supervisor. Qualified applicants will then be invited to an oral interview. The oral board will consist of the CRU Commander, the Crisis Negotiation Team 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 for final selection.

### **406.6.2 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.

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### **406.7 OPERATION GUIDELINES FOR CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The following procedures serve as guidelines for the operational deployment of the Crisis Response Unit. Generally, the Special Weapons and Tactics Team and the Crisis 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 Crisis Negotiation Team such as warrant service operations. This shall be at the discretion of the CRU Commander.

#### **406.7.1 ON-SCENE DETERMINATION**

The supervisor in charge on the scene of a particular event will assess whether the Crisis Response Unit should respond to the scene. Upon final determination by the Shift Supervisor, he/she will notify the CRU Commander and the on-call Administrator.

#### **406.7.2 APPROPRIATE SITUATIONS FOR USE OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The following are examples of incidents which may result in the activation of the Crisis Response Unit:

- (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.

#### **406.7.3 OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUESTS**

Requests by field personnel for assistance from outside agency crisis units must be approved by the Shift Supervisor. Deployment of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office Crisis Response Unit in response to requests by other agencies must be authorized by a Division Commander.

#### **406.7.4 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office SWAT team shall operate under the policies, procedures and command of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office when working in a multi-agency situation.

#### **406.7.5 MOBILIZATION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The On-Scene supervisor shall make a request to the Shift Supervisor for the Crisis Response Unit. The Shift Supervisor shall then notify the CRU Commander. If unavailable, a team supervisor



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shall be notified. A current mobilization list shall be maintained in the Shift Supervisor's office by the CRU Commander. The Shift Supervisor will then notify the Field Operations Division Commander as soon as practical.

The Shift Supervisor should advise the CRU Commander with as much of the following information which is available at the time:

- (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 CRU Commander or supervisor shall then call selected deputies to respond.

### 406.7.6 FIELD UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

While waiting for the Crisis Response Unit, 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 the CRU has arrived, all negotiations should generally be halted to allow the negotiators and SWAT time to set up.
- (f) Be prepared to brief the CRU Commander on the situation.
- (g) Plan for, and stage, anticipated resources.

### 406.7.7 ON-SCENE COMMAND RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon arrival of the Crisis Response Unit at the scene, the Incident Commander shall brief the CRU Commander and team supervisors about the situation. Upon review, it will be the Incident Commander's decision, with input from the CRU Commander, whether to deploy the Crisis

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Response Unit. Once the Incident Commander authorizes deployment, the CRU 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 the Crisis Response Unit. The Incident Commander and the CRU Commander (or his or her designee) shall maintain communications at all times.

### 406.7.8 COMMUNICATION WITH CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT PERSONNEL

All of those persons who are non-Crisis Response Unit 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 Crisis Team personnel directly. All non-emergency communications shall be channeled through the Negotiation Team Sergeant or his or her designee.

## Hostage and Barricade Incidents

### 407.1 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.

#### 407.1.1 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.

### 407.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 407.3 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, 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.

#### 407.3.1 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.

### **407.4 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.

#### **407.4.1 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.

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- (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.
- (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 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.

#### 407.4.2 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.

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- (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.
- (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 Office, such as command officers and the PIO.
- (m) If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.

#### **407.5 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 Negotiations Team (CNT) response if appropriate and apprising the SWAT 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).
  - (a) 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 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.

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- (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 Dispatch.
- (i) Identify a media staging area outside the outer perimeter and have the 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.

### **407.6 SWAT RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Incident Commander will decide, with input from the SWAT Commander, whether to deploy the SWAT during a hostage or barricade situation. Once the Incident Commander authorizes deployment, the SWAT 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 SWAT. The Incident Commander and the SWAT Commander or the authorized designee shall maintain communications at all times.

### **407.7 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.

## Crisis Intervention Incidents

### 408.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for interacting with those who may be experiencing a mental health or emotional crisis. Interaction with such individuals has the potential for miscommunication and violence. It often requires a deputy to make difficult judgments about a person's mental state and intent in order to effectively and legally interact with the individual.

#### 408.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Person in crisis** - A person whose level of distress or mental health symptoms have exceeded the person's internal ability to manage his/her behavior or emotions. A crisis can be precipitated by any number of things, including an increase in the symptoms of mental illness despite treatment compliance; non-compliance with treatment, including a failure to take prescribed medications appropriately; or any other circumstance or event that causes the person to engage in erratic, disruptive or dangerous behavior that may be accompanied by impaired judgment.

### 408.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing a consistently high level of service to all members of the community and recognizes that persons in crisis may benefit from intervention. The Department will collaborate, where feasible, with mental health professionals to develop an overall intervention strategy to guide its members' interactions with those experiencing a mental health crisis. This is to ensure equitable and safe treatment of all involved.

### 408.3 SIGNS

Members should be alert to any of the following possible signs of mental health issues or crises:

- (a) A known history of mental illness
- (b) Threats of or attempted suicide
- (c) Loss of memory
- (d) Incoherence, disorientation or slow response
- (e) Delusions, hallucinations, perceptions unrelated to reality or grandiose ideas
- (f) Depression, pronounced feelings of hopelessness or uselessness, extreme sadness or guilt
- (g) Social withdrawal
- (h) Manic or impulsive behavior, extreme agitation, lack of control
- (i) Lack of fear
- (j) Anxiety, aggression, rigidity, inflexibility or paranoia



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### *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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Members should be aware that this list is not exhaustive. The presence or absence of any of these should not be treated as proof of the presence or absence of a mental health issue or crisis.

#### **408.4 FIRST RESPONDERS**

Safety is a priority for first responders. It is important to recognize that individuals under the influence of alcohol, drugs or both may exhibit symptoms that are similar to those of a person in a mental health crisis. These individuals may still present a serious threat to deputies; such a threat should be addressed with reasonable tactics. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit a deputy's authority to use reasonable force when interacting with a person in crisis.

Deputies are reminded that mental health issues, mental health crises and unusual behavior alone are not criminal offenses. Individuals may benefit from treatment as opposed to incarceration.

A deputy responding to a call involving a person in crisis should:

- (a) Promptly assess the situation independent of reported information and make a preliminary determination regarding whether a mental health crisis may be a factor.
- (b) Request available backup deputies and specialized resources as deemed necessary and, if it is reasonably believed that the person is in a crisis situation, use conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques to stabilize the incident as appropriate.
- (c) If feasible, and without compromising safety, turn off flashing lights, bright lights or sirens.
- (d) Attempt to determine if weapons are present or available.
  1. Prior to making contact, and whenever possible and reasonable, conduct a search of the Department of Justice Automated Firearms System via the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) to determine whether the person is the registered owner of a firearm (Penal Code § 11106.4).
- (e) Take into account the person's mental and emotional state and potential inability to understand commands or to appreciate the consequences of his/her action or inaction, as perceived by the deputy.
- (f) Secure the scene and clear the immediate area as necessary.
- (g) Employ tactics to preserve the safety of all participants.
- (h) Determine the nature of any crime.
- (i) Request a supervisor, as warranted.
- (j) Evaluate any available information that might assist in determining cause or motivation for the person's actions or stated intentions.
- (k) If circumstances reasonably permit, consider and employ alternatives to force.

#### **408.5 DE-ESCALATION**

Deputies should consider that taking no action or passively monitoring the situation may be the most reasonable response to a mental health crisis.

## *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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Once it is determined that a situation is a mental health crisis and immediate safety concerns have been addressed, responding members should be aware of the following considerations and should generally:

- Evaluate safety conditions.
- Introduce themselves and attempt to obtain the person's name.
- Be patient, polite, calm, courteous and avoid overreacting.
- Speak and move slowly and in a non-threatening manner.
- Moderate the level of direct eye contact.
- Remove distractions or disruptive people from the area.
- Demonstrate active listening skills (e.g., summarize the person's verbal communication).
- Provide for sufficient avenues of retreat or escape should the situation become volatile.

Responding deputies generally should not:

- Use stances or tactics that can be interpreted as aggressive.
- Allow others to interrupt or engage the person.
- Corner a person who is not believed to be armed, violent or suicidal.
- Argue, speak with a raised voice or use threats to obtain compliance.

### **408.6 INCIDENT ORIENTATION**

When responding to an incident that may involve mental illness or a mental health crisis, the deputy should request that dispatch provide critical information as it becomes available. This includes:

- (a) Whether the person relies on drugs or medication, or may have failed to take his/her medication.
- (b) Whether there have been prior incidents, suicide threats/attempts, and whether there has been previous sheriff's response.
- (c) Contact information for a treating physician or mental health professional.

Additional resources and a supervisor should be requested as warranted.

### **408.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

A supervisor should respond to the scene of any interaction with a person in crisis. Responding supervisors should:

- (a) Attempt to secure appropriate and sufficient resources.
- (b) Closely monitor any use of force, including the use of restraints, and ensure that those subjected to the use of force are provided with timely access to medical care (see the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy).

## *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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- (c) Consider strategic disengagement. Absent an imminent threat to the public and, as circumstances dictate, this may include removing or reducing law enforcement resources or engaging in passive monitoring.
- (d) Ensure that all reports are completed and that incident documentation uses appropriate terminology and language.
- (e) Conduct an after-action tactical and operational debriefing, and prepare an after-action evaluation of the incident to be forwarded to the Division Commander.

Evaluate whether a critical incident stress management debriefing for involved members is warranted.

### **408.8 INCIDENT REPORTING**

Members engaging in any oral or written communication associated with a mental health crisis should be mindful of the sensitive nature of such communications and should exercise appropriate discretion when referring to or describing persons and circumstances.

Members having contact with a person in crisis should keep related information confidential, except to the extent that revealing information is necessary to conform to department reporting procedures or other official mental health or medical proceedings.

#### **408.8.1 DIVERSION**

Individuals who are not being arrested should be processed in accordance with the Mental Illness Commitments Policy.

### **408.9 CIVILIAN INTERACTION WITH PEOPLE IN CRISIS**

Civilian members may be required to interact with persons in crisis in an administrative capacity, such as dispatching, records request, and animal control issues.

- (a) Members should treat all individuals equally and with dignity and respect.
- (b) If a member believes that he/she is interacting with a person in crisis, he/she should proceed patiently and in a calm manner.
- (c) Members should be aware and understand that the person may make unusual or bizarre claims or requests.

If a person's behavior makes the member feel unsafe, if the person is or becomes disruptive or violent, or if the person acts in such a manner as to cause the member to believe that the person may be harmful to him/herself or others, a deputy should be promptly summoned to provide assistance.

### **408.10 TRAINING**

In coordination with the mental health community and appropriate stakeholders, the Department will develop and provide comprehensive education and training to all department members to enable them to effectively interact with persons in crisis.

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## *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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This department will endeavor to provide Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved advanced officer training on interaction with persons with mental disabilities, welfare checks and crisis intervention (Penal Code § 11106.4; Penal Code § 13515.25; Penal Code § 13515.27; Penal Code § 13515.30).

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## Rapid Response and Deployment

### 409.1 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.

### 409.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 409.3 FIRST RESPONSE

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 reduce, prevent or 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.

If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, deputies should take immediate action, if reasonably practicable, while requesting additional assistance.

Deputies should remain aware of the possibility that an incident may be part of a coordinated multi-location attack that may require some capacity to respond to other incidents at other locations.

When deciding on a course of action deputies should consider:

- (a) Whether to advance on or engage a suspect who is still a possible or perceived threat to others. Any advance or engagement should be based on information known or received at the time.
- (b) Whether to wait for additional resources or personnel. This does not preclude an individual deputy from taking immediate action.
- (c) Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved or evacuated with reasonable safety.
- (d) Whether the suspect can be contained or denied access to victims.
- (e) Whether the deputies have the ability to effectively communicate with other personnel or resources.

## *Rapid Response and Deployment*

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- (f) Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.
- (g) The availability of rifles, shotguns, shields, breaching tools, control devices and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.

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).

### **409.4 CONSIDERATIONS**

When dealing with a crisis situation members should:

- (a) Assess the immediate situation and take reasonable steps to maintain operative control of the incident.
- (b) Obtain, explore and analyze sources of intelligence and known information regarding the circumstances, location and suspect involved in the incident.
- (c) Attempt to attain a tactical advantage over the suspect by reducing, preventing or eliminating any known or perceived threat.
- (d) Attempt, if feasible and based upon the suspect's actions and danger to others, a negotiated surrender of the suspect and release of the hostages.

### **409.5 PLANNING**

The Field Operations Division Commander should coordinate critical incident planning. Planning efforts should consider:

- (a) Identification of likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.
- (b) Availability of building plans and venue schematics of likely critical incident target sites.
- (c) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (d) Training opportunities in critical incident target sites, including joint training with site occupants.
- (e) Evacuation routes in critical incident target sites.
- (f) Patrol first-response training.
- (g) Response coordination and resources of emergency medical and fire services.
- (h) Equipment needs.
- (i) Mutual aid agreements with other agencies.
- (j) Coordination with private security providers in critical incident target sites.

## *Rapid Response and Deployment*

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### **409.6 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should include rapid response to critical incidents in the training plan. This training should address:

- (a) Orientation to likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.
- (b) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (c) Patrol first-response training, including patrol rifle, shotgun, breaching tool and control device training.
  - 1. This should include the POST terrorism incident training required for deputies assigned to field duties (Penal Code § 13519.12).
- (d) First aid, including gunshot trauma.
- (e) Reality-based scenario training (e.g., active shooter, disgruntled violent worker).

## Mental Illness Commitments

### 410.1 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).

### 410.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to protect the public and individuals through legal and appropriate use of the 72-hour treatment and evaluation commitment (5150 commitment) process.

### 410.3 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

#### 410.3.1 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.

### 410.4 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:



## *Mental Illness Commitments*

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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.

### **410.4.1 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).

### **410.5 TRANSPORTATION**

When transporting any individual for a 5150 commitment, the transporting deputy should have Dispatch 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, Shift Supervisor approval is required before transport commences.

### **410.6 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 a 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.

### **410.7 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.

#### **410.7.1 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).

### **410.8 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 instead 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 office to regain custody of the individual, office resources (e.g., posting a guard) and other relevant factors in making this decision.

### **410.9 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).

#### **410.9.1 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 Section, 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 Office 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 Office 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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### **410.10 TRAINING**

This office 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.

## Code 33

### 411.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the beeper (Code 33) is to let all radio users know that an emergency is in progress and not to transmit.

Yolo County Dispatch will automatically activate the beeper during any situation where uninterrupted communications are required. The beeper may also be requested by any user if the situation necessitates clear air time. Department members shall only initiate the beeper when needed and cancel as quickly as possible.

## Obtaining Air Support

### 412.1 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.

### 412.2 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 to obtain helicopter assistance may be made.

#### 412.2.1 REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM ANOTHER AGENCY

After consideration and approval of the request for a helicopter, the Shift Supervisor, or his/her designee, will advise dispatch to call the closest agency having helicopter support available. The dispatcher will apprise that agency of the specific details of the incident prompting the request.

#### 412.2.2 CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH AID MAY BE REQUESTED

Police helicopters may be requested under any of the following conditions:

- (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

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.

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## Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity

### 413.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance in handling a major crime or disaster.

### 413.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 413.3 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.

### 413.4 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.

## *Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity*

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### **413.5 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.

#### **413.5.1 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.

### **413.6 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).



# Suspicious Activity Reporting

## 414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for reporting and investigating suspicious and criminal activity.

### 414.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Involved party** - An individual who has been observed engaging in suspicious activity, as defined in this policy, when no definitive criminal activity can be identified, thus precluding the person's identification as a suspect.

**Suspicious activity** - Any reported or observed activity that a member reasonably believes may have a nexus to any criminal act or attempted criminal act, or to foreign or domestic terrorism. Actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability should not be considered as factors that create suspicion (although these factors may be used as specific suspect descriptions). Examples of suspicious activity may include but are not limited to:

- Suspected pre-operational surveillance or intelligence gathering (e.g., photographing security features, asking questions about sensitive security-related subjects).
- Tests of security measures and response to incidents (e.g., "dry run," creating false alarms, attempts to enter secure areas without authorization).
- Suspicious purchases (e.g., purchasing large quantities of otherwise legal items, such as fertilizer, that could be used to create an explosive or other dangerous device).
- An individual in possession of such things as a hoax explosive or dispersal device, sensitive materials (e.g., passwords, access codes, classified government information), or coded or ciphered literature or correspondence.

**Suspicious Activity Report (SAR)** - An incident report used to document suspicious activity.

## 414.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office recognizes the need to protect the public from criminal conduct and acts of terrorism and shall lawfully collect, maintain and disseminate information regarding suspicious activities, while safeguarding civil liberties and privacy protections.

## 414.3 REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION

Any office member receiving information regarding suspicious activity should take any necessary immediate and appropriate action, including a request for tactical response or immediate notification of specialized entities, when applicable. Any civilian member who receives such information should ensure that it is passed on to a deputy in a timely manner.

If the suspicious activity is not directly related to a reportable crime, the member should prepare a SAR and include information about involved parties and the circumstances of the incident. If, during any investigation, a deputy becomes aware of suspicious activity that is unrelated to the

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current investigation, the information should be documented separately in a SAR and not included in the original incident report. The report number of the original incident should be included in the SAR as a cross reference. A SAR should be processed as any other incident report.

### **414.4 HANDLING INFORMATION**

The Records Section will forward copies of SARs, in a timely manner, to the Investigation Section supervisor.

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## Medical Aid and Response

### 415.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy recognizes that members often encounter persons in need of medical aid and establishes a law enforcement response to such situations.

### 415.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office that all deputies and other designated members be trained to provide emergency medical aid and to facilitate an emergency medical response.

### 415.3 FIRST RESPONDING MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever practicable, members should take appropriate steps to provide initial medical aid (e.g., first aid, CPR, use of an automated external defibrillator (AED)) in accordance with their training and current certification levels. This should be done for those in need of immediate care and only when the member can safely do so.

Prior to initiating medical aid, the member should contact Dispatch and request response by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) as the member deems appropriate.

Members should follow universal precautions when providing medical aid, such as wearing gloves and avoiding contact with bodily fluids, consistent with the Communicable Diseases Policy. Members should use a barrier or bag device to perform rescue breathing.

When requesting EMS, the member should provide Dispatch with information for relay to EMS personnel in order to enable an appropriate response, including:

- (a) The location where EMS is needed.
- (b) The nature of the incident.
- (c) Any known scene hazards.
- (d) Information on the person in need of EMS, such as:
  1. Signs and symptoms as observed by the member.
  2. Changes in apparent condition.
  3. Number of patients, sex, and age, if known.
  4. Whether the person is conscious, breathing, and alert, or is believed to have consumed drugs or alcohol.
  5. Whether the person is showing signs or symptoms of excited delirium or other agitated chaotic behavior.

Members should stabilize the scene whenever practicable while awaiting the arrival of EMS.

Members should not direct EMS personnel whether to transport the person for treatment.

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### **415.4 TRANSPORTING ILL AND INJURED PERSONS**

Except in extraordinary cases where alternatives are not reasonably available, members should not transport persons who are unconscious, who have serious injuries or who may be seriously ill. EMS personnel should be called to handle patient transportation.

Deputies should search any person who is in custody before releasing that person to EMS for transport.

A deputy should accompany any person in custody during transport in an ambulance when requested by EMS personnel, when it reasonably appears necessary to provide security, when it is necessary for investigative purposes or when so directed by a supervisor.

Members should not provide emergency escort for medical transport or civilian vehicles.

### **415.5 PERSONS REFUSING EMS CARE**

If a person who is not in custody refuses EMS care or refuses to be transported to a medical facility, a deputy shall not force that person to receive care or be transported. However, members may assist EMS personnel when EMS personnel determine the person lacks mental capacity to understand the consequences of refusing medical care or to make an informed decision and the lack of immediate medical attention may result in serious bodily injury or the death of the person.

In cases where mental illness may be a factor, the deputy should consider proceeding with a 72-hour treatment and evaluation commitment (5150 commitment) process in accordance with the Mental Illness Commitments Policy.

If a deputy believes that a person who is in custody requires EMS care and the person refuses, he/she should encourage the person to receive medical treatment. The deputy may also consider contacting a family member to help persuade the person to agree to treatment or who may be able to authorize treatment for the person.

If the person who is in custody still refuses, the deputy will require the person to be transported to the nearest medical facility. In such cases, the deputy should consult with a supervisor prior to the transport.

Members shall not sign refusal-for-treatment forms or forms accepting financial responsibility for treatment.

### **415.6 MEDICAL ATTENTION RELATED TO USE OF FORCE**

Specific guidelines for medical attention for injuries sustained from a use of force may be found in the Use of Force, Handcuffing and Restraints, Control Devices and Techniques, and Conducted Energy Device policies.

### **415.7 AIR AMBULANCE**

Generally, when on-scene, EMS personnel will be responsible for determining whether an air ambulance response should be requested. An air ambulance may be appropriate when there are

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victims with life-threatening injuries or who require specialized treatment (e.g., gunshot wounds, burns, obstetrical cases), and distance or other known delays will affect the EMS response.

### **415.8 ADMINISTRATION OF OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION**

Trained members may administer opioid overdose medication (Civil Code § 1714.22; Business and Professions Code § 4119.9).

#### **415.8.1 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 a Field Operations Lieutenant.

Any member who administers an opioid overdose medication should contact Dispatch as soon as possible and request response by EMS.

#### **415.8.2 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION REPORTING**

Any member administering opioid overdose medication should detail its use in an appropriate report.

The Training Manager will ensure that the Records Manager is provided enough information to meet applicable state reporting requirements.

#### **415.8.3 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).

#### **415.8.4 DESTRUCTION OF OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION**

The Training Manager shall ensure the destruction of any expired opioid overdose medication (Business and Professions Code § 4119.9).

#### **415.8.5 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION RECORD MANAGEMENT**

Records regarding acquisition and disposition of opioid overdose medications shall be maintained and retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule and at a minimum of three years from the date the record was created (Business and Professions Code § 4119.9).

### **415.9 ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTORS**

The Field Operations Division Commander may authorize the acquisition of epinephrine auto-injectors for use by Office members as provided by Health and Safety Code § 1797.197a. The Training Manager shall create and maintain an operations plan for the storage, maintenance, use and disposal of epinephrine auto-injectors as required by Health and Safety Code § 1797.197a(f).

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Trained members who possess valid certification may administer an epinephrine auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis (Health and Safety Code § 1797.197a(b); 22 CCR 100019).

#### **415.9.1 EPINEPHRINE USER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Members should handle, store and administer epinephrine auto-injectors consistent with their training and the Office operations plan. Members should check the auto-injectors at the beginning of their shift to ensure the medication is not expired. Any expired medication should be removed from service in accordance with the Office Operations Plan.

Any member who administers an epinephrine auto-injector medication should contact Dispatch as soon as possible and request response by EMS (Health and Safety Code § 1797.197a(b)).

#### **415.9.2 EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTOR REPORTING**

Any member who administers an epinephrine auto-injector should detail its use in an appropriate report.

The Training Manager should ensure that the Records Manager is provided enough information for required reporting to the EMS Authority within 30 days after each use (Health and Safety Code § 1797.197a(f)).

Records regarding the acquisition and disposition of epinephrine auto-injectors shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule but no less than three years (Business and Professions Code § 4119.4(d)).

#### **415.9.3 EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTOR TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that members authorized to administer epinephrine auto-injectors are provided with initial and refresher training that meets the requirements of Health and Safety Code § 1797.197a(c) and 22 CCR 100019.

#### **415.10 FIRST AID TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure deputies receive initial first aid training within one year of employment and refresher training every two years thereafter (22 CCR 100016; 22 CCR 100022).

#### **415.11 SICK OR INJURED ARRESTEE**

If an arrestee appears ill or injured, or claims illness or injury, he/she should be medically cleared prior to booking. If the deputy has reason to believe the arrestee is feigning injury or illness, the deputy should contact a supervisor, who will determine whether medical clearance will be obtained prior to booking.

If the jail or detention facility refuses to accept custody of an arrestee based on medical screening, the deputy should note the name of the facility person refusing to accept custody and the reason for refusal, and should notify a supervisor to determine the appropriate action.

Arrestees who appear to have a serious medical issue should be transported by ambulance. Deputies shall not transport an arrestee to a hospital without a supervisor's approval.

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Nothing in this section should delay a deputy from requesting EMS when an arrestee reasonably appears to be exhibiting symptoms that appear to be life threatening, including breathing problems or an altered level of consciousness, or is claiming an illness or injury that reasonably warrants an EMS response in accordance with the deputy's training.

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## Hazardous Material Response

### 416.1 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.

#### 416.1.1 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.

### 416.2 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE

Employees may encounter situations involving suspected hazardous materials, such as at the scene of a traffic accident, chemical spill, fire or possible terrorist activity. 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).

### 416.3 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.

### 416.3.1 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.

## Response to Bomb Calls

### 417.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to assist members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 417.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to place a higher priority on the safety of persons and the public over damage or destruction to public or private property.

### 417.3 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 Shift Supervisor is immediately advised and informed of the details. This will enable the Shift Supervisor to ensure that the appropriate personnel are dispatched, and, as appropriate, the threatened location is given an advance warning.

### 417.4 GOVERNMENT FACILITY OR PROPERTY

A bomb threat targeting a government facility may require a different response based on the government agency.

#### 417.4.1 YOLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FACILITY

If the bomb threat is against a Yolo County Sheriff's Office facility, the Shift Supervisor 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.

#### 417.4.2 OTHER COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL FACILITY OR PROPERTY

If the bomb threat is against a county or municipal facility within the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Shift Supervisor deems appropriate.

## *Response to Bomb Calls*

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### **417.5 PRIVATE FACILITY OR PROPERTY**

When a member of this department receives notification of a bomb threat at a location in the County of Yolo, 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 Shift Supervisor is immediately notified so that he/she can communicate with the person in charge of the threatened facility.

#### **417.5.1 ASSISTANCE**

The Shift Supervisor should be notified when sheriff's assistance is requested. The Shift Supervisor 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 Shift Supervisor determine that the Department will assist or control such an incident, he/she will determine:

- (a) The appropriate level of assistance.
- (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:

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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.

### **417.6 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 Shift Supervisor including:
  1. The time of discovery.
  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.

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### **417.7 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.

#### **417.7.1 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.

#### **417.7.2 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
- Shift Supervisor
- 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

#### **417.7.3 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.

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### 417.7.4 PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE

As in any other crime scene, steps should immediately be taken to preserve the scene. The Shift Supervisor 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.

## Arson/Fire Responsibility

### 418.1 POLICY

The responsibility for the investigation of arson fire in the unincorporated areas of Yolo County rests with the Sheriff's Office and the fire agency in whose jurisdiction the fire occurred.

### 418.2 FIRE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE- DEFINITION

The Fire Officer-in-Charge is the ranking Fire Department member at the scene of a fire. The Fire Officer-in-Charge may be a Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Battalion Chief, Captain, or Fire Fighter designated as officer-in-charge.

### 418.3 NOTIFICATION OF FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY

The Yolo County Communications Center will be responsible for the notification of the appropriate beat Deputy when any Yolo County Fire agency is responding to a fire or medical emergency in an unincorporated area.

If the appropriate beat Deputy cannot be reached, then the Deputy's supervisor will be notified of the fire or medical emergency.

### 418.4 RESPONSE TO FIRE SCENES BY PATROL DEPUTY

The beat Deputy or cover unit will respond to all structure or vehicle fires at the time the appropriate fire department is dispatched.

A Deputy will respond in cases of significant wild land or agricultural fires. The responding Fire Department Officer in charge of the scene will determine the size of the fire and will request the response of a Deputy Sheriff.

If upon arrival at the scene of a small wild land or agricultural fire there is a need for crowd or traffic control, the fire officer in charge of the scene will request law enforcement assistance. The County Communications Center will either dispatch a Deputy Sheriff or request the California Highway Patrol depending on the needs of the Fire Agency.

If at the scene of a small wild land or agricultural fire there is evidence of arson, the Fire Officer in charge of the scene will request a Deputy Sheriff respond to the scene.

### 418.5 REQUIRED REPORTS AT FIRE SCENE

The Deputy Sheriff responding to a structure or significant wild land or agricultural fire will fill out an incident report.

The incident report shall include the location and extent of the fire. The name of the responding fire agency, Fire Officer-in-Charge of the scene and property owner, if known, shall also be listed in the report. Any preliminary cause of the fire shall also be noted in the report.

The Deputy at a fire scene classified as an arson will fill out a crime report.

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### **418.6 PATROL DEPUTY'S RESPONSIBILITY AT ALL FIRE SCENES**

- a. The primary patrol Deputy who responds to a fire scene will be responsible to contact the Fire Officer-in-Charge to determine what preliminary classification has been given the fire.
- b. The Patrol Deputy will be able to clear the scene in those cases where the Fire Officer-in-Charge advises that the tentative fire cause is:
  1. Accidental
  2. Natural
  3. Undetermined or suspicious with an extensive investigation by the local fire expert to determine the exact cause.

### **418.7 INITIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INVESTIGATION AT A FIRE SCENE**

It will be the responsibility of the local fire expert to establish the fire corpus by proving that burning did occur and such burning was the result of a willful and malicious act.

### **418.8 PATROL DEPUTY'S RESPONSIBILITY AT SCENE OF ARSON**

At those fires that have the preliminary classification of arson, the primary Deputy Sheriff at the scene will have the following responsibilities:

- a. Contact the Fire Officer-in-Charge and determine what investigative assistance the local fire expert requires (i.e. Fire Department's arson investigators Sheriff's Investigator, Sheriff's C.S.I.).
- b. Contact his/her immediate supervisor and advise of the known circumstances and the assistance requests made by the Fire Officer-in-Charge.
- c. Secure the crime scene.
- d. Conduct interviews with witnesses at the scene.
- e. Request C.S.I. respond to the scene if requested or required (see section 2-575).
- f. Document observations.
- g. Transport evidence if necessary.
- h. Begin the Crime report and document those facts which establish the corpus of the crime as well as those facts significant to the case.
- i. Additional technical support as required.
- j. Request video media, if at the scene, to record the crowd present for later review by investigators.

### **418.9 RESPONSIBILITY OF FIRST LINE SUPERVISOR AT ARSON SCENE**

The first line patrol supervisor will be responsible for:



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- a. Contacting the Investigations Supervisor and requesting a Detective respond to the scene.
- b. Contacting the Public Information Officer, depending on the magnitude of the scene.
- c. Contacting the on-call Department Administrator

### **418.10 FIRE SCENES THAT CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS SHALL RESPOND TO**

a. Crime Scene Investigators of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall respond to all fire scenes which involve death or where fire was used to mask another crime

(i.e. burglary etc.)

b. The Crime Scene Investigators shall respond if requested by Sheriff's Office Shift Supervisor to assist with the scene investigation of those cases with the tentative classification or undetermined, suspicious, or arson.

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## Aircraft Accidents

### 419.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide 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.

#### 419.1.1 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.

### 419.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to provide an appropriate emergency response to aircraft accidents. This includes emergency medical care and scene management.

### 419.3 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).

### 419.4 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.

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### **419.5 NOTIFICATIONS**

When an aircraft accident is reported to this 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)

### **419.6 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) Coroner.
- (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 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 office supervisor should ensure the accident is still appropriately investigated and documented.

### **419.7 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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- (c) Fluids, batteries, flares and igniters.
- (d) Evacuation chutes, ballistic parachute systems and composite materials.

### **419.8 DOCUMENTATION**

All aircraft accidents occurring within the County of Yolo 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 YCSO 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.

#### **419.8.1 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.

#### **419.8.2 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.

### **419.9 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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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.

# Immigration Violations

## 420.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office relating to immigration and interacting with federal immigration officials.

### 420.1.1 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to this policy (Government Code § 7284.4):

**Criminal immigration violation** - Any federal criminal immigration violation that penalizes a person's presence in, entry, or reentry to, or employment in, the United States. This does not include any offense where a judicial warrant already has been issued.

**Immigration enforcement** - Any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law, including any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person's presence in, entry or reentry to, or employment in the United States.

**Judicial warrant** - An arrest warrant for a violation of federal criminal immigration law and issued by a federal judge or a federal magistrate judge.

## 420.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office that all members make personal and professional commitments to equal enforcement of the law and equal service to the public. Confidence in this commitment will increase the effectiveness of this office in protecting and serving the entire community and recognizing the dignity of all persons, regardless of their national origin or immigration status.

## 420.3 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 not in any way that would violate the United States or California constitutions.

## 420.4 IMMIGRATION INQUIRIES PROHIBITED

Deputies shall not inquire into an individual's immigration status for immigration enforcement purposes (Government Code § 7284.6).

### 420.4.1 CALIFORNIA LAW ENFORCEMENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (CLETS)

Members shall not use information transmitted through CLETS for immigration enforcement purposes except for criminal history information and only when consistent with the California Values Act (Government Code § 15160).

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Members shall not use the system to investigate immigration violations of 8 USC § 1325 (improper entry) if that violation is the only criminal history in an individual's record (Government Code § 15160).

### **420.5 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).

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).

#### **420.5.1 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.

### **420.6 FEDERAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

Absent an urgent issue of officer safety or other emergency circumstances, requests by federal immigration officials for assistance from this office should be directed to a supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for determining whether the requested assistance would be permitted under the California Values Act (Government Code § 7284.2 et seq.).

### **420.7 INFORMATION SHARING**

No member of this 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):

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- (a) Sending information to, or requesting or receiving such information from federal immigration officials
- (b) Maintaining such information in 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.

### 420.7.1 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).
- (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.

### 420.7.2 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office intends to comply with the request (Government Code § 7283.1).

If the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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).

### 420.7.3 ICE INTERVIEWS

Before any interview regarding civil immigration violations takes place between ICE personnel and an individual in custody, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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



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attorney present. The consent form must be available in the languages specified in Government Code § 7283.1.

### 420.7.4 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.

### 420.7.5 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Records Manager shall ensure that data regarding the number of transfers of an individual to immigration authorities, as permitted by Government Code § 7284.6(a)(4), and the offense that allowed for the transfer is collected for required reporting to the DOJ (Government Code § 7284.6(c)(2) (see the Records Section Policy)).

## **420.8 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)).

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

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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.

### 420.8.1 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.

### 420.8.2 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).

### 420.8.3 POLICE REPORTS

Upon request, a deputy or supervisor should provide a victim or authorized representative with a copy of the report filed by the victim within seven days of the request (Penal Code § 679.10).

## **420.9 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.).

# Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

## 421.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office extend appropriate privileges and immunities to foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in accordance with international law.

## 421.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

## 421.3 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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### **421.4 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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## Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

### 421.5 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.

### 421.6 DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY TABLE

Reference table on diplomatic immunity:

Category	Arrested or Detained	Enter Residence Subject to Ordinary Procedures	Issued Traffic Citation	Subpoenaed as Witness	Prosecuted	Recognized Family Members
<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.

## Criminal Organizations

### 422.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Yolo County Sheriff's Office appropriately utilizes criminal intelligence systems and temporary information files to support investigations of criminal organizations and enterprises.

#### 422.1.1 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.

### 422.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 office to collect and share relevant information while respecting the privacy and legal rights of the public.

#### 422.2.1 IDENTIFICATION OF CRIMINAL STREET GANGS/PARTICIPANTS

The gang information unit shall be authorized to collect information on individuals who are suspected of participating in a criminal street gang and groups that are suspected of being criminal street gangs.

(A) A group of three or more individuals shall be designated a criminal street gang when:

- 1. They have a common name or common identifying sign or symbol.
- 2. There is evidence, substantiated by crime and informational reports, that a primary activity of the group is the commission of one or more criminal acts enumerated in Policy manual § 442.2 (a).
- 3. One or more members individually or collectively have engaged in a pattern of criminal gang activity as defined in Policy manual § 442.2 (a) of this policy.
- 4. A designated representative of the District Attorney's office reviews the available evidence and concurs with a department finding that the group meets the criteria for being a criminal street gang.

(B) An individual shall be designated as a participant in a criminal street gang and included in a gang file, when one or more of the following elements have been verified by a gang information unit member and a reasonable basis for believing such affiliation has been established and approved by a supervisor.

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- 1. An individual admits membership in a criminal street gang
- 2. A reliable informant or known gang member identifies an individual as a participant in a criminal street gang.
- 3. An informant of previously untested reliability identifies an individual as a participant in a criminal street gang when that identification is corroborated by independent information.
- 4. An individual resides in or frequents a particular criminal street gang's area, and affects their style of dress, color of dress, use of jewelry, tattoos, monikers, or any other identifiable mannerism associated to that particular criminal street gang, and where the officer documents reasonable suspicion that the individual is involved in criminal gang activity or enterprise.
- 5. A person has been arrested in the company of identified criminal street gang members for offenses that are consistent with criminal street gang activity or criminal street gang related crimes.
- 6. An individual is identified as a gang member in a criminal street gang document or the individual is depicted in a criminal street gang member's photograph(s) in such a manner as to clearly indicate membership in a criminal street gang.
- 7. An individual otherwise meets the criteria of a criminal street gang participant under the guidelines of a department approved gang intelligence database and/or 28 C.F.R. 23.20.

(C) An individual may be designated as a gang affiliate only when the individual is known to affiliate with active criminal gang members and an officer has established that there is reasonable suspicion that the individual is involved in criminal activity. An officer's belief must be premised upon reasoning and logic coupled with sound judgement based upon law enforcement experience, rather than a mere hunch or whim.

### **422.3 CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS**

No office member may create, submit to or obtain information from a criminal intelligence system unless the Sheriff has approved the system for office use.

Any criminal intelligence system approved for 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 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.



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### 422.3.1 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 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 Section. Any supporting documentation for an entry shall be retained by the Records Section 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 Section are appropriately marked as intelligence information. The Records Manager may not purge such documents without the approval of the designated supervisor.

### 422.3.2 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 (11 CCR 751.6).

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 Office, the basis for that designation, and the name of the agency that made the designation. The 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 office's decision within 30 days of receipt of the

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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 Section 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 Section 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).

### **422.4 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 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.

#### **422.4.1 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 office supervisor.
- (b) Should not be originals that would ordinarily be retained by the Records Section or Property and Evidence Section, but should be copies of, or references to, retained documents such as copies of reports, FI forms, Dispatch 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.

#### **422.4.2 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.

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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.

### **422.5 INFORMATION RECOGNITION**

Office 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:

- (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.

Office 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.

#### **422.5.1 REPORTING CRITERIA AND ROUTING**

Incidents that appear to be criminal street gang related shall be documented on a report form and shall at minimum include the following:

- (a) A description of any document, statements, actions, dress or other information that would tend to support the officer's belief that the incident may be related to the activities of a criminal street gang.
- (b) Whether any photographs were taken and a brief description of what they depict.
- (c) What physical evidence, if any, was observed, collected or booked.
- (d) A specific request to that a copy of the report be routed to the gang unit.

Any photographs taken or evidence collected shall be booked in accordance with current evidence booking procedures.

### **422.6 RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

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 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.

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### **422.7 CRIMINAL STREET GANGS**

The Investigations supervisor should ensure that there are an appropriate number of 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.

### **422.8 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.

#### **422.8.1 SHARED GANG DATABASE TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that members who are authorized users of a shared gang database receive the required training from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) or an instructor certified by the DOJ that includes comprehensive and standardized training on the use of shared gang databases, and any other associated training required by the Office (Penal Code § 186.36; 11 CCR 751.6).

## Homeless Persons

### 423.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that personnel understand the needs and rights of the homeless and to establish procedures to guide deputies during all contacts with the homeless, whether consensual or for enforcement purposes. The Yolo County Sheriff's Office recognizes that members of the homeless community are often in need of special protection and services. The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will address these needs in balance with the overall mission of this office. Therefore, deputies will consider the following when serving the homeless community.

#### 423.1.1 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services to all members of the community, while protecting the rights, dignity and private property of the homeless. Homelessness is not a crime and members of this office will not use homelessness solely as a basis for detention or law enforcement action.

### 423.2 FIELD CONTACTS

Deputies are encouraged to contact the homeless for purposes of rendering aid, support and for community-oriented policing purposes. Nothing in this policy is meant to dissuade a deputy from taking reasonable enforcement action when facts support a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity. However, when encountering a homeless person who has committed a non-violent misdemeanor and continued freedom is not likely to result in a continuation of the offense or a breach of the peace, deputies are encouraged to consider long-term solutions to problems that may relate to the homeless, such as shelter referrals and counseling in lieu of physical arrest.

Deputies should provide homeless persons with resource and assistance information whenever it is reasonably apparent that such services may be appropriate.

#### 423.2.1 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Homeless members of the community will receive the same level and quality of service provided to other members of the community. The fact that a victim or witness is homeless can, however, require special considerations for a successful investigation and prosecution. Deputies should consider the following when handling investigations involving homeless victims, witnesses or suspects:

- (a) Document alternate contact information. This may include obtaining addresses and phone numbers of relatives and friends.
- (b) Document places the homeless person may frequent.
- (c) Provide homeless victims with victim/witness resources when appropriate.
- (d) Obtain statements from all available witnesses in the event that a homeless victim is unavailable for a court appearance.
- (e) Consider whether the person may be a dependent adult or elder, and if so, proceed in accordance with the Senior and Disability Victimization Policy.

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- (f) Arrange for transportation for investigation-related matters, such as medical exams and court appearances.
- (g) Consider whether a crime should be reported and submitted for prosecution, even when a homeless victim indicates that he/she does not desire prosecution.

### **423.3 PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The personal property of homeless persons must not be treated differently than the property of other members of the public. Deputies should use reasonable care when handling, collecting and retaining the personal property of homeless persons and should not destroy or discard the personal property of a homeless person.

When a homeless person is arrested or otherwise removed from a public place, deputies should make reasonable accommodations to permit the person to lawfully secure his/her personal property. Otherwise, the personal property should be collected for safekeeping. If the arrestee has more personal property than can reasonably be collected and transported by the deputy, a supervisor should be consulted. The property should be photographed and measures should be taken to remove or secure the property. It will be the supervisor's responsibility to coordinate the removal and safekeeping of the property.

Deputies should not conduct or assist in clean-up operations of belongings that reasonably appear to be the property of homeless persons without the prior authorization of a supervisor.

Deputies who encounter unattended encampments, bedding or other personal property in public areas that reasonably appears to belong to a homeless person should not remove or destroy such property unless such property appears to involve a trespass, blight to the community or is the subject of a complaint.

### **423.4 MENTAL ILLNESS AND MENTAL IMPAIRMENT**

Some homeless persons may suffer from a mental illness or a mental impairment. Deputies shall not detain a homeless person under a mental illness commitment unless facts and circumstances warrant such a detention (see the Crisis Intervention Incidents Policy).

When a mental illness hold is not warranted, the contacting deputy should provide the homeless person with contact information for mental health assistance as appropriate. In these circumstances, deputies may provide transportation to a mental health specialist if requested by the person and approved by a supervisor.

### **423.5 ECOLOGICAL ISSUES**

Sometimes homeless encampments can impact the ecology and natural resources of the community and may involve criminal offenses beyond mere littering. Deputies are encouraged to notify other appropriate agencies or departments when a significant impact to the environment has or is likely to occur. Significant impacts to the environment may warrant a crime report, investigation, supporting photographs and supervisor notification.

## **Emergency Utility Service**

### **424.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The County Public Works Department has personnel available to handle emergency calls 24 hours per day. Calls for service during non-business hours are frequently directed to the Sheriff's Office. Requests for such service received by this department should be handled in the following manner.

#### **424.1.1 ELECTRICAL LINES**

When a power line poses a hazard, a deputy should be dispatched to protect against personal injury or property damage that might be caused by power lines. The Electric Company or Public Works should be promptly notified, as appropriate.

#### **424.1.2 EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

A current list of emergency personnel who are to be called for municipal utility emergencies is maintained by Dispatch.

### **424.2 TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE**

The County of Yolo contracts with a private maintenance company to furnish maintenance for all traffic signals within the County, other than those maintained by the State of California.

#### **424.2.1 OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITY**

Upon observing a damaged or malfunctioning signal, the deputy will advise the Dispatch of the location and problem with the signal. The dispatcher should make the necessary notification to the proper maintenance agency.

## Ride-Along Policy

### 425.1 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.

#### 425.1.1 ELIGIBILITY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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

#### 425.1.2 AVAILABILITY

The Ride-Along Program is available on most days of the week, with certain exceptions. The ride-along times are from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Exceptions to this schedule may be made as approved by the Sheriff, Division Commander, or Shift Supervisor. Generally the citizen observer/rider may only observe/ride-along for four (4) hours. With shift/section supervisor approval, the citizen observer/rider may observe/ride the entire shift.

### 425.2 PROCEDURE TO REQUEST A RIDE-ALONG

Generally, ride-along requests will be scheduled by a sergeant assigned by the Field Operations 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 assigned sergeant 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 Shift Supervisor 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.



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### *Ride-Along Policy*

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#### **425.2.1 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, Chaplains, Reserves, sheriff's applicants, and all others with approval of the Shift Supervisor.

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.

#### **425.2.2 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 Shift Supervisor or field supervisor may refuse a ride along to anyone not properly dressed.

#### **425.2.3 PEACE OFFICER RIDE-ALONGS**

Off-duty Yolo County Sheriff's Office deputy sheriffs are not permitted to ride-along with patrol deputies as citizen riders.

#### **425.2.4 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office) (CLETS Policies, Practices and Procedures Manual § 1.6.1.F.2.).

### **425.3 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 Shift Supervisor is responsible for maintaining and scheduling ride-alongs. Upon completion of the ride-along, the ride-along form shall be returned to the Shift Supervisor with any comments which may be offered by the deputy.

### **425.4 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

### **425.5 CITIZEN OBSERVERS/RIDERS UNDER DOCTOR'S CARE**

Citizens who are under a doctor's care and/or taking regular medication that will impair the senses will not be accepted for this program.

### **425.6 CITIZEN OBSERVER/RIDERS-DEPARTMENTAL MEMBER RESTRICTION**

- a. Family member citizen observers/riders under the age 16 may be approved by the shift/section supervisor.
- b. Family member citizen observers/riders shall in all cases complete the citizen observer/ rider application for statistical data.
- c. For family members under the age of 16, the application shall be accompanied by a memo from the shift/section supervisor authorizing the ride-along.

Department family members, girlfriends and boyfriends, etc. may observe/ride along only once every three months unless special permission has been granted by the Division Commander via the Chain of Command.

### **425.7 CITIZEN OBSERVER/RIDERS-SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The following persons may be considered for the Observer/Ride-Along Program but do not need to formally apply. They may ride with a Department member provided they have been authorized or assigned by the shift/section supervisor.

- a. Full time peace officers in civilian clothes.
- b. A Judge, District Attorney, or State/County Elected Official.

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When a citizen observer/rider is given a special consideration to ride the shift/section supervisor shall advise by memo the appropriate Division Commander via chain of command of the ride-along's name, date, time and reason for ride along.

### **425.8 CITIZEN OBSERVER/RIDER MEALS**

Citizen observers/riders will be required to provide their own meals, either from home or a restaurant.

### **425.9 CITIZEN OBSERVER/RIDERS- WEAPONS, CAMERAS ETC**

Citizen observers/riders will not be allowed to carry weapons or firearms, cameras, tape recorders, portable radios, or any device that would tend to distract the Department member. This rule shall apply to all participants including those who possess a valid license to carry a firearm. Peace officers may only possess a weapon with the approval of the shift/section supervisor and only if the firearm is concealed from view. Full time peace officers from agencies outside the County must be in appropriate civilian attire and not in uniform.

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# Field Training Officer Program

## 426.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

It is the policy of this 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.

## 426.2 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.

### 426.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS

FTOs will be selected based on the following requirements:

- (a) Desire to be an FTO
- (b) Minimum of two years of patrol experience, all of which shall be with this office
- (c) Demonstrated ability as a positive role model
- (d) Participate and pass an internal oral interview selection process per DSA MOU.
- (e) Evaluation by supervisors and current FTOs
- (f) Possess a POST Basic certificate

### 426.2.2 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.

## 426.3 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

The FTO Program supervisor should be selected from the rank of sergeant or above by the Field Operations Division Commander or a designee and should possess, or be eligible to receive, a POST Supervisory Certificate.

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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)).

### **426.4 TRAINEE DEFINED**

Any entry level or lateral sheriff's deputy newly appointed to the Yolo County Sheriff's Office who has successfully completed a POST approved Basic Academy.

### **426.5 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, but shall consist of a minimum of eight weeks.

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.

#### **426.5.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office. 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

### **426.6 EVALUATIONS**

Evaluations are an important component of the training process and shall be completed as outlined below.

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### 426.6.1 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.

### 426.6.2 IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR

The immediate supervisor shall review and approve the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations and forward them to the Field Training Administrator.

### 426.6.3 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.

### 426.6.4 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.

## **426.7 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

## Mobile Audio/Video

### 427.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office has equipped marked patrol cars with Mobile Audio/Video (MAV) recording systems to provide records of events and assist deputies in the performance of their duties. This policy provides guidance on the use of these systems.

#### 427.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Activate** - Any process that causes the MAV system to transmit or store video or audio data in an active mode.

**In-car camera system and Mobile Audio/Video (MAV) system** - Synonymous terms which refer to any system that captures audio and video signals, that is capable of installation in a vehicle, and that includes at minimum, a camera, microphone, recorder and monitor.

**MAV technician** - Personnel certified or trained in the operational use and repair of MAVs, duplicating methods, storage and retrieval methods and procedures, and who have a working knowledge of video forensics and evidentiary procedures.

**Recorded media** - Audio-video signals recorded or digitally stored on a storage device or portable media.

### 427.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to use mobile audio and video technology to more effectively fulfill the office's mission and to ensure these systems are used securely and efficiently.

### 427.3 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

At the start of each shift, deputies shall test the MAV system's operation in accordance with manufacturer specifications and office operating procedures and training. If the system is malfunctioning, the deputy shall take the vehicle out of service unless a supervisor requests the vehicle remain in service.

### 427.4 ACTIVATION OF THE MAV

The MAV system is designed to turn on whenever the unit's emergency lights are activated. The system remains on until it is turned off manually. The audio portion is independently controlled and should be activated manually by the deputy whenever appropriate. When audio is being recorded, the video will also record.

#### 427.4.1 REQUIRED ACTIVATION OF MAV

This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which the MAV system may be used, although there are many situations where its use is appropriate. A deputy may activate the system any time the deputy believes it would be appropriate or valuable to document an incident.

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### *Mobile Audio/Video*

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In some circumstances it is not possible to capture images of the incident due to conditions or the location of the camera. However, the audio portion can be valuable evidence and is subject to the same activation requirements as the MAV. The MAV system should be activated in any of the following situations:

- (a) All field contacts involving actual or potential criminal conduct within video or audio range:
  - 1. Traffic stops (to include, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance and all crime interdiction stops)
  - 2. Priority responses
  - 3. Vehicle pursuits
  - 4. Suspicious vehicles
  - 5. Arrests
  - 6. Vehicle searches
  - 7. Physical or verbal confrontations or use of force
  - 8. Pedestrian checks
  - 9. DWI/DUI investigations including field sobriety tests
  - 10. Consensual encounters
  - 11. Crimes in progress
  - 12. Responding to an in-progress call
- (b) All self-initiated activity in which a deputy would normally notify Dispatch
- (c) Any call for service involving a crime where the recorder may aid in the apprehension and/or prosecution of a suspect:
  - 1. Domestic violence calls
  - 2. Disturbance of peace calls
  - 3. Offenses involving violence or weapons
- (d) Any other contact that becomes adversarial after the initial contact in a situation that would not otherwise require recording
- (e) Any other circumstance where the deputy believes that a recording of an incident would be appropriate

#### 427.4.2 CESSATION OF RECORDING

Once activated, the MAV system should remain on until the incident has concluded. For purposes of this section, conclusion of an incident has occurred when all arrests have been made, arrestees have been transported and all witnesses and victims have been interviewed. Recording may cease if a deputy is simply waiting for a tow truck or a family member to arrive, or in other similar



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situations. Recordings may be deactivated when a deputy determines it is necessary to protect the privacy of confidential informants, minors or for other situations that serve to protect confidentiality.

#### **427.4.3 WHEN ACTIVATION IS NOT REQUIRED**

Activation of the MAV system is not required when exchanging information with other deputies or during breaks, lunch periods, when not in service or actively on patrol.

No member of this office may surreptitiously record a conversation of any other member of this office except with a court order or when lawfully authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee for the purpose of conducting a criminal or administrative investigation.

#### **427.4.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors should determine if vehicles with non-functioning MAV systems should be placed into service. If these vehicles are placed into service, the appropriate documentation should be made, including notification of Dispatch.

At reasonable intervals, supervisors should validate that:

- (a) Beginning and end-of-shift recording procedures are followed.
- (b) Logs reflect the proper chain of custody, including:
  - 1. The tracking number of the MAV system media.
  - 2. The date it was issued.
  - 3. The law enforcement operator or the vehicle to which it was issued.
  - 4. The date it was submitted.
  - 5. Law enforcement operators submitting the media.
  - 6. Holds for evidence indication and tagging as required.
- (c) The operation of MAV systems by new employees is assessed and reviewed no less than biweekly.

When an incident arises that requires the immediate retrieval of the recorded media (e.g., serious crime scenes, officer-involved shootings, office-involved collisions), a supervisor shall respond to the scene and ensure that the appropriate supervisor, MAV technician or crime scene investigator properly retrieves the recorded media. The media may need to be treated as evidence and should be handled in accordance with current evidence procedures for recorded media.

#### **427.5 REVIEW OF MAV RECORDINGS**

All recording media, recorded images and audio recordings are the property of the Office. Dissemination outside of the agency is strictly prohibited, except to the extent permitted or required by law.

To prevent damage to, or alteration of, the original recorded media, it shall not be copied, viewed or otherwise inserted into any device not approved by the office MAV technician or forensic media

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staff. When reasonably possible, a copy of the original media shall be used for viewing (unless otherwise directed by the courts) to preserve the original media.

Recordings may be reviewed in any of the following situations:

- (a) For use when preparing reports or statements
- (b) By a supervisor investigating a specific act of deputy conduct
- (c) To assess proper functioning of MAV systems
- (d) By office investigators who are participating in an official investigation, such as a personnel complaint, administrative inquiry or a criminal investigation
- (e) By a deputy who is captured on or referenced in the video or audio data and reviews and uses such data for any purpose relating to his/her employment
- (f) By court personnel through proper process or with permission of the Sheriff or the authorized designee
- (g) By the media through proper process or with permission of the Sheriff or the authorized designee
- (h) To assess possible training value
- (i) Recordings may be shown for training purposes. If an involved deputy objects to showing a recording, his/her objection will be submitted to the staff to determine if the training value outweighs the deputy's objection

Employees desiring to view any previously uploaded or archived MAV recording should submit a request in writing to the Shift Supervisor. Approved requests should be forwarded to the MAV technician for processing.

In no event shall any recording be used or shown for the purpose of ridiculing or embarrassing any employee.

### **427.6 DOCUMENTING MAV USE**

If any incident is recorded with either the video or audio system, the existence of that recording shall be documented in the deputy's report. If a citation is issued, the deputy shall make a notation on the back of the records copy of the citation, indicating that the incident was recorded.

### **427.7 RECORDING MEDIA STORAGE AND INTEGRITY**

The current MAV system wirelessly uploads audio/video directly to the secure server. Users are not required to manually transfer the data. All recording media that is not flagged as evidence will be retained for a minimum of one year after which time it will be erased, destroyed or recycled in accordance with the established records retention schedule (Government Code § 34090.6).

#### **427.7.1 COPIES OF ORIGINAL RECORDING MEDIA**

Original recording media shall not be used for any purpose other than for initial review by a supervisor. Upon proper request, a copy of the original recording media will be made for use as authorized in this policy.

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Original recording media may only be released in response to a court order or upon approval by the Sheriff or the authorized designee. In the event that an original recording is released to a court, a copy shall be made and placed in storage until the original is returned.

### **427.7.2 MAV RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE**

Deputies who reasonably believe that a MAV recording is likely to contain evidence relevant to a criminal offense, potential claim against the deputy or against the Yolo County Sheriff's Office should indicate this in an appropriate report. Deputies should ensure relevant recordings are preserved.

### **427.8 TRAINING**

All members who are authorized to use the MAV system shall successfully complete an approved course of instruction prior to its use.

## Mobile Digital Computer Use

### 428.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper access, use and application of the Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) 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 Dispatch.

### 428.2 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).

### 428.3 POLICY

Yolo County Sheriff's Office members using the MDC shall comply with all appropriate federal and state rules and regulations and shall use the MDC in a professional manner, in accordance with this policy.

### 428.4 RESTRICTED ACCESS AND USE

MDC use is subject to the Information Technology Use and Protected Information policies.

Members shall not access the MDC system if they have not received prior authorization and the required training. Members shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of the MDC by another member to their supervisors or Shift Supervisors.

Use of the MDC 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 MDC 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 MDC system unless directed to do so by a supervisor. Members are required to log off the MDC or secure the MDC when it is unattended. This added security measure will minimize the potential for unauthorized access or misuse.

#### 428.4.1 USE WHILE DRIVING

Use of the MDC 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.

### **428.5 DOCUMENTATION OF ACTIVITY**

Except as otherwise directed by the Shift Supervisor or other department-established protocol, all calls for service should be communicated by voice over the sheriff's radio as well as electronically via the MDC unless security or confidentiality prevents such broadcasting.

MDC 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 a priority activity or contact can not be initiated by voice, the member shall document it via the MDC.

#### **428.5.1 STATUS CHANGES**

All changes in status (e.g., arrival at scene, meal periods, in service) will be transmitted over the sheriff's radio.

Members responding to in-progress calls should advise changes in status over the radio to assist other members responding to the same incident.

### **428.6 EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **428.6.1 MALFUNCTIONING MDC**

Whenever possible, members will not use vehicles with malfunctioning MDCs. Whenever members must drive a vehicle in which the MDC is not working, they shall notify Dispatch. It shall be the responsibility of the dispatcher to document all information that will then be transmitted verbally over the sheriff's radio.

#### **428.6.2 BOMB CALLS**

When investigating reports of possible bombs, members should not communicate on their MDCs when in the evacuation area of a suspected explosive device. Radio frequency emitted by the MDC could cause some devices to detonate.

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## Portable Audio/Video Recorders

### 429.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use of portable audio/video recording devices by members of this office while in the performance of their duties. Portable audio/video recording devices include all recording systems whether body-worn, hand held or integrated into portable equipment.

This policy does not apply to mobile audio/video recordings, interviews or interrogations conducted at any Yolo County Sheriff's Office facility, authorized undercover operations, wiretaps or eavesdropping (concealed listening devices).

### 429.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Office by accurately capturing contacts between members of the Office and the public.

### 429.3 MEMBER PRIVACY EXPECTATION

All recordings made by members on any office-issued device at any time, and any recording made while acting in an official capacity for this office, regardless of ownership of the device it was made on, shall remain the property of the Office. Members shall have no expectation of privacy or ownership interest in the content of these recordings.

### 429.4 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 Dispatch
- (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

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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.

### **429.4.1 SURREPTITIOUS USE OF THE PORTABLE RECORDER**

Members of the Office 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 office member without a court order unless lawfully authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

### **429.4.2 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).

### **429.4.3 EXPLOSIVE DEVICE**

Many portable recorders, including body-worn cameras and audio/video transmitters, emit radio waves that could trigger an explosive device. Therefore, these devices should not be used where an explosive device may be present.

### **429.5 PROHIBITED USE OF PORTABLE RECORDERS**

Members are prohibited from using office-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 office-issued or personally owned recorders. Members shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for authorized legitimate office business purposes. All such recordings shall be retained at the Office.

Members are prohibited from using personally owned recording devices while on-duty without the express consent of the Shift Supervisor. Any member who uses a personally owned recorder for office-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.

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Recordings shall not be used by any member for the purpose of embarrassment, harassment or ridicule.

#### 429.5.1 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).

#### **429.6 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.

#### 429.6.1 RETENTION REQUIREMENTS

All recordings shall 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.

#### **429.7 REVIEW OF RECORDED MEDIA FILES**

When preparing written reports, members should review their recordings as a resource (see the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy for guidance in those cases). 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:



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- (a) Upon approval by a supervisor, by any member of the Office 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.

#### **429.8 COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall appoint a member of the Office 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.
- (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.

#### **429.9 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office

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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).

### 429.9.1 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.

## Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

### 430.1 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.

### 430.2 ADMINISTRATION

The ALPR technology, also known as License Plate Recognition (LPR), allows for the automated detection of license plates. It is used by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Field Operations Division Commander. The Field Operations Division Commander will assign members under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

#### 430.2.1 ALPR ADMINISTRATOR

The Field Operations 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.

### 430.3 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.

## *Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)*

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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.

### **430.4 DATA COLLECTION AND RETENTION**

The Field Operations Division Commander is responsible for ensuring systems and processes are in place for the proper collection and retention of ALPR data. Data will be transferred from vehicles to the designated storage in accordance with department procedures.

All ALPR data downloaded to the server should be stored for a minimum of one year (Government Code § 34090.6) and in accordance with the established records retention schedule. Thereafter, ALPR data should be purged unless it has become, or it is reasonable to believe it will become, evidence in a criminal or civil action or is subject to a discovery request or other lawful action to produce records. In those circumstances the applicable data should be downloaded from the server onto portable media and booked into evidence.

### **430.5 ACCOUNTABILITY**

All data will be closely safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

- (a) All ALPR data downloaded to the mobile workstation and in storage shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time (Civil Code § 1798.90.52).
- (b) Members 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.

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## *Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)*

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- (c) ALPR system audits should be conducted on a regular basis.

For security or data breaches, see the Records Release and Maintenance Policy.

### **430.6 POLICY**

The policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### **430.7 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, using the following procedures:

- (a) The agency makes a written request for the ALPR data that includes:
  1. The name of the agency.
  2. The name of the person requesting.
  3. The intended purpose of obtaining the information.
- (b) The request is reviewed by the Field Operations Division Commander or the authorized designee and approved before the request is fulfilled.
- (c) The approved request is retained on file.

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).

### **430.8 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).

## Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity

### 431.1 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.

### 431.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office recognizes the right of persons to lawfully record members of this department who are performing their official duties. 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.

### 431.3 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 has the legal right to be present (Penal Code § 69; Penal Code § 148).
- (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.

### 431.4 DEPUTY RESPONSE

Deputies should promptly request that 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.

Whenever practicable, deputies or supervisors should give clear and concise warnings to individuals who are conducting themselves in a manner that would cause their recording or

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behavior to be unlawful. Accompanying the warnings 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.

### **431.5 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. When practical, the encounter should be recorded.
- (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.

### **431.6 SEIZING RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE**

Deputies should not seize recording devices or media unless (42 USC § 2000aa):

- (a) There is probable cause to believe the person recording has committed or is committing a crime to which the recording relates, and the recording is reasonably necessary for prosecution of the person.
  1. Absent 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.
  1. To ensure that the consent is voluntary, the request should not be made in a threatening or coercive manner.
  2. 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. Another way to obtain the

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evidence is to transmit a copy of the recording from a device to a department-owned device.

Recording devices and media that are seized will be submitted within the guidelines of the Property and Evidence Policy.



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# First Amendment Assemblies

## 432.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for responding to public assemblies or demonstrations.

## 432.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office respects the rights of people to peaceably assemble. It is the policy of this office not to unreasonably interfere with, harass, intimidate or discriminate against persons engaged in the lawful exercise of their rights, while also preserving the peace, protecting life and preventing the destruction of property.

## 432.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Individuals or groups present on the public way, such as public facilities, streets or walkways, generally have the right to assemble, rally, demonstrate, protest or otherwise express their views and opinions through varying forms of communication, including the distribution of printed matter. These rights may be limited by laws or ordinances regulating such matters as the obstruction of individual or vehicle access or egress, trespass, noise, picketing, distribution of handbills and leafleting, and loitering. However, deputies shall not take action or fail to take action based on the opinions being expressed.

Participant behavior during a demonstration or other public assembly can vary. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Lawful, constitutionally protected actions and speech.
- Civil disobedience (typically involving minor criminal acts).
- Rioting.

All of these behaviors may be present during the same event. Therefore, it is imperative that law enforcement actions are measured and appropriate for the behaviors deputies may encounter. This is particularly critical if force is being used. Adaptable strategies and tactics are essential. The purpose of a law enforcement presence at the scene of public assemblies and demonstrations should be to preserve the peace, to protect life and prevent the destruction of property.

Deputies should not:

- (a) Engage in assembly or demonstration-related discussion with participants.
- (b) Harass, confront or intimidate participants.
- (c) Seize the cameras, cell phones or materials of participants or observers unless a deputy is placing a person under lawful arrest.

Supervisors should continually observe office members under their commands to ensure that members' interaction with participants and their response to crowd dynamics is appropriate.

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### 432.3.1 PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO RECORDINGS

Photographs and video recording, when appropriate, can serve a number of purposes, including support of criminal prosecutions by documenting criminal acts; assistance in evaluating office performance; serving as training material; recording the use of dispersal orders; and facilitating a response to allegations of improper law enforcement conduct.

Photographs and videos will not be used or retained for the sole purpose of collecting or maintaining information about the political, religious or social views of associations, or the activities of any individual, group, association, organization, corporation, business or partnership, unless such information directly relates to an investigation of criminal activities and there is reasonable suspicion that the subject of the information is involved in criminal conduct.

### 432.4 UNPLANNED EVENTS

When responding to an unplanned or spontaneous public gathering, the first responding deputy should conduct an assessment of conditions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Location
- Number of participants
- Apparent purpose of the event
- Leadership (whether it is apparent and/or whether it is effective)
- Any initial indicators of unlawful or disruptive activity
- Indicators that lawful use of public facilities, streets or walkways will be impacted
- Ability and/or need to continue monitoring the incident

Initial assessment information should be promptly communicated to Dispatch, and the assignment of a supervisor should be requested. Additional resources should be requested as appropriate. The responding supervisor shall assume command of the incident until command is expressly assumed by another, and the assumption of command is communicated to the involved members. A clearly defined command structure that is consistent with the Incident Command System (ICS) should be established as resources are deployed.

### 432.5 PLANNED EVENT PREPARATION

For planned events, comprehensive, incident-specific operational plans should be developed. The ICS should be considered for such events.

#### 432.5.1 INFORMATION GATHERING AND ASSESSMENT

In order to properly assess the potential impact of a public assembly or demonstration on public safety and order, relevant information should be collected and vetted. This may include:

- Information obtained from outreach to group organizers or leaders.
- Information about past and potential unlawful conduct associated with the event or similar events.

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## *First Amendment Assemblies*

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- The potential time, duration, scope, and type of planned activities.
- Any other information related to the goal of providing a balanced response to criminal activity and the protection of public safety interests.

Information should be obtained in a transparent manner, and the sources documented. Relevant information should be communicated to the appropriate parties in a timely manner.

Information will be obtained in a lawful manner and will not be based solely on the purpose or content of the assembly or demonstration, or actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability of the participants (or any other characteristic that is unrelated to criminal conduct or the identification of a criminal subject).

### 432.5.2 OPERATIONAL PLANS

An operational planning team with responsibility for event planning and management should be established. The planning team should develop an operational plan for the event.

The operational plan will minimally provide for:

- (a) Command assignments, chain of command structure, roles and responsibilities.
- (b) Staffing and resource allocation.
- (c) Management of criminal investigations.
- (d) Designation of uniform of the day and related safety equipment (e.g., helmets, shields).
- (e) Deployment of specialized resources.
- (f) Event communications and interoperability in a multijurisdictional event.
- (g) Liaison with demonstration leaders and external agencies.
- (h) Liaison with County government and legal staff.
- (i) Media relations.
- (j) Logistics: food, fuel, replacement equipment, duty hours, relief and transportation.
- (k) Traffic management plans.
- (l) First aid and emergency medical service provider availability.
- (m) Prisoner transport and detention.
- (n) Review of policies regarding public assemblies and use of force in crowd control.
- (o) Parameters for declaring an unlawful assembly.
- (p) Arrest protocol, including management of mass arrests.
- (q) Protocol for recording information flow and decisions.
- (r) Rules of engagement, including rules of conduct, protocols for field force extraction and arrests, and any authorization required for the use of force.
- (s) Protocol for handling complaints during the event.

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- (t) Parameters for the use of body-worn cameras and other portable recording devices.

### 432.5.3 MUTUAL AID AND EXTERNAL RESOURCES

The magnitude and anticipated duration of an event may necessitate interagency cooperation and coordination. The assigned Incident Commander should ensure that any required memorandums of understanding or other agreements are properly executed, and that any anticipated mutual aid is requested and facilitated (see the Mutual Aid and Outside Agency Assistance Policy).

### 432.6 UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY DISPERSAL ORDERS

If a public gathering or demonstration remains peaceful and nonviolent, and there is no reasonably imminent threat to persons or property, the Incident Commander should generally authorize continued monitoring of the event.

Should the Incident Commander make a determination that public safety is presently or is about to be jeopardized, he/she or the authorized designee should attempt to verbally persuade event organizers or participants to disperse of their own accord. Warnings and advisements may be communicated through established communications links with leaders and/or participants or to the group.

When initial attempts at verbal persuasion are unsuccessful, the Incident Commander or the authorized designee should make a clear standardized announcement to the gathering that the event is an unlawful assembly, and should order the dispersal of the participants. The announcement should be communicated by whatever methods are reasonably available to ensure that the content of the message is clear and that it has been heard by the participants. The announcement should be amplified, made in different languages as appropriate, made from multiple locations in the affected area and documented by audio and video. The announcement should provide information about what law enforcement actions will take place if illegal behavior continues and should identify routes for egress. A reasonable time to disperse should be allowed following a dispersal order.

### 432.7 USE OF FORCE

Use of force is governed by current office policy and applicable law (see the Use of Force, Handcuffing and Restraints, Control Devices and Techniques, and Conducted Energy Device policies).

Individuals refusing to comply with lawful orders (e.g., nonviolent refusal to disperse) should be given a clear verbal warning and a reasonable opportunity to comply. If an individual refuses to comply with lawful orders, the Incident Commander shall evaluate the type of resistance and adopt a reasonable response in order to accomplish the law enforcement mission (such as dispersal or arrest of those acting in violation of the law). Control devices and TASER® devices should be considered only when the participants' conduct reasonably appears to present the potential to harm deputies, themselves or others, or will result in substantial property loss or damage (see the Control Devices and Techniques and the Conducted Energy Device policies).

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Force or control devices, including oleoresin capsaicin (OC), should be directed toward individuals and not toward groups or crowds, unless specific individuals cannot reasonably be targeted due to extreme circumstances, such as a riotous crowd.

Any use of force by a member of this office shall be documented promptly, completely and accurately in an appropriate report. The type of report required may depend on the nature of the incident.

### **432.8 ARRESTS**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office should respond to unlawful behavior in a manner that is consistent with the operational plan. If practicable, warnings or advisements should be communicated prior to arrest.

Mass arrests should be employed only when alternate tactics and strategies have been, or reasonably appear likely to be, unsuccessful. Mass arrests shall only be undertaken upon the order of the Incident Commander or the authorized designee. There must be probable cause for each arrest.

If employed, mass arrest protocols should fully integrate:

- (a) Reasonable measures to address the safety of deputies and arrestees.
- (b) Dedicated arrest, booking and report writing teams.
- (c) Timely access to medical care.
- (d) Timely access to legal resources.
- (e) Timely processing of arrestees.
- (f) Full accountability for arrestees and evidence.
- (g) Coordination and cooperation with the prosecuting authority, jail and courts (see the Cite and Release Policy).

### **432.9 MEDIA RELATIONS**

The Public Information Officer should use all available avenues of communication, including press releases, briefings, press conferences, and social media to maintain open channels of communication with media representatives and the public about the status and progress of the event, taking all opportunities to reassure the public about the professional management of the event (see the Media Relations Policy).

### **432.10 DEMOBILIZATION**

When appropriate, the Incident Commander or the authorized designee should implement a phased and orderly withdrawal of law enforcement resources. All relieved personnel should promptly complete any required reports, including use of force reports, and account for all issued equipment and vehicles to their supervisors prior to returning to normal operational duties.

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### **432.11 POST EVENT**

The Incident Commander should designate a member to assemble full documentation of the event, to include the following:

- (a) Operational plan
- (b) Any incident logs
- (c) Any assignment logs
- (d) Vehicle, fuel, equipment and supply records
- (e) Incident, arrest, use of force, injury and property damage reports
- (f) Photographs, audio/video recordings, Dispatch records/tapes
- (g) Media accounts (print and broadcast media)

#### **432.11.1 AFTER-ACTION REPORTING**

The Incident Commander should work with County legal counsel, as appropriate, to prepare a comprehensive after-action report of the event, explaining all incidents where force was used including the following:

- (a) Date, time and description of the event
- (b) Actions taken and outcomes (e.g., injuries, property damage, arrests)
- (c) Problems identified
- (d) Significant events
- (e) Recommendations for improvement; opportunities for training should be documented in a generic manner, without identifying individuals or specific incidents, facts or circumstances.

### **432.12 TRAINING**

Office members should receive periodic training regarding this policy, as well as the dynamics of crowd control and incident management (Penal Code § 13514.5). The Office should, when practicable, train with its external and mutual aid partners.

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## Civil Disputes

### 433.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office with guidance for addressing conflicts between persons when no criminal investigation or enforcement action is warranted (e.g., civil matters), with the goal of minimizing any potential for violence or criminal acts.

The Domestic Violence Policy will address specific legal mandates related to domestic violence court orders. References in this policy to "court orders" apply to any order of a court that does not require arrest or enforcement by the terms of the order or by California law.

### 433.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office recognizes that a law enforcement presence at a civil dispute can play an important role in the peace and safety of the community. Subject to available resources, members of this department will assist at the scene of civil disputes with the primary goal of safeguarding persons and property, preventing criminal activity and maintaining the peace. When handling civil disputes, members will remain impartial, maintain a calm presence, give consideration to all sides and refrain from giving legal or inappropriate advice.

### 433.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

When appropriate, members handling a civil dispute should encourage the involved parties to seek the assistance of resolution services or take the matter to the civil courts. Members must not become personally involved in disputes and shall at all times remain impartial.

While not intended to be an exhaustive list, members should give considerations to the following when handling civil disputes:

- (a) Civil disputes tend to be confrontational and members should be alert that they can escalate to violence very quickly. De-escalation techniques should be used when appropriate.
- (b) Members should not dismiss alleged or observed criminal violations as a civil matter and should initiate the appropriate investigation and report when criminal activity is apparent.
- (c) Members shall not provide legal advice, however, when appropriate, members should inform the parties when they are at risk of violating criminal laws.
- (d) Members are reminded that they shall not enter a residence or other non-public location without legal authority including valid consent.
- (e) Members should not take an unreasonable amount of time assisting in these matters and generally should contact a supervisor if it appears that peacekeeping efforts longer than 30 minutes are warranted.

## *Civil Disputes*

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### **433.4 COURT ORDERS**

Disputes involving court orders can be complex. Where no mandate exists for a deputy to make an arrest for a violation of a court order, the matter should be addressed by documenting any apparent court order violation in a report. If there appears to be a more immediate need for enforcement action, the investigating deputy should consult a supervisor prior to making any arrest.

If a person appears to be violating the terms of a court order but is disputing the validity of the order or its applicability, the investigating deputy should document the following:

- (a) The person's knowledge of the court order or whether proof of service exists.
- (b) Any specific reason or rationale the involved person offers for not complying with the terms of the order.

A copy of the court order should be attached to the report when available. The report should be forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. The report should also be forwarded to the court issuing the order with a notice that the report was also forwarded to the prosecutor for review.

#### **433.4.1 STANDBY REQUESTS**

Deputy responding to a call for standby assistance to retrieve property should meet the person requesting assistance at a neutral location to discuss the process. The person should be advised that items that are disputed will not be allowed to be removed. The member may advise the person to seek private legal advice as to the distribution of disputed property.

Members should accompany the person to the location of the property. Members should ask if the other party will allow removal of the property or whether the other party would remove the property.

If the other party is uncooperative, the person requesting standby assistance should be instructed to seek private legal advice and obtain a court order to obtain the items. Deputies should not order the other party to allow entry or the removal of any items. If there is a restraining or similar order against the person requesting standby assistance, that person should be asked to leave the scene or they may be subject to arrest for violation of the order.

If the other party is not present at the location, the member will not allow entry into the location or the removal of property from the location.

### **433.5 VEHICLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Deputies may be faced with disputes regarding possession or ownership of vehicles or other personal property. Deputies may review documents provided by parties or available databases (e.g., vehicle registration), but should be aware that legal possession of vehicles or personal property can be complex. Generally, deputies should not take any enforcement action unless a crime is apparent. The people and the vehicle or personal property involved should be identified and the incident documented.

### **433.6 REAL PROPERTY**

Disputes over possession or occupancy of real property (e.g., land, homes, apartments) should generally be handled through a person seeking a court order.



*Civil Disputes*

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## Medical Marijuana

### 434.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of this office with guidelines for investigating the acquisition, possession, transportation, delivery, production or use of marijuana under California's medical marijuana laws.

#### 434.1.1 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).

## *Medical Marijuana*

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### **434.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office will exercise discretion to ensure laws are appropriately enforced without unreasonably burdening both those individuals protected under California law and public resources.

### **434.3 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.

#### **434.3.1 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.

#### **434.3.2 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.

## *Medical Marijuana*

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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.

### 434.3.3 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).

### 434.3.4 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.

## Medical Marijuana

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4. Other relevant factors, such as available 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.

### 434.3.5 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).

### **434.3.6 INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING A STATE LICENSEE**

No person issued a state license under the Business and Professions Code shall be arrested or cited for cultivation, possession, manufacture, processing, storing, laboratory testing, labeling, transporting, distribution or sale of medical cannabis or a medical cannabis product related to qualifying patients and primary caregivers when conducted lawfully. Whether conduct is lawful may involve questions of license classifications, local ordinances, specific requirements of the Business and Professions Code and adopted regulations. Deputies should consider conferring with a supervisor, the applicable state agency or other member with special knowledge in this area and/or appropriate legal counsel before taking enforcement action against a licensee or an employee or agent (Business and Professions Code § 26032).

### **434.4 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.

### **434.5 PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE SECTION SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Property and Evidence Section supervisor should ensure that marijuana, drug paraphernalia or other related property seized from a person engaged or assisting in the use of medical marijuana is not destroyed pending any charges and without a court order. The Property and Evidence Section supervisor is not responsible for caring for live marijuana plants.

Upon the prosecutor's decision to forgo prosecution, or the dismissal of charges or an acquittal, the Property and Evidence Section supervisor should, as soon as practicable, return to the person from whom it was seized any useable medical marijuana, plants, drug paraphernalia or other related property.

The Property and Evidence Section supervisor may release marijuana to federal law enforcement authorities upon presentation of a valid court order or by a written order of the Investigations supervisor.

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## Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA)

### 435.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the collection of data pursuant to California Government Code Section 12525.5, known as the Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA).

### 435.2 POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to collect and report data to the California Department of Justice in accordance with RIPA, which requires deputies to complete an entry for each individual detained or searched during a call for service or self-initiated activity.

### 435.3 REPORTING OF STOPS

Unless an exception applies under 11 CCR 999.227, 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office is the primary agency, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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).

### 435.4 RIPA COORDINATOR

The RIPA Coordinator shall ensure that all RIPA data is provided to the California Department of Justice as required for annual reporting in accordance with Government Code 12525.5. The coordinator will be tasked with creating, managing and creating new and current user accounts. The coordinator will ensure that department trainings are conducted and employees are complying with the reporting requirements as set forth by DOJ.

### 435.5 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) Deputies shall complete a RIPA entry for every individual detained and or searched via the RIPA Log app or RIPA Log web browser. If there is an issue with technology a written STOP Data Collection Form can be completed and the information will be transferred over to the electronic reporting system once the system is up and running.
- (b) Deputies shall complete RIPA entries at the end of the call for service or stop unless exigent circumstances exist. All entries shall be completed by end of shift.
- (c) Deputies shall advise dispatch of their time completing the RIPA entries at the beginning and end of entry for time tracking purposes.

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### *Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA)*

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- (d) Deputies shall contact the RIPA Coordinator with any issues using the RIPA Log app or RIPA web browser immediately.
- (e) For RIPA related definitions, law enforcement agencies subject to Government Code Section 12525.5, data elements to be reported, reporting requirements, technical specifications and uniform reporting practices, and audits and validation refer to CCR Title 11 Chapter 19.

#### **435.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) Supervisors shall approve RIPA entries daily for their assigned deputies with all entries approved by the end of the week, prior to going off shift.
- (b) Supervisors shall conduct routine compliance checks by selecting random stops and calls for service for their team members through CAD and compare the CAD logs with other materials to include WatchGuard videos, crime or incident reports, personal knowledge of calls and stops to ensure there are associated RIPA entries.
- (c) Supervisors shall generate a compliance report biweekly and submit that report via memo to the Field Operations Commander identifying missing or incomplete RIPA entries.
- (d) Supervisors shall address missing or incomplete RIPA entries with their deputies.
- (e) Supervisors shall ensure the deputy completes the missing or incomplete RIPA entry during their next assigned shift.
- (f) Supervisors and OICs shall notify other supervisors when they have RIPA entries that need approval in the absence of the shift supervisor. Sergeants and above will have access to approve or reject RIPA entries.



## 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 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:

#### 500.2.1 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.

#### 500.2.2 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

#### 500.2.3 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

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- (d) Refusal to sign notice to appear
- (e) Any other misdemeanor at the discretion of the deputy, such as reckless driving with extenuating circumstances

### **500.3 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.

### **500.4 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).

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.

#### **500.4.1 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.

#### **500.4.2 CARE AND STORAGE OF HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS**

High-visibility vests shall be maintained in each patrol equipment bag. 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.

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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 Citations

### 501.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy outlines the responsibility for traffic citations, the procedure for dismissal, correction, and voiding of traffic citations.

### 501.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

A Patrol Lieutenant shall be responsible for the development and design of all Office traffic citations in compliance with state law and the Judicial Council.

A Patrol Lieutenant shall be responsible for the supply and accounting of all traffic citations issued to employees of this office.

### 501.3 THUMBPRINT ON CITATIONS

During those occasions when a member issues a citation to an individual who cannot provide satisfactory evidence of identification, the individual shall be required to provide a thumbprint on the back of the citation (California Vehicle code 40504 (a)). In cases requiring a print, the right thumb shall be used unless a physical deformity exists, at which time the left thumb shall be used.

### 501.4 DISMISSAL OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Employees of this office 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 court. Upon a review of the circumstances involving the issuance of the traffic citation, the court may dismiss the traffic citation.

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 Field Operations Division Commander for review.

### 501.5 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 Records Section.

### 501.6 CORRECTION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

When a traffic citation is issued and in need of correction, the deputy issuing the citation shall submit the citation and a letter requesting a specific correction to his/her immediate supervisor.

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Upon approval, the citation and letter shall then be forwarded to the court having jurisdiction and to the recipient of the citation.

### **501.7 DISPOSITION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

The court and file copies of all traffic citations issued by members of this office shall be forwarded to the employee's immediate supervisor for review. The citation copies shall then be filed with the Records Section.

Upon separation from employment with this office, all employees issued traffic citation books shall return any unused citations to the Patrol Lieutenant.

### **501.8 NOTICE OF PARKING VIOLATION APPEAL PROCEDURE**

Disposition of notice of parking violation appeals is conducted pursuant to Vehicle Code § 40215.

#### **501.8.1 APPEAL STAGES**

Appeals may be pursued sequentially at three different levels:

- (a) Administrative reviews are conducted by the Patrol Lieutenant who will review written/documentary data. Requests for administrative reviews are available at the front desk of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office. 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.

#### **501.8.2 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)).

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- (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 § 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; Vehicle Code § 40210).

### 501.8.3 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.

### 501.9 JUVENILE CITATIONS

Completion of traffic citation forms for juveniles may vary slightly from the procedure for adults. The juvenile's age, place of residency, and the type of offense should be considered before issuing the juvenile a citation.

## Disabled Vehicles

### 502.1 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.

### 502.2 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 assign another available deputy to respond for assistance as soon as practical.

### 502.3 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.

#### 502.3.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Department personnel shall 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.

#### 502.3.2 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.

#### 502.3.3 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.

### 502.4 PUBLIC ACCESS TO THIS POLICY

This written policy is available upon request.



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## Traffic Collision Reporting

### 503.-2 REPORTING SITUATIONS

#### 503.-2.1 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS INVOLVING COUNTY VEHICLES

Traffic collision investigation reports shall be taken by the law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the collision occurred when a County-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision upon a roadway or highway wherein any damage or injury results. 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.

#### 503.-2.2 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH SHERIFF'S OFFICE EMPLOYEES

When an employee of this department, either on-duty or off-duty, is involved in a traffic collision within the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office resulting in a serious injury or fatality, the Patrol Lieutenant or the Shift Supervisor, shall notify the California Highway Patrol for assistance.

The term serious injury is defined as any injury that may result in a fatality.

#### 503.-2.2 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON ROADWAYS OR HIGHWAYS

An Incident 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
- (c) When a report is requested by any involved driver

#### 503.-2.3 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH OTHER COUNTY EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIALS

The Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty Shift Supervisor 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.

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## **In-House traffic accident investigation**

### **504.1 PROCEDURES** **ACCIDENT SCENE INVESTIGATION**

The investigation of a traffic accident involving a Department vehicle will be handled by the California Highway Patrol in unincorporated areas of Yolo County or by the police agency in whose jurisdiction the accident occurred.

The appropriate supervisory Officer will respond to the scene of the accident.

The Section Supervisor will notify the Undersheriff via the chain of command immediately of any on or off duty accident involving Department personnel where serious injury or death occurs.

### **REPORTS THAT SHALL BE SUBMITTED**

The member involved in a traffic accident with a Department vehicle shall submit a memo to their Division Commander giving the details of the accident. This report shall be submitted within twenty-four hours of the accident unless the member has suffered injuries that would impair his/her ability to complete such a report.

The Supervisor who responded to the scene of the accident will submit a memo to their Division Commander giving the details and observations of the accident. This report shall be submitted within twenty-four hours of the accident. A copy of the accident report will be requested by the duty Supervisor from the agency handling the investigation.

### **DUTIES OF SUPERVISORS IN ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION CASES**

- a. The Section Supervisor shall review the accident report as well as the required memos
- b. The Section Supervisor shall obtain the involved member's driving record from the Department of Motor Vehicles. This record will become part of the member's accident file maintained by the Legal Services Section as an Administrative file.
- c. All accident cases shall be reviewed by the section Supervisor and recommendations based on the review will be made in writing to the Division Commander.

The recommendation shall address whether the accident was preventable or non- preventable.

- a. If non-preventable – the recommendation should be that of “NO FURTHER ACTION”.
- b. If preventable - the recommendation should be that degree of correctional procedure which is deemed necessary by the reviewing Supervisor.

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### *In-House traffic accident investigation*

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- c. If negligence is involved – the Supervisor shall make their recommendation based on their evaluation of the degree of negligence.
- d. The Division Commanders shall review the accident and the reports and evaluate the recommendations. If Division Commander concurs with the recommendations, they will notify the reporting Supervisor. If the Division Commander disagrees with the recommendations or review, they will notify the Supervisor of actions to be taken.
- e. It is an option of the Office of the Sheriff to authorize further investigation or review of the case or to accept or modify the findings or recommendations from the Division.

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## Vehicle Towing and Release

### 505.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides the procedures for towing a vehicle by or at the direction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office. Nothing in this policy shall require the Office to tow a vehicle.

### 505.2 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.

#### 505.2.1 VEHICLE STORAGE REPORT

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 be given to the tow truck operator and the original shall be submitted to the Records Section as soon as practicable after the vehicle is stored.

#### 505.2.2 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 Dispatch.

If the owner is incapacitated, or for any reason it is necessary for the 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 Yolo. The deputy will then store the vehicle using a CHP Form 180.

#### 505.2.3 STORAGE AT ARREST SCENES

Whenever a person in charge or in control of a vehicle is arrested, it is the policy of this 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).

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.

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### *Vehicle Towing and Release*

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- 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 Office will not be responsible for theft or damages.

#### 505.2.4 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.

#### 505.2.5 DRIVING A NON-CITY VEHICLE

Vehicles which have been towed by or at the direction of the 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.

#### 505.2.6 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.

#### 505.2.7 RECORDS SECTION 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 Shift Supervisor 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.

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### *Vehicle Towing and Release*

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Within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays, of the storage of any such vehicle it shall be the responsibility of the Records Section 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 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.

#### **505.3 TOWING SERVICES**

The County of Yolo 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 from the streets of vehicles obstructing traffic in violation of state or local regulations.

#### **505.4 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 Office against fraudulent claims of lost, stolen, or damaged property.

#### **505.5 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.

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## *Vehicle Towing and Release*

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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.

### **505.6 RELEASE OF VEHICLE**

The 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 requiring the registered owner or his/her agent to request a hearing, as described in the Vehicle Impound Hearings Policy.

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## Vehicle Impound Hearings

### 506.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a procedure for the requirement to provide vehicle storage or impound hearings pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22852.

### 506.2 STORED OR IMPOUND HEARING

When a vehicle is stored or impounded by any member of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, 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); Vehicle Code § 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)).

#### 506.2.1 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 Patrol 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



## *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

### 507.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to those office members who play a role in the detection and investigation of driving or boating under the influence (DUI, BUI).

### 507.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office is committed to the safety of the roadways, waterways, and the community and will pursue fair but aggressive enforcement of California's impaired driving laws.

### 507.3 INVESTIGATIONS

Deputies should not enforce DUI laws to the exclusion of their other duties unless specifically assigned to DUI enforcement. All deputies are expected to enforce these laws with due diligence.

### 507.4 FIELD TESTS

The Patrol Lieutenant should identify standardized FSTs and any approved alternate tests for deputies to use when investigating violations of DUI and BUI laws.

### 507.5 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.

#### 507.5.1 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).

## *Impaired Driving*

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A person arrested for DUI or BUI 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.

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), Harbors and Navigation Code 655.1(n)).

### 507.5.2 BREATH SAMPLES

The Patrol 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 Patrol 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, Harbors and Navigation Code 655.1(f)).

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), Harbors and Navigation Code 655.1(e)).

### 507.5.3 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.

## *Impaired Driving*

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### 507.5.4 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.

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.

### 507.5.5 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), Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(4), and Harbors and Navigation Code 655.1.

### 507.5.6 PRELIMINARY ALCOHOL SCREENING

Deputies may use a preliminary alcohol screening (PAS) test to assist in establishing reasonable cause to believe a person is DUI or BUI. 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, Harbors and Navigation Code 655.1).

### 507.5.7 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 or vessel 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).

## **507.6 REFUSALS**

When an arrestee refuses to provide a viable chemical sample, deputies should:

- (a) Advise the arrestee of the requirement to provide a sample (Vehicle Code § 23612, Harbors and Navigation 655.1).
- (b) Audio- and/or video-record the admonishment when it is practicable.
- (c) Document the refusal in the appropriate report.

## *Impaired Driving*

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### 507.6.1 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.

### 507.6.2 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.

### **507.6.3 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)).

### **507.7 RECORDS SECTION 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.

### **507.8 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.

### **507.9 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that deputies participating in the enforcement of DUI and BUI 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.

### **507.10 ARREST AND INVESTIGATION**

#### **507.10.1 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.

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## *Impaired Driving*

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- (d) The person may cause injury to him/herself or damage property unless immediately arrested.
- (e) The person may destroy or conceal evidence of a crime unless immediately arrested.

### 507.10.2 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.

## Administrative Per Se Law (APS)

### 508.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides for the immediate suspension of California driver's licenses in certain Driving under the Influence (DUI) cases and in Zero Tolerance incidents. Vehicle code §§ 13382 (a) and (b) and 13388 (b) require that peace officers immediately suspend driving privileges in certain situations involving arrests for Vehicle code §§ 23152 and 23153. This policy also describes the policy dealing with zero tolerance laws.

### 508.2 SUSPENSION OF CALIFORNIA DRIVERS' LICENSES

The driver's license of a person suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol, shall immediately be suspended under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) The arrestee refuses to submit to a chemical test
- (b) The arrestee fails to complete the selected test
- (c) The arrestee declines a breath test and demands a blood or urine test, and, the arresting officer has reasonable cause to believe that the arrestee's blood alcohol content (BAC) will exceed the .08 percent level.
- (d) The arrestee completes the breath tests which show a BAC of .08 percent or higher.

### 508.3 ZERO TOLERANCE LAW

Vehicle code §§ 23136 & 23140 were enacted to reduce alcohol related incidents by persons under the age of 21-years. A person under 21-years of age may have his or her license suspended under the following circumstances:

- (a) When suspected of consuming alcohol and refusing a PAS test
- (b) Who has a blood-alcohol level of .01 percent or greater.

Zero Tolerance requires a Preliminary Alcohol Screening (PAS) device as the primary test. If the device is not available, one of the other chemical tests must be completed. Under Zero Tolerance, only the PAS device result is required. If based on the PAS results, the driver's blood alcohol reading warrants arrest and further chemical testing, the Department of Motor Vehicles does not require completion of the chemical test section of the DS367M form. Once the PAS certification is complete, the Zero Tolerance requirement has been met.

### 508.4 PEACE OFFICERS RESPONSIBILITY

In any of the above situations, the peace officer, acting on behalf of the Department of Motor vehicles, shall do the following:

- (a) Confiscate any California driver's license(s) in the possession of the driver. If the subject has an Admin Per Se (APS) temporary license document, do not confiscate.



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- (b) Complete and serve the Administrative Per Se Order of Suspension (DMW form DS367, DS367m or DS367s- Officer's statement and Order of Suspension), 4th page on the driver, regardless of license status.
- (c) The officer will inform the driver that the "Administrative Per Se Order of Suspension" form DS367, DS367m, or DS367"s along with his/her violator's notice to appear (except Zero Tolerance) or other release from custody document, will serve as the driver's temporary license. If the driver's privilege to drive is suspended or revoked, the order will not be a valid temporary license, do not confiscate the order but do issue another order pursuant to the current DUI arrest.

### **508.5 DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES NOTIFICATION**

The following specified items must be forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles within five regular business days:

- (a) Officer's statement form DS367 or DS367m (minor) or DS367s (Spanish)
- (b) Order of suspension (form DS367, DS367m, or DS367s pages 2 and 3)
- (c) Copy of the printout of the breath test (if taken)
- (d) Traffic collision report if applicable
- (e) The offender's drivers license

### **508.6 PROCESSING OF FORMS**

In order to ensure that the Department of Motor Vehicles and Department's forms are routed properly, the following responsibilities are identified:

Supervisory approval:

The Shift Supervisor is responsible for approving reports, shall collect the documents, review for completeness (dates, times, signatures, etc) and forward the originals of the documents to the records section.

Property and evidence technician responsibility:

It is the responsibility of the property and evidence technician to promptly deliver physiological specimens to the designated crime lab as soon as possible after the receipt to ensure that the above requirements are met.

## 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATION REQUIREMENTS

Suspects who are in custody and subjected to an interrogation shall be given the *Miranda* warning, unless an exception applies. Interview or interrogation of a juvenile shall be in accordance with the Temporary Custody of Juveniles Policy.

#### 600.3.1 AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS

Any custodial interrogation of an individual who is suspected of having committed any violent felony offense should be recorded (audio or video with audio as available) in its entirety. Regardless of where the interrogation occurs, every reasonable effort should be made to secure functional recording equipment to accomplish such recordings.

Consideration should also be given to recording a custodial interrogation, or any investigative interview, for any other offense when it is reasonable to believe it would be appropriate and beneficial to the investigation and is otherwise allowed by law.

No recording of a custodial interrogation should be destroyed or altered without written authorization from the prosecuting attorney and the Investigations supervisor. Copies of recorded interrogations or interviews may be made in the same or a different format as the original recording, provided the copies are true, accurate and complete and are made only for authorized and legitimate law enforcement purposes.

Recordings should not take the place of a thorough report and investigative interviews. Written statements from suspects should continue to be obtained when applicable.

#### 600.3.2 MANDATORY RECORDING OF ADULTS

Any custodial interrogation of an adult who is suspected of having committed any murder shall be recorded in its entirety. The recording should be video with audio if reasonably feasible (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.

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- (b) The suspect 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.

The Office shall maintain an original or an exact copy of the recording until a conviction relating to the interrogation is final and all appeals are exhausted or prosecution is barred by law (Penal Code § 859.5).

#### **600.4 INITIAL INVESTIGATION**

##### **600.4.1 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

A deputy responsible for an initial investigation shall complete no less than the following:

- (a) Make a preliminary determination of whether a crime has been committed by completing, at a minimum:
  - 1. An initial statement from any witnesses or complainants.
  - 2. A cursory examination for evidence.
- (b) If information indicates a crime has occurred, the deputy shall:
  - 1. Preserve the scene and any evidence as required to complete the initial and follow-up investigation.
  - 2. Determine if additional investigative resources (e.g., investigators or scene processing) are necessary and request assistance as required.
  - 3. If assistance is warranted, or if the incident is not routine, notify a supervisor or the Shift Supervisor.
  - 4. Make reasonable attempts to locate, identify and interview all available victims, complainants, witnesses and suspects.

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5. Collect any evidence.
  6. Take any appropriate law enforcement action.
  7. Complete and submit the appropriate reports and documentation.
- (c) If the preliminary determination is that no crime occurred, determine what other action may be necessary, what other resources may be available, and advise the informant or complainant of this information.

#### **600.4.2 CIVILIAN MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

A civilian member assigned to any preliminary investigation is responsible for all investigative steps, except making any attempt to locate, contact or interview a suspect face-to-face or take any enforcement action. Should an initial investigation indicate that those steps are required, the assistance of a deputy shall be requested.

#### **600.5 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 Senior and Disability Victimization policies may also require an arrest or submittal of a case to a prosecutor.

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### **600.6 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 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.

### **600.7 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 office. 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 office equipment.

Information obtained via the Internet should not be archived or stored in any manner other than office-established record keeping systems (see the Records Maintenance and Release and the Criminal Organizations policies).

#### **600.7.1 ACCESS RESTRICTIONS**

Information that can be accessed from any office computer, without the need of an account, password, email address, alias or other identifier (unrestricted websites), may be accessed and used for legitimate investigative purposes without supervisory approval.

Accessing information from any Internet source that requires the use or creation of an account, password, email address, alias or other identifier, or the use of nongovernment IP addresses, requires supervisor approval prior to access. The supervisor will review the justification for accessing the information and consult with legal counsel as necessary to identify any policy or legal restrictions. Any such access and the supervisor approval shall be documented in the related investigative report.

Accessing information that requires the use of a third party's account or online identifier requires supervisor approval and the consent of the third party. The consent must be voluntary and shall be documented in the related investigative report.

Information gathered from any Internet source should be evaluated for its validity, authenticity, accuracy and reliability. Corroborative evidence should be sought and documented in the related investigative report.

Any information collected in furtherance of an investigation through an Internet source should be documented in the related report. Documentation should include the source of information and the dates and times that the information was gathered.

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### 600.7.2 INTERCEPTING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Intercepting social media communications in real time may be subject to federal and state wiretap laws. Deputies should seek legal counsel before any such interception.

### 600.8 MODIFICATION OF CHARGES FILED

Members are not authorized to recommend to the prosecutor or to any other official of the court that charges on a pending case be amended or dismissed without the authorization of a Division Commander or the Sheriff. Any authorized request to modify the charges or to recommend dismissal of charges shall be made to the prosecutor.

### 600.9 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 Office 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.
  - 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 office security procedures, the office's usage and privacy procedures and all applicable laws.

## Property and Evidence

### 601.1 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.

### 601.2 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.

**Safekeeping** - Includes the following types of property:

- Property obtained by the Office 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.

### 601.3 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.

#### 601.3.1 PROPERTY BOOKING PROCEDURE

All property must be booked prior to the employee going off-duty unless otherwise approved by a supervisor. Employees booking property shall observe the following guidelines:

- (a) Complete the property form describing each item of property separately, listing all serial numbers, owner's name, finder's name, and other identifying information or markings.
- (b) Mark each item of evidence with the booking employee's initials and the date booked using the appropriate method so as not to deface or damage the value of the property.



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- (c) Complete an evidence/property form and attach it to each package or envelope in which the property is stored.
- (d) Place the case number in the upper right hand corner of the bag.
- (e) The original property form shall be submitted with the case report. A copy shall be placed with the property in the temporary property locker or with the property if property is stored somewhere other than a property locker.
- (f) When the property is too large to be placed in a locker, the item may be retained in the supply room. Submit the completed property record into a numbered locker indicating the location of the property.

#### 601.3.2 NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

All narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be booked separately using a separate evidence/property form. Paraphernalia as defined by Health and Safety Code § 11364 shall also be booked separately.

The deputy seizing the narcotics and dangerous drugs shall place them in the designated locker accompanied by two copies of the form for the Records Section and detectives. The remaining copy will be detached and submitted with the case report.

#### 601.3.3 EXPLOSIVES

Deputies who encounter a suspected explosive device shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor or the Shift Supervisor. 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 Evidence Technician is responsible for transporting to the Fire Department, on a regular basis, any fireworks or signaling devices that are not retained as evidence.

#### 601.3.4 EXCEPTIONAL HANDLING

Certain property items require a separate process. The following items shall be processed in the described manner:

- (a) Bodily fluids such as blood or semen stains shall be air dried prior to booking.
- (b) License plates found not to be stolen or connected with a known crime, should be released directly to the Evidence Technician, or placed in the designated container for return to the Department of Motor Vehicles. No formal property booking process is required.
- (c) All bicycles and bicycle frames require a property record. Property tags will be securely attached to each bicycle or bicycle frame. The property may be released directly to the

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Evidence Technician, or placed in the bicycle storage area until a Evidence Technician can log the property.

- (d) All cash shall be counted in the presence of a supervisor and the envelope initialed by the booking deputy and the supervisor. The Shift Supervisor shall be contacted for cash in excess of \$1,000 for special handling procedures.

County property, unless connected to a known criminal case, should be released directly to the appropriate County department. No formal booking is required. In cases where no responsible person can be located, the property should be booked for safekeeping in the normal manner.

#### 601.3.5 FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

- Officers shall notify the on-duty Supervisor and the Fire department to respond to any incident involving extremely volatile liquids, such as jet fuel.
- Large amounts of a flammable liquid, such as gasoline, shall not be booked and/or stored at the Sheriff's Office.
- (a) Only a sample, poured into a 4 ounce polyethylene bottle with a leak proof cap securely attached and a seal around the lid, shall be booked and stored in the outside large item area.
- (b) The officer shall mark the liquid level on the original container before obtaining a sample. Deputies shall place the original container at the large item storage area. The property section will arrange for destruction of the flammable liquid. The original container will be kept in the large item area for evidence.
- (c) When the sample container is placed into an outside evidence locker, the officer shall ensure the lid is secure, note "FLAMMABLE LIQUID" or "CAUTION" is written on the outside of the container. A notification will be given to the property staff informing them that flammable liquid has been booked.

#### 601.3.6 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
- (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 Office has complied with the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 et seq.

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The Evidence Technician 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 Section Policy).

### **601.4 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

#### **601.4.1 PACKAGING CONTAINER**

Employees shall package all property, except narcotics and dangerous drugs in a suitable container available for its size. Knife boxes should be used to package knives, and syringes should never be booked as evidence. Syringes should be photographed before they are destroyed. Make sure the measurement markings on the side of the syringe are visible so the amount of liquid in the syringe can be seen in the photograph.

If the syringe has liquid in it that needs to be preserved, inject it into a red topped glass tube. If the liquid will not come out, contact an Evidence Technician for assistance. If assistance is required after business hours, book the syringe into a temporary locker and leave a voice message or email notifying an Evidence Technician.

A property tag shall be securely attached to the outside of all items or group of items packaged together.

#### **601.4.2 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, dangerous, and prescription drugs shall be packaged in a DOJ Controlled Substance Envelope 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. If necessary, package only a small sample in the DOJ Controlled Substance Envelope.

This procedure shall be used in the seizure of all drugs, with the exception of marijuana. In marijuana cases involving less than 1 ounce, the deputy will place the marijuana in a clear plastic

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evidence bag, booked inside DOJ envelope. The deputy will leave the property/evidence report with the marijuana in the evidence locker. Absent any other charges, the marijuana will be booked under the report number.

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.

Marijuana booked for safe keeping will not be released without a court order, even if the owner has a valid medical marijuana card.

In the event of a seizure of a drug with a street value of over \$500.00 the deputy will notify the on duty supervisor. The deputy will get another deputy to witness and verify the weight. The witnessing deputies name will be included in the report. YONET will be notified by the on-duty supervisor in cases of large drug seizures.

### 601.4.3 BLOOD EVIDENCE

- Blood drawn for toxicology screening shall be placed in a pre-printed Valtox or DOJ envelope. All envelopes must be sealed and initialed across the tape seal. The Evidence Technician will not accept envelopes without a signed tape seal because they will not be accepted at either laboratory for testing if they are improperly packaged.
- Blood samples are to be placed into the evidence refrigerator with the property/evidence form.
- When blood is drawn for the purpose of determining alcohol/drug content, the gray stopper tube shall be used.
- When blood is drawn for the purpose of typing, use a yellow stopper tube that contains anti-coagulant. Make sure the lab technician is informed that blood sample is drawn is for blood typing only. Place the tube in a DOJ blood envelope along with the gray stopper tube.
- In the event blood samples are taken for both typing and alcohol/drug content, place the tubes into a single envelope. Mark the tubes and envelopes according to the above policy and book accordingly.
- Blood samples for 23152 VC and 655 H&N should be in a tan DOJ blood sample envelope.
- Blood samples for drugs or any other offense should be placed in white Valley Toxicology envelopes.

### 601.4.4 CURRENCY AND JEWELRY BOOKING

- Money orders, checks and bonds are to be considered as currency as used in this policy. Any amount of currency being placed into evidence/property will be separated from other items and placed in an envelope. The envelope will be signed and sealed. The envelope will be marked with the case number, date, amount, owner's name, attached to the property form. Amounts of currency over \$100.00 that are entered into evidence need to be verified by another deputy. The witnessing deputy

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will co-sign the envelope. The entering deputy will identify the verifying deputy in the report.

- In cases involving the placing of more than \$500,000 into evidence/property, the property section will place the currency and/or property into the evidence safe. The department's YONET representative shall be notified in drug cases for possible asset seizure.
- Items that are valuable, such as expensive jewelry or art works, should be placed into lockers as soon as practical. The property section shall be notified by the booking officer. If the property section is not available, the booking officer shall notify the on-duty supervisor for consideration of alternate security or a call out of the property section.

### 601.4.5 WET EVIDENCE /PROPERTY

Bloody or wet items should be placed in a paper bag. Plastic bags should only be used under the paper bag to keep the evidence locker dry, or if the items are dripping wet. Plastic bags should never be sealed in these instances

An Evidence Technician shall be notified via phone or email when wet/bloody items have been placed in the locker.

### 601.4.6 FIREARMS

#### HANDGUNS:

Secure handguns using a zip tie if possible. Handguns requiring fingerprinting or other processing shall be placed in a paper bag to avoid contamination. All other handguns may be booked without packaging.

Magazines for handguns can be packaged with or attached to the gun itself.

#### LONG GUNS:

Secure weapon with a zip tie if possible or remove bolt from bolt action rifles. Any clip or bolt may be packaged with the rifle.

### 601.4.7 OVERSIZE ITEMS

Large items that do not fit in evidence lockers can be placed in the shed outside the Patrol/Investigations area. Call or send an email to alert the Evidence Technician that there are items in the shed.

### 601.4.8 URINE SAMPLES

All urine samples will be placed into Valley Toxicology envelopes.

Place the urine sample container into a sealed ziploc bag before placing it into the Valley Toxicology envelope to protect from leakage.

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### **601.5 RECORDING OF PROPERTY**

The Evidence Technician receiving custody of evidence or property shall record his/her signature, the date and time the property was received and where the property will be stored on the property control card.

A property number shall be obtained for each item or group of items. This number shall be recorded on the property tag and the property control card.

Any changes in the location of property held by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall be noted in the property logbook.

### **601.6 PROPERTY CONTROL**

Each time the Evidence Technician receives property or releases property to another person, he/she shall enter this information on the property control card. Deputies desiring property for court shall contact the Evidence Technician at least one day prior to the court day.

#### **601.6.1 PROPERTY SECTION EVIDENCE PROCESSING PROCEDURE**

A Property Section employee shall verify all evidence/property booked in the following circumstances:

- a. Homicides (inventory).
- b. Narcotics/drugs (inspect exterior of the packaging).
- c. Firearms (inspect serial number and verify unloaded condition).
- d. Hazardous items (verify safe storage and packaging).
- e. Serial numbered property (verify serial numbers).

Booking errors shall be brought to the attention of the Investigations Supervisor who shall notify the booking officer, through their supervisor, to correct the error

#### **601.6.2 RESPONSIBILITY OF OTHER PERSONNEL**

Every time property is released or received, an appropriate entry on the evidence package shall be completed to maintain the chain of evidence. 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 Evidence Technician. This request may be filled out any time after booking of the property or evidence.

#### **601.6.3 TRANSFER OF EVIDENCE TO CRIME LABORATORY**

The transporting employee will check the evidence out of property, indicating the date and time on the property control card and the request for laboratory analysis.

The Evidence Technician releasing the evidence must complete the required information on the property control card and the evidence. 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

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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 Records Section for filing with the case.

#### 601.6.4 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 property control card, stating the date, time and to whom released.

The Evidence Technician 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.

The return of the property should be recorded on the property control card, indicating date, time, and the person who returned the property.

#### 601.6.5 AUTHORITY TO RELEASE PROPERTY

The Investigations Supervisor shall authorize the disposition or release of all evidence and property coming into the care and custody of the Office.

#### 601.6.6 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 Evidence Technician 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 Section for filing with the case. If some items of property have not been released the property card will remain with

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the Property and Evidence Section. 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 Section 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 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).

### 601.6.7 DISPUTED CLAIMS TO PROPERTY

Occasionally more than one party may claim an interest in property being held by the Office, 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 Office may wish to file an interpleader to resolve the disputed claim (Code of Civil Procedure § 386(b)).

### 601.6.8 CONTROL OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

The Investigations Supervisor will be responsible for the storage, control and destruction of all narcotics and dangerous drugs coming into the custody of this office, including paraphernalia as described in Health and Safety Code § 11364.

### 601.6.9 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 Evidence Technician 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).

### 601.6.10 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



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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 Office 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 Office 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.

### 601.6.11 RELEASE OF FIREARMS IN GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER MATTERS

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 the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 et seq. (Penal Code § 18120).

If the restrained person who owns the firearms or ammunition does not wish to have the firearm or ammunition returned, he/she is entitled to sell or transfer title to a licensed dealer, provided that the firearms or ammunition are legal to own or possess and the restrained person has right to title of the firearms or ammunition (Penal Code § 18120).

If a person other than the restrained person claims title to the firearms or ammunition surrendered pursuant to Penal Code § 18120 and the Yolo County Sheriff's Office determines him/her to be the lawful owner, the firearms or ammunition shall be returned in accordance with the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 et seq. (Penal Code § 18120).

Firearms and ammunition that are not claimed are subject to the requirements of Penal Code § 34000.

### 601.7 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 Evidence Technician shall request a disposition or status on all property which has been held in excess of 120 days, and for which no disposition has been received from a supervisor or detective.

#### 601.7.1 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)

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- 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))

#### 601.7.2 UNCLAIMED MONEY

If found or seized money is no longer required as evidence and remains unclaimed after three years, the 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 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.

#### 601.7.3 RETENTION OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

The Property and Evidence Section Supervisor shall ensure that no biological evidence held by the 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 Section Supervisor, or until the expiration of any imposed sentence that is related to the evidence,

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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 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 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).

### **601.8 INSPECTIONS OF THE EVIDENCE ROOM**

- (a) On a monthly basis, the supervisor of the evidence custodian shall make an inspection of the evidence storage facilities and practices to ensure adherence to appropriate policies and procedures.
- (b) Unannounced inspections of evidence storage areas shall be conducted annually as directed by the Sheriff.
- (c) An annual audit of evidence held by the Office shall be conducted by a Division Commander (as appointed by the Sheriff) not routinely or directly connected with evidence control.
- (d) Whenever a change is made in personnel who have access to the evidence room, an inventory of all evidence/property shall be made by an individual not associated to the property room or function to ensure that records are correct and all evidence property is accounted for.

## Computers and Digital Evidence

### 602.1 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.

### 602.2 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.

## *Computers and Digital Evidence*

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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.

### **602.2.1 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.

### **602.2.2 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.

### **602.3 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 Section 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.

### **602.4 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.

### **602.5 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.

#### **602.5.1 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.

#### **602.5.2 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 brought to the Property and Evidence Section as soon as possible for submission into evidence.
- (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.

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- (c) As soon as possible following the collection of evidence, the camera operator is to remove the memory card from their digital camera and place the card into a plastic carrier. The card and carrier are then to be placed into a zip-lock type baggie. The camera operator shall write their name and the related case number on the outside of the baggie before placing in the film drop box along with the evidence form.
- (d) Evidence technicians will make a copy of the memory card using appropriate storage media. Once they have verified that the images properly transferred to the storage media, the technicians will erase the memory card for re-use. The storage media will be marked as the original.
- (e) Deputies requiring a copy of the digital files must request a copy on the evidence form when submitted to evidence.

### 602.5.3 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 a folder on the host computer for copying to the storage media.

### 602.5.4 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.

## Restoration of Firearm Serial Numbers

### 603.1 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.

### 603.2 PROCEDURE

Any firearm coming into the possession of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office as evidence, found property, etc., where the serial numbers have been removed or obliterated will be processed in the following manner:

#### 603.2.1 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.

#### 603.2.2 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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## *Restoration of Firearm Serial Numbers*

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### **603.2.3 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY**

The Evidence Technician 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.

### **603.2.4 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.

### **603.2.5 FIREARM TRACE**

After the serial number has been restored (or partially restored) by the criminalistics laboratory, the Evidence Technician 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.

### **603.3 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.

# Sexual Assault Investigations

## 604.1 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 Senior and Disability Victimization policies.

### 604.1.1 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.

## 604.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

## 604.3 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.

## *Sexual Assault Investigations*

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### **604.4 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.

### **604.5 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.

### **604.6 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.

### **604.7 VICTIM INTERVIEWS**

The primary considerations in sexual assault investigations, which begin with the initial call to Dispatch, 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.

### 604.7.1 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).

### 604.7.2 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 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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### **604.8 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.

#### **604.8.1 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). SAFE 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, the assigned deputy shall ensure that an information profile for the SAFE 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 the assigned deputy determines that a SAFE kit submitted to a private laboratory for analysis has not been tested within 120 days after submission, the deputy shall update the SAFE-T database to reflect the reason for the delay in testing. The assigned deputy 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, 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).

Additional guidance regarding evidence retention and destruction is found in the Property and Evidence Policy.

#### **604.8.2 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 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 SAFE 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.

#### 604.8.3 STANDARDIZED SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC MEDICAL EVIDENCE KIT

The Property and Evidence Section supervisor should make California standardized sexual assault forensic medical evidence (SAFE) kits available to members who may investigate sexual assault cases. Members investigating a sexual assault should use these SAFE kits when appropriate and follow related usage guidelines issued by the California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center (Penal Code § 13823.14).

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### **604.9 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 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.

### **604.10 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.

## Eyewitness Identification

### 605.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy sets forth guidelines to be used when members of this office employ eyewitness identification techniques (Penal Code § 859.7).

#### 605.1.1 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.

### 605.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 605.3 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.

### 605.4 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.

### **605.5 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION**

Members 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.

Members 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.

Whenever feasible, the eyewitness identification procedure should be audio and video recorded and the recording should be retained according to current evidence procedures (Penal Code § 859.7).

### **605.6 DOCUMENTATION**

A thorough description of the eyewitness process and the result of any eyewitness identification should be documented in the case report.

## *Eyewitness Identification*

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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.

### **605.6.1 DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO RECORDINGS**

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).

### **605.6.2 DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO BLIND ADMINISTRATION**

If a presentation of a lineup is not conducted using blind administration, the handling member shall document the reason (Penal Code § 859.7).

### **605.7 PHOTOGRAPHIC LINEUP AND LIVE LINEUP CONSIDERATIONS**

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.

#### **605.7.1 OTHER SAFEGUARDS**

Witnesses should be asked for suspect descriptions as close in time to the incident as possible and before conducting an eyewitness identification. No information concerning a suspect should be given prior to obtaining a statement from the witness describing how certain he/she is of the identification or non-identification. Members should not say anything to a witness that may validate or invalidate an eyewitness' identification. In photographic lineups, writings or information concerning any previous arrest of a suspect shall not be visible to the witness (Penal Code § 859.7).

### **605.8 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 show-up or one-on-one identification should not be

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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 member 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.
  - 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, members should bring the witness to the location of the subject of the show-up, rather than bring the subject of the show-up to the witness.
- (e) The person who is the subject of the show-up 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 subjects of the show-up one at a time.
- (g) The person who is the subject of the show-up 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.
- (h) If a witness positively identifies a subject of the show-up as the suspect, members should not conduct any further field identifications with other witnesses for that suspect. In such instances members should document the contact information for any additional witnesses for follow up, if necessary.

## Warrant Service

### 606.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the planning and serving of arrest and search warrants by members of this department. It is understood that this policy cannot address every variable or circumstance that can arise in the service of a search or arrest warrant, as these tasks can involve rapidly evolving and unique circumstances.

This policy is intended to be used in conjunction with the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy, which has additional guidance on planning and serving high-risk warrants.

This policy is not intended to address the service of search warrants on locations or property already secured or routine field warrant arrests by patrol deputies.

### 606.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to balance the safety needs of the public, the safety of department members, privacy interests and other relevant factors when making decisions related to the service of search and arrest warrants.

### 606.3 OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

The operations director (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy) shall review all risk assessment forms with the involved supervisor to determine the risk level of the warrant service.

The operations director will also have the responsibility to coordinate service of those warrants that are categorized as high risk. Deconfliction, risk assessment, operational planning, briefing and debriefing should follow guidelines in the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy.

### 606.4 SEARCH WARRANTS

Deputies should receive authorization from a supervisor before preparing a search warrant application. Once authorization is received, the deputy will prepare the affidavit and search warrant, consulting with the applicable prosecuting attorney as needed. He/she will also complete the risk assessment form and submit it, along with the warrant affidavit, to the appropriate supervisor and the operations director for review and classification of risk (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).

### 606.5 ARREST WARRANTS

If a deputy reasonably believes that serving an arrest warrant may pose a higher risk than commonly faced on a daily basis, the deputy should complete the risk assessment form and submit it to the appropriate supervisor and the operations director for review and classification of risk (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).

If the warrant is classified as high risk, service will be coordinated by the operations director. If the warrant is not classified as high risk, the supervisor should weigh the risk of entry into a residence

## Warrant Service

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to make an arrest against other alternatives, such as arresting the person outside the residence where circumstances may pose a lower risk.

### **606.6 WARRANT PREPARATION**

If a deputy reasonably believes that serving an arrest warrant may pose a higher risk than commonly faced on a daily basis, the deputy should complete the risk assessment form and submit it to the appropriate supervisor and the operations director for review and classification of risk (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).

If the warrant is classified as high risk, service will be coordinated by the operations director. If the warrant is not classified as high risk, the supervisor should weigh the risk of entry into a residence to make an arrest against other alternatives, such as arresting the person outside the residence where circumstances may pose a lower risk.

### **606.7 HIGH-RISK WARRANT SERVICE**

The operations director or the authorized designee shall coordinate the service of warrants that are categorized as high risk and shall have sole authority in determining the manner in which the warrant will be served, including the number of deputies deployed.

The member responsible for directing the service should ensure the following as applicable:

- (a) When practicable and when doing so does not cause unreasonable risk, video or photographic documentation is made of the condition of the location prior to execution of a search warrant. The images should include the surrounding area and persons present.
- (b) The warrant service is audio- and video-recorded when practicable and reasonable to do so.
- (c) Evidence is handled and collected only by those members who are designated to do so. All other members involved in the service of the warrant should alert one of the designated members to the presence of potential evidence and not touch or disturb the items.
- (d) Reasonable efforts are made during the search to maintain or restore the condition of the location.
- (e) Persons who are detained as part of the warrant service are handled appropriately under the circumstances.
- (f) Reasonable care provisions are made for children and dependent adults (see the Child and Dependent Adult Safety Policy).
- (g) A list is made of all items seized and a copy provided to the person in charge of the premises if present or otherwise left in a conspicuous place.
- (h) A copy of the search warrant is left at the location.
- (i) The condition of the property is documented with video recording or photographs after the search.

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### **606.8 DETENTIONS DURING WARRANT SERVICE**

Deputies must be sensitive to the safety risks of all persons involved with the service of a warrant. Depending on circumstances and facts present, it may be appropriate to control movements of any or all persons present at a warrant service, including those who may not be the subject of a warrant or suspected in the case. However, deputies must be mindful that only reasonable force may be used and weapons should be displayed no longer than the deputy reasonably believes is necessary (see the Use of Force Policy).

As soon as it can be determined that an individual is not subject to the scope of a warrant and that no further reasonable suspicion or safety concerns exist to justify further detention, the person should be promptly released.

Deputies should, when and to the extent reasonable, accommodate the privacy and personal needs of people who have been detained.

### **606.9 ACTIONS AFTER WARRANT SERVICE**

The supervisor shall ensure that all affidavits, warrants, receipts and returns, regardless of any associated cases, are filed with the issuing judge or magistrate as soon as reasonably possible, but in any event no later than any date specified on the warrant.

### **606.10 OUTSIDE AGENCIES AND CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL WARRANTS**

The operations director will ensure that cooperative efforts with other agencies in the service of warrants conform to existing mutual aid agreements or other memorandums of understanding and will work cooperatively to mitigate risks including, but not limited to, the following:

- Identity of team members
- Roles and responsibilities
- Familiarity with equipment
- Rules of engagement
- Asset forfeiture procedures

Any outside agency requesting assistance in the service of a warrant within this jurisdiction should be referred to the operations director. The director should review and confirm the warrant, including the warrant location, and should discuss the service with the appropriate supervisor from the other agency. The director should ensure that members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office are utilized appropriately. Any concerns regarding the requested use of Yolo County Sheriff's Office members should be brought to the attention of the Sheriff or the authorized designee. The actual service of the warrant will remain the responsibility of the agency requesting assistance.

If the operations director is unavailable, the Shift Supervisor should assume this role.

If deputies intend to serve a warrant outside Yolo County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction, the operations director should provide reasonable advance notice to the applicable agency, request assistance

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as needed and work cooperatively on operational planning and the mitigation of risks detailed in this policy.

Deputies will remain subject to the policies of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office when assisting outside agencies or serving a warrant outside Yolo County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction.

### **606.11 MEDIA ACCESS**

No advance information regarding warrant service operations shall be released without the approval of the Sheriff. Any media inquiries or press release after the fact shall be handled in accordance with the News Media Relations Policy.

### **606.12 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure deputies receive periodic training on this policy and associated topics, such as legal issues, warrant preparation, warrant service and reporting requirements.

## Operations Planning and Deconfliction

### 607.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for planning, deconfliction and execution of high-risk operations.

Additional guidance on planning and serving high-risk warrants is provided in the Warrant Service Policy.

#### 607.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**High-risk operations** - Operations, including service of search and arrest warrants and sting operations, that are likely to present higher risks than are commonly faced by deputies on a daily basis, including suspected fortified locations, reasonable risk of violence or confrontation with multiple persons, or reason to suspect that persons anticipate the operation.

### 607.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to properly plan and carry out high-risk operations, including participation in a regional deconfliction system, in order to provide coordination, enhance the safety of members and the public, decrease the risk of compromising investigations and prevent duplicating efforts.

### 607.3 OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

The Sheriff will designate a member of this office to be the operations director.

The operations director will develop and maintain a risk assessment form to assess, plan and coordinate operations. This form should provide a process to identify high-risk operations.

The operations director will review risk assessment forms with involved supervisors to determine whether a particular incident qualifies as a high-risk operation. The director will also have the responsibility for coordinating operations that are categorized as high risk.

### 607.4 RISK ASSESSMENT

#### 607.4.1 RISK ASSESSMENT FORM PREPARATION

Deputies assigned as operational leads for any operation that may qualify as a high-risk operation shall complete a risk assessment form.

When preparing the form, the deputy should query all relevant and reasonably available intelligence resources for information about the subject of investigation, others who may be present and the involved location. These sources may include regional intelligence and criminal justice databases, target deconfliction systems, firearm records, commercial databases and property records. Where appropriate, the deputy should also submit information to these resources.

The deputy should gather available information that includes, but is not limited to:



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### *Operations Planning and Deconfliction*

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- (a) Photographs, including aerial photographs, if available, of the involved location, neighboring yards and obstacles.
- (b) Maps of the location.
- (c) Diagrams of any property and the interior of any buildings that are involved.
- (d) Historical information about the subject of investigation (e.g., history of weapon possession or use, known mental illness, known drug use, threats against police, gang affiliation, criminal history).
- (e) Historical information about others who may be present at the location (e.g., other criminals, innocent third parties, dependent adults, children, animals).
- (f) Obstacles associated with the location (e.g., fortification, booby traps, reinforced doors/windows, surveillance measures, number and type of buildings, geographic and perimeter barriers, the number and types of weapons likely to be present, information that suggests the presence of explosives, chemicals or other hazardous materials, the potential for multiple dwellings or living spaces, availability of keys/door combinations).
- (g) Other environmental factors (e.g., nearby venues such as schools and day care centers, proximity of adjacent homes or other occupied buildings, anticipated pedestrian and vehicle traffic at the time of service).
- (h) Other available options that may minimize the risk to deputies and others (e.g., making an off-site arrest or detention of the subject of investigation).

#### 607.4.2 RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Deputies will present the risk assessment form and other relevant documents (such as copies of search warrants and affidavits and arrest warrants) to their supervisor and the operations director.

The supervisor and operations director shall confer and determine the level of risk. Supervisors should take reasonable actions if there is a change in circumstances that elevates the risks associated with the operation.

#### 607.4.3 HIGH-RISK OPERATIONS

If the operations director, after consultation with the involved supervisor, determines that the operation is high risk, the operations director should:

- (a) Determine what resources will be needed at the location, and contact and/or place on standby any of the following appropriate and available resources:
  - 1. (SWAT)
  - 2. Additional personnel
  - 3. Outside agency assistance
  - 4. Special equipment
  - 5. Medical personnel
  - 6. Persons trained in negotiation
  - 7. Additional surveillance

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8. Canines
  9. Property and Evidence Section or analytical personnel to assist with cataloguing seizures
  10. Forensic specialists
  11. Specialized mapping for larger or complex locations
- (b) Contact the appropriate office members or other agencies as warranted to begin preparation.
  - (c) Ensure that all legal documents such as search warrants are complete and have any modifications reasonably necessary to support the operation.
  - (d) Coordinate the actual operation.

### **607.5 DECONFLICTION**

Deconfliction systems are designed to identify persons and locations associated with investigations or law enforcement operations and alert participating agencies when others are planning or conducting operations in close proximity or time or are investigating the same individuals, groups or locations.

The deputy who is the operations lead shall ensure the subject of investigation and operations information have been entered in an applicable deconfliction system to determine if there is reported conflicting activity. This should occur as early in the process as practicable, but no later than two hours prior to the commencement of the operation. The deputy should also enter relevant updated information when it is received.

If any conflict is discovered, the supervisor will contact the involved jurisdiction and resolve the potential conflict before proceeding.

### **607.6 OPERATIONS PLAN**

The operations director should ensure that a written operations plan is developed for all high-risk operations. Plans should also be considered for other operations that would benefit from having a formal plan.

The plan should address such issues as:

- (a) Operation goals, objectives, and strategies.
- (b) Operation location and people:
  1. The subject of investigation (e.g., history of weapon possession/use, known mental illness issues, known drug use, threats against police, gang affiliation, criminal history)
  2. The location (e.g., fortification, booby traps, reinforced doors/windows, surveillance cameras and/or lookouts, number/type of buildings, geographic and perimeter barriers, the number and types of weapons likely to be present, information that suggests the presence of explosives, chemicals or other hazardous materials, the potential for multiple dwellings or living spaces,

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- availability of keys/door combinations), including aerial photos, if available, and maps of neighboring yards and obstacles, diagrams and other visual aids
3. Other environmental factors (e.g., nearby venues such as schools and day care centers, proximity of adjacent homes or other occupied buildings, anticipated pedestrian and vehicle traffic at the time of service)
  4. Identification of other people who may be present in or around the operation, such as other criminal suspects, innocent third parties, and children
- (c) Information from the risk assessment form by attaching a completed copy in the operational plan.
1. The volume or complexity of the information may indicate that the plan includes a synopsis of the information contained on the risk assessment form to ensure clarity and highlighting of critical information.
- (d) Participants and their roles.
1. An adequate number of uniformed deputies should be included in the operation team to provide reasonable notice of a legitimate law enforcement operation.
  2. How all participants will be identified as law enforcement.
- (e) Whether deconfliction submissions are current and all involved individuals, groups, and locations have been deconflicted to the extent reasonably practicable.
- (f) Identification of all communications channels and call-signs.
- (g) Use of force issues.
- (h) Contingencies for handling medical emergencies (e.g., services available at the location, closest hospital, closest trauma center).
- (i) Plans for detaining people who are not under arrest.
- (j) Contingencies for handling children, dependent adults, animals, and other people who might be at the location in accordance with the Child Abuse, Senior and Disability Victimization, Child and Dependent Adult Safety, and Animal Control policies.
- (k) Communications plan.
- (l) Responsibilities for writing, collecting, reviewing, and approving reports.

### **607.6.1 OPERATIONS PLAN RETENTION**

Since the operations plan contains intelligence information and descriptions of law enforcement tactics, it shall not be filed with the report. The operations plan shall be stored separately and retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

### **607.7 OPERATIONS BRIEFING**

A briefing should be held prior to the commencement of any high-risk operation to allow all participants to understand the operation, see and identify each other, identify roles and responsibilities and ask questions or seek clarification as needed. Anyone who is not present at the briefing should not respond to the operation location without specific supervisory approval.

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- (a) The briefing should include a verbal review of plan elements, using visual aids, to enhance the participants' understanding of the operations plan.
- (b) All participants should be provided a copy of the operations plan and search warrant, if applicable. Participating personnel should be directed to read the search warrant and initial a copy that is retained with the operation plan. Any items to be seized should be identified at the briefing.
- (c) The operations director shall ensure that all participants are visually identifiable as law enforcement officers.
  - 1. Exceptions may be made by the operations director for deputies who are conducting surveillance or working under cover. However, those members exempt from visual identification should be able to transition to a visible law enforcement indicator at the time of enforcement actions, such as entries or arrests, if necessary.
- (d) The briefing should include details of the communications plan.
  - 1. It is the responsibility of the operations director to ensure that Dispatch is notified of the time and location of the operation, and to provide a copy of the operation plan prior to deputies arriving at the location.
  - 2. If the radio channel needs to be monitored by Dispatch, the dispatcher assigned to monitor the operation should attend the briefing, if practicable, but at a minimum should receive a copy of the operation plan.
  - 3. The briefing should include a communications check to ensure that all participants are able to communicate with the available equipment on the designated radio channel.

### **607.8 SWAT PARTICIPATION**

If the operations director determines that SWAT participation is appropriate, the director and the SWAT supervisor shall work together to develop a written plan. The SWAT supervisor shall assume operational control until all persons at the scene are appropriately detained and it is safe to begin a search. When this occurs, the SWAT supervisor shall transfer control of the scene to the handling supervisor. This transfer should be communicated to the deputies present.

### **607.9 MEDIA ACCESS**

No advance information regarding planned operations shall be released without the approval of the Sheriff. Any media inquiries or press release after the fact shall be handled in accordance with the Media Relations Policy.

### **607.10 OPERATIONS DEBRIEFING**

High-risk operations should be debriefed as soon as reasonably practicable. The debriefing should include as many participants as possible. This debrief may be separate from any SWAT debriefing.

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### **607.11 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure deputies and SWAT team members who participate in operations subject to this policy should receive periodic training including, but not limited to, topics such as legal issues, deconfliction practices, operations planning concepts and reporting requirements.

# Informants

## 608.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use of informants.

### 608.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Informant** - A person who covertly interacts with other individuals or suspects at the direction of, request of, or by agreement with, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement purposes. This also includes a person agreeing to supply information to the Yolo County Sheriff's Office for a benefit (e.g., a quid pro quo in the form of a reduced criminal penalty, money).

## 608.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office recognizes the value of informants to law enforcement efforts and will strive to protect the integrity of the informant process. It is the policy of this office that all funds related to informant payments will be routinely audited and that payments to informants will be made according to the criteria outlined in this policy.

## 608.3 USE OF INFORMANTS

### 608.3.1 INITIAL APPROVAL

Before using an individual as an informant, a deputy must receive approval from his/her supervisor. The deputy shall compile sufficient information through a background investigation and experience with the informant in order to determine the suitability of the individual, including age, maturity and risk of physical harm, as well as any indicators of his/her reliability and credibility.

Members of this office should not guarantee absolute safety or confidentiality to an informant.

### 608.3.2 JUVENILE INFORMANTS

The use of informants under the age of 13 is prohibited.

Except for the enforcement of laws related to the commercial sale of alcohol, marijuana or tobacco products, a juvenile 13 years of age or older may only be used as an informant with the written consent of each of the following:

- (a) The juvenile's parents or legal guardians
- (b) The juvenile's attorney, if any
- (c) The court in which the juvenile's case is being handled, if applicable (Penal Code § 701.5)
- (d) The Sheriff or the authorized designee

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### **608.3.3 INFORMANT AGREEMENTS**

All informants are required to sign and abide by the provisions of the designated office informant agreement. The deputy using the informant shall discuss each of the provisions of the agreement with the informant.

Details of the agreement are to be approved in writing by a supervisor before being finalized with the informant.

### **608.4 INFORMANT INTEGRITY**

To maintain the integrity of the informant process, the following must be adhered to:

- (a) The identity of an informant acting in a confidential capacity shall not be withheld from the Sheriff, Division Commander, Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor or their authorized designees.
  - 1. Identities of informants acting in a confidential capacity shall otherwise be kept confidential.
- (b) Criminal activity by informants shall not be condoned.
- (c) Informants shall be told they are not acting as sheriff's deputies, employees or agents of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, and that they shall not represent themselves as such.
- (d) The relationship between office members and informants shall always be ethical and professional.
  - 1. Members shall not become intimately involved with an informant.
  - 2. Social contact shall be avoided unless it is necessary to conduct an official investigation, and only with prior approval of the Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor.
  - 3. Members shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities or engage in any private business transaction with an informant.
- (e) Deputies shall not meet with informants in a private place unless accompanied by at least one additional deputy or with prior approval of the Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor.
  - 1. Deputies may meet informants alone in an occupied public place, such as a restaurant.
- (f) When contacting informants for the purpose of making payments, deputies shall arrange for the presence of another deputy.
- (g) In all instances when office funds are paid to informants, a voucher shall be completed in advance, itemizing the expenses.
- (h) Since the decision rests with the appropriate prosecutor, deputies shall not promise that the informant will receive any form of leniency or immunity from criminal prosecution.

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### **608.4.1 UNSUITABLE INFORMANTS**

The suitability of any informant should be considered before engaging him/her in any way in a covert or other investigative process. Members who become aware that an informant may be unsuitable will notify the supervisor, who will initiate a review to determine suitability. Until a determination has been made by a supervisor, the informant should not be used by any member. The supervisor shall determine whether the informant should be used by the Office and, if so, what conditions will be placed on his/her participation or any information the informant provides. The supervisor shall document the decision and conditions in file notes and mark the file "unsuitable" when appropriate.

Considerations for determining whether an informant is unsuitable include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) The informant has provided untruthful or unreliable information in the past.
- (b) The informant behaves in a way that may endanger the safety of a deputy.
- (c) The informant reveals to suspects the identity of a deputy or the existence of an investigation.
- (d) The informant appears to be using his/her affiliation with this office to further criminal objectives.
- (e) The informant creates officer-safety issues by providing information to multiple law enforcement agencies simultaneously, without prior notification and approval of each agency.
- (f) The informant engages in any other behavior that could jeopardize the safety of deputies or the integrity of a criminal investigation.
- (g) The informant commits criminal acts subsequent to entering into an informant agreement.

### **608.5 INFORMANT FILES**

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 office members or the reliability of the informant.

Informant files shall be maintained in a secure area within the Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force. The Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor or the authorized designee shall be responsible for maintaining informant files. Access to the informant files shall be restricted to the Sheriff, Division Commander, Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor or their authorized designees.

The Investigations Division 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 per year. If the Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force 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 should be conducted by a supervisor who does not have normal access to the informant files.



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### 608.5.1 FILE SYSTEM PROCEDURE

A separate file shall be maintained on each informant and shall be coded with an assigned informant control number. An informant history that includes the following information shall be prepared for each file:

- (a) Name and aliases
- (b) Date of birth
- (c) Physical description: sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, scars, tattoos or other distinguishing features
- (d) Photograph
- (e) Current home address and telephone numbers
- (f) Current employers, positions, addresses and telephone numbers
- (g) Vehicles owned and registration information
- (h) Places frequented
- (i) Briefs of information provided by the informant and his/her subsequent reliability
  1. If an informant is determined to be unsuitable, the informant's file is to be marked "unsuitable" and notations included detailing the issues that caused this classification.
- (j) Name of the deputy initiating use of the informant
- (k) Signed informant agreement
- (l) Update on active or inactive status of informant

### 608.6 INFORMANT PAYMENTS

No informant will be told in advance or given an exact amount or percentage for his/her service. The amount of funds to be paid to any 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
- The value of assets seized
- The quantity of the drugs or other contraband seized
- The informant's previous criminal activity
- The level of risk taken by the informant

The Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor will discuss the above factors with the Field Operations Division Commander and recommend the type and level of payment subject to approval by the Sheriff.

### 608.6.1 PAYMENT PROCESS

Approved payments to an informant should be in cash using the following process:

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- (a) Payments of \$500 and under may be paid in cash from a Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force buy/expense fund.
  - 1. The Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor shall sign the voucher for cash payouts from the buy/expense fund.
- (b) Payments exceeding \$500 shall be made by issuance of a check, payable to the deputy who will be delivering the payment.
  - 1. The check shall list the case numbers related to and supporting the payment.
  - 2. A written statement of the informant's involvement in the case shall be placed in the informant's file.
  - 3. The statement shall be signed by the informant verifying the statement as a true summary of his/her actions in the case.
  - 4. Authorization signatures from the Sheriff and the County Administrator are required for disbursement of the funds.
- (c) To complete the payment process for any amount, the deputy delivering the payment shall complete a cash transfer form.
  - 1. The cash transfer form shall include the following:
    - (a) Date
    - (b) Payment amount
    - (c) Yolo County Sheriff's Office case number
    - (d) A statement that the informant is receiving funds in payment for information voluntarily rendered.
  - 2. The cash transfer form shall be signed by the informant.
  - 3. The cash transfer form will be kept in the informant's file.

#### 608.6.2 REPORTING OF PAYMENTS

Each informant receiving a cash payment shall be advised 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 informant should be provided IRS Form 1099 (26 CFR 1.6041-1). If such documentation or reporting may reveal the identity of the informant and by doing so jeopardize any investigation, the safety of deputies or the safety of the informant (26 CFR 1.6041-3), then IRS Form 1099 should not be issued.

In such cases, the 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 informant's file.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

## *Informants*

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### 608.6.3 AUDIT OF PAYMENTS

The Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor or the authorized designee shall be responsible for compliance with any audit requirements associated with grant provisions and applicable state and federal law.

At least once every six months, the Sheriff or the authorized designee should conduct an audit of all informant funds for the purpose of accountability and security of the funds. The funds and related documents (e.g., buy/expense fund records, cash transfer forms, invoices, receipts and logs) will assist with the audit process.

## Asset Forfeiture

### 609.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes the authority and procedure for the seizure, forfeiture and liquidation of property associated with designated offenses.

#### 609.1.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office seizes property for forfeiture or when the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 (Heath 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.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

## Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

### Asset Forfeiture

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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.

#### 609.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

#### 609.3 ASSET SEIZURE

Property may be seized for forfeiture as provided in this policy.

##### 609.3.1 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).

## *Asset Forfeiture*

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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.

### **609.3.2 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).

### **609.4 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.

## *Asset Forfeiture*

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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.

### **609.5 MAINTAINING SEIZED PROPERTY**

The Property and Evidence Section 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.

### **609.6 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

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

## Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

### Asset Forfeiture

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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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## Asset Forfeiture

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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).

### **609.7 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).

#### **609.7.1 RECEIVING EQUITABLE SHARES**

When participating in a joint investigation with a federal agency, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### **609.8 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).

## Brady Material Disclosure

### 610.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for identifying and releasing potentially exculpatory or impeachment information (so-called "*Brady* information") to a prosecuting attorney.

#### 610.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Brady information** - Information known or possessed by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office that is both favorable and material to the current prosecution or defense of a criminal defendant.

### 610.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office will assist the prosecution by complying with its obligation to disclose information that is both favorable and material to the defense. The Office will identify and disclose to the prosecution potentially exculpatory information, as provided in this policy.

### 610.3 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 attorney-client information, attorney work product), 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 Office case file.

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Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

## *Brady Material Disclosure*

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### **610.4 INVESTIGATING BRADY ISSUES**

If the Office 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.

### **610.5 TRAINING**

Office members should receive periodic training on the requirements of this policy.

## Chapter 7 - Equipment

## Office Owned and Personal Property

### 700.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Office 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 office 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 office property assigned or entrusted to them. An employee's intentional or negligent abuse or misuse of office 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 office issued property or equipment assigned for their use.
- (b) The use of damaged or unserviceable office property should be discontinued as soon as practical and replaced with comparable Office property as soon as available and following notice to a supervisor.
- (c) Except when otherwise directed by competent authority or required by exigent circumstances, office 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) Office property shall not be thrown away, sold, traded, donated, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of without proper authority.
- (e) In the event that any Office property becomes damaged or unserviceable, no employee shall attempt to repair the property without prior approval of a supervisor.

#### 700.2.1 CARE OF OFFICE BUILDINGS AND/ OR OFFICES

Members and employees shall not damage, mark, or deface any surface in any office building or office. No material shall be affixed in any way to any wall without specific authorization from a supervisor. When damage does occur, the employee will be charged for reimbursement to the County.

### 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 shall 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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### *Office Owned and Personal Property*

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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 Office 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.

## Property Inventory

### 701.1 PROPERTY INVENTORY

Each Division Commander shall see that an inventory of all County equipment and materials in each division, section, and/or unit shall be prepared annually by the unit supervisor. The inventory shall include description, brand, model number, serial number and County of Yolo number.



## Personal Communication Devices

### 702.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the use of mobile telephones and communication devices, whether issued or funded by the Department or personally owned, while on-duty or when used for authorized work-related purposes.

This policy generically refers to all such devices as Personal Communication Devices (PCDs) but is intended to include all mobile telephones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), wireless capable tablets and similar wireless two-way communications and/or portable Internet access devices. PCD use includes, but is not limited to, placing and receiving calls, text messaging, blogging and microblogging, emailing, using video or camera features, playing games and accessing sites or services on the Internet.

### 702.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office allows members to utilize department-issued or funded PCDs and to possess personally owned PCDs in the workplace, subject to certain limitations. Any PCD used while on-duty, or used off-duty in any manner reasonably related to the business of the Department, will be subject to monitoring and inspection consistent with the standards set forth in this policy.

The inappropriate use of a PCD while on-duty may impair officer safety. Additionally, members are advised and cautioned that the use of a personally owned PCD either on-duty or after duty hours for business-related purposes may subject the member and the member's PCD records to civil or criminal discovery or disclosure under applicable public records laws.

Members who have questions regarding the application of this policy or the guidelines contained herein are encouraged to seek clarification from supervisory personnel.

### 702.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to any communication accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any PCD issued or funded by the Department and shall have no expectation of privacy in their location should the device be equipped with location detection capabilities (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

#### 702.3.1 CALIFORNIA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY ACT (CALECPA)

No member is authorized to be the sole possessor of a department-issued PCD. Department-issued PCDs can be retrieved, reassigned, accessed or used by any member as directed by a supervisor without notice. Member use of a department-issued PCD and use of a personal PCD at work or for work-related business constitutes specific consent for access for department purposes. Prior to conducting an administrative search of a PCD, supervisors should consult legal counsel to ensure access is consistent with CalECPA (Penal Code § 1546; Penal Code § 1546.1).

## *Personal Communication Devices*

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### **702.4 DEPARTMENT-ISSUED PCD**

Depending on a member's assignment and the needs of the position, the Department may, at its discretion, issue or fund a PCD. Department-issued or funded PCDs are provided as a convenience to facilitate on-duty performance only. Such devices and the associated telephone number shall remain the sole property of the Department and shall be subject to inspection or monitoring (including all related records and content) at any time without notice and without cause.

Unless a member is expressly authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee for off-duty use of the PCD, the PCD will either be secured in the workplace at the completion of the tour of duty or will be turned off when leaving the workplace.

#### **702.4.1 REMOTE ACCESS POLICY**

Many positions within the Sheriff's Office have been assigned cellular phones, smart phones and tablets or have access to their county email accounts via their personal electronic devices. These devices are a means to enhance the availability of employees during their normal working hours and are not required to be used during their off-time, unless the employee is "on-call."

Non-exempt employees assigned such devices or who have the ability to access County email accounts on personal electronic devices are not permitted to use them to conduct any substantial work in their off-time which is not documented as time worked. Any substantial time worked during the employee's off-time, via these devices, must be pre-approved by a supervisor and documented as such on their time sheets.

Failure to follow this policy may result in the loss of use of remote access to employee's county accounts.

### **702.5 PERSONALLY OWNED PCD**

Members may carry a personally owned PCD while on-duty, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- (a) Permission to carry a personally owned PCD 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 PCD.
- (c) The PCD and any associated services shall be purchased, used and maintained solely at the member's expense.
- (d) The device should not be used for work-related purposes except in exigent circumstances (e.g., unavailability of radio communications). Members will have a reduced expectation of privacy when using a personally owned PCD in the workplace and have no expectation of privacy with regard to any department business-related communication.
  1. Members may use personally owned PCDs on-duty for routine administrative work as authorized by the Sheriff.

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### *Personal Communication Devices*

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- (e) The device shall not be utilized to record or disclose any business-related information, including photographs, video or the 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.
- (f) Use of a personally owned PCD while at work or for work-related business constitutes consent for the Department to access the PCD to inspect and copy data to meet the needs of the Department, which may include litigation, public records retention and release obligations and internal investigations. If the PCD is carried on-duty, members will provide the Department with the telephone number of the device.
- (g) All work-related documents, emails, photographs, recordings or other public records created or received on a member's personally owned PCD should be transferred to the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and deleted from the member's PCD as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than the end of the member's shift.

Except with prior express authorization from their supervisor, members are not obligated or required to carry, access, monitor or respond to electronic communications using a personally owned PCD while off-duty. If a member is in an authorized status that allows for appropriate compensation consistent with policy or existing memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreements, or if the member has prior express authorization from his/her supervisor, the member may engage in business-related communications. Should members engage in such approved off-duty communications or work, members entitled to compensation shall promptly document the time worked and communicate the information to their supervisors to ensure appropriate compensation. Members who independently document off-duty department-related business activities in any manner shall promptly provide the Department with a copy of such records to ensure accurate record keeping.

#### **702.6 USE OF PCD**

The following protocols shall apply to all PCDs that are carried while on-duty or used to conduct department business:

- (a) A PCD shall not be carried in a manner that allows it to be visible while in uniform, unless it is in an approved carrier.
- (b) All PCDs in the workplace shall be set to silent or vibrate mode.
- (c) A PCD may not be used to conduct personal business while on-duty, except for brief personal communications (e.g., informing family of extended hours). Members shall endeavor to limit their use of PCDs to authorized break times, unless an emergency exists.
- (d) Members may use a PCD to communicate with other personnel in situations where the use of radio communications is either impracticable or not feasible. PCDs should not be used as a substitute for, as a way to avoid, or in lieu of regular radio communications.

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## *Personal Communication Devices*

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- (e) Members are prohibited from taking pictures, audio or video recordings or making copies of any such picture or recording media unless it is directly related to official department business. Disclosure of any such information to any third party through any means, without the express authorization of the Sheriff or the authorized designee, may result in discipline.
- (f) Members will not access social networking sites for any purpose that is not official department business.
- (g) Using PCDs to harass, threaten, coerce or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct with any third party is prohibited. Any member having knowledge of such conduct shall promptly notify a supervisor.

### **702.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring that members under their command are provided appropriate training on the use of PCDs consistent with this policy.
- (b) Monitoring, to the extent practicable, PCD use in the workplace and taking prompt corrective action if a member is observed or reported to be improperly using a PCD.
  1. An investigation into improper conduct should be promptly initiated when circumstances warrant.
  2. Before conducting any administrative search of a member's personally owned device, supervisors should consult with the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

### **702.8 USE WHILE DRIVING**

The use of a PCD 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 the PCD.

Members who are operating department vehicles that are not authorized emergency vehicles shall not use a PCD while driving unless the device is specifically designed and configured to allow hands-free use. In an emergency, a wireless phone may be used to place an emergency call to the Department or other emergency services agency (Vehicle Code § 23123; Vehicle Code § 23123.5). Hands-free use should be restricted to business-related calls or calls of an urgent nature.

### **702.9 OFFICIAL USE**

Members are reminded that PCDs are not secure devices and conversations may be intercepted or overheard. Caution should be exercised while utilizing PCDs to ensure that sensitive information is not inadvertently transmitted. As soon as reasonably possible, members shall conduct sensitive or private communications on a land-based or other department communications network.

## Vehicle Maintenance

### 703.1 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.

### 703.2 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.

#### 703.2.1 REMOVAL OF WEAPONS

All firearms, weapons and control devices shall be removed from a vehicle and properly secured in the department armory prior to the vehicle being released for maintenance, service or repair.

#### 703.2.2 DAMAGE OR POOR PERFORMANCE

Vehicles that may have been damaged, or perform poorly shall be removed from service for inspections and repairs as soon as practicable.

### 703.3 VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

Certain items shall be maintained in all department vehicles for emergency purposes and to perform routine duties.

#### 703.3.1 PATROL VEHICLES

Deputies shall inspect the patrol vehicle at the beginning of the shift 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

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- 1 Evidence collection kit
- 1 Camera

### **703.3.2 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
- 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

### **703.4 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 locations.

### **703.5 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.

### **703.6 CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE USE**

Civilian employees using marked vehicles shall ensure all weapons are removed from vehicles before going into service. Civilian employees shall also prominently display the "out of service"

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placards or lightbar covers at all times. Civilian employees shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

## Vehicle Use

### 704.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a system of accountability to ensure office vehicles are used appropriately. This policy provides guidelines for on- and off-duty use of office vehicles and shall not be construed to create or imply any contractual obligation by the County of Yolo to provide assigned take-home vehicles.

### 704.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office provides vehicles for office-related business and may assign patrol and unmarked vehicles based on a determination of operational efficiency, economic impact to the Office, requirements for tactical deployments and other considerations.

### 704.3 USE OF VEHICLES

County-owned vehicles shall only be used for official business and, when approved, for commuting to allow members to respond to office-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, MDC and/or a GPS device shall ensure the devices are on and set to an audible volume whenever the vehicle is in operation.

#### 704.3.1 SHIFT ASSIGNED VEHICLES

The Shift Supervisor shall ensure a copy of the shift assignment roster indicating member assignments and vehicle numbers is completed for each shift and retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule. If a member exchanges vehicles during his/her shift, the new vehicle number shall be documented on the roster.

#### 704.3.2 OTHER USE OF VEHICLES

Members utilizing a vehicle for any purpose other than their normally assigned duties or normal vehicle assignment (e.g., transportation to training, community event) shall first notify the Shift Supervisor. A notation will be made on the shift assignment roster indicating the member's name and vehicle number.

This subsection does not apply to those who are assigned to vehicle transportation duties to and from the maintenance yard or carwash.

#### 704.3.3 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.



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The interior of any vehicle that has been used to transport any person other than a member of this office 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 office 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.

#### 704.3.4 SECURITY AND UNATTENDED VEHICLES

Unattended vehicles should be locked and secured at all times. No key should be left in the vehicle except when it is necessary that the vehicle be left running (e.g., continued activation of emergency lights, canine safety, equipment charging). Deputies who exit a vehicle rapidly in an emergency situation or to engage in a foot pursuit must carefully balance the need to exit the vehicle quickly with the need to secure the vehicle.

Members shall ensure all weapons are secured while the vehicle is unattended.

#### 704.3.5 MDC

Members assigned to vehicles equipped with a Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) shall log onto the MDC with the required information when going on-duty. If the vehicle is not equipped with a working MDC, the member shall notify Dispatch. Use of the MDC is governed by the Mobile Digital Computer Use Policy.

#### 704.3.6 VEHICLE LOCATION SYSTEM

Patrol and other vehicles, at the discretion of the Sheriff, may be equipped with a system designed to track the vehicle's location. While the system may provide vehicle location and other information, members are not relieved of their responsibility to use required communication practices to report their location and status.

Members shall not make any unauthorized modifications to the system. At the start of each shift, members shall verify that the system is on and report any malfunctions to their supervisor. If the member finds that the system is not functioning properly at any time during the shift, he/she should exchange the vehicle for one with a working system, if available.

System data may be accessed by supervisors at any time. However, access to historical data by other than supervisors will require Division Commander approval.

All data captured by the system shall be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

#### 704.3.7 KEYS

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.

#### **704.3.8 AUTHORIZED PASSENGERS**

Members operating office vehicles shall not permit persons other than County personnel or persons required to be conveyed in the performance of duty, or as otherwise authorized, to ride as passengers in the vehicle, except as stated in the Ride-Along Policy.

#### **704.3.9 VEHICLE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT**

Personnel shall not add to or alter any Office vehicle, such as decals, stickers, flags, markings, etc., without written permission from the Division Commander.

#### **704.3.10 PARKING**

Except when responding to an emergency or when urgent office-related business requires otherwise, members driving office vehicles should obey all parking regulations at all times.

Office vehicles should be parked in assigned stalls. Members shall not park privately owned vehicles in stalls assigned to office 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.

#### **704.3.11 ALCOHOL**

Members who have consumed alcohol are prohibited from operating any office 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.

#### **704.3.12 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS**

There shall be no modifications, additions or removal of any equipment or accessories without written permission from the assigned vehicle program manager.

#### **704.3.13 CIVILIAN MEMBER USE**

Civilian members using marked emergency vehicles shall ensure that all weapons have been removed before going into service. Civilian members shall prominently display the "out of service" placards or light bar covers at all times. Civilian members shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

### **704.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER ASSIGNMENT TO VEHICLES**

Office 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.

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#### 704.4.1 UNSCHEDULED TAKE-HOME USE

Circumstances may arise where office vehicles must be used by members to commute to and from a work assignment. Members may take home office vehicles only with prior approval of a supervisor and shall meet the following criteria:

- (a) The circumstances are unplanned and were created by the needs of the office.
- (b) Other reasonable transportation options are not available.
- (c) The member lives within a reasonable distance (generally not to exceed a 60-minute drive time) of the Yolo County limits.
- (d) Off-street parking will be available at the member's residence.
- (e) Vehicles will be locked when not attended.
- (f) All firearms, weapons and control devices will be removed from the interior of the vehicle and properly secured in the residence when the vehicle is not attended, unless the vehicle is parked in a locked garage.

#### 704.4.3 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

When driving a take-home vehicle to and from work outside of the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office or while off-duty, a deputy shall not initiate enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists (see the Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions and Law Enforcement Authority policies).

Deputies may render public assistance when it is deemed prudent (e.g., to a stranded motorist).

Deputies driving take-home vehicles shall 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.

#### 704.4.3 MAINTENANCE

Members are responsible for the cleanliness (exterior and interior) and overall maintenance of their assigned vehicles. Cleaning and maintenance supplies will be provided by the Office. Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in discipline and loss of vehicle assignment. The following should be performed as outlined below:

- (a) Members shall make daily inspections of their assigned vehicles for service/maintenance requirements and damage.
- (b) It is the member's responsibility to ensure that his/her assigned vehicle is maintained according to the established service and maintenance schedule.
- (c) All scheduled vehicle maintenance and car washes shall be performed as necessary at a facility approved by the office supervisor in charge of vehicle maintenance.
- (d) The Office shall be notified of problems with the vehicle and approve any major repairs before they are performed.
- (e) When leaving the vehicle at the maintenance facility, the member will complete a vehicle repair card explaining the service or repair, and leave it on the seat or dash.

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- (f) All weapons shall be removed from any vehicle left for maintenance.
- (g) 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 this policy.

#### **704.5 UNMARKED VEHICLES**

Vehicles are assigned to various divisions and their use is restricted to the respective division and the assigned member, unless otherwise approved by a division supervisor. Any member operating an unmarked vehicle shall record vehicle usage on the sign-out log maintained in the division for that purpose. Any use of unmarked vehicles by those who are not assigned to the division to which the vehicle is assigned shall also record the use with the Shift Supervisor on the shift assignment roster.

#### **704.6 DAMAGE, ABUSE AND MISUSE**

When any office 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 the Traffic Collision Reporting Policy).

Damage to any office 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 Shift Supervisor. An administrative investigation should be initiated to determine if there has been any vehicle abuse or misuse.

#### **704.7 TOLL ROAD USAGE**

Law enforcement vehicles are not routinely exempted from incurring toll road charges.

To avoid unnecessary toll road charges, all members operating office vehicles on a toll road shall adhere to the following:

- (a) Members operating office vehicles for any reason other than in response to an emergency shall pay the appropriate toll charge or utilize the appropriate toll way transponder. Members may submit a request for reimbursement from the County for any toll fees incurred in the course of official business.
- (b) Members passing through a toll plaza or booth during a response to an emergency shall notify, in writing, the appropriate Division Commander within five working days explaining the circumstances.

#### **704.8 ATTIRE AND APPEARANCE**

When operating any office vehicle while off-duty, members may dress in a manner appropriate for their intended activity. Whenever in view of or in contact with the public, attire and appearance, regardless of the activity, should be suitable to reflect positively upon the Office.

## Seat Belts

### 705.1 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 office vehicles (Vehicle Code § 27315.5).

#### 705.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Child restraint system** - An infant or child passenger restraint system that meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and Regulations set forth in 49 CFR 571.213.

### 705.2 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 office 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.

### 705.3 TRANSPORTING SUSPECTS, PRISONERS OR ARRESTEES

Suspects, prisoners and arrestees should be in a seated position and secured in the rear seat of any office vehicle with a prisoner restraint system or, when a prisoner restraint system is not available, by seat belts provided by the vehicle manufacturer. The prisoner restraint system is not intended to be a substitute for handcuffs or other appendage restraints.

Prisoners in leg restraints shall be transported in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

### 705.4 INOPERABLE SEAT BELTS

Office 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.

Office 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.

### 705.5 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office that members use safety and child restraint systems to reduce the possibility of death or injury in a motor vehicle collision.

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### **705.6 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 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).

### **705.7 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.

### **705.8 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.

## Cash Handling, Security and Management

### 706.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure department members handle cash appropriately in the performance of their duties.

This policy does not address cash-handling issues specific to the Property and Evidence and Informants policies.

### 706.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to properly handle and document cash transactions and to maintain accurate records of cash transactions in order to protect the integrity of department operations and ensure the public trust.

### 706.3 PETTY CASH FUNDS

The Sheriff shall designate a person as the fund manager responsible for maintaining and managing the petty cash fund.

Each petty cash fund requires the creation and maintenance of an accurate and current transaction ledger and the filing of invoices, receipts, cash transfer forms and expense reports by the fund manager.

### 706.4 PETTY CASH TRANSACTIONS

The fund manager shall document all transactions on the ledger and any other appropriate forms. Each person participating in the transaction shall sign or otherwise validate the ledger, attesting to the accuracy of the entry. Transactions should include the filing of an appropriate receipt, invoice or cash transfer form. Transactions that are not documented by a receipt, invoice or cash transfer form require an expense report.

### 706.5 PETTY CASH AUDITS

The fund manager shall perform an audit no less than once every six months. This audit requires that the fund manager and at least one command staff member, selected by the Sheriff, review the transaction ledger and verify the accuracy of the accounting. The fund manager and the participating member shall sign or otherwise validate the ledger attesting to the accuracy of all documentation and fund accounting. A discrepancy in the audit requires documentation by those performing the audit and an immediate reporting of the discrepancy to the Sheriff.

Transference of fund management to another member shall require a separate petty cash audit and involve a command staff member.

A separate audit of each petty cash fund should be completed on a random date, approximately once each year by the Sheriff or the County.

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### *Cash Handling, Security and Management*

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#### **706.6 ROUTINE CASH HANDLING**

Those who handle cash as part of their property or Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Task Force supervisor duties shall discharge those duties in accordance with the Property and Evidence and Informants policies.

Members who routinely accept payment for department services shall discharge those duties in accordance with the procedures established for those tasks.

#### **706.7 OTHER CASH HANDLING**

Members of the Department who, within the course of their duties, are in possession of cash that is not their property or that is outside their defined cash-handling responsibilities shall, as soon as practicable, verify the amount, summon another member to verify their accounting, and process the cash for safekeeping or as evidence or found property, in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

Cash in excess of \$1,000 requires immediate notification of a supervisor, special handling, verification and accounting by the supervisor. Each member involved in this process shall complete an appropriate report or record entry.



## Personal Protective Equipment

### 708.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy identifies the different types of personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the Department as well the requirements and guidelines for the use of PPE.

This policy does not address ballistic vests or protection from communicable disease, as those issues are addressed in the Body Armor and Communicable Diseases policies.

#### 708.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Personal protective equipment (PPE)** - Equipment that protects a person from serious workplace injuries or illnesses resulting from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical or other workplace hazards.

**Respiratory PPE** - Any device that is worn by the user to protect from exposure to atmospheres where there is smoke, low levels of oxygen, high levels of carbon monoxide, or the presence of toxic gases or other respiratory hazards. For purposes of this policy, respiratory PPE does not include particulate-filtering masks such as N95 or N100 masks.

### 708.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office endeavors to protect members by supplying certain PPE to members as provided in this policy.

### 708.3 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Members are required to use PPE as provided in this policy and pursuant to their training.

Members are responsible for proper maintenance and storage of issued PPE. PPE should be stored in an appropriate location so that it is available when needed.

Any member who identifies hazards in the workplace is encouraged to utilize the procedures in the Illness and Injury Prevention Policy to recommend new or improved PPE or additional needs for PPE.

### 708.4 HEARING PROTECTION

Approved hearing protection shall be used by members during firearms training.

Hearing protection shall meet or exceed the requirements provided in 8 CCR 5098.

### 708.5 EYE PROTECTION

Approved eye protection, including side protection, shall be used by members during firearms training. Eye protection for members who wear prescription lenses shall incorporate the prescription (e.g., eye protection that can be worn over prescription lenses). Members shall ensure their eye protection does not interfere with the fit of their hearing protection.

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The Rangemaster shall ensure eye protection meets or exceeds the requirements provided in 8 CCR 3382.

### **708.6 HEAD AND BODY PROTECTION**

Members who make arrests or control crowds should be provided ballistic head protection with an attachable face shield.

Padded body protection consisting of chest, arm, leg and groin protection should be provided as required by any collective bargaining agreement.

### **708.7 RESPIRATORY PROTECTION**

The Administration Division Commander is responsible for ensuring a respiratory protection plan is developed and maintained by a trained and qualified member. The plan shall include procedures for (8 CCR 5144):

- (a) Selecting appropriate respiratory PPE based on hazards and risks associated with functions or positions.
- (b) Fit testing, including identification of members or contractors qualified to conduct fit testing.
- (c) Medical evaluations.
- (d) PPE inventory control.
- (e) PPE issuance and replacement.
- (f) Cleaning, disinfecting, storing, inspecting, repairing, discarding and otherwise maintaining respiratory PPE, including schedules for these activities.
- (g) Regularly reviewing the PPE plan.
- (h) Remaining current with applicable National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) and state PPE standards and guidelines.

#### **708.7.1 RESPIRATORY PROTECTION USE**

Designated members may be issued respiratory PPE based on the member's assignment (e.g., a narcotics investigator who is involved in clandestine lab investigations).

Respiratory PPE may be worn when authorized by a scene commander who will determine the type and level of protection appropriate at a scene based upon an evaluation of the hazards present.

Scene commanders are responsible for monitoring members using respiratory PPE and their degree of exposure or stress. When there is a change in work area conditions or when a member's degree of exposure or stress may affect respirator effectiveness, the scene commander shall reevaluate the continued effectiveness of the respirator and direct the member to leave the respirator use area when the scene commander reasonably believes (8 CCR 5144):

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### *Personal Protective Equipment*

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- (a) It is necessary for the member to wash his/her face and the respirator facepiece to prevent eye or skin irritation associated with respirator use.
- (b) The member detects vapor or gas breakthrough, or there is a change in breathing resistance or leakage of the facepiece.
- (c) The member needs to replace the respirator, filter, cartridge or canister.

#### 708.7.2 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Members shall not use self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), full-face respirators or cartridge respirators unless they have completed training requirements for the equipment.

Members exposed to environments that are reasonably known to be harmful due to gases, smoke or vapors shall use respiratory PPE.

Members using respiratory PPE shall (8 CCR 5144):

- (a) Ensure that they have no facial hair between the sealing surface of the facepiece and the face that could interfere with the seal or the valve function. Members also shall ensure that they have no other condition that will interfere with the face-to-facepiece seal or the valve function.
- (b) Not wear corrective glasses, goggles or other PPE that interferes with the seal of the facepiece to the face, or that has not been previously tested for use with that respiratory equipment.
- (c) Perform a user seal check per department-approved procedures recommended by the respirator manufacturer each time they put on a tight-fitting respirator.
- (d) Leave a respiratory use area whenever they detect vapor or gas breakthrough, changes in breathing resistance or leakage of their facepiece and ensure that the respirator is replaced or repaired before returning to the affected area.

#### 708.7.3 GAS MASK

Full-face air-purifying respirators, commonly referred to as gas masks, may be fitted with mechanical pre-filters or combination cartridge/filter assemblies for use in areas where gases, vapors, dusts, fumes or mists are present. Members must identify and use the correct cartridge based on the circumstances (8 CCR 5144).

A scene commander may order the use of gas masks in situations where the use of a SCBA is not necessary. These incidents may include areas where tear gas has or will be used or where a vegetation fire is burning. Gas masks shall not be used if there is a potential for an oxygen-deficient atmosphere.

Members shall ensure their gas mask filters are replaced whenever:

- (a) They smell, taste or are irritated by a contaminant.
- (b) They experience difficulty breathing due to filter loading.
- (c) The cartridges or filters become wet.
- (d) The expiration date on the cartridges or canisters has been reached.

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### 708.7.4 SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

Scene commanders may direct members to use SCBA when entering an atmosphere that may pose an immediate threat to life, would cause irreversible adverse health effects or would impair an individual's ability to escape from a dangerous atmosphere. These situations may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Entering the hot zone of a hazardous materials incident.
- (b) Entering any area where contaminant levels may become unsafe without warning, or any situation where exposures cannot be identified or reasonably estimated.
- (c) Entering a smoke- or chemical-filled area.

The use of SCBA should not cease until approved by a scene commander.

### 708.7.5 RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING

No member shall be issued respiratory PPE until a proper fit testing has been completed by a designated member or contractor (8 CCR 5144).

After initial testing, fit testing for respiratory PPE shall be repeated (8 CCR 5144):

- (a) At least once every 12 months.
- (b) Whenever there are changes in the type of SCBA or facepiece used.
- (c) Whenever there are significant physical changes in the user (e.g., obvious change in body weight, scarring of the face seal area, dental changes, cosmetic surgery or any other condition that may affect the fit of the facepiece seal).

All respirator fit testing shall be conducted in negative-pressure mode.

### 708.7.6 RESPIRATORY MEDICAL EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

No member shall be issued respiratory protection that forms a complete seal around the face until (8 CCR 5144):

- (a) The member has completed a medical evaluation that includes a medical evaluation questionnaire.
- (b) A physician or other licensed health care professional has reviewed the questionnaire.
- (c) The member has completed any physical examination recommended by the reviewing physician or health care professional.

## **708.8 RECORDS**

The Training Manager is responsible for maintaining records of all:

- (a) PPE training.
- (b) Initial fit testing for respiratory protection equipment.
- (c) Annual fit testing.
- (d) Respirator medical evaluation questionnaires and any subsequent physical examination results.

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1. These records shall be maintained in a separate confidential medical file.

The records shall be maintained in accordance with the department records retention schedule and 8 CCR 5144.

### **708.9 TRAINING**

Members should be trained in the respiratory and other hazards to which they may be potentially exposed during routine and emergency situations.

All members shall be trained in the proper use and maintenance of PPE issued to them, including when the use is appropriate; how to put on, remove and adjust PPE; how to care for the PPE; and the limitations (8 CCR 3380).

Members issued respiratory PPE shall attend annual training on the proper use of respiratory protection devices (8 CCR 5144).

## **Chapter 8 - Support Services**

## Records Section

### **800.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This policy establishes the guidelines for the operational functions of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office Records Section. The policy addresses office file access and internal requests for case reports.

### **800.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to maintain office records securely, professionally, and efficiently.

### **800.3 DETERMINATION OF FACTUAL INNOCENCE**

In any case where a person has been arrested by deputies of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and no accusatory pleading has been filed, the person arrested may petition the Office 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 DOJ and other law enforcement agencies (Penal Code § 851.8).

The Administration Supervisor should respond to a petition with the Office's decision within 45 days of receipt. Responses should include only the decision of the Office, not an explanation of the analysis leading to the decision.

### **800.4 ARREST WITHOUT FILING OF ACCUSATORY PLEADING**

The Records Manager 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 Office and the record reflects only a detention.
- (c) The California DOJ is notified.

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#### **800.5 FILE ACCESS AND SECURITY**

The security of files in the Records Section 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 office case, including field interview (FI) cards, criminal history records, and publicly accessible logs, shall be maintained in a secure area within the Records Section, accessible only by authorized members of the Records Section. Access to case reports or files when Records Section staff is not available may be obtained through the Shift Supervisor.

The Records Section will also maintain a secure file for case reports deemed by the Sheriff as sensitive or otherwise requiring extraordinary access restrictions.

#### **800.6 ORIGINAL CASE REPORTS**

Generally, original case reports shall not be removed from the Records Section. Should an original case report be needed for any reason, the requesting office member shall first obtain authorization from the Records Manager. All original case reports removed from the Records Section shall be recorded on a designated report check-out log, which shall be the only authorized manner by which an original case report may be removed from the Records Section.

All original case reports to be removed from the Records Section shall be photocopied and the photocopy retained in the file location of the original case report until the original is returned to the Records Section. The photocopied report shall be shredded upon return of the original report to the file.

#### **800.7 CONFIDENTIALITY**

Records Section staff has access to information that may be confidential or sensitive in nature. Records Section 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 Section procedure manual.



## Crime Analysis

### 801.1 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.

### 801.2 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)

### 801.3 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

### 801.4 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.

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## Animal Services

### 802.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for interacting with animals and responding to calls for service that involve animals.

### 802.2 ANIMAL SERVICES RESPONSIBILITIES

Animal control services are generally the primary responsibility of Animal Services and include:

- (a) Animal-related matters during periods when Animal Services is available.
- (b) Ongoing or persistent animal nuisance complaints. Such complaints may be scheduled, if reasonable, for handling during periods that Animal Services is available for investigation and resolution.
- (c) Follow-up on animal-related calls, such as locating owners of injured animals.

### 802.3 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members who respond to or assist with animal-related calls for service should evaluate the situation to determine the appropriate actions to control the situation.

Due to the hazards of handling animals without proper training and equipment, responding members generally should not attempt to capture or pick up any animal, but should keep the animal under observation until the arrival of appropriate assistance.

Members may consider acting before the arrival of such assistance when:

- (a) There is a threat to public safety.
- (b) An animal has bitten someone. Members should take measures to confine the animal and prevent further injury.
- (c) An animal is creating a traffic hazard.
- (d) An animal is seriously injured.
- (e) The owner/handler of an animal has been arrested or is incapacitated. In such circumstances, the member should find appropriate placement for the animal.
  - 1. This is only necessary when the arrestee is expected to be in custody for a time period longer than would reasonably allow him/her to properly care for the animal.
  - 2. With the owner's consent, locating appropriate placement may require contacting relatives or neighbors to care for the animal.
  - 3. If no person can be found or the owner does not or cannot give consent, the animal should be taken to a designated animal care facility.

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### **802.4 DECEASED ANIMALS**

When a member becomes aware of a deceased animal, all reasonable attempts should be made to preliminarily determine if the death of the animal is related to criminal activity.

Deceased animals on public property should be removed, sealed in a plastic bag, and properly disposed of by the responding member.

Members should not climb onto or under any privately owned structure for the purpose of removing a deceased animal.

When handling deceased animals, members should attempt to identify and notify the owner of the final disposition of the animal.

### **802.5 INJURED ANIMALS**

When a member becomes aware of an injured domesticated animal, all reasonable attempts should be made to contact an owner or responsible handler. If an owner or responsible handler cannot be located, the animal should be taken to a veterinarian and notice shall be given to the owner pursuant to the requirements of Penal Code § 597.1.

#### **802.5.1 VETERINARY CARE**

The injured animal should be taken to a veterinarian as follows:

- (a) During normal business hours, the animal should be taken to an authorized veterinary care clinic.
- (b) If after normal business hours, the animal should be taken to the authorized Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Services Clinic.
- (c) An exception to the above exists when the animal is an immediate danger to the community or the owner of the animal is identified and takes responsibility for the injured animal.

Each incident shall be documented and, at minimum, include the name of the reporting party and veterinary hospital and/or person to whom the animal is released.

If the Animal Shelter is not available, the information will be forwarded for follow-up.

#### **802.5.2 INJURED WILDLIFE**

Injured wildlife should be referred to the Department of Fish and Wildlife or the Marine Mammal Center as applicable.

#### **802.5.3 RESCUE OF ANIMALS IN VEHICLES**

If an animal left unattended in a vehicle appears to be in distress, members may enter the vehicle for the purpose of rescuing the animal. Members should (Penal Code § 597.7(d)):

- (a) Make a reasonable effort to locate the owner before entering the vehicle.
- (b) Take steps to minimize damage to the vehicle.

## *Animal Services*

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- (c) Refrain from searching the vehicle or seizing items except as otherwise permitted by law.
- (d) Leave notice on or in the vehicle identifying the location where the animal has been taken and the name and Department of the member involved in the rescue.
- (e) Make reasonable efforts to contact the owner or secure the vehicle before leaving the scene.
- (f) Take the animal to an animal care facility, a place of safekeeping or, if necessary, a veterinary hospital for treatment.

### **802.6 FIREARMS-ANIMAL SERVICES**

This policy recognizes that Animal Services Officers may not perform full peace officer functions as a routine part of their duties. Therefore, the primary use of firearms by an Animal Services Officer (ASO) is the humane euthanasia of a severely injured or sick animal suffering irremediably, when another practical and humane method is not immediately available, and for personal self-defense from death or serious bodily injury when all other reasonable means have failed.

This policy is not intended to countermand or replace Department policy pertaining to Deputy Sheriff personnel; rather, its purpose is to establish uniform guidelines for the use of firearms by Animal Services personnel in the performance of their duties. This policy shall also govern the use of tranquilizer projectors.

### **802.7 USE OF FIREARMS-ANIMAL CONTROL**

It shall be the policy of the Department that an ASO's firearm may be discharged during the course and within the scope of the officer's employment only under one or more of the following circumstances:

- a. When euthanizing seriously injured, sick, or dangerous wild animals when other disposition is impractical.
- b. When euthanizing seriously injured or sick livestock suffering irremediably. A veterinarian should be contacted prior to the killing of a horse to evaluate the extent of its condition, if a veterinarian is able to respond within a reasonable amount of time.
- c. When eradicating rabid, or suspected rabid, animals.
- d. When eradicating vicious, unrestrained animals that have bitten, that cannot be otherwise captured.
- e. When eradicating vicious, unrestrained animals threatening public safety that cannot be otherwise captured.
- f. When eradicating dogs that are found killing, wounding or persistently pursuing or worrying livestock.
- g. As a means of personal self-defense from death or serious bodily injury when all other reasonable means have failed.

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- h. At the firearms range during the course of training and firearms qualification.
- i. Special situations approved by the Field Operations Division Commander

### **802.8 AUTHORIZATION**

Prior authorization from a supervisor (when available) must be obtained before a firearm is discharged, except in the following instances:

- a. Eradicating skunks.
- b. Eradicating rabid, or suspected rabid, animals that cannot otherwise be immediately captured and may be lost.
- c. As a means of personal self-defense from death or serious bodily injury when all other reasonable means have failed.

### **802.9 AUTHORIZED FIREARMS**

Department issued weapons are the only firearms authorized to be possessed and/or used by ASOs while on-duty and working in the course of their employment. This includes ASOs who have been called out while being assigned to "on-call." Except in an emergency, or as directed by the Division Commander, no Department issued firearms shall be carried by an ASO who has not successfully completed minimum P.O.S.T. and Department training requirements and qualified with that weapon at an authorized Department firearms training session. No Department issued firearms shall be carried that have not been thoroughly inspected by the Range Master.

Department issued firearms are:

MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION
Remington	870	12 gauge, pump action shotgun
Ruger	Mini 14	.223 caliber, semi automatic rifle

### **802.10 FIREARMS TRAINING**

All ASOs are required to successfully complete a P.O.S.T. 832(a) P.C. course, including that part of training course specified in Section 832 pertaining to the carrying and use of firearms. ASOs are required to attend mandated Department firearms training, maintain minimum firearms proficiency standards, current weapons qualification, and maintenance of their individual weapons.

### **802.11 FIREARMS QUALIFICATION**

All ASOs are required to qualify twice a year with their duty weapons.

### **802.12 NON-QUALIFICATION**

ASOs who fail to maintain minimum proficiency standards will be required to attend and successfully complete a structured remediation program. If it is found that the employee is

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not responding to remediation, the employee will be deemed to have failed to meet minimum standards of an essential job requirement.

### **802.13 SAFE HANDLING OF FIREARMS**

The intent of this policy is to promote proper firearm safety on and off duty. ASOs are required to exercise positive control and diligence in making sure that all firearms are handled, stored, and used in the safest possible manner. Any circumstance that requires the use of any firearm must be analyzed by the officer as to eliminate any possible risk to the officer, another person, or property. Employees shall maintain the highest level of safety when handling firearms.

### **802.14 SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

- a. All handling of firearms shall be done in accordance with established safety practices and rules at all times.
- b. ASOs shall not unnecessarily display or handle any firearm.
- c. Firearms shall be carried or secured in the patrol vehicle, locker area and at home with the chamber empty at all times.
- d. A live round of ammunition shall not be chambered in the firearm until the ASO is ready to discharge the weapon.
- e. Firearms are to be removed from the patrol vehicle at the end of each shift, whenever the vehicle is being operated by an employee that has not trained/qualified with the weapon(s) and whenever the vehicle is to be left unattended for extensive periods of time, i.e., county yard, communications, etc.
- f. Only ASOs that are assigned to be "on-call" are authorized to take patrol vehicles and firearms home after normal working hours
- g. ASOs that are assigned to be on-call shall remove firearms from their patrol vehicle, unless they are called out to another location for a call for service, and shall safely secure the firearms in their residence in accordance with California State law.
- h. ASOs shall not place or store any firearm on the Department premise unless they have verified that the chamber of the firearm is empty and that the locker and/or storage area is locked.
- i. ASOs shall be governed and comply with all Department range rules and regulations, and shall obey all orders issued by Department firearms instructors.

### **802.15 ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

Firearms shall not be carried by any ASO who has consumed any alcoholic beverage or ingested any amount of medication and/or prescription or over-the-counter drugs, which would tend to adversely affect the ASO's senses or judgment.

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### **802.16 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**

Firearms carried on duty shall be maintained in a clean, serviceable condition. Weapons are to be regularly inspected by supervisors, and violations are to be documented.

### **802.17 REPAIR AND MODIFICATION OF DUTY WEAPONS**

Malfunctions and/or damage to Department issued weapons shall be immediately reported to the Range Master or a Department firearms instructor. Only Department armorers and/or Department approved gunsmiths shall make any modifications to or repair Department issued weapons.

### **802.18 AMMUNITION**

ASOs shall only carry Department-issued ammunition, CO2 cartridges, darts and tranquilizer solutions.

### **802.19 USE OF TRANQUILIZER PROJECTORS**

Tranquilizer projectors shall only be used under reasonable conditions when animals cannot otherwise be captured, and must be impounded. The following includes, but is not limited to, the circumstances when the tranquilizer equipment may be used:

- a. Capture of vicious, unrestrained animals that have bitten, that cannot be otherwise captured.
- b. Capture of vicious, unrestrained animals threatening public safety that cannot be otherwise captured and where firearms cannot or should not be used.
- c. Capture of vicious, nuisance, or problem dogs that cannot be otherwise captured.
- d. Capture of rabid or suspected rabid animals, which must be tested where firearms cannot or should not be used, or when those animals must be maintained for a definite quarantine period.
- e. Capture of injured or ill animals that cannot be otherwise captured.
- f. Capture and release of distressed wildlife in situations that cannot be resolved by other means.

### **802.20 TRANQUILIZER PROJECTORS**

Only Department issued tranquilizer projectors will be carried. Except in an emergency, or as directed by the Division Commander, no tranquilizer projector shall be carried by an ASO who has not trained and qualified with that projector. All safety rules and regulations pertaining to the use of firearms are to be adhered to in the same manner when using any tranquilizer projector. In addition, safety rules and security requirements pertaining to the use of the controlled substances used with the tranquilizer projectors must also be followed. Prior authorization from a supervisor (when available) must be obtained before a tranquilizer projector is discharged

DEPARTMENT ISSUED TRANQUILIZER PROJECT ARE:

MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION
Pnue-dart	179B	CO2 short/medium range pistol

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Pneue-dart	176B	CO2 short/long range rifle
Pneue-dart	193SS	Cartridge fired rifle (long range only)
Palmer Cap-chur		Long range CO2 projector (rifle style)
Palmer Cap-chur		Short range CO2 projector (pistol style)
		Short range CO2 Net projection gun

### **802.21 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to be responsive to the needs of the community regarding animal-related issues. This includes enforcing local, state and federal laws relating to animals and appropriately resolving or referring animal-related problems, as outlined in this policy.

### **802.22 ANIMAL CRUELTY COMPLAINTS**

Laws relating to the cruelty to animals should be enforced, including but not limited to Penal Code § 597 et seq. (cruelty to animals, failure to care for animals).

- (a) An investigation should be conducted on all reports of animal cruelty.
- (b) Legal steps should be taken to protect an animal that is in need of immediate care or protection from acts of cruelty.

### **802.23 ANIMAL BITE REPORTS**

Members investigating an animal bite should obtain as much information as possible for follow-up with the appropriate health or animal authorities. Efforts should be made to capture or otherwise have the animal placed under control. Members should attempt to identify and notify the owner of the final disposition of the animal.

### **802.24 STRAY DOGS**

If a stray dog has a license or can otherwise be identified, the owner should be contacted, if possible. If the owner is contacted, the dog should be released to the owner and a citation may be issued, if appropriate. If a dog is taken into custody, it shall be transported to the appropriate animal care facility.

Members shall provide reasonable treatment to animals in their care (e.g., food, water, shelter).

### **802.25 DANGEROUS ANIMALS**

In the event responding members cannot fulfill a request for service because an animal is difficult or dangerous to handle, the Shift Supervisor will be contacted to determine available resources, including requesting the assistance of animal control services from an allied agency.

### **802.26 PUBLIC NUISANCE CALLS RELATING TO ANIMALS**

Members should diligently address calls related to nuisance animals (e.g., barking dogs), as such calls may involve significant quality-of-life issues.



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### **802.27 DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS**

When it is necessary to use a firearm to euthanize a badly injured animal or stop an animal that poses an imminent threat to human safety, the Firearms Policy shall be followed. A badly injured animal shall only be euthanized with the approval of a supervisor.

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## Records Maintenance and Release

### 803.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance on the maintenance and release of office records. Protected information is separately covered in the Protected Information Policy.

### 803.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.).

#### 803.2.1 PROCESSING OF REQUESTS

Any member of the public, including the media and elected officials, may access unrestricted records of this Office by submitting a written and signed request for each record sought and paying any associated fees (Government Code § 6253).

The processing of requests is subject to the following limitations:

- (a) The employee processing the request shall determine if the requested record is available and, if so, whether the record is exempt from disclosure. 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 Sheriff or the authorized designee. If an extension is authorized, the Office shall provide written notice of the extension to the requesting party (Government Code § 6253(c)).
- (b) In accordance with the Public Records Act, the office is not required to create records that do not otherwise exist in order to accommodate a request under the Act.

Requests by elected officials for records that are not open to public inspection should be referred to the Administration Division Commander for a determination as to whether the records will be released.

### 803.3 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 Office, including the retention, archiving, release, and destruction of office public records.
- (b) Maintaining and updating the office records retention schedule including:
  - 1. Identifying the minimum length of time the Office must keep records.
  - 2. Identifying the office division responsible for the original record.

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- (c) Establishing rules regarding the inspection and copying of 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 office's website may be used to post public records in accordance with Government Code § 6253.
- (h) Ensuring that all office current standards, policies, practices, operating procedures, and education and training materials are posted on the office website in accordance with Penal Code § 13650.
- (i) Ensuring that public records posted on the 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.
- (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 Office's website.

### **803.4 PROCESSING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS**

Any office member who receives a request for any record shall route the request to the Custodian of Records or the authorized designee.

#### **803.4.1 REQUESTS FOR RECORDS**

Any member of the public, including the media and elected officials, may access unrestricted records of this Office, 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 Office 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 Office 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

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be authorized by the Custodian of Records or the authorized designee. If an extension is authorized, the Office shall provide the requester written notice that includes the reason for the extension and the anticipated date of the response.

- (a) 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).
- (b) If the record requested is available on the Office 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 Office. Records shall not be provided only in electronic format unless specifically requested (Government Code § 6253.9).
- (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.
  - (a) 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 Office-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.

### **803.5 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 office record including traffic collision reports, are restricted except as authorized by the 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).

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- (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, elder and dependent adult abuse) or their representatives shall be 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.

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- (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 office (Government Code § 6254).
- (m) Any memorandum from legal counsel until the pending litigation has been adjudicated or otherwise settled (Government Code § 6254.25).
- (n) Records relating to the security of the 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 § 827.95; Welfare and Institutions Code § 831).

#### **803.6 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.

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All questions regarding compliance with any subpoena duces tecum or discovery request should be promptly referred to legal counsel for the Office so that a timely response can be prepared.

### **803.7 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 Office name and to whom the record was released.

Each audio/video recording released should include the Office name and to whom the record was released.

### **803.8 SEALED RECORD ORDERS**

Sealed record orders received by the 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).

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.

#### **803.8.1 SEALED JUVENILE ARREST RECORDS**

Upon receiving notice from a probation department to seal juvenile arrest records pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 786.5, the Records Manager should ensure that the records are sealed within 60 days of that notice and that the probation department is notified once the records have been sealed (Welfare and Institutions Code § 786.5).

### **803.9 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 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 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

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- 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

### 803.9.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office.
  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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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):
  - (a) 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



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account with the Office 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.

- (b) When the breach involves an email address that was furnished by the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, 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.

### 803.9.2 MANNER OF NOTICE

- (a) Notice may be provided by one of the following methods (Civil Code § 1798.29):
  - (a) Written notice.
  - (b) Electronic notice if the notice provided is consistent with the provisions regarding electronic records and signatures set forth in 15 USC § 7001.
  - (c) Substitute notice if the cost of providing notice would exceed \$250,000, the number of individuals exceeds 500,000 or the Office does not have sufficient contact information. Substitute notice shall consist of all of the following:
    - (a) Email notice when the Office has an email address for the subject person.
    - (b) Conspicuous posting of the notice on the Office's webpage for a minimum of 30 days.
  - (d) Notification to major statewide media and the California Information Security Office within the California Department of Technology.
- (b) If a single breach requires the Office to notify more than 500 California residents, the Office shall electronically submit a sample copy of the notification, excluding any personally identifiable information, to the Attorney General.

### 803.10 RELEASE OF AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDINGS RELATED TO CRITICAL INCIDENTS

Video and audio recordings related to critical incidents shall be released upon a proper public record request and subject to delayed release, redaction, and other release restrictions as provided by law (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

For purposes of this section, a video or audio recording relates to a critical incident if it depicts an incident involving the discharge of a firearm at a person by a deputy, or depicts an incident in which the use of force by a deputy against a person resulted in death or in great bodily injury (as defined by Penal Code § 243(f)(4)) (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

The Custodian of Records should work as appropriate with the Sheriff or the Professional Standards Unit supervisor in determining what recordings may qualify for disclosure when a request for a recording is received and if the requested recording is subject to delay from disclosure, redaction, or other release restrictions. Upon receipt of any such request, the responsible person shall notify the affected member as soon as practicable that such a request has been made.

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#### 803.10.1 DELAY OF RELEASE

Disclosure of critical incident recordings during active criminal or administrative investigations may be delayed as follows if disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation, such as by endangering the safety of a witness or a confidential source:

- (a) Disclosure may be delayed up to 45 days from the date the Office knew or reasonably should have known about the incident.
- (b) Delay of disclosure may continue after the initial 45 days and up to one year if the Office demonstrates that disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation.
- (c) Any delay of disclosure longer than one year must be supported by clear and convincing evidence that disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

#### 803.10.2 NOTICE OF DELAY OF RELEASE

When there is justification to delay disclosure of a recording, the Custodian of Records shall provide written notice to the requester as follows (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)):

- (a) During the initial 45 days, the Custodian of Records shall provide the requester with written notice of the specific basis for the determination that disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation. The notice shall also include the estimated date for the disclosure.
- (b) When delay is continued after the initial 45 days, the Custodian of Records shall promptly provide the requester with written notice of the specific basis for the determination that the interest in preventing interference with an active investigation outweighs the public interest in the disclosure, and the estimated date for the disclosure. The Custodian of Records should work with the Sheriff in reassessing the decision to continue withholding a recording and notify the requester every 30 days.

Recordings withheld shall be disclosed promptly when the specific basis for withholding the recording is resolved.

#### 803.10.3 REDACTION

If the Custodian of Records, in consultation with the Sheriff or authorized designee, determines that specific portions of the recording may violate the reasonable expectation of privacy of a person depicted in the recording, the Office should use redaction technology to redact portions of recordings made available for release. The redaction should not interfere with the viewer's ability to fully, completely, and accurately comprehend the events captured in the recording, and the recording should not otherwise be edited or altered (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

If any portions of a recording are withheld to protect the reasonable expectation of privacy of a person depicted in the recording, the Custodian of Records shall provide in writing to the requester the specific basis for the expectation of privacy and the public interest served (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

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### 803.10.4 RECORDINGS WITHHELD FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

If the reasonable expectation of privacy of a person depicted in the recording cannot adequately be protected through redaction, and that interest outweighs the public interest in disclosure, the Office may withhold the recording from the public, except that the recording, either redacted or unredacted, shall be disclosed promptly, upon request, to any of the following (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)):

- (a) The person in the recording whose privacy is to be protected, or his/her authorized representative.
- (b) If the person is a minor, the parent or legal guardian of the person whose privacy is to be protected.
- (c) If the person whose privacy is to be protected is deceased, an heir, beneficiary, designated immediate family member, or authorized legal representative of the deceased person whose privacy is to be protected.

If the Office determines that this disclosure would substantially interfere with an active criminal or administrative investigation, the Custodian of Records shall provide the requester with written notice of the specific basis for the determination and the estimated date of disclosure (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

The Office may continue to delay release of the recording from the public for 45 days with extensions as provided in this policy (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)(A)).

## Protected Information

### 804.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office. This policy addresses the protected information that is used in the day-to-day operation of the Office and not the public records information covered in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

#### 804.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Protected information** - Any information or data that is collected, stored or accessed by members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 804.2 POLICY

Members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office will adhere to all applicable laws, orders, regulations, use agreements and training related to the access, use, dissemination and release of protected information.

### 804.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sheriff shall select a member of the 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.

## *Protected Information*

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### **804.4 ACCESS TO PROTECTED INFORMATION**

Protected information shall not be accessed in violation of any law, order, regulation, user agreement, Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

#### **804.4.1 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).

### **804.5 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 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 Section to ensure proper documentation of the release (see the Records Maintenance and Release Policy).

#### **804.5.1 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).

Individuals shall be allowed to review their arrest or conviction record on file with the Office after complying with all legal requirements regarding authority and procedures in Penal Code § 11120 through Penal Code § 11127 (Penal Code § 13321).

#### **804.5.2 TRANSMISSION GUIDELINES**

Protected information, such as restricted Criminal Justice Information (CJI), which includes Criminal History Record Information (CHRI), should not be transmitted via unencrypted radio. When circumstances reasonably indicate that the immediate safety of deputies, other office members, or the public is at risk, only summary information may be transmitted.

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In cases where the transmission of protected information, such as Personally Identifiable Information, is necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose, and utilization of an encrypted radio channel is infeasible, a MDC or office-issued cellular telephone should be utilized when practicable. If neither are available, unencrypted radio transmissions shall be subject to the following:

- Elements of protected information should be broken up into multiple transmissions, to minimally separate an individual's combined last name and any identifying number associated with the individual, from either first name or first initial.
- Additional information regarding the individual, including date of birth, home address, or physical descriptors, should be relayed in separate transmissions.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit broadcasting warrant information.

### **804.6 SECURITY OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

The Sheriff will select a member of the 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.

#### **804.6.1 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).

### **804.7 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.

### **804.8 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).

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## Release of Jail Booking Photographs

### 805.1 PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for the dissemination of inmate booking photographs to media sources and law enforcement investigators.

### 805.2 POLICY

Inmate booking photographs are the property of the Sheriff's Office and will only be released to authorized law enforcement officials pursuant to an official investigation and to media sources if a pending investigative procedure will not be compromised. All persons shall articulate a specific need for the requested images.

### 805.3 DEFINITIONS

**Inmate Booking Photographs:** Images captured during the official booking process of inmates booked into the Yolo County Jail.

**Investigative Photographs:** Digital and any other images captured or provided to any member of the Sheriff's Office for official purposes. This includes images of tattoos, clothing, articles of property, or any other image except booking photographs.

**Law Enforcement Officials:** Law Enforcement Officials are those persons who are sworn law enforcement personnel pursuant to 830 P.C. (Et al.), and Deputy District Attorneys.

**Media Sources:** Media sources are newspaper, television, radio, Internet and other businesses designed to provide information to the public.

### 805.4 PROCEDURE

#### 805.4.1 REQUESTS FOR BOOKING PHOTOGRAPHS

A. Any law enforcement agency performing an official law enforcement investigation can request booking and other inmate photographs from the Detention Division.

1. Corrections Records Shift Supervisors may approve the release of official photographs and images to law enforcement staff in furtherance of any investigation.
2. Inmate booking photographs will be released for a legitimate law enforcement function, however, these items will not be released in cases where civil litigation is pending in which the County of Yolo or any of its employees are named in any legal action, without management approval.
3. Only the Public Information Officer assigned to the Administration Division, or his/her designee, may approve release of inmate photographs requested by media sources. Prior to any release, the original arresting agency shall be contacted to confirm that the release of the image will not disrupt the investigation. This requirement is intended to avoid jeopardizing any investigation.



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4. All Sheriff's Office photographic images shall only be used for legitimate law enforcement purposes, or media distribution, if approved. Employees are prohibited from accessing, printing, or disseminating in any way images, photos, or any other visual/audio files for personal, commercial or entertainment purposes. Any staff member violating the letter or spirit of this policy shall be subject to discipline.
5. Upon the release of an inmate photograph, Records shall make a notation in the respective inmate's file documenting the release.

## Chapter 9 - Custody

## Temporary Custody of Adults

### 900.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to address the health and safety of adults taken into temporary custody by members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office for processing prior to being released or transferred to a housing or other type of facility.

Temporary custody of juveniles is addressed in the Temporary Custody of Juveniles Policy. Juveniles will not be permitted where adults in custody are being held.

Custodial searches are addressed in the Custodial Searches Policy.

#### 900.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Holding cell/cell** - Any locked enclosure for the custody of an adult or any other enclosure that prevents the occupants from being directly visually monitored at all times by a member of the Office.

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

**Temporary custody** - The time period an adult is in custody at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office prior to being released or transported to a housing or other type of facility.

### 900.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office is committed to releasing adults from temporary custody as soon as reasonably practicable, and to keeping adults safe while in temporary custody at the Office. Adults should be in temporary custody only for as long as reasonably necessary for investigation, processing, transfer or release.

### 900.3 GENERAL CRITERIA AND SUPERVISION

No adult should be in temporary custody for longer than six hours.

#### 900.3.1 INDIVIDUALS WHO SHOULD NOT BE IN TEMPORARY CUSTODY

Individuals who exhibit certain behaviors or conditions should not be in temporary custody at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, but should be transported to a jail facility, a medical facility, or another type of facility as appropriate. These include:

- (a) Any individual who is unconscious or has been unconscious while being taken into custody or while being transported.
- (b) Any individual who has a medical condition, including pregnancy, that may require medical attention, supervision, or medication while he/she is in temporary custody.
- (c) Any individual who is seriously injured.

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- (d) Individuals who are a suspected suicide risk (see the Mental Illness Commitments Policy).
  - 1. If the deputy taking custody of an individual believes that he/she may be a suicide risk, the deputy shall ensure continuous direct supervision until evaluation, release, or a transfer to an appropriate facility is completed (15 CCR 1030).
- (e) Individuals who are obviously in crisis, as defined in the Crisis Intervention Incidents Policy.
- (f) Individuals who are under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or any substance to the degree that may require medical attention, or who have ingested any substance that poses a significant risk to their health, whether or not they appear intoxicated.
- (g) Any individual who has exhibited extremely violent or continuously violent behavior including behavior that results in the destruction of property or demonstrates an intent to cause physical harm to him/herself or others (15 CCR 1053; 15 CCR 1055).
- (h) Any individual who claims to have, is known to be afflicted with, or displays symptoms of any communicable disease that poses an unreasonable exposure risk (15 CCR 1051).
- (i) Any individual with a prosthetic or orthopedic device where removal of the device would be injurious to his/her health or safety.
- (j) Any individual who is obviously developmentally disabled (15 CCR 1057).
- (k) Any individual who appears to be a danger to him/herself or others due to a mental disorder, or who appears gravely disabled (15 CCR 1052).
- (l) Any individual who needs restraint beyond the use of handcuffs or shackles for security reasons (15 CCR 1058).
- (m) Any individual obviously suffering from drug or alcohol withdrawal (15 CCR 1213).

Deputies taking custody of a person who exhibits any of the above conditions should notify a supervisor of the situation. These individuals should not be in temporary custody at the Office unless they have been evaluated by a qualified medical or mental health professional, as appropriate for the circumstances.

#### 900.3.2 SUPERVISION IN TEMPORARY CUSTODY

An authorized office member capable of supervising shall be present at all times when an individual is held in temporary custody. The member responsible for supervising should not have other duties that could unreasonably conflict with his/her supervision. Any individual in custody must be able to summon the supervising member if needed. If the person in custody is deaf or hard of hearing or cannot speak, accommodations shall be made to provide this ability (15 CCR 1027).

At least one female office member should be present when a female adult is in temporary custody. In the event that none is readily available, the female in custody should be transported to another facility or released pursuant to another lawful process (15 CCR 1027).

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Absent exigent circumstances, such as a medical emergency or a violent subject, members should not enter the cell of a person of the opposite sex unless a member of the same sex as the person in custody is present (Penal Code § 4021).

No individual in custody shall be permitted to supervise, control or exert any authority over other individuals in custody.

#### **900.3.3 ENTRY RESTRICTIONS**

Entry into any location where a person is held in custody should be restricted to:

- (a) Authorized members entering for official business purposes.
- (b) Emergency medical personnel when necessary.
- (c) Any other person authorized by the Shift Supervisor.

When practicable, more than one authorized member should be present for entry into a location where a person is held in custody for security purposes and to witness interactions.

#### **900.4 INITIATING TEMPORARY CUSTODY**

The deputy responsible for an individual in temporary custody should evaluate the person for any apparent chronic illness, disability, vermin infestation, possible communicable disease or any other potential risk to the health or safety of the individual or others. The deputy should specifically ask if the individual is contemplating suicide and evaluate him/her for obvious signs or indications of suicidal intent.

The receiving deputy should ask the arresting deputy if there is any statement, indication or evidence surrounding the individual's arrest and transportation that would reasonably indicate the individual is at risk for suicide or critical medical care. If there is any suspicion that the individual may be suicidal, he/she shall be transported to the County jail or the appropriate mental health facility.

The deputy should promptly notify the Shift Supervisor of any conditions that may warrant immediate medical attention or other appropriate action. The Shift Supervisor shall determine whether the individual will be placed in a cell, immediately released or transported to jail or other facility.

#### **900.4.1 SCREENING AND PLACEMENT**

The deputy responsible for an individual in custody shall (15 CCR 1050):

- (a) Advise the Shift Supervisor of any significant risks presented by the individual (e.g., suicide risk, health risk, violence).
- (b) Evaluate the following issues against the stated risks in (a) to determine the need for placing the individual in a single cell:
  - 1. Consider whether the individual may be at a high risk of being sexually abused based on all available known information (28 CFR 115.141), or whether the person is facing any other identified risk.

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2. Provide any individual identified as being at a high risk for sexual or other victimization with heightened protection. This may include (28 CFR 115.113; 28 CFR 115.141):
    - (a) Continuous, direct sight and sound supervision.
    - (b) Single-cell placement in a cell that is actively monitored on video by a member who is available to immediately intervene.
  3. Ensure individuals are separated according to severity of the crime (e.g., felony or misdemeanor).
  4. Ensure males and females are separated by sight and sound when in cells.
  5. Ensure restrained individuals are not placed in cells with unrestrained individuals.
- (c) Ensure that those confined under civil process or for civil causes are kept separate from those who are in temporary custody pending criminal charges.
- (d) Ensure separation, as appropriate, based on other factors, such as age, criminal sophistication, assaultive/non-assaultive behavior, mental state, disabilities and sexual orientation.

### 900.4.2 CONSULAR NOTIFICATION

Consular notification may be mandatory when certain foreign nationals are arrested. The Field Operations Division Commander will ensure that the U.S. Department of State's list of countries and jurisdictions that require mandatory notification is readily available to office members. There should also be a published list of foreign embassy and consulate telephone and fax numbers, as well as standardized notification forms that can be transmitted and then retained for documentation. Prominently displayed signs informing foreign nationals of their rights related to consular notification should also be posted in areas used for the temporary custody of adults.

Office members assigned to process a foreign national shall:

- (a) Inform the individual, without delay, that he/she may have his/her consular officers notified of the arrest or detention and may communicate with them.
  1. This notification should be documented.
- (b) Determine whether the foreign national's country is on the U.S. Department of State's mandatory notification list.
  1. If the country is on the mandatory notification list, then:
    - (a) Notify the country's nearest embassy or consulate of the arrest or detention by fax or telephone.
    - (b) Tell the individual that this notification has been made and inform him/her without delay that he/she may communicate with consular officers.
    - (c) Forward any communication from the individual to his/her consular officers without delay.

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- (d) Document all notifications to the embassy or consulate and retain the faxed notification and any fax confirmation for the individual's file.
- 2. If the country is not on the mandatory notification list and the individual requests that his/her consular officers be notified, then:
  - (a) Notify the country's nearest embassy or consulate of the arrest or detention by fax or telephone.
  - (b) Forward any communication from the individual to his/her consular officers without delay.

### **900.5 SAFETY, HEALTH AND OTHER PROVISIONS**

#### 900.5.1 TEMPORARY CUSTODY LOGS

Any time an individual is in temporary custody at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office, the custody shall be promptly and properly documented in a custody log, including:

- (a) Identifying information about the individual, including his/her name.
- (b) Date and time of arrival at the Office.
- (c) Any charges for which the individual is in temporary custody and any case number.
- (d) Time of all safety checks (15 CCR 1027; 15 CCR 1027.5).
- (e) Any medical and other screening requested and completed.
- (f) Any emergency situations or unusual incidents.
- (g) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors.
- (h) Date and time of release from the Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

The Shift Supervisor should initial the log to approve the temporary custody and should also initial the log when the individual is released from custody or transferred to another facility.

The Shift Supervisor should make periodic checks to ensure all log entries and safety and security checks are made on time.

#### 900.5.2 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS

Members monitoring or processing anyone in temporary custody shall ensure:

- (a) Safety checks and significant incidents/activities are noted on the log.
- (b) Individuals 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 individual is not aware.
  - 2. This does not apply to surreptitious and legally obtained recorded interrogations.
- (c) There is reasonable access to toilets and wash basins.

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- (d) There is reasonable access to a drinking fountain or water.
- (e) There are reasonable opportunities to stand and stretch, particularly if handcuffed or otherwise restrained.
- (f) There is privacy during attorney visits.
- (g) Those in temporary custody are generally permitted to remain in their personal clothing unless it is taken as evidence or is otherwise unsuitable or inadequate for continued wear while in custody.
- (h) Clean blankets are provided as reasonably necessary to ensure the comfort of an individual.
  - 1. The supervisor should ensure that there is an adequate supply of clean blankets.
- (i) Adequate shelter, heat, light and ventilation are provided without compromising security or enabling escape.
- (j) Adequate furnishings are available, including suitable chairs or benches.

#### 900.5.3 MEDICAL CARE

First-aid equipment and basic medical supplies should be available to office members (15 CCR 1220). At least one member who has current certification in basic first aid and CPR should be on-duty at all times.

Should a person in custody be injured or become ill, appropriate medical assistance should be sought. A supervisor shall meet with those providing medical aid at the facility to allow access to the person. Members shall comply with the opinion of medical personnel as to whether an individual in temporary custody should be transported to the hospital. If the person is transported while still in custody, he/she will be accompanied by a deputy.

Those who require medication while in temporary custody should not be at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office. They should be released or transferred to another facility as appropriate.

#### 900.5.4 ORTHOPEDIC OR PROSTHETIC APPLIANCE

Subject to safety and security concerns, individuals shall be permitted to retain an orthopedic or prosthetic appliance. However, if the member supervising the individual has probable cause to believe the possession of the appliance presents a risk of bodily harm to any person or is a risk to the security of the facility, the appliance may be removed from the individual unless its removal would be injurious to his/her health or safety.

Whenever a prosthetic or orthopedic appliance is removed, the Shift Supervisor shall be promptly apprised of the reason. It shall be promptly returned when it reasonably appears that any risk no longer exists (Penal Code § 2656; 15 CCR 1207).

#### 900.5.5 TELEPHONE CALLS

Immediately upon being booked and, except where physically impossible, no later than three hours after arrest, an individual in custody has the right to make at least three completed calls to an attorney, bail bondsman, and a relative or other person (Penal Code § 851.5). Additional



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calls may be made as reasonable and necessary (15 CCR 1067). In providing further access to a telephone beyond that required by Penal Code § 851.5, legitimate law enforcement interests such as officer safety, effect on ongoing criminal investigations and logistics should be balanced against the individual's desire for further telephone access.

- (a) Telephone calls may be limited to local calls, except that long-distance calls may be made by the individual at his/her own expense.
  - 1. The Office should pay the cost of any long-distance calls related to arranging for the care of a child or dependent adult (see the Child and Dependent Adult Safety Policy).
  - 2. The provisions of Penal Code § 851.5 concerning this issue shall be posted in bold, block type in a conspicuous place within the facility.
- (b) The individual should be given sufficient time to contact whomever he/she desires and to make any necessary arrangements, including child or dependent adult care, or transportation upon release.
  - 1. Telephone calls are not intended to be lengthy conversations. The member assigned to monitor or process the individual may use his/her judgment in determining the duration of the calls.
  - 2. Within three hours of the arrest, the member supervising the individual should inquire whether the individual is a custodial parent with responsibility for a minor child, and notify the individual that he/she may make two additional telephone calls to a relative or other person for the purpose of arranging for the care of minor children (Penal Code § 851.5).
- (c) Calls between an individual in temporary custody and his/her attorney shall be deemed confidential and shall not be monitored, eavesdropped upon or recorded (Penal Code § 851.5(b)(1); 15 CCR 1068).

### 900.5.6 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

Subject to available resources, safety and security, the religious beliefs and needs of all individuals in custody should be reasonably accommodated (15 CCR 1072). Requests for religious accommodation should generally be granted unless there is a compelling security or safety reason and denying the request is the least restrictive means available to ensure security or safety. The responsible supervisor should be advised any time a request for religious accommodation is denied.

Those who request to wear headscarves or simple head coverings for religious reasons should generally be accommodated absent unusual circumstances. Head coverings shall be searched before being worn.

Individuals wearing headscarves or other approved coverings shall not be required to remove them while in the presence of or while visible to the opposite sex if they so desire. Religious garments that substantially cover the individual's head and face may be temporarily removed during the taking of any photographs.

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#### 900.5.7 FIREARMS AND OTHER SECURITY MEASURES

Firearms and other weapons and control devices shall not be permitted in secure areas where individuals are in custody or are processed. They should be properly secured outside of the secure area. An exception may occur only during emergencies, upon approval of a supervisor.

All perimeter doors to secure areas shall be kept locked at all times, except during routine cleaning, when no individuals in custody are present or in the event of an emergency, such as an evacuation.

#### 900.5.8 REPORTING PHYSICAL HARM OR SERIOUS THREAT OF PHYSICAL HARM

In addition to a custody log entry, any incident that results in physical harm or serious threat of physical harm to a member, person in custody or any other person shall be documented as stated in the Use of Force or On-Duty Injuries policies, or other applicable reporting process. A copy of all reports generated regarding the above circumstances shall be submitted as soon as reasonably practicable. The Shift Supervisor will retain a record of these reports for inspection purposes (15 CCR 1044).

#### 900.5.9 ATTORNEYS AND BAIL BONDSMEN

- (a) An attorney may visit at the request of the individual in custody or a relative (Penal Code § 825).
- (b) Attorneys and bail bondsmen who need to interview an individual in custody should do so inside a secure interview room.
- (c) The individual in custody as well as the attorney or bail bondsman should be searched for weapons prior to being admitted to the interview room and at the conclusion of the interview.
- (d) Attorneys must produce a current California Bar card as well as other matching appropriate identification.
- (e) Interviews between attorneys and their clients shall not be monitored or recorded (15 CCR 1068).

#### 900.5.10 DISCIPLINE

Discipline will not be administered to any individual in custody at this facility. Any individual in custody who repeatedly fails to follow directions or facility rules should be transported to the appropriate jail, mental health facility or hospital as soon as practicable. Such conduct should be documented and reported to the receiving facility (15 CCR 1081).

#### **900.6 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Individuals in custody may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. Unless an individual presents a heightened risk, handcuffs should generally be removed when the person is in a cell.

The use of restraints, other than handcuffs or leg irons, generally should not be used for individuals in temporary custody at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office unless the person presents a heightened risk, and only in compliance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

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Individuals in restraints shall be kept away from other unrestrained individuals in custody and monitored to protect them from abuse.

### 900.6.1 PREGNANT ADULTS

Women who are known to be pregnant should be restrained in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

### **900.7 HOLDING CELLS**

A thorough inspection of a cell shall be conducted before placing an individual into the cell to ensure there are no weapons or contraband and that the cell is clean and sanitary. An inspection also should be conducted when he/she is released. Any damage noted to the cell should be photographed and documented.

The following requirements shall apply:

- (a) The individual shall be searched (see the Custodial Searches Policy), and anything that could create a security or suicide risk, such as contraband, hazardous items, belts, shoes or shoelaces and jackets, shall be removed.
- (b) The individual shall constantly be monitored by an audio/video system during the entire custody.
- (c) The individual shall have constant auditory access to office members.
- (d) The individual's initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged.
- (e) Safety checks by office members shall occur no less than every 15 minutes (15 CCR 1027.5).
  1. Safety checks should be at varying times.
  2. All safety checks shall be logged.
  3. The safety check should involve questioning the individual as to his/her well-being.
  4. Individuals who are sleeping or apparently sleeping should be awakened.
  5. Requests or concerns of the individual should be logged.

### 900.7.1 USE OF SOBERING CELL

Inmates who are to be held in the Temporary Holding Facility and who present a threat to their own safety or the safety of others due to their state of intoxication should be placed in a sobering cell until their condition allows for continued processing.

The following guidelines apply when placing any inmate in a sobering cell (15 CCR 1056):

- (a) Placement of an inmate into the cell requires approval of the Shift Supervisor.
- (b) A cell log shall be initiated every time an inmate is placed in the cell. The log shall be maintained for the entire time the inmate is housed in the cell.

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- (c) A safety check consisting of direct visual observation sufficient to assess the inmate's well-being and behavior shall occur at least once every 30 minutes. Each safety check shall be documented in the cell log. Supervisors shall check the logs for completeness every two hours and document this action on the cell log.
- (d) Under no circumstances shall an inmate be held in a sobering cell for more than six hours without being evaluated by qualified medical personnel to ensure that the inmate does not have an urgent medical issue.
- (e) Inmates will be removed from the cell when they no longer pose a threat to their own safety and the safety of others, and are able to continue processing.

#### **900.8 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH, OR SERIOUS INJURY**

The Field Operations Division Commander will ensure procedures are in place to address any suicide attempt, death or serious injury of any individual in temporary custody at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office. The procedures should include the following:

- (a) Immediate request for emergency medical assistance if appropriate
- (b) Immediate notification of the Shift Supervisor, Sheriff and Investigations Division Commander
- (c) Notification of the spouse, next of kin or other appropriate person
- (d) Notification of the appropriate prosecutor
- (e) Notification of the County Counsel
- (f) Notification of the Coroner
- (g) Evidence preservation
- (h) In-custody death reviews (15 CCR 1046)
- (i) Notification to the Attorney General within 10 days of any death in custody including any reasonably known facts concerning the death (Government Code § 12525)

#### **900.9 RELEASE AND/OR TRANSFER**

When an individual is released or transferred from custody, the member releasing the individual should ensure the following:

- (a) All proper reports, forms and logs have been completed prior to release.
- (b) A check has been made to ensure that the individual is not reported as missing and does not have outstanding warrants.
- (c) It has been confirmed that the correct individual is being released or transported.
- (d) All property, except evidence, contraband or dangerous weapons, has been returned to, or sent with, the individual.
- (e) All pertinent documentation accompanies the individual being transported to another facility (e.g., copies of booking forms, medical records, an itemized list of his/her property, warrant copies).

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- (f) The individual is not permitted in any nonpublic areas of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office unless escorted by a member of the Office.
- (g) Any known threat or danger the individual may pose (e.g., escape risk, suicide potential, medical condition) is documented, and the documentation transported with the individual if he/she is being sent to another facility.
  - 1. The office member transporting the individual shall ensure such risks are communicated to intake personnel at the other facility.
- (h) Generally, persons of the opposite sex, or adults and juveniles, should not be transported in the same vehicle unless they are physically separated by a solid barrier. If segregating individuals is not practicable, deputies should be alert to inappropriate physical or verbal contact and take appropriate action as necessary.
- (i) Transfers between facilities or other entities, such as a hospital, should be accomplished with a custodial escort of the same sex as the person being transferred to assist with his/her personal needs as reasonable.

#### 900.9.1 FORM REQUEST FOR PETITION TO SEAL RECORDS

Upon request, a detained arrestee released from custody shall be provided with the appropriate Judicial Council forms to petition the court to have the arrest and related records sealed (Penal Code § 851.91).

The Office shall display the required signage that complies with Penal Code § 851.91 advising an arrestee of the right to obtain the Judicial Council forms.

#### **900.10 ASSIGNED ADMINISTRATOR**

The Field Operations Division Commander will ensure any reasonably necessary supplemental procedures are in place to address the following issues (15 CCR 1029):

- (a) General security
- (b) Key control
- (c) Sanitation and maintenance
- (d) Emergency medical treatment (15 CCR 1200)
- (e) Escapes
- (f) Evacuation plans
- (g) Fire- and life-safety, including a fire suppression pre-plan as required by 15 CCR 1032
- (h) Disaster plans
- (i) Building and safety code compliance
- (j) Civil and other disturbances including hostage situations
- (k) Periodic testing of emergency equipment
- (l) Emergency suspension of Title 15 regulations and notice to the Board of State and Community Corrections as required in 15 CCR 1012

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- (m) Inspections and operations reviews
- (n) Any other applicable requirements under 15 CCR 1029

Annual review and evaluation of security measures including internal and external security measures, sanitation, safety and maintenance (15 CCR 1280).

These supplemental procedures shall be reviewed and updated no less than every two years and shall be available to all members (15 CCR 1029).

### **900.11 TRAINING**

Office members should be trained and familiar with this policy and any supplemental procedures.

Office members responsible for supervising adults in temporary custody shall complete the Corrections Officer Core Course or eight hours of specialized training within six months of assignment. Such training shall include but not be limited to the following (15 CCR 1024):

- (a) Applicable minimum jail standards
- (b) Jail operations liability
- (c) Inmate segregation
- (d) Emergency procedures and planning, fire safety, and life safety.
- (e) Suicide prevention

Eight hours of refresher training shall be completed once every two years (15 CCR 1024).

The Training Manager shall maintain records of all such training in the member's training file.

## Temporary Custody of Juveniles

### 901.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office (34 USC § 11133).

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

#### 901.1.1 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; 15 CCR 1150).

**Safety checks** - Direct, visual observation personally by a member of this 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 that is more than brief or inadvertent.

**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).

### **901.2 POLICY**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office. Juveniles should be held in temporary custody only for as long as reasonably necessary for processing, transfer, or release.

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

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

- (a) Unconscious
- (b) Seriously injured
- (c) A known suicide risk or obviously severely emotionally disturbed
- (d) Significantly intoxicated except when approved by the Shift Supervisor. 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).

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



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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).

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

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

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

Office 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).

#### **901.4 CUSTODY OF JUVENILES**

Deputies should take custody of a juvenile and temporarily hold the juvenile at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office without authorization of the arresting deputy's supervisor or the Shift Supervisor. 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office (34 USC § 11133; Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1).

#### **901.4.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office. 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 (Welfare and Institutions Code § 602.1).

#### **901.4.2 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

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the station to await a parent). Juvenile status offenders shall not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133).

### 901.4.3 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Juvenile offenders should be held in non-secure custody while at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 taken into custody for committing or attempting to commit a felony with a firearm shall not be released and be transported to a juvenile facility (Welfare and Institutions Code § 625.3).

A juvenile offender suspected of committing murder, a sex offense described in Welfare and Institutions Code § 602(b) that may subject the juvenile to criminal jurisdiction under Welfare and Institutions Code § 707, 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 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).

### 901.5 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).

Whenever a juvenile is taken into temporary custody, he/she shall be given the *Miranda* rights advisement regardless of whether questioning is intended. This does not apply to juvenile non-

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offenders taken into temporary custody for their safety or welfare (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).

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).

#### **901.6 JUVENILE CUSTODY LOGS**

Any time a juvenile is held in custody at the 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office (15 CCR 1150).
- (c) Shift Supervisor 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; 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 Shift Supervisor shall initial the log to approve the custody, including any secure custody, and shall also initial the log when the juvenile is released.

#### **901.7 NO-CONTACT REQUIREMENTS**

Sight and sound separation shall be maintained between all juveniles and adults while in custody at the Office (34 USC § 11133; Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1; 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office (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).

#### **901.8 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS**

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

- (a) The Shift Supervisor should be notified if it is anticipated that a juvenile may need to remain at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office more than four hours. This will enable the Shift Supervisor to ensure no juvenile is held at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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).

### **901.9 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Shift Supervisor. 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).

### **901.10 PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The deputy taking custody of a juvenile offender or status offender at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

### **901.11 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). Shift Supervisor 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
- (d) Availability of staff to provide adequate supervision or protection of the juvenile offender

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- (e) Age, type, and number of other individuals in custody at the facility

Members of this 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).

#### 901.11.1 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 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) 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).
- (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.

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#### **901.12 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH, OR SERIOUS INJURY OF A JUVENILE**

The Shift Supervisor will ensure procedures are in place to address the suicide attempt, death, or serious injury of any juvenile held at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office (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.

#### **901.13 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 17 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.

##### **901.13.1 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 an 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.

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- (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).

#### **901.14 FORMAL BOOKING**

No juvenile offender shall be formally booked without the authorization of the arresting deputy's supervisor, or in his/her absence, the Shift Supervisor.

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 Shift Supervisor or Investigations supervisor, giving due consideration to the following:

- (a) The gravity of the offense
- (b) The past record of the offender
- (c) The age of the offender

#### **901.14.1 JUVENILE CONTACTS AT SCHOOL FACILITIES**

Absent exigent circumstances, deputies should make every reasonable effort to notify responsible school officials prior to contacting a student on campus while school is in session.



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- (a) Reasonable efforts should be taken to coordinate with school officials to minimize disruption of school functions and maintain a low profile police presence when contacting a student.
- (b) Whenever circumstances warrant the temporary detention or formal interview of a juvenile student on campus, the officer should:
  - When practical and when it would not unreasonably interfere with the investigation, take reasonable steps to notify a parent, guardian, or responsible adult, including those phone numbers listed on any contact card on file with the school or provided by the student. All efforts to make contact with parents and/or reasons contact was not attempted should be documented.
  - If efforts to contact a parent, guardian or responsible adult are unsuccessful or not attempted, a formal interview with the juvenile may proceed without them. Upon the request of the juvenile, a school official or lawyer may be present during the interview in lieu of a parent.
  - If contacted, the selected parent, other responsible adult or school official may be permitted to be present during any interview.
  - An adult suspect of child abuse or other criminal activity involving the juvenile, or an adult, who in the opinion of the officer appears to be under the influence or otherwise unable or incompetent to exercise parental rights on behalf of the juvenile, will not be permitted to be present.
  - If the officer reasonably believes that exigent circumstances exist which would materially interfere with the officer's ability to immediately interview the juvenile, the interview may proceed without the parent or other responsible adult. In such circumstances, the exigent circumstances should be set forth in a related report.
  - Any juvenile student 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 school staff to be present. The purpose of the staff member's presence is to provide comfort and support and such 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).
  - Absent exigent circumstances or authority of a court order, officers should not involuntarily detain a juvenile who is aspect 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. In all such cases officers should adhere to guidelines and requirements set forth in the Child Abuse reporting policy.

#### **901.15 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 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 Yolo

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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.

### **901.16 BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS CERTIFICATION**

The Field Operations Division Commander shall coordinate the procedures related to the custody of juveniles held at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and ensure any required certification is maintained (Welfare and Institution Code § 210.2).

### **901.17 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION**

Juveniles have the right to the same religious accommodation as adults in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).

## Custodial Searches

### 902.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

#### 902.1.1 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.

### 902.2 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.

### 902.3 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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### **902.4 SEARCHES AT SHERIFF'S FACILITIES**

Custody searches shall be conducted on all individuals in custody, upon entry to the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

#### **902.4.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office identification number and information regarding how and when the property may be released.

#### **902.4.2 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.

### **902.5 STRIP SEARCHES**

No individual in temporary custody at any Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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).

### 902.5.1 STRIP SEARCH PROCEDURES

Strip searches at Yolo County Sheriff's Office facilities shall be conducted as follows (28 CFR 115.115; Penal Code § 4030):

- (a) Written authorization from the Shift Supervisor 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 Shift Supervisor.
  - 4. The name of the individual who was searched.

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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 Shift Supervisor 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.
- (j) When conducting a strip search of a transgender or intersex inmate, the sex of the officers selected to conduct or participate in the search shall be determined based on the predominant sexual characteristics of the genitalia of the individual being searched.

#### 902.5.2 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE FIELD STRIP SEARCHES

A strip search may be conducted in the field only with Shift Supervisor 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 Shift Supervisor authorization does not need to be in writing.

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### **902.6 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 Shift Supervisor 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 Shift Supervisor'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.

### **902.7 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.



## Prison Rape Elimination

### 903.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office Detention Facilities (28 CFR 115.111; 15 CCR 1029).

#### 903.1.1 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).

### **903.2 POLICY**

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office has zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment (28 CFR 115.111). The 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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).

### **903.3 PREA COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff shall appoint an upper-level manager with sufficient time and authority to develop, implement, and oversee office efforts to comply with PREA standards in the Yolo County Sheriff's Office Detention 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 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 Detention Facilities. 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 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 Office and any other investigating agency that will be responsible for conducting sexual abuse or sexual harassment investigations (28 CFR 115.122).
- (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

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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 Detention Facilities used to house detainees or prisoners overnight (28 CFR 115.193).
- (k) Ensuring contractors or others who work in the Detention 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).

### **903.4 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 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 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).

#### **903.4.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

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 Shift Supervisor any knowledge, suspicion, or information regarding:

- (a) An incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that occurs in the Detention Facility.

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- (b) Retaliation against detainees or the member who reports any such incident.
- (c) Any neglect or violation of responsibilities on the part of any 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.

### **903.4.2 SHIFT SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Shift Supervisor shall report to the 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 Shift Supervisor shall also report the allegation as required under mandatory reporting laws and office policy.

Upon receiving an allegation that a detainee or prisoner was sexually abused while confined at another facility, the Shift Supervisor 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 Shift Supervisor shall document such notification (28 CFR 115.163).

If an alleged detainee or prisoner victim is transferred from the Detention Facility to a jail, prison or medical facility, the 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).

### **903.5 INVESTIGATIONS**

The 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 office-approved special training shall conduct sexual abuse investigations (28 CFR 115.171).

#### **903.5.1 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.
- (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.

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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).

### 903.5.2 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office.
- (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 Detention Facility (28 CFR 115.178).
- (h) Cooperate with outside investigators and remain informed about the progress of any outside investigation.

### 903.5.3 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 office shall not be used as a basis for terminating an investigation (28 CFR 115.171).

### 903.5.4 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 regardless of whether the victim names the abuser or cooperates with any investigation arising out of the incident (28 CFR 115.182).

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### **903.5.5 CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS**

All completed investigations shall be forwarded to the Sheriff, or if the allegations may reasonably involve the Sheriff, to the County Administrator. The Sheriff or County Administrator 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 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.

### **903.6 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 Shift Supervisor 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 Shift Supervisor 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.

### **903.7 REVIEWS AND AUDITS**

#### **903.7.1 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

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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).

### 903.7.2 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 Office's progress in addressing sexual abuse.

The report shall be approved by the Sheriff and made readily available to the public through the office website or, if it does not have one, through other means. Material may be 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.



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All aggregated sexual abuse data from Yolo County Sheriff's Office facilities and private facilities with which it contracts shall be made readily available to the public at least annually through the 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).

#### **903.8 RECORDS**

The 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 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).

#### **903.9 TRAINING**

All employees, volunteers and contractors who may have contact with detainees or prisoners shall receive 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 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.
- Criteria and evidence required to substantiate a case for administrative action or prosecution referral.

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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

# Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking

## 1000.1 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 Office.

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.

### 1000.1.1 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.

## 1000.2 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 office. Due to the nature of the work and influence associated with the law enforcement profession, it is necessary that employees of this office be subject to certain reasonable limitations on their speech and expression. To achieve its mission and efficiently provide service to the public, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office will carefully balance the individual employee's rights against the Office's needs and interests when exercising a reasonable degree of control over its employees' speech and expression.

## 1000.3 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 associates. Examples of the type of information that could reasonably be expected to compromise safety include:

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- 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.

### **1000.4 PROHIBITED SPEECH, EXPRESSION AND CONDUCT**

To meet the office's safety, performance and public-trust needs, the following are 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office or its employees.
- (b) Speech or expression that, while not made pursuant to an official duty, is significantly linked to, or related to, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office or its employees. Examples may include:
  1. Statements that indicate disregard for the law or the state or U.S. Constitution.
  2. Expression that demonstrates support for criminal activity.
  3. Participating in sexually explicit photographs or videos for compensation or distribution.
- (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 Office. 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office.
- (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 Office 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 office logos, emblems, uniforms, badges, patches, marked

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vehicles, equipment or other material that specifically identifies the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 office-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).

### 1000.4.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office or identify themselves in any way that could be reasonably perceived as representing the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 office, the employee shall give a specific disclaiming statement that any such speech or expression is not representative of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

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.

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

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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).

### **1000.5 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) that is accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed on any office technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

The Office shall not require an employee to disclose a personal user name or password for accessing personal social media or to open a personal social website; however, the Office may request access when it is reasonably believed to be relevant to the investigation of allegations of work-related misconduct (Labor Code § 980).

### **1000.6 CONSIDERATIONS**

In determining whether to grant authorization of any speech or conduct that is prohibited under this policy, the factors that the Sheriff or authorized designee should consider include:

- (a) Whether the speech or conduct would negatively affect the efficiency of delivering public services.
- (b) Whether the speech or conduct would be contrary to the good order of the Office or the efficiency or morale of its members.
- (c) Whether the speech or conduct would reflect unfavorably upon the Office.
- (d) Whether the speech or conduct would negatively affect the member's appearance of impartiality in the performance of his/her duties.
- (e) Whether similar speech or conduct has been previously authorized.
- (f) Whether the speech or conduct may be protected and outweighs any interest of the Office.

### **1000.7 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Office should provide training regarding employee speech and the use of social networking to all members of the Office.

## Anti-Retaliation

### 1001.1 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.

### 1001.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 1001.3 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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### **1001.4 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 Director of Human Services.

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.

### **1001.5 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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### **1001.6 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.

### **1001.7 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 of a person who has 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 Professional Standards Unit for investigation pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy.

#### **1001.7.1 DISPLAY OF WHISTLE-BLOWER LAWS**

The Office 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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### **1001.8 RECORDS RETENTION AND RELEASE**

The Records Manager shall ensure that documentation of investigations is maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedules.

### **1001.9 TRAINING**

The policy should be reviewed with each new member.

All members should receive periodic refresher training on the requirements of this policy.

## Evaluation of Employees

### 1002.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Department's employee performance evaluation system is designed to record work performance for both the Department and the employee, providing recognition for good work and developing a guide for improvement.

### 1002.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office utilizes a performance evaluation report to measure performance and to use as a factor in making personnel decisions that relate to merit increases, promotion, reassignment, discipline, demotion and termination. The evaluation report is intended to serve as a guide for work planning and review by the supervisor and employee. It gives supervisors a way to create an objective history of work performance based on job standards.

The Department evaluates employees in a non-discriminatory manner based upon job-related factors specific to the employee's position, without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability or other protected classes.

### 1002.3 EVALUATION PROCESS

Evaluation reports will cover a specific period of time and should be based on documented performance during that period. Evaluation reports will be completed by each employee's immediate supervisor. Other supervisors directly familiar with the employee's performance during the rating period should be consulted by the immediate supervisor for their input.

All sworn and civilian supervisory personnel shall attend an approved supervisory course that includes training on the completion of performance evaluations within one year of the supervisory appointment.

Each supervisor should discuss the tasks of the position, standards of performance expected and the evaluation criteria with each employee at the beginning of the rating period. Supervisors should document this discussion in the prescribed manner.

Assessment of an employee's job performance is an ongoing process. Continued coaching and feedback provides supervisors and employees with opportunities to correct performance issues as they arise.

Non-probationary employees demonstrating substandard performance shall be notified in writing of such performance as soon as possible in order to have an opportunity to remediate the issues. Such notification should occur at the earliest opportunity, with the goal being a minimum of 90 days written notice prior to the end of the evaluation period.

Employees who disagree with their evaluation and who desire to provide a formal response or a rebuttal may do so in writing in the prescribed format and time period.

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## *Evaluation of Employees*

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### 1002.3.1 RESERVE OFFICER EVALUATIONS

Reserve deputy evaluations are covered under the Reserve Deputies Policy.

### 1002.3.2 PERSONNEL EVALUATION REPORTS

All blank personnel evaluation report forms shall originate from the Sheriff's personnel section. Each form shall be routed via each Division commander for dispersal and a log will be maintained by the personnel section. The log will reflect the employee being evaluated, the divisions assigned and the date due back to the personnel section. Each commander shall monitor the evaluations progress to assure that the evaluations will be done in a timely manner. The supervisor/rater is expected to approach the member being evaluated and advised the following:

- (a) The proposed date and time when the supervisor will discuss with the employee the completed evaluation.
- (b) Advise the employee to develop (in writing) the employees short and long range goals for the following year.
- (c) Advise the employee to address any interests or training needs.

### 1002.4 FULL-TIME PERMANENT STATUS PERSONNEL

Permanent employees are subject to three types of performance evaluations:

**Regular** - An Employee Performance Evaluation shall be completed once each year by the employee's immediate supervisor on the anniversary of the employee's date of hire except for employees who have been promoted in which case an Employee Performance Evaluation shall be completed on the anniversary of the employee's date of last promotion.

**Transfer** - If an employee is transferred from one assignment to another in the middle of an evaluation period and less than six months have transpired since the transfer, then an evaluation shall be completed by the current supervisor with input from the previous supervisor.

**Special** - A special evaluation may be completed any time the rater and the rater's supervisor feel one is necessary due to employee performance that is deemed less than standard. Generally, the special evaluation will be the tool used to demonstrate those areas of performance deemed less than standard when follow-up action is planned (action plan, remedial training, retraining, etc.). The evaluation form and the attached documentation shall be submitted as one package.

#### 1002.4.1 RATINGS

When completing the Employee Performance Evaluation, the rater will place a check mark in the column that best describes the employee's performance. The definition of each rating category is as follows:

**Outstanding** - Is actual performance well beyond that required for the position. It is exceptional performance, definitely superior or extraordinary.

**Exceeds Standards** - Represents performance that is better than expected of a fully competent employee. It is superior to what is expected, but is not of such rare nature to warrant outstanding.

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**Meets Standards** - Is the performance of a fully competent employee. It means satisfactory performance that meets the standards required of the position.

**Needs Improvement** - Is a level of performance less than that expected of a fully competent employee and less than standards required of the position. A needs improvement rating must be thoroughly discussed with the employee.

**Unsatisfactory** - Performance is inferior to the standards required of the position. It is very inadequate or undesirable performance that cannot be tolerated.

Space for written comments is provided at the end of the evaluation in the rater comments section. This section allows the rater to document the employee's strengths, weaknesses, and suggestions for improvement. Any rating under any job dimension marked unsatisfactory or outstanding shall be substantiated in the rater comments section.

### **1002.5 EVALUATION INTERVIEW**

When the supervisor has completed the preliminary evaluation, arrangements shall be made for a private discussion of the evaluation with the employee. The supervisor should discuss the results of the just completed rating period and clarify any questions the employee may have. If the employee has valid and reasonable protests of any of the ratings, the supervisor may make appropriate changes to the evaluation. Areas needing improvement and goals for reaching the expected level of performance should be identified and discussed. The supervisor should also provide relevant counseling regarding advancement, specialty positions and training opportunities. The supervisor and employee will sign and date the evaluation.

### **1002.6 EVALUATION REVIEW**

After the supervisor finishes the discussion with the employee, the signed performance evaluation is forwarded to the rater's supervisor (Division Commander). The Division Commander shall review the evaluation for fairness, impartiality, uniformity, and consistency. The Division Commander shall evaluate the supervisor on the quality of ratings given.

### **1002.7 EVALUATION DISTRIBUTION**

The original performance evaluation shall be maintained in the employee's personnel file in the office of the Sheriff for the tenure of the employee's employment. A copy will be given to the employee and a copy will be forwarded to County Department of Human Resources.

### **1002.8 MONTHLY COMMENTS PERSONNEL FORM PROCEDURE**

Monthly comments personnel forms shall be completed monthly for the following job classifications:

- (a) All sworn officers assigned to the Field Operations Division.

#### **PROCEDURE**

- (a) Comments entered on the form will be entered on the date the event comes to the supervisor's attention.

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- (b) Supervisors will review their comments with the employee within 24 hours of making the entry unless it is not reasonable to do so. If the supervisor is unable to review the comments with the employee within 24 hours, then the review shall be completed no later than the end of the employee's next duty day.
- (c) Upon review of the form the employee and supervisor shall each initial the comment to verify that the review has been completed.
- (d) All forms for an employee shall be maintained by the current supervisor of the employee during the period of time the employee is assigned to that supervisor. When an employee is assigned to a different supervisor, the existing supervisor shall pass all forms to the new supervisor.
- (e) At the end of the rating period, the supervisor assigned to complete the employees evaluation shall use the information within the forms in completing the evaluation.
- (f) After the evaluation is complete, the form(s) will be maintained by the supervisor for the duration of any appeal period for the evaluation. If no appeal is made, the form(s) will be given to the employee for destruction. If an appeal is made, the form(s) will be maintained until the appeal is resolved, at which time the form(s) will be given to the employee for destruction.

## Personnel Records

### 1003.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs maintenance and access to personnel records. Personnel records include any file maintained under an individual member's name.

### 1003.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this office to maintain personnel records and preserve the confidentiality of personnel records pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of California (Penal Code § 832.7).

### 1003.3 OFFICE FILE

The office file shall be maintained as a record of a person's employment/appointment with this office. The office file should contain, at a minimum:

- (a) Personal data, including photographs, marital status, names of family members, educational and employment history, or similar information. A photograph of the member should be permanently retained.
- (b) Election of employee benefits.
- (c) Personnel action reports reflecting assignments, promotions, and other changes in employment/appointment status. These should be permanently retained.
- (d) Original performance evaluations. These should be permanently maintained.
- (e) Discipline records, including copies of sustained personnel complaints.
  - 1. Disciplinary action resulting from sustained internally initiated complaints or observation of misconduct shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and at least two years (Government Code § 26202; Government Code § 34090).
  - 2. Disciplinary action resulting from a sustained civilian's complaint shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and at least five years (Penal Code § 832.5).
- (f) Adverse comments such as supervisor notes or memos may be retained in the office file after the member has had the opportunity to read and initial the comment (Government Code § 3305).
  - 1. Once a member has had an opportunity to read and initial any adverse comment, the member shall be given the opportunity to respond in writing to the adverse comment within 30 days (Government Code § 3306).
  - 2. Any member response shall be attached to and retained with the original adverse comment (Government Code § 3306).
  - 3. If a member 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 and the member should sign or initial the noted refusal. Such a refusal, however, shall



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not be deemed insubordination, nor shall it prohibit the entry of the adverse comment into the member's file (Government Code § 3305).

- (g) Commendations and awards.
- (h) Any other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

### **1003.4 DIVISION FILE**

Division files may be separately maintained internally by a member's supervisor for the purpose of completing timely performance evaluations. The Division file may contain supervisor comments, notes, notices to correct and other materials that are intended to serve as a foundation for the completion of timely performance evaluations.

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 Government Code § 3306.

### **1003.5 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.

### **1003.6 INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILE**

Internal affairs files shall be maintained under the exclusive control of the Professional Standards Unit in conjunction with the office of the Sheriff. Access to these files may only be approved by the Sheriff or the Professional Standards Unit supervisor.

These files shall contain the complete investigation of all formal complaints of member misconduct, regardless of disposition (Penal Code § 832.12). Investigations of complaints that result in the following findings shall not be placed in the member's office 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. Investigations that

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resulted in other than a sustained finding may not be used by the Office to adversely affect an employee's career (Penal Code § 832.5).

Investigation files arising out of internally generated complaints shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and for at least two years (Government Code § 26202; Government Code § 34090).

### **1003.7 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.

### **1003.8 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 Administrator, County Counsel or other attorneys or representatives of the County in connection with official business.

#### **1003.8.1 REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE**

Any member receiving a request for a personnel record shall promptly notify the Custodian of Records or other person charged with the maintenance of such records.

Upon receipt of any such request, the responsible person shall notify the affected member as soon as practicable that such a request has been made (Evidence Code § 1043).

The responsible person shall further ensure that an appropriate response to the request is made in a timely manner, consistent with applicable law. In many cases, this may require assistance of available legal counsel.

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All requests for disclosure that result in access to a member's personnel records shall be logged in the corresponding file.

### **1003.8.2 RELEASE OF PERSONNEL INFORMATION**

Personnel records shall not be disclosed except as allowed by law (Penal Code § 832.7; Evidence Code § 1043) (See also Records Maintenance and Release Policy).

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 office may be guilty of a misdemeanor (Penal Code § 146e).

The Office may release any factual information concerning a disciplinary investigation if the member who is the subject of the investigation (or the member's representative) publicly makes a statement that is published in the media and that the member (or representative) knows 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).

### **1003.9 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 Professional Standards 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. Upon receipt of any such request, the responsible person shall notify the affected member as soon as practicable that such a request has been made.

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.
- 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 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

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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 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 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)).

#### 1003.9.1 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)):

- (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

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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)).

### 1003.9.2 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 office policy, but no longer than 180 days after the date of the 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

### 1003.9.3 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 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.

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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 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 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)).

### **1003.10 MEMBER ACCESS TO HIS/HER OWN PERSONNEL RECORDS**

Any member may request access to his/her own personnel records during the normal business hours of those responsible for maintaining such files. Any member seeking the removal of any item from his/her personnel records shall file a written request to the Sheriff through the chain of command. The Office shall remove any such item if appropriate, or within 30 days provide the member with a written explanation of why the contested item will not be removed. If the contested item is not removed from the file, the member's request and the written response from the Office shall be retained with the contested item in the member's corresponding personnel record (Government Code § 3306.5).

Members may be restricted from accessing files containing any of the following information:

- (a) An ongoing internal affairs investigation to the extent that it could jeopardize or compromise the investigation pending final disposition or notice to the member of the intent to discipline.
- (b) Confidential portions of internal affairs files that have not been sustained against the member.
- (c) Criminal investigations involving the member.
- (d) Letters of reference concerning employment/appointment, licensing or issuance of permits regarding the member.
- (e) Any portion of a test document, except the cumulative total test score for either a section of the test document or for the entire test document.
- (f) Materials used by the Office for staff management planning, including judgments or recommendations concerning future salary increases and other wage treatments, management bonus plans, promotions and job assignments or other comments or ratings used for department planning purposes.

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- (g) Information of a personal nature about a person other than the member if disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the other person's privacy.
- (h) Records relevant to any other pending claim between the Office and the member that may be discovered in a judicial proceeding.

### **1003.11 RETENTION AND PURGING**

Unless provided otherwise in this policy, personnel records shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

- (a) During the preparation of each member's performance evaluation, all personnel complaints and disciplinary actions should be reviewed to determine the relevancy, if any, to progressive discipline, training and career development. Each supervisor responsible for completing the member's performance evaluation should determine whether any prior sustained disciplinary file should be retained beyond the required period for reasons other than pending litigation or other ongoing legal proceedings.
- (b) If a supervisor determines that records of prior discipline should be retained beyond the required period, approval for such retention should be obtained through the chain of command from the Sheriff.
- (c) If, in the opinion of the Sheriff, a personnel complaint or disciplinary action maintained beyond the required retention period is no longer relevant, all records of such matter may be destroyed in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

## Employee Commendations

### 1004.1 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.

The purpose of this section is to establish a departmental policy for awarding medals, certificates and letters of commendation to members of the Department. Medals and commendations are designed to bring recognition to those acts which merit special attention. Individuals receiving medals must distinguish themselves by heroic action above and beyond the call of duty. Certificates of commendation are awarded for a service, a specific instance or an outstanding performance of general duties over the period of the previous year.

Members of the Department shall nominate their peers for medals and commendations continuously and as close to the date of the respective event giving rise to the nomination as possible. Annual Awards will be selected from the pool of nominations received during the calendar year.

### 1004.2 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

#### 1004.2.1 RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARD FORM

The Recommendation for Award Form shall be used to document the commendation of the employee and shall contain the following:

- (a) Employee name, division, 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 member

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 Sheriff's Human Resources Technician for entry into the employee's personnel file.



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### 1004.2.2 GOLD MEDAL OF VALOR

The gold medal of valor shall be awarded only in exceptional cases when a hazardous act is performed by a member who risks his/her life in so doing. The act must be of such extraordinary nature that the member exposes himself to peril above and beyond the call of duty. Criteria for the Gold medal of honor:

- (a) Outstanding bravery above and beyond that expected in the line of duty.
- (b) Where failure to take such action would not justify censure
- (c) Where the risk of life actually existed and the member had sufficient time to evaluate it.
- (d) Where the objective is of sufficient importance to justify the risk.
- (e) Where the member accomplishes his objective or is prevented from the same by incurring a disabling injury or death.

### 1004.2.3 SILVER MEDAL OF VALOR

The Silver Medal of Valor is to be awarded for outstanding service and conspicuous bravery in the line of duty. This award would be considered when the circumstances do not fall within the provisions required for a Gold Medal of Valor. Criteria for Silver Medal of Valor:

- (a) Outstanding bravery in the performance of his/her duty under circumstances not within the provisions required for a Gold Medal of Valor
- (b) Where the member risks his/her life with full and unquestionable knowledge of the danger involved or where a reasonable person would assume his/her life is in great danger.
- (c) Where the member's objective is of sufficient importance to justify the risk.
- (d) Where the member accomplishes his objective or is prevented from same by circumstances beyond his control.

### 1004.2.4 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE COMMENDATION

The Distinguished Service Commendation is to be awarded to Department members for conspicuous bravery and/or for exceptional service. Such service may be specific instance, or it may be for outstanding performance of general duties over an extended period of time. This award could be considered when circumstances do not fall within the criteria for a Silver Medal of Valor. Criteria for Distinguished Service Commendation:

- (a) Where the member exhibits either conspicuous bravery without direct and present risk to his/her own life, or performs outstanding, efficient and effective service to the Department and/or the community.
- (b) Either above noted action should be exceptional and therefore above the level that one would normally expect for the nominated member's assignment.
- (c) Where the member's objective was clearly identifiable, even though it may not be fully realized due to circumstances beyond his control.

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#### 1004.2.5 DEPUTY/CORRECTIONAL OFFICER/EMPLOYEE/MANAGER/CIVILIAN MANAGER/VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Nominations for one of these categories should be submitted no later than November of each year. The nomination shall be submitted on the Commendation Report Form with proper documentation to support the recommendation. Though one of the awards in this category may be requested on the commendation form, the commendation review committee shall make the determination as to whether or not the nominee fits the criteria when making a recommendation to the Sheriff. The submitted nomination, review, approval and awards presentation will be the same as for the Medal of Valor.

#### 1004.2.6 COMMENDATION REVIEW BOARD

The Commendation review board will consist of one person from each employee association and be chaired by the Administrative Division Commander. The chairperson of the board shall not vote during discussions of the nominees except in the case of a tie. The Commendation Review board shall review each award nomination and shall have the responsibility to assign an award classification to the nomination being considered, or determine that an award is not applicable. The Commendation Review board will have the responsibility for carrying out additional investigations if deemed necessary. The Commendation review board will make recommendations to the Sheriff. The Sheriff will review the nominations for service awards and make the final decision. The presentation of all medals and commendations will be held each year during the month of December, during a ceremony where the Sheriff will present the award to the nominees in the presence of their family, friends and staff members. Notice of the formal presentation will be by Information Bulletin and a press release. No limitation is placed on the number of medals and certificates that may be awarded to an individual for separate acts.

#### 1004.2.7 POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

The next of kin is entitled to receive any award earned by a deceased member of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office. The next of kin, in order of precedence are:

- (a) Widow or widower
- (b) Eldest son or daughter
- (c) Father or mother
- (d) Eldest brother or sister

#### 1004.2.8 LETTERS FROM CITIZENS

Any letter from a citizen commending a member shall be directed to the Office of the Sheriff. The letter shall be reviewed and the following procedure followed:

- (a) The letter is sent to the member with a copy being placed in his/her personnel file.
- (b) If actions described in the letter may warrant recognition by the department, the letter will be forwarded to the Commendation review board with recommendations. The board will then investigate and classify the award.

## Personnel Complaints

### 1005.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the reporting, investigation and disposition of complaints regarding the conduct of members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office. 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.

### 1005.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the Office and the conduct of its members.

The 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 office to ensure that the community can report misconduct without concern for reprisal or retaliation.

### 1005.3 PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS

Personnel complaints include any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance that, if true, would constitute a violation of Office 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 Office 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 Office.

#### 1005.3.1 COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATIONS

Personnel complaints shall be classified in one of the following categories:

**Informal** - A matter in which the Division Commander 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 or referred to the Professional Standards Unit, 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 the assigned supervisor or the Professional Standards Unit, such matters may be further investigated depending on the seriousness of the complaint and the availability of sufficient information.

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#### 1005.3.2 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 Office member becoming aware of alleged misconduct shall immediately notify a supervisor.
- (c) Supervisors shall initiate a complaint based upon observed misconduct or receipt from any source alleging misconduct that, if true, could result in disciplinary action.
- (d) Anonymous and third-party complaints should be accepted and investigated to the extent that sufficient information is provided.
- (e) Tort claims and lawsuits may generate a personnel complaint.

#### **1005.4 AVAILABILITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLAINTS**

##### 1005.4.1 ACCEPTANCE

All complaints will be courteously accepted by any office member and promptly given to the appropriate supervisor. Although written complaints are preferred, a complaint may also 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 an inter-office memorandum and forward it to the Division Commander via the chain of command.

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 Office (Penal Code § 832.7).

##### 1005.4.2 AVAILABILITY OF WRITTEN PROCEDURES

The Office shall make available to the public a written description of the investigation procedures for complaints (Penal Code § 832.5).

#### **1005.5 DOCUMENTATION**

Supervisors shall ensure that all formal and informal complaints are documented on a memorandum. The supervisor shall ensure that the nature of the complaint is defined as clearly as possible.

All complaints and inquiries should also be documented in a log that records and tracks complaints. The log shall include the nature of the complaint and the actions taken to address the complaint. On an annual basis, the Office should audit the log and send an audit report to the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

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### **1005.6 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS**

Allegations of misconduct will be administratively investigated as follows.

#### **1005.6.1 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 or inter-office memorandum is completed.
  - 1. The original complaint form will be directed to the Division 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.
  - 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.
  - (a) Follow-up contact with the complainant should be made within 24 hours of the Office receiving the complaint.
  - (b) 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 Division Commander.
- (d) Ensuring that upon receipt of a complaint involving allegations of a potentially serious nature, the Division Commander and Sheriff are notified via the chain of command as soon as practicable.
- (e) Promptly contacting the Sheriff and the Division 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 Division 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:

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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.

### 1005.6.2 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Whether conducted by a supervisor or a member of the Professional Standards 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office or other reasonable and appropriate place.
- (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 deputy 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. 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).
  2. No information or evidence administratively coerced from a member may be provided to anyone involved in conducting the criminal investigation or to any prosecutor.

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- (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 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).

### 1005.6.3 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION FORMAT

Formal investigations of personnel complaints shall be thorough, complete and essentially follow this format:

**Complaint Summary** - Provide a brief summary of the facts giving rise to the investigation.

**Complaint Findings** - List the allegations separately, including applicable policy sections, with a brief summary of the evidence relevant to each allegation. A separate recommended finding should be provided for each allegation.

**Involved Parties** - Include the identity of subjects interviewed, the identity of the complainant, the identity of the subject employee.

**Exhibits** - A list of exhibits (e.g., recordings, photos, documents) should be attached to the report.

**Chronological Summary** - A detailed account of the investigation including statements, observations, and descriptions of exhibits.

### 1005.6.4 DISPOSITIONS

Each personnel complaint shall be classified with one of the following dispositions:

**Unfounded** - When the investigation discloses that the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve office members. Complaints that are determined to be frivolous will fall within the classification of unfounded (Penal Code § 832.8).

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**Exonerated** - When the investigation discloses that the alleged act occurred but that the act was justified, lawful and/or proper.

**Not sustained** - When the investigation discloses that there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.

**Sustained** - A final determination by an investigating agency, commission, board, hearing officer, or arbitrator, as applicable, following an investigation and opportunity for an administrative appeal pursuant to Government Code § 3304 and Government Code § 3304.5 that the actions of a deputy were found to violate law or office policy (Penal Code § 832.8).

If an investigation discloses misconduct or improper job performance that was not alleged in the original complaint, the investigator shall take appropriate action with regard to any additional allegations.

### 1005.6.5 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). Generally, administrative investigations should be completed within 30 days of issuance.

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.

The assigned investigator or supervisor 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)).

### 1005.7 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).

#### 1005.7.1 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



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- (c) If the employee is assigned to or being considered for a special assignment with a potential for bribes or other improper inducements

### **1005.8 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE**

When a complaint of misconduct is of a serious nature, or when circumstances indicate that allowing the accused to continue to work would adversely affect the mission of the Office, the Sheriff or the authorized designee may temporarily assign an accused employee to administrative leave. Any employee placed on administrative leave:

- (a) May be required to relinquish any office badge, identification, assigned weapons and any other office equipment.
- (b) Shall be required to continue to comply with all policies and lawful orders of a supervisor.
- (c) May be temporarily reassigned to a different shift, generally a normal business-hours shift, during the investigation. The employee may be required to remain available for contact at all times during such shift, and will report as ordered.

### **1005.9 RETENTION OF PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION FILES**

All personnel complaints shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule and as described in the Personnel Records Policy.

### **1005.10 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES AND OTHER MEMBERS**

At-will and probationary employees and those members other than non-probationary employees may be released from employment for non-disciplinary reasons (e.g., failure to meet standards) without adherence to the procedures set forth in this policy or any right to appeal. However, any probationary deputy subjected to an investigation into allegations of misconduct shall be entitled to those procedural rights, as applicable, set forth in the POBR (Government Code § 3303; Government Code § 3304).

At-will, probationary employees and those other than non-probationary employees subjected to discipline or termination as a result of allegations of misconduct shall not be deemed to have acquired a property interest in their position, but shall be given the opportunity to appear before the Sheriff or authorized designee for a non-evidentiary hearing for the sole purpose of attempting to clear their name or liberty interest. There shall be no further opportunity for appeal beyond the liberty interest hearing and the decision of the Sheriff shall be final.

### **1005.11 POST-DISCIPLINE APPEAL RIGHTS**

Non-probationary employees have the right to appeal a suspension without pay, punitive transfer, demotion, reduction in pay or step, or termination from employment. The employee has the right to appeal using the procedures established by any collective bargaining agreement, Memorandum of Understanding and/or personnel rules.

In the event of punitive action against an employee covered by the POBR, the appeal process shall be in compliance with Government Code § 3304 and Government Code § 3304.5.

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During any 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 the penalty (Government Code § 3305.5).

### **1005.12 PRE-DISCIPLINE 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 after having had an opportunity to review the supporting materials and prior to imposition of any recommended discipline. The employee shall consider the following:

- (a) The response is not intended to be an adversarial or formal hearing.
- (b) Although the employee may be represented by an uninvolved representative or legal counsel, the 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 to consider.
- (d) In the event that the Sheriff elects to cause further investigation to be conducted, the employee shall be provided with the results 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.

### **1005.13 RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS PRIOR TO DISCIPLINE**

In the event that a member tenders a written resignation or notice of retirement prior to the imposition of discipline, it shall be noted in the file. The tender of a resignation or retirement by itself shall not serve as grounds for the termination of any pending investigation or discipline.

### **1005.14 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.

The Sheriff shall be notified as soon as practicable when a member is accused of criminal conduct. The Sheriff 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.

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

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### **1005.15 POST-ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES**

Upon completion of a formal investigation, an investigation report should be forwarded to the Sheriff through the chain of command. Each level of command should review the report and include his/her comments in writing before forwarding the report. The Sheriff may accept or modify any classification or recommendation for disciplinary action.

#### **1005.15.1 DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any completed personnel investigation, the Division Commander of the involved member shall review the entire investigative file, the member's personnel file and any other relevant materials.

The Division Commander may make recommendations regarding the disposition of any allegations and the amount of discipline, if any, to be imposed.

Prior to forwarding recommendations to the Sheriff, the Division Commander may return the entire investigation to the assigned investigator or supervisor for further investigation or action.

When forwarding any written recommendation to the Sheriff, the Division Commander 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.

#### **1005.15.2 SHERIFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any written recommendation for disciplinary action, the Sheriff or authorized designee shall review the recommendation and all accompanying materials. The Sheriff or authorized designee may modify any recommendation and/or may return the file to the Division Commander for further investigation or action.

Once the Sheriff or authorized designee is satisfied that no further investigation or action is required by staff, the Sheriff or authorized designee shall determine the amount of discipline, if any, that should be imposed. In the event disciplinary action is proposed, the Sheriff or authorized designee shall provide the member with a pre-disciplinary procedural due process hearing (Skelly) by providing written notice of the charges, proposed action and reasons for the proposed action. Written notice shall be provided within one year from the date of discovery of the misconduct (Government Code § 3304(d)). The Sheriff or authorized designee shall also provide the member with:

- (a) Access to all of the materials considered by the Sheriff or authorized designee in recommending the proposed discipline.
- (b) An opportunity to respond orally or in writing to the Sheriff or authorized designee within the timeframe outlined in the member's MOU.
  1. Upon a showing of good cause by the member, the Sheriff authorized designee may grant a reasonable extension of time for the member to respond.

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2. If the member elects to respond orally, the presentation may be recorded by the Department. Upon request, the member shall be provided with a copy of the recording.

Once the member has completed his/her response or if the member has elected to waive any such response, the Sheriff or authorized designee shall consider all information received in regard to the recommended discipline. The Sheriff or authorized designee shall render a timely written decision to the member and specify the grounds and reasons for discipline and the effective date of the discipline. Once the Sheriff or authorized designee has issued a written decision, the discipline shall become effective.

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## Grievance Procedure

### 1006.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of this department that all grievances be handled quickly and fairly without discrimination against employees who file a grievance whether or not there is a basis for the grievance. Our Department's philosophy is to promote a free verbal communication between employees and supervisors.

#### 1006.1.1 GRIEVANCE DEFINED

A grievance is any difference of opinion concerning terms or conditions of employment or the dispute involving the interpretation or application of any of the following documents by the person(s) affected:

- The employee bargaining agreement (Memorandum of Understanding)
- This Policy Manual
- County rules and regulations covering personnel practices or working conditions

Grievances may be brought by an individual affected employee or by a group representative.

Specifically outside the category of grievance are complaints related to alleged acts of sexual, racial, ethnic or other forms of unlawful harassment, as well as complaints related to allegations of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, ethnic background and other lawfully protected status or activity are subject to the complaint options set forth in the Discriminatory Harassment Policy, and personnel complaints consisting of any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance against any department employee that, if true, would constitute a violation of department policy, federal, state or local law set forth in the Personnel Complaint Policy.

### 1006.2 PROCEDURE

Except as otherwise required under a collective bargaining agreement, if an employee believes that he or she has a grievance as defined above, then that employee shall observe the following procedure:

- (a) Attempt to resolve the issue through informal discussion with immediate supervisor.
- (b) If after a reasonable amount of time, generally seven days, the grievance cannot be settled by the immediate supervisor, the employee may request an interview with the Division Commander of the affected division or bureau.
- (c) If a successful resolution is not found with the Division Commander, the employee may request a meeting with the Sheriff.
- (d) If the employee and the Sheriff are unable to arrive at a mutual solution, then the employee shall proceed as follows:

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1. Submit in writing a written statement of the grievance and deliver one copy to the Sheriff and another copy to the immediate supervisor and include the following information:
  - (a) The basis for the grievance (i.e., what are the facts of the case?).
  - (b) Allegation of the specific wrongful act and the harm done.
  - (c) The specific policies, rules or regulations that were violated.
  - (d) What remedy or goal is being sought by this grievance.
- (e) The employee shall receive a copy of the acknowledgment signed by the supervisor including the date and time of receipt.
- (f) The Sheriff will receive the grievance in writing. The Sheriff and the County Administrator will review and analyze the facts or allegations and respond to the employee within 14 calendar days. The response will be in writing, and will affirm or deny the allegations. The response shall include any remedies if appropriate. The decision of the County Administrator is considered final.

### **1006.3 EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATION**

Employees are entitled to have representation during the grievance process. The representative may be selected by the employee from the appropriate employee bargaining group.

### **1006.4 GRIEVANCE RECORDS**

At the conclusion of the grievance process, all documents pertaining to the process shall be forwarded to Administration for inclusion into a secure file for all written grievances. A second copy of the written grievance will be maintained by the County Administrator's office to monitor the grievance process.

### **1006.5 GRIEVANCE AUDITS**

The Training Manager shall perform an annual audit of all grievances filed the previous calendar year to evaluate whether or not any policy/procedure changes or training may be appropriate to avoid future filings of grievances. The Training Manager shall record these findings in a confidential and generic memorandum to the Sheriff without including any identifying information from any individual grievance. If the audit identifies any recommended changes or content that may warrant a critical revision to this policy manual, the Training Manager should promptly notify the Sheriff.

## Recruitment and Selection

### 1007.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides a framework for employee recruiting efforts and identifying job-related standards for the selection process. This policy supplements the rules that govern employment practices for the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and that are promulgated and maintained by the Department of Human Resources.

### 1007.2 POLICY

In accordance with applicable federal, state, and local law, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office provides equal opportunities for applicants and employees regardless of actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law. The Office does not show partiality or grant any special status to any applicant, employee, or group of employees unless otherwise required by law.

The Office 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.

### 1007.3 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 office website and the use of office-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.

The Office 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.

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### **1007.4 SELECTION PROCESS**

The Office shall actively strive to identify a diverse group of candidates who have in some manner distinguished themselves as being outstanding prospects. Minimally, the Office 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, 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. This required documentation should not be requested until a candidate is hired. This does not prohibit obtaining documents required for other purposes.
- (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

#### **1007.4.1 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).

### **1007.5 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office (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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### 1007.5.1 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 (15 USC § 1681d; Civil Code § 1786.16).

### 1007.5.2 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).

### 1007.5.3 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 Office 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.

### 1007.5.4 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).

### 1007.5.5 RECORDS RETENTION

The background report and all supporting documentation shall be maintained for a minimum of two years and in accordance with the established records retention schedule (Government Code § 12946; 11 CCR 1953).

### 1007.5.6 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

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180 days of voluntary separation from the Yolo County Sheriff's Office or is transferred to a different department within the County as provided in 11 CCR 1953(f).

### **1007.6 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.

### **1007.7 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 Office 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 Department of Human Resources should maintain validated standards for all positions.

#### **1007.7.1 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

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- (c) At least 18 years of age
- (d) Fingerprinted for local, state and national fingerprint check
- (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 Office (Penal Code § 13510(d)).

## Military Leave

### 1008.1 SECTION TITLE

It shall be policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office to comply with the pertinent statutes dealing with military leave, and in particular, sections 395, 395.01 and 395.02 of the Military and Veterans code. Military leave will be granted and compensated in accordance with Yolo County Policy.

Military leave must be approved in advance to allow for staffing considerations. Members of the Department who are also in the military Service shall, when requesting Military leave, provide the department with a copy of their Military orders within five days of receipt or within twenty-four hours of receipt if an emergency. The immediate supervisor shall forward the copy of Military orders to the Personnel section via chain-of-command. The personnel section then forward a copy of the orders to the Department's finance section.

## Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace

### 1009.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear and uniform guidelines regarding drugs and alcohol in the workplace.

### 1009.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this Office to provide a drug- and alcohol-free workplace for all members.

### 1009.3 GENERAL GUIDELINES

Alcohol and drug use in the workplace or on Office time can endanger the health and safety of Office members and the public. Such use shall not be tolerated (41 USC § 8103).

Members who have consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage or taken any medication, or combination thereof, that would tend to adversely affect their mental or physical abilities shall not report for duty. Affected members shall notify the Shift Supervisor or appropriate supervisor as soon as the member is aware that he/she will not be able to report to work. If the member is unable to make the notification, every effort should be made to have a representative contact the supervisor in a timely manner. If the member is adversely affected while on-duty, he/she shall be immediately removed and released from work (see Work Restrictions in this policy).

#### 1009.3.1 USE OF MEDICATIONS

Members should avoid taking any medications that will impair their ability to safely and completely perform their duties. Any member who is medically required or has a need to take any such medication shall report that need to his/her immediate supervisor prior to commencing any on-duty status.

No member shall be permitted to work or drive a vehicle owned or leased by the Office while taking any medication that has the potential to impair his/her abilities, without a written release from his/her physician.

#### 1009.3.2 USE OF MARIJUANA

Possession of marijuana, including medical marijuana, or being under the influence of marijuana on- or off-duty is prohibited and may lead to disciplinary action.

### 1009.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members shall report for work in an appropriate mental and physical condition. Members are prohibited from purchasing, manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing or using controlled substances or alcohol on Office premises or on Office time (41 USC § 8103). The lawful possession or use of prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies is excluded from this prohibition.

Members who are authorized to consume alcohol as part of a special assignment shall not do so to the extent of impairing on-duty performance.

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Members shall notify a supervisor immediately if they observe behavior or other evidence that they believe demonstrates that a fellow member poses a risk to the health and safety of the member or others due to drug or alcohol use.

Members are required to notify their immediate supervisors of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after such conviction (41 USC § 8103).

### **1009.5 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

There may be available a voluntary employee assistance program to assist those who wish to seek help for alcohol and drug problems (41 USC § 8103). Insurance coverage that provides treatment for drug and alcohol abuse also may be available. Employees should contact the Department of Human Resources, their insurance providers or the employee assistance program for additional information. It is the responsibility of each employee to seek assistance before alcohol or drug problems lead to performance problems.

### **1009.6 WORK RESTRICTIONS**

If a member informs a supervisor that he/she has consumed any alcohol, drug or medication that could interfere with a safe and efficient job performance, the member may be required to obtain clearance from his/her physician before continuing to work.

If the supervisor reasonably believes, based on objective facts, that a member is impaired by the consumption of alcohol or other drugs, the supervisor shall prevent the member from continuing work and shall ensure that he/she is safely transported away from the Office.

### **1009.7 REQUESTING SCREENING TESTS**

The supervisor may request an employee to submit to a screening test under the following circumstances:

- (a) The supervisor reasonably believes, based upon objective facts, that the employee is under the influence of alcohol or drugs that are impairing his/her ability to perform duties safely and efficiently.
- (b) The employee discharges a firearm, other than by accident, in the performance of his/her duties.
- (c) During the performance of his/her duties, the employee drives a motor vehicle and becomes involved in an incident that results in bodily injury to him/herself or another person, or substantial damage to property.

#### **1009.7.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

Prior to the test, the supervisor shall prepare a written record documenting the specific facts that led to the decision to request the test, and shall inform the employee in writing of the following:

- (a) The test will be given to detect either alcohol or drugs, or both.

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- (b) The result of the test is not admissible in any criminal proceeding against the employee.
- (c) The employee may refuse the test, but refusal may result in dismissal or other disciplinary action.

### **1009.7.2 SCREENING TEST REFUSAL**

An employee may be subject to disciplinary action if he/she:

- (a) Fails or refuses to submit to a screening test as requested.
- (b) After taking a screening test that indicates the presence of a controlled substance, fails to provide proof, within 72 hours after being requested, that he/she took the controlled substance as directed, pursuant to a current and lawful prescription issued in his/her name.
- (c) Violates any provisions of this policy.

### **1009.8 COMPLIANCE WITH THE DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE ACT**

No later than 30 days following notice of any drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace involving a member, the Office will take appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, and/or requiring the member to satisfactorily participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program (41 USC § 8104).

### **1009.9 CONFIDENTIALITY**

The Office recognizes the confidentiality and privacy due to its members. Disclosure of any information relating to substance abuse treatment, except on a need-to-know basis, shall only be with the express written consent of the member involved or pursuant to lawful process.

The written results of any screening tests and all documents generated by the employee assistance program are considered confidential medical records and shall be maintained separately from the employee's other personnel files.

## Smoking and Tobacco Use

### 1010.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 1010.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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 vehicles, and as is further outlined in this policy (Government Code § 7597; Labor Code § 6404.5).

### 1010.3 SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

Smoking and tobacco use by members is prohibited anytime members are in public view representing the Yolo County Sheriff's Office.

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.

### 1010.4 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.).

#### 1010.4.1 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).



## Sick Leave

### 1011.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Employees of this department are provided with a sick leave benefit that gives them continued compensation during times of absence due to personal or family illness. The number of hours available and terms of use are detailed in the employee's respective 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) , the California Family Rights Act, 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).

### 1011.2 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.

#### 1011.2.1 NOTIFICATION

Employees are encouraged to notify the Shift Supervisor or appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work. When possible, 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.

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.

#### 1011.2.2 SICK LEAVE USE - EXHAUSTED BALANCES

Members of the department who call in sick and have exhausted their sick leave balance will receive "leave without pay" during the illness.

Employees can request via the Chain of Command to the Office of the Sheriff, the use of vacation time and other optional time off while ill or injured under the following circumstances:

- (a) New members with more than six months in his/her position without a sick leave balance who can provide verification of a legitimate illness or injury.

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- (b) Members with a lengthy verifiable illness or injury who exhaust his/her sick leave balance.

### **1011.3 EXTENDED ILLNESS**

Employees on extended absences shall, if possible, contact their unit supervisor at three-day intervals to provide an update on their absence and expected date of return. Employees absent from duty due to personal illness in excess of three consecutive days may be required to furnish a statement from their health care provider supporting the use of sick leave and/or the ability to return to work.

Nothing in this section precludes a supervisor, with cause, from requiring a physician's statement if three or fewer sick days are taken.

### **1011.4 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.

### **1011.5 REQUIRED NOTICES**

The Director of Human Services 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.

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# Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting

## 1012.1 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.

### 1012.1.1 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.).

## 1012.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office will address occupational diseases and work-related injuries appropriately, and will comply with applicable state workers' compensation requirements (Labor Code § 3200 et seq.).

## 1012.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

### 1012.3.1 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).

### 1012.3.2 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.

### 1012.3.3 DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Division Commander who receives a report of an occupational disease or work-related injury should review the report for accuracy and determine what additional action should be taken. The report shall then be forwarded to the Sheriff, the County's risk management entity, and the Administration Division Commander to ensure any required Division of Occupational Health and Safety Administration (Cal/OSHA) reporting is made as required in the illness and injury prevention plan identified in the Illness and Injury Prevention Policy.

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## *Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting*

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### 1012.3.4 SHERIFF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sheriff shall review and forward copies of the report to the Department of Human Resources. Copies of the report and related documents retained by the Office shall be filed in the member's confidential medical file.

### 1012.4 OTHER DISEASE OR INJURY

Diseases and injuries caused or occurring on-duty that do not qualify for workers' compensation reporting shall be documented on the designated report of injury form, which shall be signed by a supervisor. A copy of the completed form shall be forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander through the chain of command and a copy sent to the Administration Division Commander.

Unless the injury is extremely minor, this report shall be signed by the affected member, indicating that he/she desired no medical attention at the time of the report. By signing, the member does not preclude his/her ability to later seek medical attention.

### 1012.5 SETTLEMENT OFFERS

When a member sustains an occupational disease or work-related injury that is caused by another person and is subsequently contacted by that person, his/her agent, insurance company or attorney and offered a settlement, the member shall take no action other than to submit a written report of this contact to his/her supervisor as soon as possible.

#### 1012.5.1 NO SETTLEMENT WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL

No less than 10 days prior to accepting and finalizing the settlement of any third-party claim arising out of or related to an occupational disease or work-related injury, the member shall provide the Sheriff with written notice of the proposed terms of such settlement. In no case shall the member accept a settlement without first providing written notice to the Sheriff. The purpose of such notice is to permit the County to determine whether the offered settlement will affect any claim the County may have regarding payment for damage to equipment or reimbursement for wages against the person who caused the disease or injury, and to protect the County's right of subrogation, while ensuring that the member's right to receive compensation is not affected.

## Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments

### 1013.1 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, Yolo 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.

### 1013.2 POLICY

Subject to operational considerations, the Yolo County Sheriff's Office may identify temporary modified-duty assignments for employees who have an injury or medical condition resulting in temporary work limitations or restrictions. A temporary assignment allows the employee to work, while providing the Department with a productive employee during the temporary period.

### 1013.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS/LIMITATIONS

Priority consideration for temporary modified-duty assignments will be given to employees with work-related injuries or illnesses that are temporary in nature. Employees having disabilities covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code § 12940 et seq.) shall be treated equally, without regard to any preference for a work-related injury.

No position in the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall be created or maintained as a temporary modified-duty assignment.

Temporary modified-duty assignments are a management prerogative and not an employee right. The availability of temporary modified-duty assignments will be determined on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the operational needs of the Department. Temporary modified-duty assignments are subject to continuous reassessment, with consideration given to operational needs and the employee's ability to perform in a modified-duty assignment.

The Sheriff or the authorized designee may restrict employees working in temporary modified-duty assignments from wearing a uniform, displaying a badge, carrying a firearm, operating an emergency vehicle, engaging in outside employment, or being otherwise limited in employing their peace officer powers.

### 1013.4 PROCEDURE

Employees may request a temporary modified-duty assignment for short-term injuries or illnesses.

Employees seeking a temporary modified-duty assignment should submit a written request to their Division Commanders or the authorized designees. The request should, as applicable, include a certification from the treating medical professional containing:

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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- (a) An assessment of the nature and probable duration of the illness or injury.
- (b) The prognosis for recovery.
- (c) The nature and scope of limitations and/or work restrictions.
- (d) A statement regarding any required workplace accommodations, mobility aids or medical devices.
- (e) A statement that the employee can safely perform the duties of the temporary modified-duty assignment.

The Division Commander will make a recommendation through the chain of command to the Sheriff regarding temporary modified-duty assignments that may be available based on the needs of the Department and the limitations of the employee. The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall confer with the Department of Human Resources or the County Counsel as appropriate. Modified duty assignments are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Requests for a temporary modified-duty assignment of 20 hours or less per week may be approved and facilitated by the Shift Supervisor or Division Commander, with notice to the Sheriff.

### **1013.5 ACCOUNTABILITY**

Written notification of assignments, work schedules and any restrictions should be provided to employees assigned to temporary modified-duty assignments and their supervisors. Those assignments and schedules may be adjusted to accommodate department operations and the employee's medical appointments, as mutually agreed upon with the Division Commander.

#### **1013.5.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of employees assigned to temporary modified duty shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) Communicating and coordinating any required medical and physical therapy appointments in advance with their supervisors.
- (b) Promptly notifying their supervisors of any change in restrictions or limitations after each appointment with their treating medical professionals.
- (c) Communicating a status update to their supervisors no less than once every 30 days while assigned to temporary modified duty.
- (d) Submitting a written status report to the Division Commander that contains a status update and anticipated date of return to full-duty when a temporary modified-duty assignment extends beyond 60 days.

#### **1013.5.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The employee's immediate supervisor shall monitor and manage the work schedule of those assigned to temporary modified duty. The responsibilities of supervisors shall include, but not be limited to:

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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- (a) Periodically apprising the Division Commander of the status and performance of employees assigned to temporary modified duty.
- (b) Notifying the Division Commander and ensuring that the required documentation facilitating a return to full duty is received from the employee.
- (c) Ensuring that employees returning to full duty have completed any required training and certification.

### **1013.6 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

Prior to returning to full-duty status, employees shall be required to provide certification from their treating medical professionals stating that they are medically cleared to perform the essential functions of their jobs without restrictions or limitations. The Department may require a fitness-for-duty examination prior to returning an employee to full duty status, in accordance with the Fitness for Duty Policy.

### **1013.7 PREGNANCY**

If an employee is temporarily unable to perform regular duties due to a pregnancy, childbirth or a related medical condition, the employee will be treated the same as any other temporarily disabled employee (42 USC § 2000e(k)). A pregnant employee shall not be involuntarily transferred to a temporary modified-duty assignment.

#### **1013.7.1 NOTIFICATION**

Pregnant employees should notify their immediate supervisors as soon as practicable and provide a statement from their medical providers identifying any pregnancy-related job restrictions or limitations. If at any point during the pregnancy it becomes necessary for the employee to take a leave of absence, such leave shall be granted in accordance with the County's personnel rules and regulations regarding family and medical care leave.

An employee who learns of her pregnancy should notify her immediate supervisor of the pregnancy as soon as practicable. The employee must inform the department of her intent regarding reassignment, job accommodations and anticipated leave for the pregnancy or prenatal care. The employee shall also submit a statement from her health care provider of any job restrictions or limitations she may have.

### **1013.8 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES**

Probationary employees who are assigned to a temporary modified-duty assignment shall have their probation extended by a period of time equal to their assignment to temporary modified duty.

### **1013.9 MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING**

Employees assigned to temporary modified duty shall maintain all certification, training and qualifications appropriate to both their regular and temporary duties, provided that the certification, training or qualifications are not in conflict with any medical limitations or restrictions. Employees who are assigned to temporary modified duty shall inform their supervisors of any inability to maintain any certification, training or qualifications.

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## Fitness for Duty

### 1014.1 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).

### 1014.2 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 his/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.

### 1014.3 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 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 Shift Supervisor 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.

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### **1014.4 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 in order to obtain medical treatment or other reasonable rest period.

### **1014.5 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 Shift Supervisor 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 well being of the employee and until such time as the employee has had the opportunity to receive necessary counseling and/or psychological clearance to return to full duty.

### **1014.6 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 Department of 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)) provided that information may only be used or disclosed in connection with that proceeding.
- (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

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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.

### **1014.7 LIMITATION ON HOURS WORKED**

Absent emergency operations members should not work more than:

- 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.

### **1014.8 APPEALS**

An employee who is separated from paid employment or receives a reduction in salary resulting from a fitness for duty examination shall be entitled to a full evidentiary hearing as set forth in the member's applicable MOU.

# Communicable Diseases

## 1015.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines to assist in minimizing the risk of office members contracting and/or spreading communicable diseases.

### 1015.1.1 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office. (See the exposure control plan for further details to assist in identifying whether an exposure has occurred.)

## 1015.2 POLICY

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

## 1015.3 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 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):

## Communicable Diseases

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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 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 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).

### **1015.4 EXPOSURE PREVENTION AND MITIGATION**

#### **1015.4.1 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 office vehicles, as applicable.
- (b) Wearing 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.

#### 1015.4.2 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).

### **1015.5 POST EXPOSURE**

#### 1015.5.1 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.

#### 1015.5.2 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).

### 1015.5.3 MEDICAL CONSULTATION, EVALUATION AND TREATMENT

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.

### 1015.5.4 COUNSELING

The Office shall provide the member, and his/her family if necessary, the opportunity for counseling and consultation regarding the exposure (8 CCR 5193).

### 1015.5.5 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.

### **1015.6 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.

### **1015.7 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.



## Department Badges

### 1016.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office badge and uniform patch as well as the likeness of these items and the name of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office are property of the Department and their use shall be restricted as set forth in this policy.

### 1016.2 POLICY

The uniform badge shall be issued to department members as a symbol of authority and 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.

#### 1016.2.1 FLAT BADGE

Sworn 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) A deputy may sell, exchange, or transfer the flat badge he/she purchased to another deputy within the Yolo County Sheriff's Office with the written approval of the Sheriff.
- (b) 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 Department Owned and Personal Property Policy.
- (c) An honorably retired deputy may keep his/her flat badge upon retirement.
- (d) The purchase, carrying or display of a flat badge is not authorized for non-sworn personnel.

#### 1016.2.2 CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

Badges and departmental identification cards issued to non-sworn personnel shall be clearly marked to reflect the position of the assigned employee.

- (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.

#### 1016.2.3 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.

## *Department Badges*

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### **1016.3 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 civilian 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.

### **1016.4 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office. 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.

## Uniform Regulations

### 1017.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The uniform policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office is established to ensure that uniformed members will be readily identifiable to the public through the proper use and wearing of office uniforms. Employees should also refer to the following associated Policy Manual sections:

Office Owned and Personal Property

Body Armor

Personal Appearance Standards

The Uniform/Attire Specifications manual is maintained and periodically updated by the Sheriff or his/her designee. That manual should be consulted regarding authorized uniform specifications.

### 1017.2 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 office 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 office's Uniform/Attire specifications.
- (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.
- (g) Uniforms are only to be worn while on duty, while in transit to or from work, for court, or at other official office 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 Office 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.

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## *Uniform Regulations*

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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

### 1017.2.1 OFFICE ISSUED IDENTIFICATION

The Office issues each employee an official office identification card bearing the employee's name, identifying information and photo likeness. All employees shall be in possession of their office 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 office, 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.

### 1017.3 UNIFORM CLASSES

#### 1017.3.1 CLASS A UNIFORM

The Class A uniform, also referred to as the dress uniform will consist of long sleeve uniform shirt, tie, uniform pants, trouser belt, uniform shoes, duty belt, and other items of apparel, as designated by the Sheriff. The Class A uniform is to be worn on special occasions such as funerals, graduations, ceremonies, or as directed. The Class A uniform is required for all Deputies and Correctional Officers. The Class A uniform includes the standard issue uniform with:

- (a) Long sleeve shirt with tie
- (b) Polished black shoes/boots
- (c) Metal name plate
- (d) Office issued metal badge
- (e) Campaign hat (optional)
- (f) Ike jacket (optional)
- (g) Duty belt worn with only holster, magazine pouch, and single handcuff case (if applicable)

Boots with pointed toes are not permitted.

#### 1017.3.2 CLASS B UNIFORM

All Deputies and Correctional Officers will possess and maintain a serviceable Class B uniform at all times.

The Class B uniform will consist of the same garments and equipment as the class A uniform with the following exceptions:

- (a) The long or short sleeve shirt may be worn with the collar open. Tie is optional.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

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## *Uniform Regulations*

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- (b) A white crew neck shirt must be worn with the uniform absent a tie.
- (c) A black turtle neck or Dickie may also be worn with the long sleeve uniform shirt.
- (d) All shirt buttons must remain buttoned except for the last button at the neck.
- (e) Embroidered name
- (f) Office issued metal badge (absent the optional vest carrier)
- (g) Vest carrier (optional for Deputies, Animal Services Officers, and Correctional Officers)

### 1017.3.3 CLASS C UNIFORM

The Class C uniform, also referred to as the duty uniform, may be worn by Deputies, Correctional Officers and Animal Services Officers in the normal course of duty. Effective July 1, 2020, the Class C uniform shall not be worn by Deputies assigned to work inside a courtroom.

- (a) The long or short sleeve shirt shall be worn with the collar open without a tie.
- (b) A white crew neck shirt must be worn with the uniform.
- (c) A black mock turtleneck or Dickie may also be worn with the long sleeve uniform shirt.
- (d) All shirt buttons must remain buttoned except for the last button at the neck.
- (e) Shoes for the Class C uniform as described in the Class A uniform.
- (f) Embroidered name
- (g) Embroidered badge as currently authorized by policy.
- (h) Pants will be worn un-bloused with any drawstrings removed.
- (i) Baseball-style cap (optional for Deputies and Animal Services Officers)
- (j) Knit cap (optional for Deputies and Animal Services Officers)
- (k) Vest carrier (optional for Deputies, Animal Services Officers, and Correctional Officers)

### 1017.3.4 CLASS D UNIFORM

The Class D Uniform, also known as the casual uniform, will consist of the long or short sleeve polo shirt and approved Class C trousers.

The Class D uniform may be worn optionally by Deputies assigned to investigations, Deputy Coroners, Deputy Public Administrators and regularly uniformed employees assigned to desk work.

### 1017.3.5 CLASS E UNIFORM

The non-sworn support staff daily uniform will consist of the long or short sleeve polo shirt and approved Class E trousers. To be worn by all classifications excluding sworn personnel, Correctional Officers, and Animal Services Officers.

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### 1017.3.6 CLASS F UNIFORM

The Class F uniform, also known as the Marine Patrol uniform, will consist of green shorts or Class C pants, long or short sleeve Class C shirt, socks, deck shoes and duty belt.

### 1017.3.7 SPECIALIZED UNIT UNIFORMS

The Sheriff may authorize special uniforms to be worn by deputies in specialized units such as Gangs, SWAT, OHV and other specialized assignments.

### 1017.3.8 FOUL WEATHER GEAR

The Uniform/Attire Specifications policy lists the authorized uniform jacket and rain gear.

## **1017.4 INSIGNIA AND PATCHES**

- (a) **Shoulder Patches** - The authorized shoulder patch identified by the Office shall be machine stitched to the sleeves of all uniform shirts and jackets, three-quarters of an inch below the shoulder seam of the shirt and be bisected by the crease in the sleeve.
- (b) **Service stars** - Service stars shall be worn on long sleeved shirts and dress jackets. They are to be machine stitched onto the uniform. The stars are to be worn on the left sleeve only.
- (c) The regulation nameplate, embroidered name, or sewn on cloth name plate shall be worn at all times while in uniform. The nameplate shall be worn and placed above the right pocket located in the middle, bisected by the pressed shirt seam, with equal distance from both sides of the nameplate to the outer edge of the pocket.
- (d) When a jacket is worn, the nameplate or an authorized sewn on cloth nameplate shall be affixed to the jacket in the same manner as the uniform.
- (e) **Assignment Insignias/Patches** (SWAT, FTO, etc.) shall be worn as designated by the Sheriff.
- (f) **Flag Pin** - A flag pin may be worn, centered below the badge on the the pocket flap.
- (g) **Badge** - The office issued badge, or an authorized sewn on cloth replica, must be worn and visible at all times while in uniform.
- (h) **Rank Insignia** - The designated insignia indicating the employee's rank must be worn at all times while in uniform. The Sheriff may authorize exceptions.

### 1017.4.1 MOURNING BADGE

Uniformed employees shall wear a black mourning band across the uniform badge whenever a law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty. The following mourning periods will be observed:

- (a) A member of this office - From the time of death until midnight on the 14th day after the death.
- (b) A law enforcement officer from any agency in the State of California - From the time of death until midnight on the day of the funeral.
- (c) Funeral attendee - While attending the funeral of an out of region fallen officer.
- (d) National Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15th) - From 0001 hours until 2359 hours.

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### *Uniform Regulations*

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- (e) As directed by the Sheriff.

#### **1017.5 CIVILIAN ATTIRE**

There are assignments within the Office that do not require the wearing of a uniform because recognition and authority are not essential to their function. There are also assignments in which the wearing of civilian attire is necessary.

- (a) All employees shall wear clothing that fits properly, is clean and free of stains, and not damaged or excessively worn.
- (b) All male administrative, investigative and support personnel who elect to wear civilian clothing to work shall wear button style shirts with a collar, slacks or suits that are moderate in style.
- (c) All female administrative, investigative, and support personnel who elect to wear civilian clothes to work shall wear dresses, slacks, shirts, blouses, or suits which are moderate in style.
- (d) The following items shall not be worn on duty:
  - 1. T-shirt alone
  - 2. Skirts
  - 3. Open toed sandals or thongs
  - 4. Swimsuit, tube tops, or halter-tops
  - 5. Spandex type pants or see-through clothing
  - 6. Distasteful printed slogans, buttons or pins
- (e) Variations from this order are allowed at the discretion of the Sheriff or designee when the employee's assignment or current task is not conducive to the wearing of such clothing.
- (f) No item of civilian attire may be worn on duty that would adversely affect the reputation of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office or the morale of the employees.

#### **1017.6 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, ENDORSEMENTS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

Unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff, Yolo County Sheriff's Office employees may not wear any part of the uniform, be photographed wearing any part of the uniform, utilize an office 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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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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### **1017.7 OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT - MAINTENANCE, AND REPLACEMENT**

- (a) Any of the items listed in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications as optional shall be purchased totally at the expense of the employee. No part of the purchase cost shall be offset by the Office for the cost of providing the Office 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 (see the Office Owned and Personal Property Policy).

#### **1017.7.1 RETIREE BADGES/IDENTIFICATION**

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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office. 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 word "Retired" clearly visible on its face. A retiree shall be instructed that any such badge will remain the property of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and will be revoked in the event of misuse or abuse (Penal Code § 538d).

#### **1017.8 UNAUTHORIZED UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES**

Yolo County Sheriff's Office employees may not wear any uniform item, accessory or attachment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications or by the Sheriff or designee.

Yolo County Sheriff's Office employees may not use or carry any safety item, tool or other piece of equipment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications or by the Sheriff or designee.



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## Personal Appearance Standards

### 1018.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to project uniformity and neutrality toward the public and other members of the office, employees shall maintain their personal hygiene and appearance to project a professional image appropriate for this office and for their assignment.

### 1018.2 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.

#### 1018.2.1 HAIR

Male employees, while on duty or in uniform, hair shall be clean and trimmed, and present a neat appearance. Hairstyles that preclude the proper wearing of a riot helmet or gas mask are not permitted. Hair shall be worn so that it does not extend below the top of the uniform shirt collar while sitting or standing in an erect position. Hair shall not extend farther than one-half inch below the top edge of the ear. Hair which is styled or combed forward will be no lower on the forehead than one half distance to the eyebrows of the individual, measured from the high point of the eyebrow. Moderate "natural" style haircuts are permitted if they qualify within the limits described above; however, the maximum extension from the scalp shall not exceed two inches. Hair shall not be allowed to accumulate at the back of the neck. Haircuts that would be termed extraordinary (i.e. Mohawk, punk etc.) shall not be permitted.

Female employees, in uniform, with hair that extends below the collar shall wear their hair up for safety while on duty. Hair will not be worn so that it will fall in front of the eyes. Extraordinary hairstyles or colors that present an odd appearance are prohibited while on duty. Decorations shall not be worn in the hair while in uniform; however hair clips that match the color of the hair may be worn.

#### 1018.2.2 MUSTACHES

A short and neatly trimmed mustache may be worn. Mustaches shall be limited to the area above the upper lip and shall not extend more than one-half inch beyond the corners of the mouth nor below the vermilion border of the upper lip, nor below the corner of the mouth. Waxed ends or points are not permitted.

#### 1018.2.3 SIDEBURNS

Sideburns shall not extend below the bottom of the earlobe and will terminate with a clean-shaven horizontal line. The maximum width at the bottom of the sideburns shall not exceed one inch.

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## *Personal Appearance Standards*

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### 1018.2.4 FACIAL HAIR

A short, neatly trimmed, mature goatee of natural color may be worn. The hair shall not exceed one-quarter inch in length. The goatee shall have sharp, even corners and edges. The width of the goatee shall not exceed outward more than a half-inch from a vertical line that extends from the corner of the mouth down, nor shall it proceed under the jaw toward the neck more than three-quarter inches. The goatee shall not interfere with the proper fit of any safety equipment.

Goatees must follow the natural arch of the mouth and must be worn with a mustache. Beards are not permitted.

### 1018.2.5 FINGERNAILS/COSMETICS FEMALE

Nail polish is permitted; but shall not present an odd appearance to distract from professional demeanor expected from members of this organization. Those individuals that wear colors may do so with the understanding they are required to keep a professional appearance. If cosmetics are worn they shall match the skin color of the individual.

### 1018.2.6 JEWELRY AND ACCESSORIES

No jewelry or personal ornaments shall be worn by members 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.

Female members only will be allowed to wear earrings, which must meet the following specifications:

- (a) Yellow colored metal (gold) post type earrings
- (b) Ball size no larger than 5mm ball or smaller
- (c) Plain ball-with no design or stones
- (d) Only one earring per ear
- (e) No other visible piercing shall be allowed for any member

### 1018.3 TATTOOS

All office members hired after March 26, 2006 shall not have visible tattoos unless such tattoos are in good taste and do not bring discredit to the office. Tattoos shall not depict or contain violent, sexual, or offensive images or words. Tattoos shall not contain any symbol or word(s) depicting or associated with known hate groups or criminal organizations. Excessive tattooing, or offensive tattoos, must not be visible. Members with excessive tattooing or tattoos deemed to be offensive shall either wear his/her long sleeve uniform shirt or a "sleeve" that is either flesh colored or black made of an elastic type material; polyester, nylon etc. Additionally, tattoos depicting religious symbols shall also not be visible while on duty.

The Sheriff or his/her designee shall have the final decision on the suitability of any tattoo.

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## *Personal Appearance Standards*

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### **1018.4 EXEMPTIONS**

Members who seek cultural (e.g., culturally protected hairstyles) or other exemptions to this policy that are protected by law should generally be accommodated (Government Code § 12926). A member with an exemption may be ineligible for an assignment if the individual accommodation presents a security or safety risk. The Sheriff should be advised any time a request for such an accommodation is denied or when a member with a cultural or other exemption is denied an assignment based on a safety or security risk.

## Uniform/Attire Specifications

### 1019.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is designed to be distributed to uniform and equipment suppliers for their files to ensure that members purchasing from them will be properly outfitted. This chapter will occasionally be revised with additions and deletions of the equipment and uniform items.

### 1019.2 UNIFORM CLASSES

#### 1019.2.1 CLASS "A"

##### Long Sleeve Shirt

- Reference- Flying Cross brand item 30W66Z-04 (Male), 130W66Z-04 (Female) or equivalent
- Material- Silver Tan color, 65% polyester/35% rayon blend.
- The shirt shall display the Office patch centered on each sleeve 1 inch below the shoulder seam.
- Service stars are required on the long sleeve shirt. They shall be centered on the left sleeve forearm between the front and rear crease, with one star worn for each four years of law enforcement service. Service stars shall be gold.
- The shirt shall have a 'military press.'
- Badge- Sheriff's Office metal badge.
- Nameplate- Sheriff's Office authorized nameplate.
- Employees shall not roll up the sleeves of the long sleeve shirt in any manner while in the Class A uniform.
- Shirt to be worn with tie.

##### Trousers

- (a) Reference- Flying Cross #32218 (Male), #32218W (Female) or equivalent.
- (b) Material- Forest Green color, 55% polyester and 45% wool blend.
- (c) Style- To be a slack-type, plain without pleats. Front pockets shall have a minimum opening of 6 inches and shall be 5-inches by 6-inches deep from the bottom of the opening. Pockets shall have straight bartacks. Hip pockets are optional (Velcro fasteners on hip pockets are prohibited).
- (d) Waistband- Shall be a minimum of 2-inches wide and shall be closed with a crush-proof hood and eye. Waistband curtain shall have "Snugtex" (or equivalent) and be 65% Polyester/35% Cotton with durable press finish and shall match the color of the pocketing.

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### *Uniform/Attire Specifications*

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- (e) Pant Braid- To be worn by supervisors equivalent to the rank of Sergeant and above. The pant braid shall be Black colored piping, bordered in 1/8" Gold colored fabric (CDCR style), and shall run down the waistline following the seam in a straight line.
- (f) Belt Loops- There shall be seven belt loops positioned with uniformity about the waist, with loops measuring 2 inches in height. All loops shall be sewn into the "rocap".

#### 1019.2.2 CLASS "B"

##### Long Sleeve Shirt

- (a) Reference- Flying Cross brand item 30W66Z-04 (Male), 130W66Z-04 (Female) or equivalent
- (b) Material- Silver Tan color, 65% polyester/35% rayon blend.
- (c) The shirt shall display the Office patch centered on each sleeve 1 inch below the shoulder seam.
- (d) Service stars are required on the long sleeve shirt. They shall be centered on the left sleeve forearm between the front and rear crease, with one star worn for each four years of law enforcement service. Service stars shall be gold.
- (e) The shirt shall have a 'military' press.
- (f) Embroidering- Employees first initial (optional) and last name will be embroidered centered above the right breast pocket with black thread (see 1019.3.20 for specifications).
- (g) Badge- Sheriff's Office metal badge
- (h) May be optionally worn with collar open absent a tie.

##### Short Sleeve Shirt

- Reference- Flying Cross brand item 80R66Z-04 (Male), 180R66Z-04 (Female) or equivalent.
- The shirt shall be Silver Tan, 65% polyester/35% rayon blend.
- The shirt shall display the Office patch centered on each sleeve 1 inch below the shoulder seam.
- The sleeves of the short sleeve shirt shall be no longer than the crease in the inner arm at the elbow and no shorter than 3 inches above the elbow crease. Short sleeve shirts shall not be tailored to constrict the arms.
- The shirt shall have a 'military press.'
- Embroidering- Employees first initial (optional) and last name will be embroidered centered above the right breast pocket with black thread (see 1019.3.20 for specifications).
- Badge- Sheriff's Office metal badge

##### Trousers

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- (a) Reference- Flying Cross #32218 (Male), #32218W (Female) or Elbeco #E829RN (Male), #E9829N (Female) or 5.11 Apex Pant #74434 (Male), #64446 (Female) or equivalent.
- (b) Material- Forest Green color
- (c) Style- To be a slack-type, plain without pleats. Front pockets shall have a minimum opening of 6 inches and shall be 5-inches by 6-inches deep from the bottom of the opening. Pockets shall have straight bartacks. Hip pockets are optional (Velcro fasteners on hip pockets are prohibited).
- (d) Waistband- Shall be a minimum of 2-inches wide and shall be closed with a crush-proof hood and eye. Waistband curtain shall have "Snugtex" (or equivalent) with durable press finish and shall match the color of the pocketing.
- (e) Pant Braid- To be worn by supervisors equivalent to the rank of Sergeant and above. The pant braid shall be Black colored piping, bordered in 1/8" Gold colored fabric (CDCR style), and shall run down the waistline following the seam in a straight line.
- (f) Belt Loops- There shall be seven belt loops positioned with uniformity about the waist, with loops measuring 2 inches in height. All loops shall be sewn into the "rocap".

### 1019.2.3 CLASS "C"

#### Long Sleeve

- (a) Reference - Flying Cross FX Line #FX5120 (Male), #FX5120W (Female) or equivalent.
- (b) Silver Tan, Approximately 65% polyester, 35% cotton blend, to accept a military press or equivalent.
- (c) Extra form fit: attached cross stitched shoulder straps with matching button and buttonhole: placket front 3/4 and normal shirt tail for inside wear only.
- (d) Sleeves double reinforced elbow and stitched false cuff.
- (e) Pockets- Plain flap with Velcro closure 3/4 and matching button and buttonholes on pockets. Hidden document pocket beneath.
- (f) The shirt shall display the Office patch centered on each sleeve 1 inch below the shoulder seam.
- (g) Embroidering- Employees First initial (optional) and Last name will be embroidered centered and above the right breast pocket with Black thread.
- (h) Service stars are required on the long sleeve shirt. They shall be centered on the left sleeve forearm between the front and rear crease, with one star worn for each four years of law enforcement service. Service stars shall be gold.
- (i) Badge - Cloth Sheriff's Office badge

#### Short Sleeve

- Reference- Flying Cross FX Line #FX5100 (Male) or #FX5100W (Female) or equivalent.

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### *Uniform/Attire Specifications*

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- Silver Tan. Approximately 65% polyester, 35% cotton blend, to accept a military press or equivalent.
- Extra form fit: attached cross stitched shoulder straps with matching button and buttonhole: placket front 3/4 and normal shirt tail for inside wear only.
- Sleeves must be professionally altered from long sleeves to extend to or slightly above the elbow. The sleeve is not to extend below the elbow.
- Pockets- Plain flap with Velcro closure 3/4 and matching button and buttonholes on pockets. Hidden document pocket beneath.
- The shirt shall display the Office patch centered on each sleeve 1 inch below the shoulder seam.
- Embroidering- Employees First initial (optional) and Last name will be embroidered centered and above the right breast pocket with Black thread.
- Badge- Cloth Sheriff's Office badge.

#### Trousers

- Reference- Flying Cross FX Line #FX57300 (Male), #FX57300W (Female) or 5.11 Apex Pant #74434 (Male), #64446 (Female) or equivalent.
- OD Green (Flying Cross) or TDU Green (5.11) in color, approximately 65% polyester, 35% cotton blend, ripstop or equivalent.
- Style- Side cargo pockets with Velcro flap, rear pockets with Velcro flap and slant opening front pockets (six pocket style).
- Belt Loops- 2 inch belt loops evenly spaced around the waistband.

#### 1019.2.4 CLASS "D"

##### Long Sleeve

- (a) "Professional Polo" -Long sleeve, 100% cotton, reference "5.11" #42056 or equivalent.
- (b) "Performance Polo"- long sleeve, 100% polyester, reference "5.11" #72049 or equivalent.
- (c) Polo shirts authorized colors include: "5.11" Red 477 (range/training staff only), "5.11" Silver Tan 160.
- (d) Employee First initial (optional) and Last name to be embroidered.
- (e) Badge to be embroidered to replicate authorized Sheriff's Office cloth badge.

##### Short Sleeve

- (a) "Professional Polo"- short sleeve. 100% cotton, reference "5.11" #41060 or equivalent.
- (b) "Performance Polo"- short sleeve, 100% polyester, reference "5.11" #71049 or equivalent.
- (c) Polo shirts authorized colors include: "5.11" Red 477 (range/training staff only), "5.11" Silver Tan 160.

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- (d) Employee First initial (optional) and Last name to be embroidered.
- (e) Badge to be embroidered to replicate authorized Sheriff's Office cloth badge.

### Trousers

- (a) Reference- Flying Cross FX Line #FX57300 (Male), #FX57300W (Female) or equivalent.
- (b) OD Green in color, approximately 65% polyester, 35% cotton blend, ripstop or equivalent.
- (c) Style- Side cargo pockets with Velcro flap, rear pockets with Velcro flap and slant opening front pockets (six pocket style).
- (d) Belt Loops- 2 inch belt loops evenly spaced around the waistband.

### 1019.2.5 CLASS "E"

#### Long Sleeve

- (a) "Professional Polo" -Long sleeve, 100% cotton, reference "5.11" #42056 or equivalent, Silver Tan 160.
- (b) "Performance Polo"- long sleeve, 100% polyester, reference "5.11" #72049 or equivalent, Silver Tan 160.
- (c) Employee First initial (optional) and Last name to be embroidered.
- (d) Sheriff's Office embroidery in lieu of badge.

#### Short Sleeve

- (a) "Professional Polo"- short sleeve. 100% cotton, reference "5.11" #41060 or equivalent, Silver Tan 160.
- (b) "Performance Polo"- short sleeve, 100% polyester, reference "5.11" #71049 or equivalent, Silver Tan 160.
- (c) Employee First initial (optional) and Last name to be embroidered.
- (d) Sheriff's Office embroidery in lieu of badge.

Shirts can be worn tucked in or out. Shirts not tucked in must be cropped; extra material cut off and hemmed with a hem. Shirt must hang in a range between 3 and 5 inches below the top of the belt line. If shirt tucked in a black, leather or similar material, belt with brass buckle shall worn. Mid drift shirts are not permissible.

#### Trousers

- (a) Reference "5:11" Twill PDU Class A Pant #74338 (Male), #64304 (Female) or equivalent.
- (b) Sheriff Green color (890)
- (c) Polyester/Cotton blend.
- (d) Accept military creases.



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## *Uniform/Attire Specifications*

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### Shoes

1. Material- Leather or similar appearance boots to accept polish, black in color.
2. Closed toed, oxford or pump acceptable.

### Sweater (Optional)

1. The sweater shall be 100% low ply acrylic, black in color. The sweater will be a black button-up cardigan with two pockets. The sweater will be v-neck and long sleeved.

### 1019.2.6 CLASS "F"

Class C specifications with optional shorts and shoes.

### Shorts

- Reference- "5.11" Stryke 11" short or equivalent.
- Green color, approximately 65% polyester, 35% cotton blend, ripstop or equivalent.
- Style- Side cargo pockets with Velcro flap, rear pockets with Velcro flap and slant opening front pockets (six pocket style).
- Belt Loops- 2 inch belt loops evenly spaced around the waistband.

### Shoes

1. Deck shoes may be worn.

### 1019.2.7 UTILITY UNIFORM

The utility uniform (coveralls) will be "Flight Suit" style and will meet the following specification or be the equivalent. The utility uniform will be green in color with material of 65% polyester and 35% cotton. The utility uniform will have two zippered chest pockets, a two way zipper, two front patch pockets with flaps and Velcro closures, sap pockets, reinforced knees, two patch pockets on the lower legs with flaps and Velcro closures, side zippers on bottom of legs, belted waist with duty belt loops and Velcro adjustment at the cuff with an action back.

The utility coverall uniform shall be worn with appropriate insignia of rank and shoulder patches. The utility coverall uniform shall be worn at the direction of the Sheriff or Division Commander. It may be worn with immediate supervisory approval in a field situation in which the need to protect the basic uniform exists.

Correctional personnel assigned to maintenance, laundry, commissary, and landscape will have the option to wear this uniform when working in these assignments only.

### **1019.3 WEARING AND CONDITION OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT**

The Sheriff shall be the final authority on all matters regarding official uniforms and equipment. All articles of uniform apparel and equipment worn by members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office shall meet the specifications contained in this manual. Any other uniform items or equipment or the carrying of any restraint equipment not contained herein are prohibited.

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#### 1019.3.1 MANNER OF WEARING THE UNIFORM

Official uniforms shall be worn in a military manner. All buttons shall be secured at all times when in public view, unless otherwise directed. Hats and helmets shall be worn squarely upon the head. No items shall be carried on the pocket of any uniform garment or carried inside the garment which might produce an obvious bulge or protrusion. A complete uniform shall be worn by uniformed members when officially representing this Office. Information concerning the proper wearing of specific items of apparel or equipment will be found in subsequent sections of this manual.

#### 1019.3.2 SUPERVISORS APPROVAL

Uniformed personnel shall secure approval of their new duty articles from their respective Supervisor. The Supervisor shall determine by personal inspection whether the articles are properly fitted and in conformance with the office regulations. This section shall apply to all uniform and equipment articles whether specifically defined herein or not.

#### 1019.3.3 REPLACEMENT OF UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Uniform apparel and equipment shall be replaced when so worn or damaged as to no longer reflect an acceptable appearance or when it no longer meets current specifications.

#### 1019.3.4 MAINTENANCE OF UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Required uniforms and equipment shall be maintained at all times in a clean and serviceable condition. Articles of apparel shall be creased and pressed. Approved leather equipment and shoes/boots shall be kept dyed (black) and shined. Metal snaps and equipment shall be kept polished to a high luster.

#### 1019.3.5 WEARING OF UNIFORM ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS

When acting as an Honor Guard or attending a funeral, all personnel shall adhere to the uniform regulations as detailed by Special Order issued by the Sheriff.

#### 1019.3.6 OPTIONAL HONOR GUARD UNIFORM

The optional Honor Guard uniform shall consist of the Class A supervisor's uniform with Ike jacket, white gloves, and gold ascot. The Honor Guard hat shall be Stratton brand, green felt with gold acorn band with gold hat piece. Honor Guard members shall have a rocker-style patch, which states "HONOR GUARD" above the shoulder patch of the uniform and dress jacket. The aiguillette shall be worn around and under the right arm with the hooks at the opposite ends of the cord engaging the eyes under the right shoulder strap of the jacket.

Leather gear shall consist of black patent leather, and feature only the belt and holster. All members of the Honor Guard shall have right-handed holsters for uniformity. Boots shall also be patent leather, Rocky 500 style (taps optional).

#### 1019.3.7 PERSONNEL REQUIRED TO WEAR UNIFORMS

When on duty, all Office personnel shall wear the prescribed uniform unless expressly exempted by order of the Sheriff.

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#### 1019.3.8 ALTERING STYLE OF UNIFORM

Uniforms shall be made of the material and in the style prescribed in the specification section of this manual. Such styles shall not be altered or changed in any way whatsoever unless authorized by the Sheriff.

#### 1019.3.9 REPAIRED UNIFORMS

Members shall use sound discretion in wearing any uniform apparel or equipment which has been repaired. Uniform items with visible areas of repair which detract from the member's appearance shall not be worn. Immediate supervisors shall determine the propriety of wearing the garments and equipment in question.

#### 1019.3.10 PINS, BUTTONS, RIBBONS, AND MEDALS

When in uniform, no lodge pins, charitable contribution pins, ribbons, emblems, pins or medals of any nature may be worn on the uniform unless approved by the Sheriff. Exemption will be authorized by Special Order.

Uniformed employees presented with a civic organization's "Officer of the Year" pin may only wear it for the year awarded. The pin may be worn on the shirt or the dress jacket positioned on the right breast pocket flap one inch from the right edge of the flap halfway between the bottom and top of the flap.

Other medals, pins or decorations specifically authorized by the Sheriff shall be attached to the uniform as directed by Special Order.

The following is an example of the current authorized pins:

1. Valor/Lifesaving Medals- To be worn directly above and centered over the officer's name on all uniform shirts.
2. Flag Pins- United States Flag pins may be worn, centered below the badge on the pocket flap.
3. Special Weapons and Tactics- Members assigned to the office's Special Weapons and Tactics team may wear the authorized SWAT operator pin.
4. Correctional Emergency Response Team "C.E.R.T." Pin- Shall be yellow metal, with letters inch tall and a combined width of an inch wide. Shall be worn by authorized members only. To be worn directly above and centered over the officer's name on all uniform shirts.
5. FBI National Academy Pin- Members who are graduates of the FBI National Academy may wear the FBINA pin on their uniform shirt. The pin is to be worn on the right breast pocket flap one inch from the right edge of the flap halfway between the bottom and the top of the flap.
6. Stolen Vehicle Recovery Program (10851) Pin- Members who have been awarded the California Highway Patrol's 10851 Stolen Vehicle Recovery Program pin are authorized to wear it on the right breast pocket flap one from the right edge of the flap halfway between the bottom and top of the flap. Members who have qualified for more than one pin award may only wear the most recent pin as presented by the CHP.

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7. Mother's Against Drunk Driving (23152) Pin- Members who have been awarded the Mother's Against Drunk Driving (23152) pin are authorized to wear it on their uniform on the right breast pocket flap one inch from the right edge of the flap halfway between the bottom and top of the flap. Members who have qualified for more than one pin award may only wear the most recent pin presented by MADD.
8. Crisis Negation Team Pin- Members assigned to the Crisis Negotiations team may wear the authorized "CNT" insignia. The pin shall be gold metal colored block letters as follows: C.N.T., the size of the insignia shall not exceed 1" x 1"(height x width). The pin shall be worn center above the nameplate.
9. Deputy Tony Diaz Memorial Pin- The Tony Diaz memorial pin is authorized to wear on office uniforms. The pin shall be worn on the left breast pocket, one (1) inch from the left edge of the flap halfway between the bottom and top of the flap.
10. Marine Patrol Insignia- Members assigned to Marine Patrol shall wear the Marine Patrol insignia above the right shirt pocket centered over the nameplate.

### 1019.3.11 REQUIRED EQUIPMENT IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES WHILE ON DUTY

While on duty, Deputies who are required to wear civilian clothes shall carry all of the following equipment:

Badge, firearm, handcuffs, identification card, and note writing material.

Exceptions to the above regulation may be approved by a supervisor when members are assigned to office duties or undercover assignments. When outside a Sheriff's facility all members in plain clothes, whenever possible, shall wear attire which will cover the above items from public view.

### 1019.3.12 OPTIONAL DRESS CODE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE, INVESTIGATIVE, AND NON-UNIFORMED STAFF

Male:

Normal "business attire" is the expected mode of dress. Dress shoes or boots must be of a style that will not impede the member's ability to run on either paved or unpaved areas. It is expected that personnel in this category will have a coat and tie readily available for unexpected occasions when this mode of dress is appropriate. Shirts and slacks worn during this period should be appropriate for wearing with a coat and necktie.

Female:

Normal attire shall be a dress, pantsuit, coordinated pant and blouse set, or uniform as approved by the Sheriff. Dress shoes must be of a style that will not impede the member's ability to run on either paved or unpaved areas.

### 1019.3.13 COURT APPEARANCE ATTIRE

Office members shall appear in court wearing a complete uniform or conservative civilian clothing. Male members will wear a business suit, or sport coat and slacks, with a dress shirt, necktie, and appropriate shoes. Female members will wear a pantsuit, dress, or skirt with

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blouse or sweater. When at the courthouse or off-site courtrooms, all sworn members shall have their Office issued identification card available for inspection by court security personnel.

### 1019.3.14 BRASSIERES (FEMALE)

A brassiere shall be worn.

### 1019.3.15 PREGNANCY/MATERNITY UNIFORM

Pregnant members may wear appropriate civilian attire when the term of pregnancy is such that wearing of the basic uniform is impractical, as permitted by assignment. "Appropriate civilian attire" means dresses, pantsuits, pants or skirts with coordinated tops. Maternity uniforms are available if a uniformed member so desires.

The following design specifications shall be adhered to in the construction of the approved maternity uniform:

- (a) Design Pull-over top and pull-on maternity pants shall be made utilizing McCall's Pattern Number 7838, or equivalent.
- (b) Pull-over maternity top. Uniform shall be fitted to individual comfort and must be long enough to cover buttocks, but not to exceed the fingertips in length when standing erect.
- (c) Flared pullover top, sleeveless, with or without pockets. If pockets are used, they will be hidden type in the side seams. Neckline will be scoop.
- (d) Material Color- Silver Tan tropical, 55% Dacron/45% Rayon, or wool blend, two-ply x two-ply.
- (e) Pull-on maternity pants. Pull-on pants will have maternity panel as shown in reference McCall's pattern.
- (f) Material color- Silver Tan, 100% two-ply wool or 60% wool & 40% Dacron blend.

### 1019.3.16 HELMET

When the helmet is worn as part of the uniform, it shall be worn with the chinstrap and cup in place and securely fastened. It should not be worn in a patrol vehicle except in extraordinary situations. When not in use, the helmet should be stored in the office issued carrying bag.

### 1019.3.17 HEADGEAR

#### A. Campaign Hat (optional)

1. Material Color- Conservation Green (Felt)
2. Style- Campaign, model F40 as manufactured by Stratton. Brim width must measure 3 inches all distances from the crown. Gold braid cord with acorn ends.
3. Hat Shield- Office issued hat shield shall be centered and attached on front of hat face.

#### B. Baseball-style Cap (optional)

1. Black cloth with 3 inch brim.

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2. Yellow embroidered 3/4 inch letters "SHERIFF" centered horizontally on front of cap and 1/2 inch letters "YOLO COUNTY" arches so that top of arch is 2 inches from bottom of "SHERIFF".
3. No other writings, markings, or embroidery is authorized.

### C. Foul Weather Knit Cap (optional)

Authorized for wear during extreme cold or winter conditions; meaning rain, snow, or extreme cold.

- (a) 100% acrylic Wintuk or synthetic blend (polyester / spandex fleece), black in color, manufactured to meet the Department of Defense specifications for material, thread use, colorfastness, design, measurement, and finished weight.
- (b) Shall have embroidered above the fold, in the center of the cap, "SHERIFF" in yellow/gold "Manila" thread.

At any time a deputy enters a person's home or private business while wearing headgear, the deputy shall remove the headgear as a courtesy, providing doing so does not jeopardize the deputy's safety.

### 1019.3.18 SHIRTS

The uniform shirts shall be worn with applicable rank insignia, Office shoulder patches and service stars. Sleeves shall not be rolled up or turned under. All shirt buttons shall be buttoned except the neck button shall be opened when wearing the short sleeve shirt.

### 1019.3.19 UNDERSHIRTS

When an undershirt is worn, it shall be white in color and round neck in style, and the sleeves shall not extend below the uniform shirtsleeve. Visible portions of the undershirt shall be clean and without stains, holes or obvious signs of wear. Thermal type underwear and "V" neck style undershirts shall not be worn when any portion is exposed to view.

### 1019.3.20 NAMEPLATES/NAME EMBROIDERY

#### Nameplate

Shall be worn on the outermost garment (rain gear is exempt). When worn, the nameplate shall be securely attached to the shirt or Ike jacket directly above and centered over the right pocket.

1. Construction: Name plates will be polished yellow metal, 1/2 inch in height, with 1/4 inch stamped black lettering. Plates to be secured with two clasps, extending to the rear.
2. Attachment: Shall be centered over the right breast pocket with the bottom of the plate directly above the seam of the flap pocket.

#### Embroidery

Employees' First initial (optional), Last name will be displayed on the outer uniform garment (e.g., shirts, jackets, sweaters). Embroidering shall be in "block" 1/2 inch in height letters, centered over the right breast pocket of the authorized uniform.

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### Embroidering

Thread will be in the following colors or as authorized by the Sheriff:

- (a) Shirts- Black
- (b) Jackets and sweaters- Gold
- (c) Jumpsuits- Black
- (d) Authorized Polo Shirt- Black

### Cloth Nametags (Name Tape)

1. Tags shall be black in color.
2. 1" wide with gold lettering.
3. Shall be placed centered above the right breast pocket.
4. Employees' First initial (optional), and Last name, to be displayed.

### 1019.3.21 SHOES/BOOTS

Only Office authorized shoes and boots shall be worn while in uniform. All uniform duty shoes or boots shall be solid black in color and capable of being shined. Boots which allow the trouser leg to catch or hang up on the tops are not approved even though they may meet the general specifications contained in this manual.

#### A. Uniform (Standard)

1. Material: Black color, leather or similar appearance.
2. Style: Plain-toe shoe or boot, smooth finish to accept polish. Designed to fit so as to prevent trouser hang. Laces and eye-lets shall be black.

#### B. Foul Weather

1. Material: Black color, leather or similar appearance at toe. Upper boot may be of "Gore-Tex" or other weather resistant material.
2. Style- Plain-toe boot, smooth finish with shine or to accept polish. Designed as a water resistant and insulated boot. Boot shall fit snugly, so as to prevent trouser hang. Laces and eyelets shall be black in color.

### 1019.3.22 SOCKS-UNIFORM

Socks shall be solid black in color without design or ornamentation.

### 1019.3.23 DUTY BELT

The duty belt shall be worn so adjusted that it fits the wearer's waist with no appreciable deviation from a horizontal plane. The belt and all applicable equipment shall be black basketweave. Snaps shall be hidden or brass. The belt shall be equipped as follows:

1. The service handgun shall be worn on the member's "strong hand" side. An exception to this would be for members assigned to the Honor Guard.

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2. Members shall not place any equipment item in front of the holster that interferes with the removal of the service handgun.
3. The Taser shall be worn on the member's "weak hand" side.
4. The placement of all other required and approved optional equipment shall be at the member's discretion, provided that he/she is able to meet all office safety and training requirements.
5. The following equipment, office issue or authorized substitutes, shall be worn in conjunction with the equipment belt: holster, handcuff case, ammunition, magazine pouch, baton holder, key holder, belt keeper loops (4), baton as required, service handgun, handcuffs, keys, O.C., O.C. pouch, flashlight holder (optional), folding knife (optional), folding knife case (optional), flexible restraint (optional), and uniform ruler case (optional).

#### 1019.3.24 BADGE

The badge is issued by the Office. Uniformed personnel shall wear the badge attached to the badge holder on the uniform shirt.

The Office badge shall be a seven-point star, gold in color, manufactured by Ed Jones company, model Gold Klad #438, with safety catch. The top ribbon of the badge shall signify the member's rank. On the badge, inscribed in black lettering shall be "Yolo County Sheriff Est. 1850". The members badge number shall be listed on the lowermost point of the star.

#### 1019.3.25 EMBROIDERED BADGE / LOGO

The embroidered badge, as authorized by the Office, shall be worn on the Class C uniform shirt, authorized Polo shirts, exterior vest carrier and jacket. The embroidered badge is authorized for sworn personnel, Correctional Officers, and Animal Service Officers. The authorized embroidered badges are as follows:

1. Sworn personnel, all ranks (with the exception of deputy coroners).



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2. Correctional officers, all ranks.

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3. Deputy coroners and Animal Services officers, all ranks.

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The embroidered logo shall be worn by non-sworn support personnel in lieu of the badge on all authorized polo shirts. The embroidered logo shall also be worn on jackets but with gold lettering and black horizontal lines.



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### 1019.3.26 TIMEPIECE

Members, while on duty, shall carry a wristwatch or other device capable of indicating accurate time. Such timepiece shall be of a conservative style and in keeping with the professional bearing expected of Office members.

### 1019.3.27 INSIGNIA OF RANK

All uniformed personnel of the rank of Sergeant or above shall wear the appropriate insignia of rank as specified below. Such insignia shall meet the specifications contained in this manual.

Sheriff: Four stars shall be worn on the shirt collar in a straight line, placed one inch from the front edge of the collar. Four stars shall be placed on the jacket evenly spaced on the shoulder strap.

Undersheriff: Three stars shall be worn on the shirt collar in a straight line, placed one inch from the front edge of the collar. Three stars shall be placed on the jacket evenly spaced on the shoulder strap.

Captain: Two gold bars shall be worn on the shirt collar in a straight line, place one half (1/2) inch from the parallel to the front edge of the collar. The bar shall be centered between the top and bottom edge of the collar.

Lieutenant: One gold bar shall be worn on the shirt collar with the front edge of the bar three quarters (3/4) of an inch from and parallel to the front edge of the collar. The bar shall be centered between the top and bottom edge of the collar.

Senior Sergeant (Five or more years): A three bar yellow cloth chevron above one rocker shall be worn on each sleeve of the long sleeve and short sleeve shirt, the jacket, and the utility coverall, with the topmost portion of the chevron 3/8 inches below the lowermost point of the shoulder patch, when allowed by sleeve length. The cloth chevron will be approximately 3 1/8" wide by 4 3/8" high.

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Sergeant: A three bar yellow cloth chevron shall be worn on each sleeve of the long sleeve and short sleeve shirt, the jacket, and the utility coverall, with the topmost portion of the chevron  $\frac{3}{8}$  inches below the lowermost point of the shoulder patch, when allowed by sleeve length. The cloth chevron will be approximately  $3 \frac{1}{8}$ " wide by  $4 \frac{3}{8}$ " high.

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Training Officer (Field Training Officer, Court Services Training Officer, Jail Training Officer): The Training Officer cloth patch shall be worn centered on the sleeve beneath the Sheriff's Office shoulder patch. The officer shall wear the cloth patch for the duration of his/her assignment to the program. The training officer cloth patch shall be chevrons, two bars, with a five point star centered underneath lower chevron, worn on each of their sleeves. The chevrons shall be worn centered on the sleeve beneath the Sheriff's Office patch. The distance between the chevron and patch shall not exceed 1/2 inch.

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Supervising Animal Services Officer: Three stripe chevron pins shall be worn on the shirt collar. The pin shall be 3/4 inch, metallic, and gold in color.

### 1019.3.28 SERVICE STARS

Service stars shall be worn by all uniformed personnel. One for each four years of service as a member of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office or a regularly salaried member of a police, sheriff or state law enforcement agency. Members purchasing new garments during the six months prior to completion of the required year period may have additional star for such period placed on the new garment.

- (a) Size- 3/4" inch
- (b) Color- Gold
- (c) Style- Five point
- (d) One star for every four (4) years of service
- (e) Embroidered on left sleeve of long sleeve uniform shirt 3/4" above sleeve/cuff seam

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The service stars shall be added in the following order:

**8 9**

**6 5 7**

**3 1 2 4**

### 1019.3.29 SHOULDER PATCH

The official shoulder patch shall be worn on both sleeves of the Class A, B and C shirts, and jackets and utility coveralls worn by sworn personnel, Correctional Officers, and Animal Services Officers, with the patch attached one half (1/2) inch below the shoulder tab in such a manner that an imaginary line bisecting the center of the patch would be perpendicular to the ground when the garment is worn. The patch shall be sewn on the garment with colorfast thread which matches the edging of the patch, and may not be cross-stitched.

### 1019.3.30 SAFETY VESTS (SOFT BODY ARMOR)

No portion of the vest shall be visible at the neckline unless the vest is white in color, clean, and without signs of obvious wear.

### 1019.3.31 RAIN GEAR

All uniformed personnel shall possess regulation rain apparel. This apparel shall be worn whenever weather conditions require it. The rain clothing shall be stored where it will be readily available for use. The authorized baseball cap may be worn in conjunction with the rain gear or other authorized foul weather clothing during inclement weather. Personnel assigned to the



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transportation section may utilize clear rain gear only for inmate transports to State Prison Facilities.

### Coat

- (a) Fabric- Yellow color, vulcanized fabric blend "air-weave" or equivalent.
- (b) Style length coat with full sleeves and plastic cuff snaps. Black plastic button down snaps, two side pockets, badge holder and standard collar.
- (c) Reference IPCO brand.

### Pants

- (a) Fabric- Yellow color, vulcanized fabric blend "air-weave" or equivalent.
- (b) Style- Hip hugger style, with drawing-string waistband, Velcro fly front, rear patch pockets.
- (c) Reference IPCO brand.

### Shoes (overshoes)

- (a) Material- Black color, 100% rubber.
- (b) Style- Slip on, low cut, plain toe, non-skid tread.
- (c) Reference Tingley Brand.

### Hat Protector

- (a) Material- Transparent-CLEAR, 100% vinyl.
- (b) Style- Campaign F40 style. Elastic bands around the crown and below the brim of the headgear to permit the cover to fit snugly over the authorized headgear.

### 1019.3.32 TIE CLASP

Uniformed employees shall wear the regulation tie clasp. The tie clasp shall be affixed to the tie and the shirtfront within the area bounded by the third and fourth buttons from the top of the shirt, positioned level with the bottom, outer edge of the shirt pocket.

- 1. Material- Florentine Yellow metal, 5/16 inches in height and width compatible to the width of the tie when affixed to the uniform shirt at upper pocket flap height.
- 2. Plain yellow metal, no engraving or plain yellow metal with department seven point miniature star or tie tack. No handcuff or gun depicting type tie bars.

### 1019.3.33 NECKTIE

- 1. Material- Black color, Rayon and Acetate Worsted fabric or equivalent.
- 2. Style- "Four-in Hand", break away or clip-on tie.
- 3. Neckties to be worn only with long sleeve shirts.

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### 1019.3.34 GLOVES

Gloves worn by uniformed personnel will be black leather or fabric. The glove style will be a plain finish, full finger, and may be lined or unlined.

### 1019.3.35 TROUSER BELT

The trouser belt shall be worn under the duty belt and shall be adjusted so that no part other than the top edge is visible. Both buckle (brass) or buckle less types may be worn

1. Black color
2. Stamped basket weave design
3. 1 inch width with single gold color metal prong tongue buckle shall be no wider than 2 x 2 inches (no decorative belt buckles).

### 1019.3.36 UNIFORM JACKETS

The wearing of the jacket shall be optional, except when weather conditions require it, or as otherwise directed. The jacket shall be worn in conjunction with a uniform shirt. Shoulder patches, cloth badge/Sheriff's Office embroidery, embroidered name or name tape and rank insignia shall be worn as designated in this manual.

#### Duty Jacket

1. Fabric- Green color, Nylon outer shell
2. Parka style with zipper front closure
3. Reference "5.11" 4-in-1 Patrol Jacket #48027, Sheriff green in color, or equivalent

#### Lightweight Jacket

1. Fabric- Green color, wind-resistant bonded Polyester softshell fabric.
2. Windbreaker style with zipper front closure
3. 5.11 Tactical Valiant Softshell #48167, Sheriff green in color, or equivalent.

#### Fleece Jacket

1. Fabric- Green color, all weather fleece
2. Fleece style with zipper front closure
3. Reference "5.11" Tactical Fleece #JA587, Sheriff green in color, or equivalent

Uniform jackets may be black in color until January 1, 2021, provided they are adorned with the proper shoulder patches, cloth badge/Sheriff's Office embroidery, embroidered name or name tape and rank insignia as designated in this manual. All jackets shall be green in color thereafter.

### 1019.3.37 IKE JACKET

1. Fabric Color- Forest Green, 10-20 ounce wool or Dacron-wool gabardine blend.
2. Style- Military "Ike" jacket. Peak lapel with metal zipper front closure to the top of the breast pockets. Two-inch pleat across the back, with waist adjustable strap on both sides with yellow

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metal Eureka buttons. Two-inch wide epaulets on each shoulder, fastened with yellow metal Eureka buttons.

### 3. Office piping:

a. Deputy/Officer and Sergeant: One, Black piping, bordered in 1/8" Gold colored fabric to be attached horizontally from seam to seam on the front of the sleeve, three inches from the end to each sleeve (cuff).



b. Lieutenants: Same as above with Gold colored fabric braid stripe.

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- c. Captains: Same as above with two Gold colored fabric braid stripes.
  - d. Undersheriff: Same as above with three Gold colored fabric braid stripes.
  - e. Sheriff: Same as above with four Gold colored fabric braid stripes.
4. Pockets- There shall be two box pleated patch breast pockets finished approximately 5-3/4 x 6-3/4 inches, with three pointed scalloped flaps and yellow metal Eureka buttons (breast pockets are non-opening).
5. Badge holder- Shall be centered over the left breast pocket and the center of holder to be sewn 1-1/2 inches above the pocket.

### 1019.3.38 SUNGLASSES

Sunglasses shall not be of extraordinary shape or style. Sunglasses shall not be mirrored. When prescribed, tinted corrective lenses may be worn. Sunglasses shall not be worn indoors unless prescribed by a Doctor.

## Body Armor

### 1020.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide law enforcement officers with guidelines for the proper use of body armor.

### 1020.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office 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.

### 1020.3 ISSUANCE OF BODY ARMOR

The Administration Division Commander shall ensure that a body armor voucher is issued to all deputies when the deputy begins service at the Yolo County Sheriff's Office and that, when issued, the body armor to be purchased meets or exceeds the standards of the National Institute of Justice.

The Administration Division Commander 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.

#### 1020.3.1 USE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR

Generally, the use of body armor is required for Deputies 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 Office 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.

#### 1020.3.2 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.

## *Body Armor*

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### 1020.3.3 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.

### 1020.4 RANGEMASTER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Rangemaster should:

- (a) Monitor technological advances in the body armor industry for any appropriate changes to Office 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.

### 1020.5 EXTERNAL CARRIER FOR BODY ARMOR

The wearing of an external carrier for body armor shall be optional and shall be purchased by the member.

The approved carrier is the Point Blank Guardian Model 07 in Silver Tan. All pouches and attachments shall be Silver Tan in color.

The ID patch worn above the right pocket shall be Silver Tan with black lettering with the member's first initial (optional) and last name. The back patch shall be Silver Tan with black lettering. The back patch shall read SHERIFF for Deputies, ANIMAL SERVICES for Animal Services Officers, and CORRECTIONS for Correctional Officers.

The wearing of a nameplate and cloth badge on the external carrier for body armor is mandatory and shall comply with this policy manual. All other devices, medals and accessories that are worn on the external carrier shall comply with this policy manual.

## Time Sheet Procedures

### 1021.1 TIME SHEET PROCEDURES

Payroll records are submitted to Administration on a bi-weekly basis for the payment of wages.

#### 1021.1.1 RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLETION OF PAYROLL RECORDS

Employees are responsible for the accurate and timely submission of payroll records for the payment of wages.

The member's time sheet shall be completed and forwarded to the member's supervisor for review and verification and routed to the finance section on Wednesday of the non-payday week. It shall be the responsibility of each employee to accurately document his/her time sheet with the appropriate representations including sick time, overtime, prior pay period adjustments, and optional time off.

It shall be the responsibility of the supervisor to verify all overtime, sick leave and optional time off. All overtime worked shall be signed off by the supervisor with the applicable Overtime Reason Code and Budget Unit accurately noted.

#### 1021.1.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS

All employees are paid on a bi-weekly basis usually on Friday with certain exceptions such as holidays. Payroll records shall be completed and submitted to Administration no later than 8:00 a.m. on the Wednesday morning before the end of the pay period, unless specified otherwise.

### 1021.2 RECORDS

The Administration Division Commander shall ensure that accurate and timely payroll records are maintained as required by 29 CFR 516.2 for a minimum of three years (29 CFR 516.5).

## Overtime Compensation Requests

### 1022.1 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.

#### 1022.1.1 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 based on their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

### 1022.2 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., two hours for Court, four hours for outside overtime). The supervisor will enter the actual time worked.

#### 1022.2.1 ACCOUNTING FOR PORTIONS OF AN HOUR

When accounting for less than a full hour, time worked shall be rounded up to the nearest quarter of an hour as indicated by the following chart:

<u>TIME WORKED</u>	<u>INDICATE ON CARD</u>
1 to 15 minutes	.25
16 to 30 minutes	.50
31 to 45 minutes	.75
46 to 60 minutes	1 hour

#### 1022.2.2 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



# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

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## *Overtime Compensation Requests*

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Shift Supervisor 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

### 1023.1 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 shall be at the discretion of the Sheriff in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

#### 1023.1.1 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.

### 1023.2 OBTAINING APPROVAL

No member of this department may engage in any outside employment without first obtaining prior written approval of the Sheriff. 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 for consideration.

If approved, the employee will be provided with a copy of the approved permit.

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)).

#### 1023.2.1 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 within ten days of the date of denial.

If the employee's appeal is denied, the employee may file a grievance pursuant to the procedure set forth in the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

#### 1023.2.2 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

## *Outside Employment*

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- (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

### **1023.3 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

#### **1023.3.1 OUTSIDE SECURITY AND PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT**

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 employment as a private security guard, private investigator or other similar private security position.

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.

## *Outside Employment*

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- (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.

### **1023.3.2 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.

### **1023.4 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.

### **1023.5 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.

### **1023.6 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

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## Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

### *Outside Employment*

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with any related doctor's orders, and make a recommendation to the Sheriff whether such outside employment should continue.

In the event the Sheriff 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:

- (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 Yolo County Sheriff's Office, a request (in writing) may be made to the Sheriff to restore the permit.

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# Lactation Break Policy

## 1024.1 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 (Labor Code § 1034).

## 1024.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this office 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; Labor Code § 1030).

## 1024.3 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 Dispatch or a supervisor prior to taking such a break. Such breaks may be reasonably delayed if they would seriously disrupt office operations (Labor Code § 1032).

Once a lactation break has been approved, the break should not be interrupted except for emergency or exigent circumstances.

## 1024.4 PRIVATE LOCATION

The 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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## *Lactation Break Policy*

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### **1024.5 STORAGE OF EXPRESSED MILK**

Any employee storing expressed milk in any authorized refrigerated area within the Office shall clearly label it as such and shall remove it when the employee ends her shift.

#### **1024.5.1 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).

# Reporting of Employee Convictions

## **1025.1 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 Office of any past and current criminal convictions.

## **1025.2 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.

## **1025.3 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 Office may be inherently in conflict with law enforcement duties and the public trust.

## **1025.4 REPORTING PROCEDURE**

All members of this Office and all retired deputies with an identification card issued by the 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 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.



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## *Reporting of Employee Convictions*

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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.

### **1025.5 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 Office 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.

#### **1025.5.1 NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Administration Supervisor shall submit within 30 days of final disposition a notice to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) of a felony conviction or Government Code § 1029 reason that disqualifies any current peace officer employed by this office or any former peace officer if this office was responsible for the investigation (11 CCR 1003).

The Administration Supervisor shall submit within 30 days a notice to 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 office (11 CCR 1003).

## **Chapter 11 - Public Administrator**

# Function and Duties of Public Administrator

## 1100.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator manages decedent's estates.

## 1100.2 REFERENCES

CA Government Code Sections 27440 et. seq.

CA Health & Safety Code Section 7100 et. seq.

CA Probate Code Sections 7600 et. seq.

## 1100.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Executor:** An executor is the person named in a Will to handle the administration of the estate. The executor must be at least 18 years old and a decedent may name more than one person to act as co-executor. If appointed, the executor receives Letters of Testamentary.
- (b) **Administrator:** When a decedent leaves no Will, the Court appoints someone to handle the administration of the estate. This person is called an administrator, and the duties and responsibilities are identical to those of an executor. If appointed, the administrator receives Letters of Administration, as General Administrator.
- (c) **Administrator with Will Annexed:** This is granted by the Court when a testator's Will does not name an executor or when the executor named is incompetent to act, is deceased, or refuses to act. If appointed, the administrator receives Letters of Administration as General Administrator.
- (d) **Special Administrator:** This is an administrator with authority to act on behalf of some, but not all, of decedent's effects. The appointment is usually made to preserve the estate pending appointment of an executor or general administrator in instances where the Will is contested or where assets of the estate are subject to immediate loss, or other such special event. If appointed, the administrator receives Letters of Special Administration.
- (e) **Successor Administrator:** When the original executor or administrator is removed by the Probate Court, either because of incapacity, death or malfeasance, a Successor Administrator is appointed. This administrator receives Letters of Successor Administration (possibly with Will annexed, if applicable).

## 1100.4 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR FUNCTION

- (a) The Public Administrator's authority is acquired through various California codes; primarily the California Probate Code. All fees received for services are paid to Yolo County. The Public Administrator maintains office staff experienced in the investigation and administration of estates of deceased persons. Actions in estate matters are subject to the supervision of the Superior Court, and all records are subject to periodic audits by State and County authorities.

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## *Function and Duties of Public Administrator*

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- (b) In accordance with California Probate Code Section 7601, the Public Administrator must take immediate charge of property subject to loss, injury, waste or misappropriation within Yolo County of all persons who die with no executor or administrator appointed. The Public Administrator must also accept cases ordered to his or her care by the Court. When appropriate, the Public Administrator will apply for Letters of Administration for decedent estates with no known heirs, heirs unwilling or unable to act, or where no executor named in the Will is willing or able to qualify to act. The Public Administrator may apply for such Letters for any other estate in which he or she is entitled to administer.
- (c) Upon appointment by the court, the duties of the Public Administrator are similar to those of other administrators; collect, manage and account for estate property; pay funeral and last illness expenses, taxes and all other debts, as far as the estate is able; and to sell property, both real and personal, as ordered by the court.

### **1100.5 CORONER RESPONSIBILITY REGARDING ABANDONED REMAINS**

The Public Administrator provides assistance to the Sheriff's Coroner Section, arranges disposition of remains for any citizen of Yolo County, who has made no provision and has been abandoned at a mortuary by family or other eligible party or, after due diligence, it is found there is no next of kin. Arrangements are made through a contracted mortuary, with services and fees detailed in the contract.

## Persons Having Priority to Act

### 1101.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

If no Will exists, certain persons are entitled to appointment as Administrator of the Estate.

### 1101.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Sections 50, 8402, 8461-8465.

### 1101.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Domestic partner:** One of two persons who have filed a Declaration of Domestic Partnership with the Secretary of State pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 297) of the Family Code; provided that the domestic partnership has not been terminated pursuant to Section 299 of the Family Code.
- (b) **Issue:** A person's lineal descendants of all generations; with the relationship of parent and child at each generation being determined by the definitions of child and parent.
- (c) **Lineal descendant:** A direct blood relative.

### 1101.4 PROCEDURE

Per Section 8461 of the Probate Code; if no Will and Testament exists (intestate), a person in the following relation to the decedent is entitled to appointment as administrator, in the following order of priority:

1. Surviving spouse or domestic partner
2. Children
3. Grandchildren
4. Other issue
5. Parents
6. Brothers and sisters
7. Issue of brothers and sisters
8. Grandparents
9. Issue of grandparents
10. Children of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner
11. Other issue of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner
12. Other next of kin
13. Parents of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner
14. Issue of parents of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner

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## *Persons Having Priority to Act*

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15. Conservator or guardian of the estate acting in that capacity at the time of death who has filed a first account and is not acting as conservator or guardian for any other person.
16. Public Administrator
17. Creditors
18. Any other person

### Exceptions to Priority:

- (a) The surviving spouse or domestic partner, a relative, or a relative of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner of the decedent, has priority under Section 8461 **only if one of the following conditions is satisfied** (Probate Code Section 8462):
  - (a) The surviving spouse, domestic partner, or relative is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate.
  - (b) The surviving spouse, domestic partner, or relative either takes under the will of, or is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate of, another deceased person who is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate of the decedent.
- (b) If the surviving spouse or domestic partner is a **party to an action** for separate maintenance, annulment, or dissolution and was **living apart** from the decedent at the date of death, he or she has priority next after brothers and sisters (Probate Code Section 8463).
  - (a) The spouse must be a party to the dissolution **on the date of death**; an action that was previously filed, but dismissed prior to death, does not disqualify the spouse.
- (c) Neither a **minor** nor a person subject to a **Conservatorship of the Estate** may serve as personal representative (Probate Code Section 8464).
  - (a) The court has discretion to appoint the guardian of the minor (if there is one) or the conservator (Probate Code Section 8464).
- (d) Non-residents of the United States may not serve as administrator (Probate Code Section 8402(a)).
  - (a) The court may appoint as administrator a person nominated by a non-resident of the United States (Probate Code Section 8465(a)(2)).

## Referrals with Minor Children as Next of Kin

### 1102.1 POLICY

The Sheriff-Public Administrator's Unit will take all necessary actions when safeguarding assets in decedent cases where next of kin are minor children.

### 1102.2 REFERENCE

CA Probate Code Sections 330, 3401, 7600, 13100.

### 1102.3 DEFINITIONS

**Minor:** An individual who has not yet reached legal age (18 years).

**Guardianship of Minor's Estate:** The court process in which a person is vested with the power and charged with the duty of managing property of another person, who, for defect of age, is considered incapable of administering his or her own affairs.

### 1102.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Public Administrator is notified of the death of a decedent survived by minor children. The purpose of notification is to ensure the rights of the minor children are protected, pertaining to the estate. Notification is made pursuant to Probate Code Section 7600 and no provision exists requiring the Public Administrator's intervention in the case. Therefore, it is imperative the Public Administrator assists, rather than interferes, when investigating this type of estate.
- (b) A parent, grandparent, or person with custody of a minor child has no legal right to sign for valuables from an estate on behalf of that child. Neither money nor property can be released to the custodian solely by execution of the 13100 Affidavit.
- (c) A guardian of the estate of a minor is responsible to the Court for property or money received for the minor. Most individuals do not encounter the need to act in this capacity until an event such as death occurs, requiring the collection of estate distribution or insurance proceeds. Prior to releasing any item from this office to a person substantiating his or her right to said property by the fact that guardianship proceedings are in motion, a certified copy of the Letters of Estate Guardianship must be on file with the Public Administrator. An intent to obtain Letters is not sufficient.
- (d) A custodian of a minor does not have priority to act as administrator of the minor's parent's estate unless Letters of Guardianship have first been received. The person claiming to have priority should be aware of the need for guardianship proceedings prior to petitioning for Letters of Administration. The Public Administrator will assert his or her priority at the hearing if the party fails to obtain Letters of Guardianship.
- (e) If the total estate does not exceed \$166,250.00 dollars and the total estate of each minor child, including property to be delivered from the estate, does not exceed \$5,000.00 dollars, and the estate is otherwise appropriate per Probate Code Section 13100, property may be delivered to the surviving parent. This requires execution of Affidavits pursuant to Probate Code Sections 330 and 3401. This option is only

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## *Referrals with Minor Children as Next of Kin*

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applicable for delivery to a parent. A grandparent or custodian cannot execute a 3401 Affidavit. As a written assurance to hold the delivered assets for the minor until the minor attains majority, this method should not be implemented when the Public Administrator has reason to believe the assets will not be held or claims against the estate will not be paid.



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# Public Administrator Referrals and Release of Remains

## 1103.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will review all estate referrals and will take necessary steps to safeguard the assets of estates falling under its jurisdiction.

## 1103.2 REFERENCE

CA Probate Code Sections 48, 7600, 7600.5, 7601.

## 1103.3 DEFINITIONS

**Decedent Estate Referral:** A written or telephonic reporting of the death of a Yolo County resident with possible ownership rights to either real or personal property.

**Interested Person:**

- (a) An heir, devisee, child, spouse, creditor, beneficiary, and any other person having a property right in or claim against a trust estate or the estate of a decedent which may be affected by the proceeding.
- (b) Any person having priority for appointment as a personal representative.
- (c) A fiduciary representing an interested person.
- (d) The definition of "interested person" as it relates to particular persons may vary from time to time and shall be determined according to the particular purpose of, and matter, in any proceeding (Probate Code Section 48).

## 1103.4 PROCEDURE

All case referrals made to the Public Administrator will be reviewed for appropriateness. Criteria used to determine appropriateness will include:

- (a) The decedent was a resident of Yolo County
- (b) The responsible party, i.e., next of kin, named executor of a Will, or the individual with nomination priority, is either unavailable or unwilling to act.
- (c) There appears to be an estate; identifiable and collectable assets vested in the decedent's name.
- (d) The case is being referred by a Public Officer under provisions of Probate Code Section 7600.
- (e) The referring party has a valid interest in the decedent's estate and is authorized to invoke action by the Public Administrator (an "interested person" as defined in Probate Code Section 48).

Referral sources:

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

## *Public Administrator Referrals and Release of Remains*

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1. Coroner
2. Private attorney
3. Family
4. Mortuary
5. Nursing or assisted living homes
6. Hospitals
7. Public Guardian
8. Probate Court

After receiving a referral, the Assistant Public Administrator (APA) or Deputy Public Administrator (DPA) will conduct an immediate search for family and next of kin to affect disposition through a mortuary of their choice.

- (a) If family cannot be located, the APA or DPA will put a 30 day hold on the remains while a more intensive investigation is conducted.
- (b) If, after a due and diligent search reveals no next of kin, the APA or DPA will release the remains for cremation and make arrangements for the disposition of decedent's remains with the contracted mortuary.

Upon intake of a decedent referral, the various aspects of the case will be investigated to determine:

1. If the decedent's assets are subject to potential harm as defined in Sections 7600 – 7601 of the Probate Code (loss, injury, waste or misappropriation).
2. If the estate could benefit from the Public Administrator's involvement.
3. If the person with priority to act wishes to nominate the Public Administrator to manage the estate.
4. Upon determination of acceptance, the case will be considered "open" and working case binder(s) will be created to store relative documents of the estate. Investigative data will be appropriately filed into the binder.

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# Public Administrator's Work Flow, Record Keeping, HIPAA Compliance, Signatures

## 1104.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will administer each estate in a timely manner; from referral intake to final distribution.

## 1104.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Sections 7600-7601, 7604, 13100, 13114.

## 1104.3 PROCEDURE

### 1104.3.1 RECEIVING REFERRALS

- (a) The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator receives all referrals; telephonic, written, faxed, and mailed. If the referral is accepted, a case binder will be created.
- (b) The APA or DPA begins an investigation based on the referral. The case is then assigned to either the APA or the DPA.

### 1104.3.2 INVESTIGATION

- (a) It is the assigned APA or DPA's responsibility to safeguard the estate assets.
- (b) The assigned APA or DPA will make every effort to locate the next of kin of the decedent's death.
  - (a) Due diligence is required in the search for family through Archives.com, TLO, CLETS, and other available search engines, including County records. Notes will be logged regarding the steps taken to locate next of kin and the notes will be stored in the Panoramic Software database. Any printouts from any of the search engines will also be kept in the case binder.
  - (b) A Sheriff's Deputy Coroner will make death notification when it is a Coroner's case. In non-Coroner cases, the assigned APA or DPA will make death notification.
  - (c) The APA or DPA shall establish the decedent is indeed related to the family member prior to having the death notification made.
- (c) If the family has been notified of the death, but has hesitated or refused to act, the "7-Day Letter" shall be sent to the nearest next of kin (person or persons of highest authority). The letter will be sent via certified mail, within three (3) working days following death notification.
- (d) The initial thrust of the investigation by the assigned APA or DPA will be to determine if the decedent has a Will and disposition or funeral instructions. If a valid Will is found, the APA or DPA will ascertain whether or not the named executor will act or nominate someone else to act in his or her place.

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## *Public Administrator's Work Flow, Record Keeping, HIPAA Compliance, Signatures*

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- (a) If the executor or the nominee will act, the Public Administrator's jurisdiction terminates. If the jurisdiction terminates, the APA or DPA will determine if the Public Administrator is entitled to any reasonable compensation for services and initiate a billing.
- (b) If jurisdiction does not terminate, the APA or DPA will continue the investigation.
- (e) If no Will is found, the APA or DPA will determine if the heirs wish to handle the estate themselves, or, if the estate meets the appropriate criteria, handle the estate pursuant to Section 13100 of the CA Probate Code.
  - (a) If the family wishes to handle the estate themselves, the Public Administrator's jurisdiction terminates. If the jurisdiction terminates, the APA or DPA will determine if the Public Administrator is entitled to any reasonable compensation for services.
  - (b) If jurisdiction does not terminate, the APA or DPA will continue the investigation.
- (f) The appropriate appointment authority will be determined by the size and character of the decedent's estate. The assigned APA or DPA will take the necessary actions to secure accurate information regarding the estate's asset inventory. These actions may include (but are not limited to):
  - (a) On-site evaluations of the decedent's real and personal property.
  - (b) Review of the Assessor's office records, Department of Motor Vehicle records, and any other records regarding possible real or personal property.
  - (c) Interviews with any interested parties who may have knowledge of the decedent's assets or affairs.
  - (d) Notices of death and information requests obtained from or sent to banks, insurance companies, employers, securities agents, etc.
- (g) If disposition of the remains are pending, the assigned APA or DPA will contact the mortuary.
  - (a) If disposition instructions are found, and this office is managing the estate, the APA or DPA should follow through on finalizing the process.
  - (b) If no instructions are found, the APA or DPA should, if at all possible, honor the family's wishes regarding disposition.
- (h) After disposition arrangements are made, the assigned APA or DPA will continue the investigation. Upon completion of the investigation a determination of classification will be made. If there are no assets or the family will not act, the investigation is concluded; case closed.
  - (a) Formal: estate over \$166,250.00 dollars in value.
  - (b) Summary: estate less than \$166,250.00 dollars in value, but more than \$50,000.00 dollars in value.
  - (c) Small: estate less than \$166,250.00 dollars in value.
  - (d) Assist: estate where jurisdiction is transferred after administration has begun.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

## *Public Administrator's Work Flow, Record Keeping, HIPAA Compliance, Signatures*

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### 1104.3.3 INVESTIGATION OF ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

- (a) The investigation of OSC referrals are a matter of priority for the Public Administrator because of the impending court hearing. The Public Administrator must be prepared to report to the court the appropriateness of the appointment of the Public Administrator as successor administrator. The focus of the assigned APA or DPA's investigation is to determine:
  - (a) The nature, extent and current status of assets owned by the decedent at date of death.
  - (b) The various issues hindering the current personal representative's ability to complete the management of the estate.
- (b) When conducting an OSC investigation, the APA or DPA will access the Yolo County Superior Court's website; Probate Court, to review case activity and request copies of pertinent documents from the Court. Pertinent information includes:
  - (a) Names and contact information of interested parties and their attorneys.
  - (b) The nature and extent of inventoried items.
  - (c) Accounting activity.
  - (d) Whether or not the executor/administrator posted a bond.
- (c) While investigating the OSC, the APA or DPA will make every effort to be neutral in their approach to the various issues involved. After ascertaining the contact information of interested parties and attorneys representing interested parties, the APA or DPA will make telephonic contact with them, as required, to determine:
  - (a) Current status of case.
  - (b) Whether or not there are identifiable and collectable assets vested in decedent's name.
  - (c) Why the current administrator/executor is unable to fulfill his or her duties and responsibilities.
  - (d) The disposition of assets formerly contained within the estate.
- (d) The assigned APA or DPA will search for other assets; including real estate, vehicles, property placed with the California State Controller, and bank accounts.
- (e) At the conclusion of the investigation, if the APA or DPA has been unable to locate assets and the current executor/administrator is not bonded, the APA or DPA will prepare a declaration to be filed with the court recommending Public Administrator not be appointed in this matter. If identifiable and collectable assets vested in decedent's name are located, or the current personal representative is bonded, the APA or DPA will request they attend the OSC hearing with the Public Administrator's attorney for possible appointment of the Public Administrator.

### 1104.3.4 ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE

- (a) Depending upon the type of case, the assigned APA or DPA's initial focus will be to safeguard assets belonging to the estate. The assigned APA or DPA will immediately

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

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## *Public Administrator's Work Flow, Record Keeping, HIPAA Compliance, Signatures*

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verify that each piece of real property, improved and unimproved, and mobile home are properly insured and that personal property is reasonably secured. If the decedent's property is at risk, the assigned APA or DPA will make every effort to safeguard it at a secure location.

- (b) Upon assignment of a small estate (valued less than \$50,000.00 dollars), the APA or DPA will take control of the decedent's assets.
  - (a) Notices of the decedent's death will be sent to banks, insurance companies, Department of Health Care Services, the Social Security Administration and the USPS.
  - (b) Personal property will be sold after notice is given to any beneficiaries or heirs.
  - (c) Creditors will be provided notice and debts satisfied if estate is solvent.
- (c) Upon assignment of a summary probate (valued between \$50,000.00 and \$150,000.00 dollars), the APA or DPA will consult legal counsel in order to prepare a petition and order for summary probate.
  - (a) Notices of the decedent's death will be sent to banks, insurance companies, Department of Health Care Services, the Social Security Administration and the USPS.
- (d) Upon receipt of Order Appointing Public Administrator for Summary Disposition of Estate, the assigned APA or DPA will perform the following duties and responsibilities:
  - (a) Marshal assets.
  - (b) Submit wage claims and insurance claims.
  - (c) Collect bank accounts, inventory and take possession of the contents of safe deposit boxes and obtain all securities and stocks.
  - (d) Inspect and manage real property and/or any business.
  - (e) Collect and inventory all personal property.
  - (f) Sell real and personal property when necessary.
  - (g) Provide notice to creditors.
  - (h) Distribute personal effects (of no monetary value) to the next of kin or arrange storage or disposal.
  - (i) Review incoming creditor claims for validity and accuracy; recommend approval or rejection.
  - (j) Provide tax preparer information regarding tax related matters; file all taxes promptly.
  - (k) Respond to any inquiry, written or oral, from a beneficiary, creditor, or other interested party.
  - (l) Provide attorney with pertinent information for preparation of court accounting, including Public Administrator's Transaction history and sales of real and personal property.

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- (m) Track the progression of the case by keeping detailed and dated notes in the estate electronic file, ensuring the estate is closed as quickly and equitably as possible.
- (n) Prepare distribution sheets, Letters of Transmittal, and receipts for beneficiaries.
- (o) Prepare Statement of Disposition.
- (p) Issue disbursements.
- (e) Upon assignment of a formal probate (valued at \$150,000.00 dollars or over), the assigned APA or DPA will consult legal counsel to prepare a petition for appointment.
  - (a) Notices of the decedent's death will be sent to banks, insurance companies, Department of Health Care Services, the Social Security Administration and the USPS.
- (f) Upon receipt of Letters of Administration and Order for Probate, the assigned APA or DPA will perform the following duties and responsibilities:
  - (a) Marshal assets.
  - (b) Submit wage claims and insurance claims.
  - (c) Collect bank accounts, inventory and take possession of the contents of safe deposit boxes and obtain all securities and stocks.
  - (d) Inspect and manage Real Property and/or any business.
  - (e) Collect and inventory all personal property.
  - (f) Provide attorney with inventory information for filing the Inventory and Appraisal with the Court.
  - (g) Sell real and personal property when necessary.
  - (h) Provide notice to creditors.
  - (i) Distribute personal effects (of no monetary value) to the next of kin or arrange storage or disposal.
  - (j) Review incoming creditor claims for validity and accuracy; recommend approval or rejection.
  - (k) Provide tax preparer information regarding tax related matters; file all taxes promptly.
  - (l) Respond to any inquiry, written or oral, from a beneficiary, creditor, or other interested party.
  - (m) Provide attorney with pertinent information for preparation of court accounting, including Public Administrator's Transaction ledger and sales of real and personal property.
  - (n) Track the progression of the case by keeping detailed and dated notes in the estate electronic file, ensuring the estate is closed as quickly and equitably as possible.

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- (o) Provide any information the attorney needs to distribute assets.
- (p) Upon receipt of Order for Distribution, issue disbursements.
- (q) File receipts with the Court and file Declaration for Final Discharge, which will terminate the jurisdiction of the Public Administrator.

### 1104.3.5 RECORD KEEPING

- (a) All data, information and/or documentation pertaining to the investigation or case management will be kept with the file.
- (b) Upon closure of estate, the entire file will eventually be archived and the information maintained via the Panoramic Software database.
- (c) Court filed documents will be kept in paper form.
- (d) Official documents, such as Birth Certificate, Death Certificate, Military 214 form, etc. will be kept in paper form.
- (e) All other paper in the file will be maintained until it is shredded per the County's Record Retention Policy (generally a ten-year period from the closing of the case).

### 1104.3.6 HIPPA COMPLIANCE AND SECURITY

- (a) All active files will be kept in the Assistant Public Administrator's locked office at end of shift. Any staff person who works on a file at his or her own workstation will be responsible for returning the file to the Assistant Public Administrator's office at end of shift.
- (b) The Public Administrator safe will be kept locked at all times except for delivering or removing items from it for review, distribution or sale.

### 1104.3.7 SIGNATURES

- (a) Authorized signers consist of the following members of the Public Administrator's Office:
  - (a) Public Administrator: signs checks.
  - (b) Undersheriff: signs checks.
  - (c) Assistant Public Administrator: signs court applications, petitions, Letters of Administration, statements, declarations, affidavits, financial institution documents, real estate sales contracts, correspondence, contracts for specific professional services as necessary to complete the administration of estates, and any other legal documents requiring the Assistant Public Administrator's signature for the administration of decedent estates.
  - (d) Deputy Public Administrator: signs correspondence, statements, declarations, and affidavits.
  - (e) Chief Deputy Coroner: signs checks.
- (b) No signature stamps will be used when conducting business of the Public Administrator.



## Death Notification

### 1105.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

Death notifications shall be made as soon as reasonably possible. Utmost priority should be given to locating next of kin.

### 1105.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) Notification should first be made to the decedent's next of kin. The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator assigned to the case must make sure there is no possibility of misidentifying either the decedent or the next of kin.
  - (a) Death notification shall be made without delay.
    - (a) If the APA or DPA is unable to make notification, the Sheriff's Deputy Coroner will assist in making the notification.
  - (b) If the assigned APA or DPA is unable to locate the next of kin at the last known address or telephone number, a "Contact Letter" is to be mailed to the person with a corresponding name and telephone number of the APA or DPA.
- (b) The responsibility of notification rests on the assigned APA or DPA.
  - (a) If the APA or DPA is consumed with case details, the Sheriff's Deputy Coroner may assume the task.

### 1105.3 WEEKLY AGENDA

- (a) The Assistant Public Administrator and Deputy Public Administrator will compile a "Weekly Agenda" and make it available, upon request, to the Public Administrator.
  - (a) The agenda will include a list of bodies above ground as a means of noting the urgency in locating and notifying family, and to avoid unnecessary delay in the decedent's disposition.
  - (b) The list shall be complete with the decedent's name, date of death, and location of body.

## Burial Arrangements

### 1106.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will perform the duty of interment, or burial disposition, as required by Section 7100 of the California Health and Safety Code. If the Public Administrator is required to make the burial disposition, the arrangements shall be based on the County's current contracted agreements with the contracted mortuary and specific circumstances of individual cases.

### 1106.2 REFERENCE

CA Probate Code Sections 7600-7666 and 11420(3).

CA Health and Safety Code Section 7100.

### 1106.3 PROCEDURE

- (a) Whenever possible, a decedent's next of kin should arrange and pay for the decedent's appropriate funeral disposition. If the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator must determine the burial arrangements, the following factors regarding the disposition should be considered:
  - (a) The gross value of the decedent's estate.
  - (b) The apparent solvency/insolvency of the estate.
  - (c) The funds available to pay.
  - (d) Previous arrangements by the decedent.
  - (e) The wishes of the decedent.
  - (f) The wishes of heirs or legatees.
  - (g) The approval of the probate court.
- (b) If the decedent's next of kin refuses or cannot pay for disposition of remains and/or the decedent's estate is not able to bear the cost, the assigned APA or DPA will determine options in the following order:
  - (a) Does the decedent have assets valued at less than \$2,000 thereby qualifying for the indigent program?
  - (b) Does the family have assets valued at less than \$2,000 thereby qualifying for the indigent program?
  - (c) Are there any friends who are willing to pay for disposition of remains?
  - (d) Did the decedent attend a church that will pay for disposition of remains?
  - (e) Is the decedent a veteran?
    - (a) The VA only provides placement of remains for qualified veterans and does not pay for cremation or embalming.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

Yolo County Sheriff's Office Policy Manual

## *Burial Arrangements*

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- (c) Grave Markers will be purchased when appropriate in given case situations. Absent input by relatives or beneficiaries, the Assistant Public Administrator will make the decision based on funds available and the total cost of the marker.
  - (a) As a rule, the APA or DPA should order a minimum price item.
  - (b) If estate solvency is questionable, the marker decision will be deferred until the estate is ready to close.
  - (c) If the decedent is a veteran and is qualified to be buried at a National Cemetery, the marker is provided free of charge by the VA.
- (d) Once arrangements are made, the APA or DPA will complete the required paperwork for the mortuary; verifying the quote is consistent with the option of payment as listed above.
- (e) Upon receipt of the funeral bill, the APA or DPA will ensure it is accurate.
  - (a) If it is not accurate, it is the APA or DPA's responsibility to reconcile the difference with the mortuary.
  - (b) When the amount is correct, payment of the bill will be approved.
- (f) Payment of the cost of the funeral is usually given priority over other obligations and may be paid as soon as the funds are available.

## Indigent Disposition and Abandoned Cremains

### 1107.1 POLICY

The Public Administrator will perform the duties of Indigent Cremation Officer in accordance with all state and local laws and guidelines.

### 1107.2 DEFINITIONS

**Direct Cremation** - An immediate cremation disposition without service or viewing.

**Direct Burial** - An immediate burial disposition without service.

**Indigent Burial/Cremation** - The generic term used for indigent funeral dispositions authorized and paid for by the Public Administrator.

**Contract Mortuary** - The mortuary under contract with the Public Administrator to provide indigent cremation/burial services.

### 1107.3 REFERRALS FROM FAMILIES FOR INDIGENT CREMATION ASSISTANCE

Indigent Applications are available on-line and at the Public Administrator's Office. Upon request, applications will be mailed to next of kin. The Assistant Public Administrator will assign the case. In the absence of the APA, the Deputy Public Administrator will handle the matter. The assigned staff person will review the application and supporting documents, and if the application is incomplete, will interview the family members and verify information. The assigned staff person will note their findings and forward the information to the APA or Chief Deputy Coroner with a recommendation for approval or denial of the application. Once a decision is made, the assigned staff person will notify the family and the contract mortuary.

### 1107.4 ESTATES ADMINISTERED BY THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE MEETING CRITERIA FOR INDIGENT CREMATION OF BURIAL

If an estate under the jurisdiction of the Public Administrator is unable to pay for the cost of burial (mortuary and cemetery charges), the assigned staff person will arrange for cremation or burial with the contract mortuary. The arrangements shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the contract, which include, but are not limited to, transportation, storage, cremation, disposition of cremated remains, or direct burial.

### 1107.5 GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING A DECEDENT'S OR FAMILY'S ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

The Assistant Public Administrator, Chief Deputy Coroner, or Sheriff will make the final decision as to whether or not a decedent or the decedent's next of kin qualify for indigent assistance. The following is merely a guideline to be used in determining eligibility.

#### **Decedent**

A decedent is considered indigent if he/she has less than \$2,000 in cash assets. The decedent may own a vehicle, furniture and other items of little value and continue to be eligible for the program.

# Yolo County Sheriff's Office

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## *Indigent Disposition and Abandoned Cremains*

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A decedent may have less than \$2,000 in cash assets. However, if he/she owns real estate, stocks, bonds, or other valuable assets, the decedent is not eligible for indigent assistance. A full cost burial (or cremation if the decedent or his family has made such a request) will be arranged and paid for using County funds upon approval of a supervisor. Once the decedent's property has been liquidated, the County will be reimbursed.

### **Next of Kin**

Next of kin has the duty and responsibility for arranging the disposition of a deceased relative. After a decedent has been determined to be indigent, should his/her next of kin indicate a need for indigent assistance, the family will need to qualify. Cash asset limits are determined by the number of members of the applicant's household.

#### # In Household - Property Limit

- 1 - \$2,000
- 2 - \$3,000
- 3 - \$3,150
- 4 - \$3,300
- 5 - \$3,450
- 6 - \$3,600
- 7 - \$3,750
- 8 - \$3,900
- 9 - \$4,050
- 10 - or more \$4,200

These items are exempt in determining a family member's eligibility:

- Residence
- One motor vehicle
- Personal property used in a trade or business
- Personal effects (clothing, heirlooms, wedding and engagement rings, and other jewelry with a net value of \$100)
- Household items
- IRA's, KEOGHs, and other work-related pensions
- Burial plans
- Life Insurance policies

### **1107.6 UNIDENTIFIED DECEDENTS**

Upon receipt of a Referral from the Coroner's office, and instructions that the decedent's identity cannot be determined and that disposition arrangements may now be made, the assigned staff person will arrange for burial. Cremation arrangements shall not be made without approval of a supervisor.

## *Indigent Disposition and Abandoned Cremains*

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### **1107.7 HOMICIDE VICTIMS**

Upon receipt of a Referral from the Coroner's office, and in the absence of family and/or pre-need funeral arrangements, the assigned staff person will arrange for burial.

Cremation arrangements shall not be made without approval of a supervisor.

### **1107.8 CREMATED REMAINS ABANDONED AT MORTUARIES**

When families have failed to retrieve cremated remains from mortuaries (in cases not involving the Public Administrator), the Public Administrator will accept a Referral from the mortuary and investigate the matter prior to taking possession of the cremated remains. The APA will assign the case. In the absence of the APA, the DPA will handle the investigation.

The assigned staff person will obtain the following information from the mortuary:

Name, relationship, and address of any next of kin.

A written statement from the mortuary as to their efforts to locate family.

A copy of the mortuary contract and burial permit.

A search for family will be made. If family is located and willing to accept the cremated remains, they will be directed to the mortuary. If family cannot be found, or the family is uncooperative, the Public Administrator will accept the cremated remains from the mortuary. The assigned staff person will determine the decedent's veteran's status, document his or her findings, close the investigation and submit the file to supervision. Once the file is reviewed and approved by the APA or Chief Deputy Coroner, the assigned staff person will arrange for interment of cremated remains.

### **1107.9 CREMATED REMAINS ABANDONED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS (EXCLUDING MORTUARIES)**

The Public Administrator will immediately accept abandoned cremated remains from anyone possessing them (excluding mortuaries). A file will be opened and the matter assigned by the APA. In the absence of the APA, the DPA will investigate the matter. If the assigned staff person finds family the cremated remains will be released to them.

If family is unwilling to accept the cremated remains or if family is not located, the assigned staff person will determine the decedent's veteran's status, document his/her findings, close the investigation and submit the file to supervision. Once the file is reviewed and approved by the APA or Chief Deputy Coroner, the assigned staff person will arrange for interment of the cremated remains.

## Management and Control of Estates

### 1108.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator ensures that all estates handled by the office are managed with ordinary care and diligence.

### 1108.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 9600.

### 1108.3 CA PROBATE CODE SECTION 9600 (IN PART)

The personal representative has the management and control of the estate and, in managing and controlling said estate, shall use ordinary care and diligence. What constitutes ordinary care and diligence is determined by all the circumstances of the particular estate.

### 1108.4 PROCEDURE

1. The assigned Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator will review the assigned cases every ninety (90) days. After completion of review, notes reflecting the status will be entered into the electronic case file.
2. In checking the status of each estate, the APA or DPA will review the case events, the estate inventory, the transaction ledger, the creditor's claims, any outstanding bills of the estate, and, if solvent, the heirship status.
3. Any problems or deficiencies discovered by review will be immediately addressed.
4. Matters of extreme concern will be brought to the attention of the Public Administrator.

## Independent Administration of Estates Act

### 1109.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator may elect to administer Formal Estates using authority provided by the Independent Administration of Estates Act (IAEA).

### 1109.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 10500, et. seq.

### 1109.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Devisee:** A recipient of property (usually real property) by Will.
- (b) **Legatee:** One who is named in a Will to take personal property; one who has received a legacy or bequest; loosely, one to whom a devise of real property is given.
- (c) **Ex Parte:** Done or made at the insistence and for the benefit of one party only; without notice to, or argument by, any person adversely interested (an Ex Parte hearing).
- (d) **Interested Person:**
  - (a) Devisees and legatees whose interest in the estate is affected by the proposed action
  - (b) Heirs of the decedent in intestate estates.
  - (c) The State of California, if any portion of the estate is to escheat.
  - (d) Persons who have requested special notice.

### 1109.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator assigned to the case and the attorney representing the Public Administrator may make a determination to request the estate be administered under IAE
- (b) All Creditor Claims are to be filed with the court for record keeping purposes only.
- (c) Once authority to administer under IAEA is obtained, it becomes discretionary to obtain court approval for certain transactions. If the APA or DPA believes prior court approval should be obtained – even when it is not required – the situation should be discussed with an attorney.
- (d) The IAEA was designed to be used in administering simple estates in which there are no disputes between interested parties and the parties are cooperative toward the administrator. If there is a large number of interested persons or there are any disputes, authority to administer an estate under IAEA should be requested, but used sparingly.
- (e) The APA or DPA determines whether or not to request authority to administer under IAEA. The decision to do so is optional.



## *Independent Administration of Estates Act*

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- (a) Upon determining to petition for authority to administer under the Act, the APA or DPA requests the attorney to incorporate the IAEA petition into the Petition for Letters of Administration.
- (b) Upon obtaining Letters with such power, administration of the estate may progress without court approval for most transactions.

### **1109.5 ACTIONS REQUIRING COURT APPROVAL**

The IAEA is designed to eliminate the need for obtaining prior court approval for most transactions taken by the executor or administrator between the time of appointment and the time of final distribution. Certain actions, however, continue to **require** court approval (CA Probate Code Section 10501):

- (a) Sale or exchange of real property sold individually or as a unit with personal property (unless accomplished through a Notice of Proposed Action).
- (b) Allowance of executor's and administrator's commissions and attorney's fees.
- (c) Settlement of accountings.
- (d) Continued payment of a family allowance for a period in excess of twelve (12) months (CA Probate Code Section 10501).
- (e) Preliminary and final distributions and discharge (subject to CA Probate Code Section 10520).
- (f) Borrowing money or executing a mortgage or deed of trust or giving other security.
- (g) Leasing any real property (1) if the Will does not authorize or direct the personal representative to lease property (2) and the term exceeds one year.
- (h) Completing a contract entered into by the decedent to convey real or personal property.
- (i) Determining third party claims for real and personal property if the decedent died in possession of, or holding title to, such property; or determining decedent's claim to real or personal property, title or possession of which is held by another.

### **1109.6 ACTIONS NOT REQUIRING COURT APPROVAL**

- (a) Manage and control the estate; except as specific provisions of the IAEA require court supervision or Notice of Proposed Action.
- (b) Enter into a contract; except as noted in subdivision (b); Probate Code Section 10532).
- (c) Deposit money in an insured account in a financial institution in California.
- (d) Invest in direct obligation of the United States or the State of California that mature within one year.
- (e) Invest in certain money market funds that invest in United States government obligations.
- (f) Invest in common trust funds described in Financial Code Section 1564.

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## *Independent Administration of Estates Act*

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- (g) Continue the decedent's business operations or act in the decedent's place as a general partner of a partnership for a period not longer than six months after the date letters were issued.
- (h) Pay a family allowance.
- (i) Lease real property for a period of one year or less, lease estate personal property for a period of two years or less, or lease personal property for any period while retaining the unrestricted right to terminate the lease within two years of its making.
- (j) Sell:
  - (a) Or exchange personal property consisting of securities sold on an established stock or bond exchange or listed and sold through NASDAQ by a broker-dealer,
  - (b) Subscription rights for cash,
  - (c) Personal property that is perishable or uneconomic to keep or that is needed to provide for payment of a family allowance for cash,
  - (d) Or, surrender certain securities for redemption or conversion.
- (k) Grant an exclusive right to sell estate property for a period not exceeding a cumulative total of 270 days.
- (l) Take any action that a personal representative without authority under the IAEA could take without court supervision.
- (m) Allow, pay, reject, contest, or settle any claim by or against the estate; compromise or settle any claim or action involving the decedent, the estate, or the personal representative; release uncollectible claims in whole or in part, as long as the provision of CA Probate Code Section 10501 are in compliance.
- (n) Begin, maintain, and defend actions and proceedings for the benefit of the estate; defend actions or proceedings against the decedent, the personal representative or the estate.
- (o) Extend, renew, or modify obligations to or favoring the estate of the decedent.
- (p) Convey or transfer property to implement any specific power granted under the IAEA.
- (q) Pay taxes and administration expenses.
- (r) Purchase an annuity from an admitted insurer to satisfy a provision of the Will.
- (s) Exercise an option right that is an estate asset.
- (t) Purchase securities or commodities required to complete a sale made by the decedent.
- (u) Hold a security in the name of a nominee or any other form.
- (v) Exercise security subscription or conversion rights.
- (w) Repair and improve estate property.
- (x) Accept a deed to property subject to a mortgage in lieu of foreclosure or sale under a deed of trust.

## *Independent Administration of Estates Act*

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- (y) Give a partial satisfaction of a mortgage or cause the trustee of a deed of trust to execute a partial re-conveyance.

### **1109.7 ACTIONS REQUIRING NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION**

- (a) Manage and control estate property if the provision governing that particular action requires a notice be given.
- (b) Enter into contracts if, by their terms, they are not to be fully performed within two years (unless the representative has unrestricted right under the contract to terminate the contract within two years) or if the contracts are made to exercise specific powers granted under the IAEA which require the giving of notice for exercise of the power.
- (c) Invest money as permitted in CA Probate Code Section 10533(a)(2)(d) or (a) (3) except for investments in direct obligations of the United States or the State of California maturing within one year.
- (d) Continue the decedent's business operations or act in the decedent's place as a general partner of a partnership for a period beyond six months after the date letters were issued.
- (e) Pay a family allowance, but only if the payment is either the first payment of a family allowance or the first payment of a family allowance for a period beginning 12 months after the decedent's death, or an increase in the amount of a family allowance.
- (f) Enter into a lease of estate real property if the lease is for a period of more than one year (including any extensions to which the lessee is entitled), or the lease of estate personal property if the lease period is more than two years (unless the representative has the unrestricted right under the lease to terminate it within two years).
- (g) Grant a broker an exclusive right to sell property if the grant is for a cumulative period of more than 270 days.

### **1109.8 INTERESTED PERSONS ADVISED OF TRANSACTIONS NOT REQUIRING COURT APPROVAL**

The attorney representing the Public Administrator will give legal notice to all interested parties before any of the following actions take place:

- (a) Sell or exchange real property.
- (b) Sell or incorporate decedent's business or venture.
- (c) Abandon tangible property that is uneconomic to collect, maintain or safeguard.
- (d) Borrow or encumber property.
- (e) Grant an option to purchase real property within or beyond the period of administration.
- (f) Transfer property to one given an option in the Will to purchase that property.
- (g) Convey or transfer property in completion of decedent's contractual obligations.
- (h) Allow, compromise, or settle third party claims to property owned by or possessed by decedent and decedent's claims to property owned or possessed by another.

## *Independent Administration of Estates Act*

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- (i) Make a disclaimer.

### **1109.9 ADVICE TO INTERESTED PARTIES MUST BE IN WRITING AND DELIVERED IN PERSON OR BY MAIL**

1. A 15-day period is required for the advice; the transaction must not be consummated until at least 15 days after the personal delivery of mail.
2. The advice must contain a reasonably specific description of the proposed transaction.
3. Failure to give the advice could be cited as a reason for dismissal as administrator; however, such failure will not affect the validity of the action taken.
4. Any person to whom advice is required to be given has the right at any time to obtain an ex-parte restraining order restraining the administrator from consummating any particular transaction without prior Court approval.

### **1109.10 PRELIMINARY DISTRIBUTIONS UNDER IAEA**

Under IAEA, the administrator may secure an Ex-Parte Order authorizing a preliminary distribution. With such an order, preliminary distribution can be made in a few days without need for a formal hearing and the filing of an accounting. In order to secure an Ex-Parte Order, the following must be met:

- (a) The time for filing Creditor's Claims must have expired.
- (b) A Partial Inventory and Appraisal must be filed because the assets to be distributed cannot exceed 50% of the net value of the estate.
- (c) All taxes must have been paid or a Certified Public Accountant has consented to the distribution.
- (d) The Court must find that the estate is but little indebted and the distribution can be made without loss or injury to the estate or any person interested in it.
- (e) If the distribution is to be made to a trust, an accounting must be made, unless the trustee waives it.

# Search of Residences, Vehicles, Safe Deposit Boxes, Inventory, Residence Maintenance

## 1110.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will endeavor to take great care in the gathering and preservation of personal property. All personal property accessed and/or retained by the Public Administrator shall be inventoried, witnessed and receipted.

## 1110.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Sections 330, 7603.

## 1110.3 PROCEDURE

### 1110.3.1 SEARCHES OF RESIDENCES

- (a) If decedent maintained a residence (home, apartment, mobile home, etc.), the Assistant Public Administrator and Deputy Public Administrator, or if one is unavailable, a Deputy Sheriff or Deputy Coroner will visit the premises as soon as it is established the estate may fall under the jurisdiction of the Public Administrator, or the residence is not secured. **Searches are always conducted by two staff members.**  
In the event **unsafe weapons** or **hazardous materials** are found, immediately notify supervision and/or law enforcement. Unsafe weapons and/or hazardous materials will not be transported by Public Administrator staff.
- (b) Digital photographs or a video recording of each room will be taken immediately upon entering the premises.
- (c) The contents of the residence will be inventoried by the APA and DPA, or if one is unavailable, a Deputy Sheriff or Deputy Coroner at the time the search is conducted. (See Section D below for specific instructions on completing an Inventory.)
- (d) The APA and DPA, or if one is unavailable, a Deputy Sheriff or Deputy Coroner will empty the refrigerator of all perishable food and dispose of it. The door will be left ajar if it is safe to do so.
- (e) A thorough search will be made of the residence, looking especially for:
  - (a) A Will
  - (b) Burial instructions
  - (c) Insurance policies
  - (d) Bank accounts
  - (e) Next of Kin information
  - (f) Property deeds
  - (g) Veteran papers
  - (h) Jewelry

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## *Search of Residences, Vehicles, Safe Deposit Boxes, Inventory, Residence Maintenance*

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- (i) Weapons
- (j) Drugs
- (k) Cash
- (f) If a Will is found and/or relatives, the executor or next of kin are immediately contacted for the purpose of determining who will proceed with the estate.
  - (a) If an executor or next of kin is located and they wish to proceed with the estate, the APA or DPA shall immediately conclude the investigation.

### 1110.3.2 SEARCH OF VEHICLES

- (a) If decedent owns a vehicle or vehicles, the assigned APA or DPA will access the vehicle(s).
- (b) Digital photographs or a video recording of the vehicle(s) will be taken; including the exterior, interior, and the trunk.
- (c) A thorough search of all areas of the vehicle(s) will be made; including the interior, the trunk, and the glove compartment. Special attention will focus on finding:
  - (a) A Will
  - (b) Banking information
  - (c) Weapons
  - (d) Drugs
  - (e) Cash
  - (f) Jewelry
  - (g) Next of kin information
  - (h) Important documents
  - (i) Burial instructions
- (d) The contents of the vehicle or vehicles will be inventoried by the assigned APA or DPA at the time the search is conducted. An inventory may not be performed in the following circumstances:
  - (a) Access to the vehicle is unattainable.
  - (b) In the event the vehicle is not inventoried at the residence or its location and must be towed to any YCSO storage facility, the inventory will take place there.
  - (c) The death occurred in the vehicle and is unsanitary or unsafe to enter.
  - (d) The vehicle is in a "hoarder" condition.
  - (e) The vehicle is at a tow yard and access has been denied.
  - (f) The vehicle is not registered to the decedent.

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### *Search of Residences, Vehicles, Safe Deposit Boxes, Inventory, Residence Maintenance*

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#### 1110.3.3 SEARCH OF SAFE DEPOSIT BOX

- (a) If a safe deposit box key is located and the location of the box is determined, immediate arrangements will be made to access the safe deposit box.
- (b) If a key to the safe deposit box is not located, and there are funds in the estate, the assigned APA or DPA will make arrangements to fund the payment of a locksmith to drill the box and gain access.
- (c) In most instances, the bank will not allow drilling of a box until the locksmith fees are paid. If the decedent has an active bank account where the box is located, funds may be deducted from it for the cost of drilling.
- (d) Safe deposit boxes should be entered as soon as possible for a Will search. The assigned APA or DPA shall be responsible for accessing the box as early in the investigation as possible.
- (e) The safe deposit box shall be opened and the contents collected by the assigned APA or DPA within four (4) months after the appointment of the Public Administrator.
- (f) A Deputy Coroner, Deputy Sheriff, or bank personnel can accompany the APA or DPA during the search of the safe deposit box if no one is available to assist. Under no circumstances will the APA or DPA perform a search or inventory without the presence of the a witness.
- (g) In the absence of Letters of Administration or a Summary Order, the bank will require a Certificate of Public Administrator's Authority to proceed pursuant to CA Probate Code Section 7603 to accomplish a Will search.
- (h) A Will and/or funeral instructions search is conducted and the documents removed if present in the box.
- (i) Please Reference Policy & Procedure, Depositing Wills/Providing Copies.

#### 1110.3.4 INVENTORY/MAINTENANCE OF RESIDENCES

- (a) The APA or DPA will have completed an Inventory at the time of the initial search. However, if there are adequate funds in the estate and a professional estate liquidation company is hired, the company shall also perform an inventory of the residence. No property will be omitted from the inventory sheet except for alcohol, food, pet food and cleaning supplies. Items of little or no value may be grouped together.
- (b) The adequate description of property items, particularly jewelry, aids in identification and serves as a basis of computation of a loss in the event of fire or theft. Items of lesser value may be grouped. Each item inventoried will reflect the condition of the property (good, fair, poor, etc.) and will also indicate the location of the property.
- (c) If for any reason the refrigerator was not emptied during the initial search of the residence, the assigned APA or DPA will request the professional estate liquidation company to empty the refrigerator of all perishable food and dispose of it.
- (d) Prior to leaving the residence, the water heater shall be turned off, as well as any other appliances or units that would consume power and pose a threat to the integrity of the structure.

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- (e) Primary residence and vehicle keys will be identified and marked and the keys will be kept in the Assistant Public Administrator's office in the locked key box.
- (f) Any property removed from the residence, safe deposit box or vehicle will be handled in accordance with **Personal Property Intake and Disposition, and Personal Property Intake and Disposition-Cash policies.**



## Personal Property Intake and Disposition

### 1111.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will follow all department guidelines regarding the acquisition and recording of personal property belonging to decedent estates.

### 1111.2 PROCEDURE

The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator are frequently required to take charge of a decedent's personal property during the course of an investigation. Any staff person receiving property will ensure all property coming into his or her possession is properly witnessed, documented, and safeguarded.

Residence searches shall be conducted with no less than two staff members.

#### 1111.2.1 RECEIPT OF PROPERTY RECEIVED FROM DEPUTY CORONER

- (a) At the time of delivery and before signing a receipt, sealed valuables retrieved from YCSO Property and Evidence Unit staff or received from the YCSO Coroner's Section must be opened in the presence of Property and Evidence staff or Deputy Coroner staff.
- (b) The bag or container will be re-sealed to secure the contents in the presence of Property and Evidence staff or Deputy Coroner staff.
- (c) The property must be inventoried by the staff on a Public Administrator inventory sheet in the presence of a witness upon receipt of the property. If the property cannot be inventoried the same day it is collected, it is to be put in the Public Administrator's safe, the locked Assistant Public Administrator's office, or in YCSO Property and Evidence Unit for safekeeping. It will then be inventoried the next business day.
- (d) Notations will be made on the inventory form as to the condition of each item and its ultimate placement: safe, YCSO Property and Evidence Unit, destroyed discarded or release

#### 1111.2.2 PROPERTY RECEIVED FROM FACILITIES, MORTUARIES, HOSPITALS, OTHER AGENCIES

- (a) Property received from facilities such as assisted care homes, hospitals, mortuaries, the Public Guardian or other such institutions will be verified in the presence of an employee and they shall serve as a witness.
- (b) The property must be placed in a sealed envelope, bag, or box and a receipt provided by the facility.
- (c) The property must be inventoried by a staff person on a Public Administrator inventory sheet in the presence of a witness. IF the property cannot be inventoried the same day it is collected, it will be put in the Public Administrator's safe, the locked Assistant Public Administrator's office, or YCSO property.

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### *Personal Property Intake and Disposition*

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#### 1111.2.3 DELIVERY OF PROPERTY FROM RESIDENCES

- (a) The APA or DPA assigned to the case will be responsible for the safekeeping of the property at the residence.
  - (a) If the home can be secured, property may be kept on site. If the home cannot be secured and the property is at risk and cannot be readily safeguarded, the APA or DPA will consult with supervision as to how to proceed.
  - (b) Weapons, expensive jewelry, artifacts or other high value items shall be moved to the Public Administrator's safe or to the Yolo County Sheriff's Office Property and Evidence Unit.
- (b) If the decedent resided in a care facility or a rental situation, the personal property should be transported as soon as it is determined that family will not be acting
  - (a) Only the valuable property may be taken, leaving non-valuable property items behind.
- (c) If the decedent resided in a mobile home or house, the assigned APA or DPA will make arrangements for the removal of personal property according to the circumstances of the case and the quantity of items.
- (d) When estate funds are sufficient and the circumstances require it, a vendor can be utilized to care for the property and/or prepare it for an estate sale.

#### 1111.2.4 INVENTORY OF PROPERTY

- (a) Every effort will be made by the APA or DPA assigned to the case to inventory property at the residence. Property moved to another location will be checked off the inventory receipt, or, if unable to inventory at the residence, will be inventoried upon arrival to secondary location.
- (b) The property must be inventoried by a staff person on a Public Administrator inventory sheet in the presence of a witness. IF the property cannot be inventoried the same day it is collected, it will be put in the Public Administrator safe, the locked Assistant Public Administrator's office, or YCSO property.
- (c) The person completing the inventory will itemize property on an inventory form, including the top portion of the inventory sheet. For uniformity and identification purposes, all receipts and inventories should list the decedent's last name first, first name, and indicate from where the property was removed (Deputy Coroner, residence address, hospital, safe deposit box, etc.).
- (d) Have the witness sign each inventory page.
- (e) While off-site (residence, facility, etc.), all non-inventoried valuables, such as uncounted coin and/or jewelry, must be placed in a container or bag, sealed, dated and signed on the seal by the person receiving said item and by the witness.
- (f) The property must be inventoried by a staff person on a Public Administrator inventory sheet in the presence of a witness. IF the property cannot be inventoried the same day it is collected, it will be put in the Public Administrator's safe, the locked Assistant Public Administrator's office, or YCSO property.

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## *Personal Property Intake and Disposition*

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- (g) All the inventory sheets will be kept in the active case binder under the heading of "Financial".
- (h) Photographs and personal papers will be sorted into "essential" and "non-essential" categories.
  - (a) The non-essential papers can be stored, with the photographs, in a cardboard banker's box. The box will be stored in the PA property closet.
  - (b) The essential papers will go into the working case binder.

### 1111.2.5 RELEASE OF PROPERTY

- (a) If, subject to provision of the Probate Code, another party establishes priority over the Public Administrator to handle the decedent's estate, proof of status and the identity of the person making the claim must be produced before any property is released.
- (b) All items released will be verified against a property sheet and the date of release and initials of the person releasing the property will be noted in the margin next to the property item.
- (c) Two copies of a receipt will be prepared. The receipts will be signed and dated by the recipient at time of collection.

### 1111.2.6 FIREARMS/AMMUNITION RETENTION AND TRANSPORTATION

- (a) Firearms shall be unloaded prior to transportation.
- (b) Once the firearm has been unloaded, the weapons shall be disabled by securing a plastic tie through the firing mechanism in the following manner:
  - (a) Hold open the cylinder on a revolver with a swing open cylinder, and hold the hammer back on a fixed cylinder revolver.
  - (b) Hold the slide back and prevent insertion of a magazine on a semi-automatic pistol.
  - (c) Hold the slide back on semi-automatic / pump shotguns.
  - (d) Keep the barrel from being locked into place on break open weapons.
  - (e) Hold the bolt open on bolt action weapons.
  - (f) Hold the slide back and prevent insertion of a magazine on magazine feed, and tube feed rifles.
- (c) Weapons are not to be stored or accepted for storage unless they are unloaded and secured with plastic ties.
- (d) All firearms should be transported, stored and released in approved firearm boxes.
  - (a) The firearms shall be secured to the box with plastic ties, so as to not bounce loose.
  - (b) The name of the estate shall be written on all sides of the box.

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### *Personal Property Intake and Disposition*

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- (e) Ammunition shall be placed in ammunition storage containers and transported separately from the weapon, and not placed in the firearm box, firearm barrel, cylinder, nor in any magazine.
- (f) If, for some reason, the weapon cannot be unloaded due to a malfunction, the staff person must contact the nearest law enforcement agency for assistance. Under no circumstances will a loaded weapon be transported to the facility.
- (g) Prior to entering the firearm into inventory, the staff person shall be assured that the weapon is not stolen by having the weapon and serial number run through CLETS.
- (h) Firearms and ammunition are to be inventoried on a separate Inventory Sheet and entered into the inventory portion of the data system.
- (i) Firearms that may be legally possessed and are intended to be sold for the estate are to be delivered to the gun safe located in the Public Administrator's Office, once inventoried and reviewed by supervision. All other firearms and ammunition will be placed in the Yolo County Sheriff's Office Property and Evidence Unit.
- (j) Ammunition metal containers owned by the estate should be properly emptied and stored with personal property held by YCSO Property and Evidence Unit.

#### 1111.2.7 FIREARM RELEASE/DISPOSAL

- (a) Firearms that may be legally possessed, can be released to next of kin, providing the next of kin is an adult, and legally able to possess a firearm.
- (b) The Assistant Public Administrator (APA) or Deputy Public Administrator (DPA) shall send a certified letter to the next of kin indicating how they can apply, through the Department of Justice (DOJ), to recover the firearm. DOJ forms and applications can be found at: <http://ag.ca.gov/firearms>, under General Information – Forms and Publications – Law Enforcement Gun Release Application.
- (c) All firearms are released by the YCSO Property and Evidence Unit once the following is accomplished:
  - (a) The next of kin shall sign a receipt for the firearm when it is accepted. If next of kin is legally incapable of possessing the firearm, the case shall be referred to supervision for disposition.
  - (b) If the next of kin requests delivery, the transfer of the weapon must be handled through a licensed firearms dealer.
  - (c) No illegal weapon shall be released. All weapons will be reviewed by a sworn deputy or officer of the Sheriff's Office.
  - (d) Ensure the person requesting the item qualifies to receive the item:
    - (a) The person is over 18 years old; verified with governmental identification (i.e.: U.S. Military ID, driver's license, etc.).
    - (b) The person has the applicable Department of Justice approval letter.
- (d) Special Considerations:

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- (a) All other release procedures and documentation for release of property shall be followed, to include, but not limited to, signature for the property by the releasing employee and the receiving individual and appropriate entry into the database for tracking.
- (e) Disposal:
  - (a) All firearms are destroyed by the YCSO Property and Evidence Unit in the following circumstances:
    - (a) A signed letter authorizing destruction has been received from the decedent's next of kin.
    - (b) (180) days has passed since a letter was sent to the next of kin, stating the firearm would be destroyed if not claimed in (180) days.
    - (c) Ammunition will not be sold; it will be released for destruction.
    - (d) Other weapons, such as knives, etc. may be disposed of in similar fashion.
    - (e) The Sheriff-Public Administrator's case number shall be written on the Evidence and Property Receipt and indicate "For Destruction."
    - (f) The firearm shall be described in detail: make, model, serial number, and caliber on a Yolo County Sheriff's Office Evidence and Property Receipt.
    - (g) The firearm is illegal.

#### 1111.2.8 SALE OF FIREARMS AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS WEAPONS

- (a) Firearms are to be inventoried and appraised.
- (b) Unless firearms contained in a particular estate are specifically requested for disposition by an entitled heir, they will be offered for sale on a consignment basis by a licensed firearms dealer. If estate property does include firearms, heirs should be notified of this policy as soon as possible. Firearms should not be sold or destroyed prior to heir notification and response.
- (c) The licensed firearms dealer handling the consignment sale will not divulge the estate name to prospective buyers or actual purchasers.
- (d) Prior to liquidation, a Yolo County Sheriff's Office Range Master or Armorer will review each weapon to ascertain whether or not it is a legal firearm.
- (e) In the event a firearm does not sell after a reasonable period of time, the matter will be discussed with supervision. In Formal and Summary estates it may be necessary to seek court approval to destroy the firearm.
- (f) If an entitled heir requests delivery, the heir will be responsible for the full cost of the delivery; e.g., packing, shipping, insurance, labor, etc.
- (g) Deputy Public Administrators should submit either 1) Letters of Administration or 2) Statement of Authority to the licensed firearms dealer. A copy of the Receipt of Sale will be placed in the case file.

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- (h) Exceptions to this procedure should be discussed and approved by the Assistant Public Administrator or Chief Deputy Coroner. Generally, exceptions should be considered only when firearms represent a significant value in an otherwise insolvent estate, or when disposition disagreements occur among multiple heirs.

## Inventory and Appraisal

### 1112.1 POLICY

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator will cause to be filed all required Inventories and Appraisals in accordance with statutory laws and local Superior Court Rules.

### 1112.2 REFERENCE

Probate Code Sections 8800 8850, 8900, et seq.

### 1112.3 DEFINITIONS

**Property** - Anything that may be the subject of ownership and includes both real and personal property and any interest therein.

**Real Property** – Includes a leasehold interest in real property.

**Property to be Inventoried** – The inventories and appraisals shall include all property to be administered in a decedent's estate.

### 1112.4 ESTATES REQUIRING COURT-FILED INVENTORIES AND APPRAISALS

- a. Formal Estates (Valued from \$166,250.00 and greater). Formal Estates require the filing of inventories and appraisals.
- b. Summary Estates (Valued from \$50,000 to \$166,249.00). Summary Estates only require the filing of inventories and appraisals when the estate owns real property.
- c. Small Estates (valued from Zero to \$49,999.00). Small Estates do not require the filing of inventories and appraisals.

(Note: All estates require that detailed asset information be entered and tracked in the Panoramic computer program.)

### 1112.5 PROPERTY VALUES TO BE OBTAINED BY PUBLIC ADMINISTER

The assigned deputy shall obtain detailed information, including values, for the following personal property assets owned by the decedent:

- a. Money and other cash items (a check, draft, money order, or similar instrument issued on or before the date of the decedent's death that can be immediately converted to cash.
- b. The following checks issued after date of death: checks for wages earned before death; refund checks, including tax and utility refunds, and Medicare, medical insurance, and other health care reimbursements and payments.
- c. Accounts in financial institutions.
- d. Cash deposits and money market mutual funds; brokerage cash accounts.

## *Inventory and Appraisal*

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e. Proceeds of life and accident insurance policies and retirement plans and annuities payable on death in lump sum amounts.

### **1112.6 PROPERTY TO BE APPRAISED BY THE CALIFORNIA PROBATE REFEREE**

All non-cash property including, but not limited to:

- a. Real Property – vacant land, agricultural, condominium, and single family residential
- b. Residential Income/Commercial/Industrial Property
- c. Oil, Gas and Mineral Rights
- d. Life Estates
- e. Business Interests
- f. Tangible Personal Property – jewelry, art, coins, antiques
- g. Mobile Homes
- h. Motor Vehicles and Boats
- i. Livestock and Breeding Animals
- j. Common and Preferred Stocks, Mutual Funds, Bonds

### **1112.7 PROPERTY TO BE APPRAISED BY AN INDEPENDENT EXPERT**

Probate Code Section 8904 states: “A unique, artistic, unusual, or special item of tangible personal property that would otherwise be appraised by the probate referee may, at the election of the personal representative, be appraised by an independent expert qualified to appraise the item.”

Should the estate contain such an item, after consulting with supervision, the assigned deputy may ask for an expert to provide a written appraisal. Once received, the appraisal will be given to the attorney for forwarding to the Probate Referee.

### **1112.8 TYPE OF INVENTORIES AND APPRAISALS**

**Final** – Contains all assets of the estate

**Partial** – Contains some of the assets of the estate

**Supplemental** – More assets are discovered after Final is filed

**Corrected** – Shows corrections for one or a few assets

**Reappraisal for Sale** – Property being sold was last appraised more than one year to proposed sale

**Amended** – Corrects the entire Inventory and Appraisal



## *Inventory and Appraisal*

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### **1112.9 FILING TIME; CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP STATEMENTS**

The assigned deputy will provide to the attorney representing the Public Administrator all known asset information to enable the attorney to prepare any and all inventories and appraisals. **Final, Partial, Corrected** and **Amended** inventories and appraisals are required to be filed with the court within four (4) months of the date of appointment of the Public Administrator. Therefore, the deputy will forward to the attorney detailed asset information as soon as it becomes available.

The attorney will prepare and forward the completed inventory and appraisal to the California Probate Referee for valuation. Once the completed inventory and appraisal is returned by the Probate Referee, the attorney will acquire the necessary signatures and file the inventory and appraisal with the court.

**Supplemental** inventories and appraisals are required to be filed within four (4) months after the deputy acquires knowledge of the property. Therefore, the deputy will forward to the attorney detailed asset information as soon as it becomes available. The attorney will prepare and forward the completed inventory and appraisal to the Probate Referee for valuation. Once the completed inventory and appraisal is returned by the Probate Referee, the attorney will acquire the necessary signatures and file the inventory and appraisal with the court.

Real property must be appraised within one year prior to the date of the confirmation hearing requiring a **Reappraisal for Sale** inventory and appraisal. Should a reappraisal be required, the deputy will request that the attorney prepare the **Reappraisal for Sale** inventory and appraisal and forward it to the Probate Referee for valuation. Once the completed inventory and appraisal is returned by the Probate Referee, the attorney will acquire the necessary signatures and file the inventory and appraisal with the court.

Concurrent with the filing of any inventory and appraisal, the attorney for the Public Administrator shall also file a certification that the requirements of Section 480 of the Revenue and Taxation Code either:

- (a) Are not applicable because the decedent owned no real property in California at the time of death.
- (b) Have been satisfied by the filing of a **change in ownership statement** with the county recorder or assessor of each county in California in which the decedent owned property at the time of death.

The assigned deputy shall be responsible for preparing and recording the **change in ownership statement** within five (5) days of the date of appointment of the Public Administrator.

### **1112.10 REQUEST FOR SPECIAL NOTICE**

Pursuant to Probate Code Section 8803, upon the filing of inventories and appraisals, the attorney representing the Public Administrator will mail a copy to each person who has requested special notice.

## *Inventory and Appraisal*

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### **1112.11 CALIFORNIA PROBATE REFEREES**

California Probate Referees are appointed by the State Controller for a four-year term. The Superior Court assigns a Referee to each case when a petition for appointment is filed. The Probate Referee has the following responsibilities:

- a. Must complete appraisal and return completed I&A within 60 days; if unable to meet deadline, Referee must file an update with the court providing basis for missed deadline and projected completion date.
- b. Referee must also provide report to the Public Administrator.
- c. Must keep supporting documents that form the basis of the appraisal for 3 years; and provide to Public Administrator if requested.
- d. Referee may issue a subpoena compelling any individual who may have knowledge of the asset to appear before the referee who may take statements under oath.
- e. Fees and expenses are statutory and paid by the estate.

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## Personal Property Intake and Disposition - Cash

### 1113.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will follow all department guidelines regarding the acquisition and recording of cash belonging to decedent estates.

### 1113.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) This section applies to all forms of U.S. Currency.
  - (a) All other foreign currencies and checks will be handled as described in Personal Property Intake and Disposition.
- (b) Collection and Inventory of Cash and Coin:
  - (a) All cash and coin will be counted and inventoried in the presence of another staff person.
  - (b) The cash will be counted and verified and placed in an envelope with the inventory of the cash written on the outside of the envelope and be witnessed by the staff person assisting with the count.
  - (c) Cash is to be placed in its own envelope and inventoried on a separate inventory sheet.
  - (d) The cash and inventory will be given to a Finance Section member.
    - (a)
  - (e) If the cash also consists of a few coins, the coins will be counted and inventoried along with the cash as explained above.
  - (f) If there are more coins than can be counted in a few moments, the coins will be placed in a container, uncounted, and held for safekeeping until they can be delivered to Bank of the West for a count and deposit of the coins.

## Real Property Management

### 1114.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

Real property will be managed by the Public Administrator's office in such a way as to maximize both the security and the estate value of the property.

### 1114.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator will assume overall responsibility for real property upon receiving assignment of the case.
- (b) The assigned APA or DPA will make arrangements to insure the property if the property is uninsured; or, if there is no available proof of insurance.
- (c) The water, electric and gas services at the residence will be turned off at the earliest possible time unless there is a specific need to keep the utilities on (i.e., swimming pool, yards to maintain, alarm system, inspection of property during escrow).
- (d) The property will be adequately safeguarded from potential damage or unauthorized occupancy by transients, vandals, or other individuals.
- (e) The assigned APA or DPA will initiate any required action regarding unauthorized occupancy, non-payment of rent, complaints regarding renters, complaints regarding the property, lease violations, or any other property problem.
- (f) Rentals of properties will be coordinated in appropriate situations and any potential renovations that are required.
- (g) The assigned APA or DPA will make an on-site inspection of each decedent-owned improved parcel of real property or mobile homes located within Yolo County.
- (h) The APA or DPA will make appropriate first contact with all interested parties of the decedent estate; including those individuals concerned with the decedent's real property (i.e., renters, etc.). The APA or DPA will inform the individuals of the authority by which the Public Administrator has taken charge of the estate.
- (i) The assigned APA or DPA will handle all issues regarding the decedent's real property.

## Real Property Intake / Property Insurance

### 1115.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will take all necessary actions to identify, document, and safeguard all real property under the jurisdiction.

### 1115.2 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Vesting:** A recorded title to property indicating ownership.
- (b) **Encumbrance:** A claim or liability that is attached to property or some other right and may lessen its value; such as a lien or mortgage. Any property right that is not an ownership interest.
- (c) **Easement:** An interest in land owned by another person, consisting of the right to use or control the land or an area above or below it, for a specific limited purpose (such as to cross it for access to a public road).

### 1115.3 PROCEDURE

- (a) The assigned Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator in the course of the investigation, normally discovers the existence of real property in an estate. The APA or DPA determines ownership and title vesting by checking available documentation and by reviewing the County Clerk-Recorder and the County Assessor records.
- (b) The APA or DPA will obtain as much information on the property as possible; consulting the Public Administrator's realtor, if necessary, and include all information in the real property binder for the estate.
- (c) Within five working days of being assigned the estate, the assigned APA or DPA shall verify that real property insurance is in place; either by maintaining the insurance purchased by the decedent or by arranging for such insurance. Court appointment is not necessary, and the APA or DPA shall endeavor to immediately ensure and protect the estate from loss.
  - (a) If the decedent has property insurance in place, the APA or DPA shall, in writing, advise the insurance carrier or agent that the owner is deceased and the Public Administrator has taken charge of the estate. The APA or DPA shall inquire whether or not the insurance company will cancel coverage. In most instances, the company will cancel coverage. If it is questionable as to whether or not coverage exists, the assigned APA or DPA shall arrange for coverage.
  - (b) Unimproved property requires liability insurance.
  - (c) Mobile homes and improved real property, whether occupied or vacant, require fire, extended coverage, vandalism, malicious mischief, and liability coverage.
  - (d) Improved real property requires fire insurance and extended coverage. Condition and value of mobile homes and improved real properties should be taken into consideration when purchasing insurance.

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## *Real Property Intake / Property Insurance*

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- (d) The APA, DPA, or listing agent will request a Preliminary Title Report to determine vesting, encumbrances, easements, and other facts concerning the property. The assigned APA or DPA will review the Report and take any action required to resolve issues (i.e., delinquent property taxes, death of joint tenant, etc.).

# Authorization to Liquidate Real or Personal Property

## 1116.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will liquidate real and personal property when necessary to meet the needs of the estate.

## 1116.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 68 & 10000.

## 1116.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Property:** Anything that may be the subject of ownership and includes both real and personal property and any interest therein.
- (b) **Personal Property:** Includes any movable or intangible thing that is subject to ownership and not classified as real property. Furniture, furnishings, vehicles, mobile homes, jewelry, numismatic coins, stocks, bonds, debenture, bank accounts, and investment accounts are all examples of personal property.
- (c) **Real Property:** Includes improved and unimproved real estate, and a leasehold interest in real property.

## 1116.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Public Administrator has the statutory power to sell estate property subject to the following limitations, conditions and requirements as set out in Probate Code Section 10000:
  - (a) Where the sale is necessary to pay debts, devise, family allowance, expenses of administration, or taxes.
  - (b) Where the sale is to the advantage of the estate and in the best interest of the interested persons.
  - (c) Where the property is directed by the Will to be sold.
  - (d) Where authority is given in the Will to sell the property.
- (b) The assigned APA or DPA will review the decedent's Will for instructions as to the disposition of estate property and follow those instructions whenever possible.
- (c) The assigned APA or DPA will consult family members as to the disposition of estate property prior to its liquidation. Instructions from family should be obtained in writing, whenever possible.
- (d) Once it is determined estate property will be sold, the APA or DPA shall make arrangements for sale with an estate liquidator, private party sale, or licensed real estate agent.

## Sale of Real Property

### 1117.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The sale of real property by the Public Administrator will be conducted in accordance with all Probate Code statutes, local court rules, and real estate guidelines.

### 1117.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Sections 1220, 1230, 9940 et. seq., 10300-10363, 10510-10511, 10538.

### 1117.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Confirmation of Sale:** The court hearing which approves the sale of estate property to a specific buyer.
- (b) **Exclusive Listing:** The granting by the court of an "Exclusive Right To Sell Agreement" to a specified broker for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days.
- (c) **Minimum Overbid:** The amount required as the minimum acceptable offer for real or personal property during the court confirmation hearing.

### 1117.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR SALE

No property, either real or personal, will be prepared for sale until Authorization to sell Real or Personal Property has been approved and signed by the Assistant Public Administrator.

### 1117.5 LEGAL AUTHORIZATION

- (a) Generally, Probate Code Sections 10300-10351 govern real property sales.
- (b) The Assistant Public Administrator will enter into an Exclusive Listing Agreement with a real estate broker or agent. The attorney representing the Public Administrator will prepare the petition and order needed to obtain the court's permission to enter into such an agreement. Conditions/terms of the agreement are as follows:
  - (a) Probate Code Section 10150(c) permits a personal representative to grant an exclusive listing for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days after obtaining the permission of the court. To obtain such permission, the representative must file a petition setting forth in detail a description of the
  - (b) Without seeking court approval, Probate Code Section 10538 permits a personal representative with Independent Administration of Estates Act (IAEA) powers to enter into an exclusive listing agreement for not more than ninety (90) days and the power to grant to the same broker one or more extensions; each extension not to exceed ninety (90) days. No notice of this action is required.
- (c) Regardless of the type of estate, the method of sale (auction or listing), or the powers granted (court supervision or independent authority), notice of sale of real property will be published pursuant to Section 10300 of the Probate Code. As noted in this statute, publication frequency will conform to standards specified in Government Code Section 6063(a), which reads in part: "Publication of notice pursuant to this section



## *Sale of Real Property*

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shall be for at least ten (10) days. Three publications in a newspaper published once a week or oftener, with at least five (5) days intervening between the first and last publication dates will be sufficient. The period of notice commences upon the first day of publication and terminates either at the end of the day of the third publication or at the end of the tenth day, including therein the first day, whichever period is longer." As noted above, three (3) separate publications are required during a period of at least ten (10) days. The publication period shall be completed before the day specified in the notice as the day on or after which the sale is to be made (Section 10300). The attorney representing the Public Administrator will prepare the notice of publication and cause its publication.

- (d) Once the above publication requirements have been met, sales may proceed on the stated sale date, or up to one (1) year after that date, without need for further publication. All other sale requirements (appraisal dates, special notice, etc.) must be adhered to regardless of the date of the sale.
- (e) Real property sales are accomplished with the use of exclusive broker listings. An exclusive listing agreement must also conform to Probate Code and local court requirements for real property sales. These requirements include:
  - (a) The exclusive listing agreement does not exceed ninety (90) days. The exclusive listing agreement can be less than a ninety (90) day period.
  - (b) There is no automatic renewal after the ninety (90) day period expires.
  - (c) The sale is subject to court confirmation.
  - (d) The commission will not exceed six (6) percent for improved property and ten (10) percent for unimproved property, unless authorized by the Public Administrator. The court ultimately determines the amount of the commission.
  - (e) The sale is "as is" with no warranties.
  - (f) A ten (10) percent deposit accompanies the purchase offer. This is the preferred amount; however, the deposit amount is subject to negotiation with the Public Administrator's approval.

### **1117.6 CONFIRMATION**

- (a) If the real property is listed for sale, the assigned APA or DPA will periodically review the comps and reduce the asking price, as necessary. Every offer will be considered.
- (b) Upon receipt of an acceptable offer, and its acceptance by the Public Administrator, the assigned APA or DPA will provide the attorney with the information necessary to prepare the confirmation documentation. All sales of estate real property will be confirmed by the Superior Court.
- (c) Before the court will confirm the sale of real property, bidders other than the purchaser are permitted to make increased bids to the court. The minimum acceptable overbid will be equal to the original offer plus ten (10) percent of the first \$10,000.00 dollars and five (5) percent of the remaining balance. For example, the minimum overbid amount on a \$100,000.00 sale would be as follows: Original bid = \$100,000.00,

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## *Sale of Real Property*

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10% of \$10,000.00 = \$1,000.00, 5% of \$90,000.00 = \$4,500.00, Minimum overbid = \$105,500.00

- (d) Once the sale is confirmed by court and escrow is opened, the assigned APA or DPA will handle all questions or requests from the buyer, his or her broker, or the title/escrow company during this period.
- (e) Generally, the sale of a promissory note secured by a deed of trust must be confirmed in court with the purchase price subject to overbid. The minimum bid is equal to the original offer plus ten (10) percent. Additionally, the leasing of real property may require confirmation in court (Probate Code Section 9940 et seq.).

### **1117.7 NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION**

- (a) On rare occasion, circumstances will warrant the use of the Notice of Proposed Action rather than the preferred court confirmation process. The court confirmation process is preferred because it allows the court to review and approve the sale and because it allows individuals interested in the property to appear in court and participate in an overbid. The Notice of Proposed Action is allowed by the Probate Code and is a tool that can be used to affect a sale of real property. There is; however, no court review process and no opportunity for overbid. The Public Administrator will strive in all instances to obtain court confirmation of the sale of real property.
- (b) Circumstances that warrant the use of a Notice of Proposed Action include:
  - (a) Impending loss of property due to foreclosure.
  - (b) All beneficiaries or heirs of the estate are in favor of the offer and wish to expedite the sale process.
- (c) If no objections are made by any person entitled to Notice of Proposed Action under Section 10581, the offer to purchase can be accepted and an escrow opened to accomplish the sale. **If any person entitled to such notice make an objection, the court confirmation process will be followed.**

## Sale of Personal Property

### 1118.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The sale of personal property by the Public Administrator will be conducted in accordance with all Probate Code Statutes and local court rules.

### 1118.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 10250-10264.

### 1118.3 PROCEDURE

- (a) Notice of Sale: The Public Administrator may sell personal property with or without notice, in any of the following cases:
  - (a) Where the property is directed by the Will to be sold.
  - (b) Where authority is given in the Will to sell the property.
  - (c) Where property is perishable, will depreciate in value if not disposed of promptly, or will incur loss or expense by being kept.
  - (d) Where sale of the property is necessary to provide for the payment of a family allowance pending receipt of other sufficient funds.
- (b) The Public Administrator does not give notice when selling personal property in a small estate or where appointed with Independent Administration of Estates Act (IAEA) powers.
- (c) Unless one of the criteria is stated in (1.) above is met, a Formal or Summary Estate will require a Notice of Sale. The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator may choose one of the following methods:
  - (a) Posting at the courthouse at least 15 days before:
    - (a) In the case of a private sale, the day specified in the notice of sale as the day on or after which the sale is to be made;
    - (b) In the case of a public auction sale, the day of the auction.
  - (b) In a Summary Estate, the assigned APA or DPA will be responsible for the Notice of Sale. In a Formal Estate, the attorney will prepare the Notice of Sale.
- (d) Authorization for Sale:
  - (a) The Assistant Public Administrator will, with the help of an estate liquidation company, prepare property for sale, or assist YCSO with liquidation efforts.
  - (b) Family members will be consulted concerning sales of personal property, regardless of the solvency of the estate. If the estate is insolvent, the family member shall have an opportunity to purchase items from the estate prior to a private sale or auction.
  - (c) If there is a Will, and the estate is insolvent, the devisee shall have an opportunity to purchase the item at the appraised value prior to a private sale or auction.

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### *Sale of Personal Property*

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- (e) Auctions: In some instances, the Assistant Public Administrator will sell personal property at auctions, which are to be conducted at a site agreeable to the Assistant Public Administrator and the auction company.
- (f) Individual Sales: In the instance of a family member wishing to purchase items from the estate, the assigned APA or DPA will conduct such a sale. The APA or DPA will prepare a Receipt of Sale, collect the funds, and put the receipt in file and the funds in the estate Trust Fund.
- (g) Vehicles: When vehicles are to be sold either at auction or by individual sale, the APA or DPA will provide a certified copy of Certificate of Death, Letters of Administration, a Summary Order, or a Certificate of Public Administrator. Unless prepared by the auction company, the APA or DPA will prepare Department of Motor Vehicle paperwork which includes Certificate of Title, Bill of Sale and Release of Liability.

## Creditor Claims

### 1119.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will handle all debts of the estate in accordance with statutory law and local Superior Court rules.

### 1119.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 9000-9399, 11420-11429.

### 1119.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) Section 9000 of the California Probate Code defines a "Claim" as follows:
  - (a) "Claim" means a demand for payment for any of the following, whether due, not due, accrued, or not accrued, or contingent, and whether liquidated or unliquidated.
    - (a) Liability of the decedent, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise.
    - (b) Liability for taxes incurred before the decedent's death: whether assessed before or after the decedent's death, other than property taxes and assessments secured by real property liens.
    - (c) Liability of the estate for funeral expenses of the decedent.
  - (b) "Claim" does not include a dispute regarding title of a decedent to specific property alleged to be included in the decedent's name.

### 1119.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) Creditor claims are subject to the statute of limitations set forth in Section 9051 of the Probate Code, which requires that they be submitted within four (4) months from the date Letters are first issued to a general personal representative.
- (b) Original bills received on Public Administrator estates are held by the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator. The assigned APA or DPA mails a claim form to creditors in Miscellaneous and Summary estates. In Formal estates, the attorney representing the Public Administrator mails a Notice of Administration of Estate to the creditor(s).
- (c) When a claim is received, the APA or DPA reviews the claim for validity in terms of both the debt information presented and the estate circumstances. In a Formal Estate, the assigned APA or DPA will request the attorney to prepare an approval or rejection of the claim. The assigned APA or DPA maintains summary and miscellaneous estate claims in the active file for that estate. Generally, criteria to be used in the evaluation of claims are outlined in Probate Code Section 9151.
- (d) Claimants of wholly or partially rejected claims have ninety (90) days from the date of notification to file a court action contesting the decision (Probate Code Sections 9250 and 9353).

## *Creditor Claims*

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### **1119.5 CLAIMS PRESENTED IN FORMAL ESTATES**

- (a) All creditor claims must be submitted on a court approved Creditor Claim form and filed directly with the court. Claims do not have to be mailed to the estate representative to be valid.
- (b) Creditors sending original claims to the Public Administrator rather than filing them with the court should be notified by the assigned APA or DPA within ten (10) working days of their receipt, that the original claim must be filed with the Probate Department of the Superior Court (only for probated or court supervised estates).
- (c) The APA or DPA will ask the attorney to forward Notice to Creditors (if court supervised estate) to creditors. The APA or DPA will send a Notice to Creditors for non-court supervised estates. Notice will go out within 30 days from date of appointment or within 10 working days after receipt of the bill, if the 30-day time period has already expired.
- (d) Claims against the estate are paid in the order of priority according to Section 11420 of the Probate Code.
- (e) Claims in solvent estates may be paid at any time after the Notice to Creditors has expired. According to Probate Code Section 11421, priority claims (funeral, last illness, family allowance and wage claims) are to be paid as soon as sufficient funds (after reserving funds for cost of administration) are available.
- (f) General claims in insolvent estates are not paid until the court has approved the final accounting and the proration of the claims. HOWEVER, funeral claims, last illness claims, family allowance claims, and wage claims should be paid as soon as sufficient funds to pay ALL priority claims are available, after reserving funds for cost of administration, if there is no question of their classification. If there is a question as to whether a claim is a priority, it should NOT be paid from an insolvent estate without court order.
- (g) Department of Health Care Services claims may or may not be considered general creditors depending on the services for which the Department of DHCS is seeking reimbursement. If some of the services were for the last illness, then that portion would be treated as a priority claim.
- (h) Claims of Franchise Tax Board are NOT priority claims; do not come before federal taxes, funeral, and last illness, etc., but IS a preferred creditor coming before general creditors of the estate.
- (i) A representative proceeding under the Independent Administration of Estate Act (IAEA) has authority to:
  - (a) Allow, pay, reject, or contest any claims by or against the estate.
  - (b) Compromise or settle a claim action or proceeding involving the decedent, personal representative or the estate.
  - (c) Release claims to the extent they are uncollectable.
- (j) Court filed actions are subject to settlement by court approval or Notice of Proposed Action.

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## *Creditor Claims*

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- (k) If the estate is not administered under the IAEA, the judge must also approve the claim for payment or rejection. Most cases are administered under the IAEA.
- (l) Claims in estates of persons dying on or after January 1, 1993, are barred if not presented within one year after date of death.

### **1119.6 CLAIMS PRESENTED IN SUMMARY ESTATES**

- (a) Creditor claims in Summary Probates will be processed using the same procedures and forms as in Formals; except they will not be filed with the court.
- (b) In Summary Estates, the claims are requested to be directed to the Public Administrator's office and should be presented within four months from the date of appointment. However; until the Statement of Disposition is prepared, claims can be considered.

### **1119.7 DETERMINING VALIDITY OF CLAIMS**

- (a) The assigned APA or DPA determines if:
  - (a) Claim is sufficient as to form and content to be approved.
  - (b) Claim is submitted on appropriate form and necessary section (boxes) are completed, signed, and supported by an affidavit or declaration; amount is justly due, and the amount is correct.
  - (c) Claim was timely filed with the court and itemized statement is made on claim or attached thereto.
- (b) Before approval, the APA or DPA determines if claim has been filed with the court by cross-checking with attorney or the court.
- (c) If a claim is determined to be valid, the APA or DPA requests the attorney to prepare the Allowance or Rejection of Creditor Claim form (probated or court supervised estates) and send it to the creditor. If the estate is not probated or under court supervision, the APA or DPA will prepare and send the Allowance or Rejection of Creditor Claim form.
- (d) If a claim is determined to be insufficient as to information provided, the APA or DPA will send, within ten (10) working days of receipt of claim, a letter to claimant explaining the defect and requesting it be remedied by a new claim or an amended claim filed with the court.
  - (a) If the defect is not corrected within 30 days, the APA or DPA will request the attorney to prepare and provide service of the Allowance or Rejection of Creditor Claim form to the creditor.
  - (b) Under certain conditions, Probate Code Section 9154 allows personal representative to waive formal defects in a claim.
- (e) Under certain conditions, Probate Code Section 9154 allows a personal representative to waive formal defects in a claim. To pay claims pursuant to that section, the APA or DPA should promptly review all claims four months after Letters of a general personal

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## *Creditor Claims*

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representative are issued. The APA or DPA may pay an otherwise defective claim, provided:

- (a) The debt is justly due.
- (b) The debt is paid in good faith.
- (c) The amount paid is the true amount of the indebtedness over and above all payments and offsets.
- (d) The estate is solvent.
- (e) The claim is paid within 30 days after the 4-month period has expired.

### **1119.8 PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

1. After determining sufficient funds are available to pay costs of administration, the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator pays priority creditors: funeral expenses, expenses of last illness, family allowance, and wage claims.

### **1119.9 INSOLVENT ESTATES**

General creditor claims are not paid until the court, in the final accounting, approves proration. However; the process for approving and paying the claims are the same as solvent estates.



## Tax Returns

### 1120.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

Deadlines for the filing of all California Personal and Estate Tax Returns shall be met in order to avoid penalties.

### 1120.2 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Tax Return:** An income tax form on which a person or entity reports income, deductions, and exemptions and upon which tax liability is calculated.
- (b) **Fiduciary:** One who must exercise a high standard of care in managing another's money or property.

### 1120.3 PROCEDURE

- (a) Estates valued in the millions of dollars may require special tax returns (Forms 706) that must be filed with the Internal Revenue Service and Franchise Tax Board within nine (9) months of date of death. In the event the Public Administrator is appointed to handle estates of significant value, the assigned Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator will immediately seek advice from a Certified Public Accountant, an attorney that specializes in tax law, and the attorney representing the Public Administrator. Although rare, Public Administrators have been appointed to handle valuable estates.
- (b) If, prior to death, the decedent had income from employment, rental properties, stock dividends, annuities, etc., the estate may require the filing of a final personal tax return. The assigned APA or DPA should consult with a CPA.
- (c) Generally, Miscellaneous Estates (valued at less than \$50,000) will not require the filing of estate tax returns. However, if real estate or a mobile home is sold, the assigned APA or DPA should consult with a CPA.
- (d) Summary Estates (valued between \$50,000.00 and \$166,250.00) that generate \$600.00 or more in income may require tax returns. If stock or real property is liquidated, rents collected, or interest income generated; the APA or DPA should consult with a CPA for advice as to the filing of returns.
- (e) Most Formal Estates (valued at \$166,250 or greater) will require a tax return. The assigned APA or DPA shall review these estates immediately upon appointment to determine the tax filing deadlines and provide a Certified Public Accountant with financial information in sufficient time for the meeting of those deadlines.
- (f) Gather information concerning any outstanding tax returns that might have been due prior to death and arrange for the filing of any estate tax returns:
  - (a) Arrange for outstanding tax returns due prior to death and for a final personal tax return.
  - (b) Pay the decedent's estimated tax.
  - (c) Apply for a tax identification number.

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## Tax Returns

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- (d) Secure a CPA. Select the estate's tax year.
- (g) Estate taxes (706). These are taxes paid on the value of an estate at date of death. Due to Congressional action, the necessary value is increasing:

(h) <u>Tax Year</u>	<u>Value of Estate</u>
2010	\$5,000,000
2011	\$5,000,000
2012	\$5,120,000
2013	\$5,250,000
2014	\$5,340,000
2015	\$5,430,000
2016	\$5,450,000
2017	\$5,490,000
2018	\$11,180,000
2019	\$11,400,000
2020	\$11,580,000

## Affidavit of Heirship

### 1121.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

In small, intestate estates, the Public Administrator will endeavor to identify those entitled to inherit, and will require such individuals to prove their relationships to the deceased.

### 1121.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 6400, et. seq.

### 1121.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Heir:** Any person, including the surviving spouse, who is entitled to take property of the decedent by intestate succession under the code.
- (b) **Intestate Succession:** The method used to distribute property owned by a person who dies without a valid Will.

### 1121.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) In Formal Estates, without a Will, the court will require adequate proof of a person's relationship to the deceased prior to issuing its order to distribute. In those instances, the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator is not required to obtain an Affidavit of Heirship from family members.
- (b) In Summary Estates, where an heir locator has discovered next of kin and has advised the APA or DPA of their existence, the attorney for the heir locator will obtain an Order Determining Entitlement prior to distribution.
- (c) In Summary and Miscellaneous Estates managed by the APA or DPA, without the involvement of an heir locator, the APA or DPA will require family members to complete an Affidavit of Heirship. If there are five family members, the deputy will require two or more members of the family to complete the Affidavit.
- (d) Affidavits of Heirship are not required for insolvent estates.
- (e) Summary and Miscellaneous Estates will not be closed and distributed without a completed Heirship Affidavit unless approved by the APA.

## Full Cost Recovery Fees

### 1122.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will seek to make full cost recovery for investigation expenses, administrative costs, and estate administration fees.

### 1122.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Sections 7604, 7621, 7622, 10800-10801.

### 1122.3 DEFINITIONS

1. **Statutory Commissions:** For ordinary services, the personal representative shall receive compensation based on the value of the estate
2. **Extraordinary Fees:** For extraordinary services performed by the personal representative, the court may allow additional compensation in an amount the court deems just and reasonable. (These fees must be requested and ordered by the court.)
3. **Investigation Expenses:** If the Public Administrator takes possession or control of property and another person subsequently takes charge of the estate, the Public Administrator is entitled to reasonable costs incurred for the preservation of the estate, together with reasonable compensation for services.

### 1122.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator will charge fees, costs and commissions.
- (b) Appropriate reimbursement for a specific cost not listed herein should be discussed with the Public Administrator.
- (c) The Assistant Public Administrator may review the appropriateness of full cost recovery in those situations where such charges may cause hardships or undesirable consequences. The Public Administrator must approve any reduction in the stated fees.
  - (a) **Statutory Commissions:** The value of the estate accounted for by the Public Administrator is the total amount of the appraised value of property in the inventory, plus gains over the appraised value on sales, plus receipts, less losses from the appraisal value on sales, without reference to encumbrances or other obligations on estate property, and calculated as follows:
    - (a) Four percent of the first one hundred thousand dollars;
    - (b) Three percent of the next one hundred thousand dollars;
    - (c) Two percent of the next eight hundred thousand dollars;
    - (d) One percent of the next nine million dollars;
    - (e) One-half of one percent of the next fifteen million dollars;

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## *Full Cost Recovery Fees*

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- (f) For all amounts above twenty-five million dollars, a reasonable amount to be determined by the court.
- (b) Extraordinary Commissions: The assigned APA or DPA will keep record of time spent for performing services considered to be extraordinary. The Public Administrator will request such commissions at the following rate: \$60.00 dollars per hour. Examples of extraordinary services for which the Public Administrator may request compensation:
  - (a) Sale of real estate;
  - (b) Sale of personal property including furniture and furnishings, jewelry, automobiles, etc.;
  - (c) Sale of stocks;
  - (d) Redemption of bonds;
  - (e) Litigation.
- (c) Warehouse and Vehicle Storage Charges: If the estate is solvent, the Public Administrator will charge the estate actual cost of storing personal property and vehicles.
- (d) Bond Fee: Every estate administered shall be charged an annual bond fee in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25) plus one-fourth of one percent of the amount of an estate greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

## Closing Cases

### 1123.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will ensure that all estates handled by the Public Administrator are monitored and completed in a timely fashion.

### 1123.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 7660-7666.

### 1123.3 DEFINITIONS

**Escheat:** A reversion of property to the State in consequence of a want of any individual competent to inherit.

### 1123.4 PROCEDURE

The APA or DPA will monitor their assigned cases on a regular basis. When all issues have been resolved, (i.e., bank accounts collected, safe deposit boxes inventoried and closed, real and personal property sold, insurance proceeds collected, creditor claims managed, heirs determined, etc.) steps will be taken to conclude the estate.

### 1123.5 CLOSING SMALL ESTATES

- (a) If, for any reason, the Public Administrator has possession of cremated remains, and the estate to which they belong can manage the cost of their disposition, such arrangements should be made as quickly as possible and before the closing of the estate.
  - (a) If the estate has no funds to manage the cost of disposition, the APA or DPA will arrange for their interment through the Indigent Program prior to the closing of the case.
  - (b) If the decedent does not qualify for the Indigent Program, the APA or DPA will arrange for their interment through the County contract with the mortuary/cemetery.
- (b) The assigned APA or DPA will arrange to forward photographs and personal papers to next of kin. These items will not be shipped until the payment for shipment has been made. In the event family has not been located, the Assistant Public Administrator will calendar the destruction of the property for one year after the date of closing.
- (c) The APA or DPA will make all efforts to determine the appropriate estate distribution.
  - (a) When no relative or beneficiaries have been identified, the estate proceeds will escheat to the Yolo County Treasurer.
  - (b) In the event the next of kin has been identified, but the whereabouts of the individual is unknown, the proceeds will be directed to the Yolo County Treasurer for said heir; whereabouts unknown.

## *Closing Cases*

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- (d) When the relatives of the decedent have been located, the APA or DPA will obtain an Affidavit of Heirship. One or more of the relatives must complete the Affidavit prior to distribution.
- (e) In the event the decedent prepared a Last Will and Testament, the APA or DPA will do everything possible to follow the decedent's instructions.
- (f) On rare occasions, a Small Estate could require a tax return. The APA or DPA will review the Estate Transaction History (Ledger) to determine if a tax return is required.
  - (a) If there is a question and the APA or DPA is uncertain, the APA or DPA will contact a Certified Public Accountant for advice.
  - (b) In the event a tax return is required, sufficient funds should be withheld in the account to pay any tax that may be due and the fee of the tax accountant.
- (g) The APA or DPA will prepare a Small Estate Distribution Form indicating the administrative costs to be paid (statutory fees, storage charges, etc.), any claims to be paid, and the distribution of the proceeds of the estate. The distribution form will then be used to issue checks.
- (h) Checks issued will be sent with receipts, as required, to each recipient.

### **1123.6 CLOSING SUMMARY ESTATES**

1. Steps A through H (Closing Small Estates) will be followed when closing a Summary Estate.
2. The APA or DPA will review the file for any tax returns that may be required. Tax returns may be required if decedent earned interest or income, or if the estate sold stocks, bonds, or real estate. The APA or DPA should consult with a Certified Public Accountant or tax preparer when in doubt as to the necessity of a tax return.
3. If tax returns must be prepared, the APA or DPA will withhold from distribution sufficient funds to pay any additional tax and the fee of the Certified Public Accountant.
4. The APA or DPA will prepare a Summary Probate Distribution form indicating the administrative costs to be paid (statutory commissions, extraordinary commissions as ordered by the court, bond fee, storage fees, and attorney's fees, if applicable), any claims to be paid, and the distribution of the proceeds of the estate.
5. The APA DPA will review the file to be certain that any Last Will and Testament (if applicable), or Heirship Affidavit (if applicable) have been complied with.
6. Checks issued per the Summary Probate Distribution form will be forwarded to the attorney representing the Public Administrator, who will prepare Receipts and forward the checks and Receipts to the recipients.
7. The APA or DPA will forward the Estate Transaction Ledger to the attorney for preparation of the Statement of Disposition. The filing of the Statement of Disposition with the Court results in the discharge of the Public Administrator.

## Closing Cases

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### 1123.7 CLOSING FORMAL ESTATES

- (a) Steps A through H (Closing Small Estates) and Steps A through C (Closing Summary Estates) will be followed by the APA and DPA
- (b) The APA or DPA will send a request to the attorney for preparation of the final account and report of Public Administrator. The APA or DPA will provide a copy of the Estate Transaction History, copies of filed and approved/rejected creditor's claims, along with instructions to withhold funds for any unpaid tax or tax preparer fees, and a request for Public Administrator's extraordinary commissions, if applicable.
- (c) Should distribution be in excess of \$50,000, the APA or DPA will advise the Finance Section of the hearing date so that sufficient funds will be available to issue the distribution checks.
- (d) Upon receipt of the Order Settling Final Accounting, the APA or DPA will prepare a Formal Probate Distribution form. The APA or DPA will attach the Order Settling Final Accounting, Personal Property Inventory, and Estate Transaction Ledger to the file.  
The APA will perform a final review of each file and attached documents prior to the issuing of checks.
- (e) Checks issued per the Order and Distribution Sheet form and will be forwarded to the attorney representing the Public Administrator, who will prepare Receipts and forward the checks and Receipts to the recipients.
- (f) Once distribution of the estate proceeds is made, and no later than sixty (60) days following distribution, the APA or DPA will provide all supporting documents – copy of Order, Ledger, any 1099's, the names, addresses and social security numbers of any distributee or beneficiary – to the tax preparer. The APA or DPA will respond in a timely fashion to any questions or concerns of the tax preparer.
- (g) Upon receipt of the prepared tax returns, the APA will sign the returns and send to the Internal Revenue Service and Franchise Tax Board.
- (h) Any residue of funds held in the estate account will not be distributed for at least a six (6) month period following the preliminary distribution, unless approved by the APA.  
After six (6) months have elapsed, the APA or DPA should review the matter and determine if the estate is in a position to distribute the remaining cash. Checks can then be issued and forwarded to the attorney, who will prepare Receipts and forward the checks to Recipients. The attorney can then be requested to prepare a Declaration for Final Discharge.



## Release of Property

### 1124.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator may release assets to a private executor or administrator when it is determined that they will act to represent the estate, and to heirs and beneficiaries of estates managed by the Public Administrator.

### 1124.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Sections 7604, 13100, 13114.

### 1124.3 RELEASING PROPERTY TO A PRIVATE EXECUTOR OR ADMINISTRATOR

- (a) In the case of a deceased Yolo County resident, estate assets are normally not released until the private executor or administrator obtains Letters of Appointment.
  - (a) Should an attorney make a written request for an earlier release from the executor or administrator, the APA is then able to release the residence and any personal property therein.
  - (b) Personal property and cash assets in the Public Administrator's actual possession can be withheld pending appointment to defray any costs chargeable to the estate (Section 7604) if payment of the costs and fees have not first been made or if the Assistant Public Administrator determines there is a likelihood the executor or administrator is not willing to pay the costs (Section 13114).
  - (c) If the deceased was not a resident of Yolo County and the Public Administrator took possession of the estate assets in this county to protect them from waste, loss or theft; such assets may not be released until the executor or administrator obtains Letters of Administration from the appropriate county or state, or sends a Certification (if small estate).
  - (d) The property is released to the private executor or administrator or his or her appointed agent upon signing a receipt. If shipping is required, mailing fees are to be deducted from any decedent funds held or, in the case of indigence, after the requesting party pre-pays shipping.
  - (e) The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator may release non-valuables, such as paperwork, personal pictures, etc. to the decedent's successor upon the appropriate identification of the successor. A signed receipt is also required prior to the release of this property.

### 1124.4 RELEASING PROPERTY IN ESTATES MANAGED BY PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

- (a) In solvent estates, the APA or DPA may release property in kind to heir under certain circumstances.
- (b) Property in Formal Estates will not be released without a preliminary distribution from court and will not be released until after the four month creditors claim period has expired, unless authorized by the Assistant Public Administrator.

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## *Release of Property*

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- (c) Property in Summary and Miscellaneous Estates may be released after the expiration of the four month creditors claim period, and prior to the conclusion of the estate, with approval from the Assistant Public Administrator.
- (d) The APA or DPA may release non-valuables, such as paperwork, personal pictures, identification, etc., to the decedent's heirs or beneficiaries. A signed receipt is required prior to the release of this property.
- (e) When shipping, property will be sent USPS and, if estimated value exceeds \$100.00 dollars, the property will be insured. A receipt and a return envelope will be sent with the property.

## Disposition Without Administration

### 1125.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will follow established guidelines when advising heirs or distributing property pursuant to Division Number 8 of the California Probate Code; "Disposition of Estate without Administration."

### 1125.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 330, 3400-3402, 13006, 13050, 13100-13116.

### 1125.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Successor of the Decedent:** See CA Probate Code Section 13006.
- (b) **Excluded Property (Valuation or Estate Determination):** See CA Probate Code Section 13050.
- (c) **Liability of Heir:** See CA Probate Code Section 13109.

### 1125.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) An important area of decedent estate law is that portion of the code which deals with the rights and responsibilities of heirs of small estates who wish to handle the estate outside of formal administration. Section 13100 of the CA Probate Code reads, in part: Excluding the property described in Section 13050, if the gross value of the decedent's real and personal property does not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$166,250.00) and if forty (40) days have elapsed since the death of the decedent, the successor of the decedent may, without procuring Letters of Administration or awaiting probate of the will, do any of the following with respect to one or more particular items of property:
  - (a) Collect any particular item of property that is money due the decedent.
  - (b) Have any particular item of property that is evidence of a debt, obligation, interest, right, security, or chose in action belonging to the decedent transferred, whether or not secured by a lien on real property.
  - (c) Receive any particular item of property that is tangible personal property of the decedent.
- (b) Public Administrators are exempt from the forty (40) day waiting period, referenced in 13100, when delivering property to a "decedent's surviving spouse, relative, or conservator or guardian of the estate acting in that capacity at the time of death," (Probate Code Section 330). Named executors or beneficiaries of wills are not included under Section 330.
- (c) Upon determination of an appropriate release of assets under this section, the APA or DPA will secure a signed receipt listing all property being released and either a signed 330 Affidavit or a signed 13100 Affidavit before turning over any valuables held by this office.

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## *Disposition Without Administration*

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- (d) The APA or DPA may release non-valuables, such as paperwork, personal pictures, identification, etc., to the decedent's successor upon the appropriate identification of that successor. A signed receipt is also required prior to the release of this property.
- (e) Delivery of property to minors is covered under Probate Code Sections 3400-3402 and in Policy No. 1102.

## Identification of Decedents

### 1126.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

Before disposition of remains are made, the Public Administrator will make every effort to verify the identity of all decedents. In the event identification cannot be made, the Assistant Public Administrator will work in conjunction with the Coroner's Section to establish identification.

### 1126.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) Confirming the identity of the decedent is the responsibility and shall be a top priority for the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator. In any situation where the APA or DPA questions the identity of a decedent, the APA shall proceed to confirm and verify identity.
- (b) The APA can be confident of the identity of the decedent when cases are referred from:
  - (a) Family
  - (b) Department of Health Care Services
  - (c) Law Enforcement
  - (d) Coroner's Section
  - (e) Superior Court
- (c) Identification of a decedent may need to be verified when referrals are received from:
  - (a) Hospitals
  - (b) Skilled nursing facilities
  - (c) Mortuaries
    - (a) Unless the information was self-reported by the decedent to the facility or family is immediately located to confirm identity, contact the Coroner's Section and request they obtain fingerprints ASAP. Any delay in obtaining fingerprints could result in an inability to identify the decedent through this process.
    - (b) In instances where a referral is made by a mortuary for the sole purpose of locating next of kin so the mortuary can proceed with disposition previously arranged by the decedent, or as arranged by an executor, the APA or DPA is not required to verify decedent identity.
    - (c) In any situation where the APA or DPA is uncertain the decedent is, in fact, the person named on the referral, the APA or DPA shall make further inquiry into identification.
      - (a) When social security numbers and dates of birth, places of birth, or parent names cannot be verified, additional investigation will be required.

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## *Identification of Decedents*

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- (d) When identification cannot be verified by the APA or DPA, the matter shall be immediately referred to the Coroner's Section. The Coroner's Section will assist with establishing positive identification using one or more of the following methods:
  - (a) Fingerprints shall be obtained and submitted to Cal-ID for processing ASAP.
  - (b) Government issued photo identification (State Driver License, State ID card, military ID, etc.).
  - (c) Dental examination.
  - (d) Skeletal x-rays.
  - (e) DNA comparison, if an appropriate relative is available or such criminal records exist that would include a DNA sample.

## Investigative Database

### 1127.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

Printed information obtained through an investigative database search program will be used exclusively within the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator's Office and will not be provided to any individual or agency unless approved by the Public Administrator.

### 1127.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 9600.

## Estate Vehicles

### 1128.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will follow all appropriate guidelines when managing vehicles owned by the estate.

### 1128.2 INVESTIGATION AND SAFEGUARDING VEHICLES

- (a) The Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator will have the Records Section enter the decedent's information in the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS) to obtain information in reference to any vehicles owned and any corresponding lien holder information.
- (b) The APA or DPA will endeavor to locate vehicle(s) owned by the decedent.
  - (a) If vehicles owned by the decedent are located in an unsafe area and there is concern about vandalism or theft AND there are funds in the estate, arrangements may be made for vehicles to be towed to the YCSO storage yard. Vehicles are NOT to be driven by any YCSO employee.
  - (c) If vehicles can be safely maintained at their current location, the vehicles will not be towed or removed while the APA or DPA continues the investigation.
  - (d) If it is determined the Public Administrator will manage the estate, arrangements may be made to either tow the vehicle to the storage yard or have a third party who is contracted by the estate retrieve it for sale. Prior to the tow or retrieval of any vehicle, consider the following:
    - (a) Is there a lien holder? If there is a lien holder on title and the amount owed exceeds the value of the vehicle, arrangements will be made to return the vehicle to the lien holder.
    - (b) Is the current condition and value of the vehicle(s) sufficient to cover the cost of tow and cost of sale?
    - (c) Give consideration to estimated values provided through the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) and/or Kelly Blue Book.
    - (d) Vehicles will likely be sold through a contracted third party and values will be discussed prior to consent to sell.
- (e) If the Public Administrator is managing the estate and it is determined the vehicle has nominal value, it can be abandoned on site or sold for scrap. A Release of Liability will be prepared and forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles by the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator.
- (f) If it is suspected the vehicle is in the possession of an unauthorized party, a vehicle license and title (VLT) courtesy stop will be filed with the Department of Motor Vehicles by the APA or DPA.



## *Estate Vehicles*

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### **1128.3 DELIVERY, CLEAN OUT AND INVENTORY OF VEHICLE**

- (a) If the vehicle has not been inventoried on an Inventory Sheet, the APA or DPA shall complete the Inventory Sheet as soon as the vehicle is received at the storage yard, or no later than the following business day.
- (b) If a contracted third party is picking up the vehicle for sale, the APA or DPA shall complete the Inventory sheet as soon as possible wherever the vehicle is located prior to the vehicle being retrieved.
- (c) Within three business days of receiving the vehicle, the APA or DPA will photograph, search and clean out the entire vehicle, including the interior, glove compartment, trunk and any other spaces. The APA or DPA will make notes of the clean out to be included in the case file and:
  - (a) Take photographs of vehicle exterior with license plate, interior, trunk or bed of truck.
  - (b) Secure any cash.
  - (c) Remove all personal papers.
  - (d) Remove all items of value.
  - (e) Secure weapons.
  - (f) Remove trash (sorting through for any unseen items of value).
- (d) If the APA or DPA requires assistance, the APA or DPA will ask the Coroner's Section for assistance. In the event there is no one available from the Coroner's Section, the APA or DPA will contact the Field Operations Division, Patrol Section for assistance.
- (e) All property, cash, and weapons removed from vehicle(s) will be handled as described in **Personal Property Intake and Disposition, Personal Property Intake and Disposition-Cash, and Weapons/Firearms/Ammunition**.
  - (a) The Inventory Sheet will go into the case file binder.
  - (b) The notes will go into the case file binder.
- (f) The vehicle keys will be placed in the secured key box in the APA's office.

### **1128.4 MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY OF VEHICLE**

- (a) The APA or DPA will cover any broken windows or other damage in an effort to protect the vehicles from rain, dirt, or other elements.
- (b) The APA or DPA will ensure the vehicles remain locked and secured.

## Depositing Wills / Providing Copies

### 1129.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

Unless a Petition for Probate of the Will is earlier filed, the Public Administrator shall deposit with the Clerk of the Superior Court all Wills received found, or discovered for a decedent; and provide a copy to the executor or beneficiary.

### 1129.2 REFERENCES

CA Probate Code Section 8200.

### 1129.3 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Will:** A document by which a person directs his or her estate to be distributed upon death.
  - (a) There are a variety of types of wills an individual can make. When in doubt whether the writing is a will, always consult with an attorney.
  - (b) A writing that appears to be a will but has been marked upon, altered, or changed, may still be a valid will. Consult with an attorney.
  - (c) Wills can be formally prepared, form-filled, or handwritten on note pads, envelopes, or bits of paper. Always be vigilant when searching a decedent's property.
- (b) **Holographic Will:** A will that is entirely handwritten by the testator.
- (c) **Last Will:** The most recent will of a decedent; the instrument ultimately fixing the disposition of real and personal property at the testator's death.
- (d) **Custodian:** A person or institution that has charge or custody of property, papers, or other valuables.

### 1129.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) When a will is discovered – either during the course of an investigation or during the administration of the estate – the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator shall cause the will to be deposited with the Clerk of the Superior Court as soon as possible, but no later than three (3) business days following the discovery of the will.
- (b) Whoever discovers the will shall give the document to the Assistant Public Administrator for filing with the Clerk of the Superior Court.
- (c) Within three (3) business days, the APA or DPA shall provide a copy of the will to the person(s) named in the will as executor, if the person's whereabouts are known. If the person's whereabouts are not known, the copy shall be provided to the person(s) named in the will as the beneficiary; if that person's whereabouts are known.
- (d) A custodian of a will who fails to comply with the requirements of Probate Code Section 8200 shall be liable for all damages sustained by any person injured by the failure.

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## *Depositing Wills / Providing Copies*

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## Updating Case Information

### 1130.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator utilizes case binders for active cases and Panoramic Software for both active and closed case information. Both systems contain information, including decedent background, asset information, and next of kin. It is imperative this information is accurate and timely in order to answer questions on a daily basis. The case binders and Panoramic Software shall be updated as soon as new case information, data, and progress updates are received.

### 1130.2 CASES REFERRED TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

1. Upon the initial report of a case, the Assistant Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator shall begin a new case in the Panoramic Software program under "Case Management" and log all available background information and record of events.
2. The following information is crucial for the investigation: decedent's name, social security number, date of birth, date and place of death, and any vital statistics, including military service information. Other important information includes contact information for next of kin, interested parties, referring party, and asset information.

### 1130.3 UPDATING CASE INFORMATION

- (a) The updating of case information is an ongoing process and the responsibility is shared by the APA, DPA and CFO.
  - (a) The APA or DPA may record investigation activities as they occur on a yellow pad. However, all activities shall be recorded in the Panoramic program under "Case Management>Clients>Events. Activities include; but are not limited to, next of kin searches, conversations with next of kin, interviews, residence searches, banking activity and inventory searches.
  - (b) The active case binder will include sections listed below and additional sections may be added specific to case needs.
    - (a) Correspondence
    - (b) Control Sheet/Referral Info/Event Report
    - (c) Taxes
    - (d) Creditors Claims/Paid Bills
    - (e) Financial
    - (f) Legal Filing
- (b) Updating of case binders and the Panoramic Software database shall be completed without delay, but no later than the last working day of the week that the event occurred.

## Accountant Services

### 1131.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will retain, as needed, Certified Public Accountants for the preparation of personal and estate tax returns. The Assistant Public Administrator will select accountants.

### 1131.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Public Administrator or Deputy Public Administrator must file personal and estate tax returns in those decedent's estates meeting federal and state requirements for such returns.
  - (a) Once a determination has been made by the APA or DPA that a federal or state tax return may be required, the Certified Public Accountant will be contacted for assistance.
    - (a) The APA will rely on the recommendation of the Public Administrator's attorney for referrals.
    - (b) Should the services of an accountant prove unsatisfactory in the opinion of the Assistant Public Administrator or the Public Administrator, that resource shall be discontinued at the discretion of the APA or Public Administrator.

## Brokerage Services

### 1132.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will require, from time to time, the services of a broker-dealer to negotiate the sale or distribution of securities.

### 1132.2 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Registered Broker:** A broker registered or required to be registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- (b) **Security:** Includes any note, stock, treasury stock, bond, debenture, land trust certificates, certificates of beneficial trust in trusts, investment trust certificates, mortgage participation certificates, or certificates of deposit.

### 1132.3 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Public Administrator will, during the course of estate administration, liquidate or distribute securities and may require the services of a registered broker-dealer.
  - (a) Once it is determined that it is appropriate to liquidate or transfer ownership of securities owned by a decedent, the Assistant Public Administrator will contact a registered broker-dealer, if necessary, for assistance.
  - (b) The APA will rely on recommendation from the Public Administrator's attorney for a list of qualified broker-dealers.
  - (c) Should services of a broker-dealer prove unsatisfactory in the opinion of the APA or Public Administrator, future accounts will not be opened with that firm.
- (b) In instances where the securities are on account with a registered broker-dealer, as previously arranged by the owner, the Public Administrator will maintain the account and work with the broker-dealer to meet the needs of the estate.
- (c) In instances where the securities are in a limited number and easily managed by the Public Administrator, the APA or DPA may make direct contact with shareholder services and arrange for the liquidation or distribution of the securities.

## Real Estate Services

### 1133.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator may require the services of real estate brokers and agents to liquidate properties belonging to the estates.

### 1133.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Public Administrator sells real estate, both improved and unimproved, and mobile homes. Real estate agents and brokers assist with the majority of these transactions.
  - (a) Once it is determined it is appropriate to liquidate a decedent's real estate or mobile home, the Assistant Public Administrator will select a real estate broker or agent for assistance.
  - (b) Should the services of a broker/agent prove unsatisfactory, the person will not be contracted again.

## Heir Locators

### 1134.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator may require the services of private investigators to assist in locating heirs if the estate will escheat to the County or State.

### 1134.2 DEFINITIONS

**Escheats:** Reversion of property to the county or state upon the death of an owner who has neither a will nor any legal heirs.

### 1134.3 PROCEDURE

- (a) Private investigative firms may be retained to locate heirs if the assets are to escheat.
- (b) Prior to considering a private investigative firm, the Assistant Public Administrator will exhaust all resources available through the Sheriff's Office, up to and including requesting aid from the Coroner's Section Deputy Coroners and/or the Investigation Section Detectives.
- (c) A list of investigative firms will be established by consulting with various probate professionals. The Assistant Public Administrator will rotate among these firms.
- (d) The Assistant Public Administrator will enter into contract for investigative services in small estate probate matters.
- (e) A flat fee or hourly rate with a cap, rather than a percentage of an heir's share, shall be agreed upon when retaining a private investigator to locate heirs. Approval from the Public Administrator is required prior to signing the contract.
- (f) In formal and summary estates, it may be necessary to seek court approval before engaging the services of an heir locator.
- (g) The Assistant Public Administrator will take the following action:
  - (a) The APA or DPA will conduct an independent search for next of kin including; but not limited to, an internet search, examining the decedent's personal papers, and speaking with friends and interested parties.
  - (b) Check all Sheriff's Office resources.
  - (c) Choose an investigative firm from the rotation list.
  - (d) Contact the investigative firm to negotiate a contract. Discuss terms with the attorney representing the Public Administrator.
  - (e) Review contract with the Public Administrator.
  - (f) Once court approval has been obtained or a decision has been made to enter into contract, the contract will be signed by the APA. At that time, personal information concerning the decedent can be provided to the contracted heir locator.



## *Heir Locators*

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### **1134.4 CONTACTS INITIATED BY INVESTIGATORS**

- (a) In instances where the estate is intestate or there are no known heirs, it is not unusual for a number of heir locators to contact the Public Administrator at the time the Public Administrator's Petition for Appointment is filed (if a petition is required). The Assistant Public Administrator may share with them information concerning the estate, as long as the same information is shared with each investigator that contacts the office.
- (b) **Under no circumstances will contact with an heir locator investigator be initiated prior to the filing of the Public Administrator's Petition for Appointment (if a petition is required).**

## Referrals to Attorney Services

### 1135.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

The Public Administrator will not make referrals to private attorneys.

### 1135.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) Frequently, the Public Administrator receives a referral where it is subsequently determined a private citizen will act on behalf of the estate rather than the Public Administrator. When this occurs, the person will often ask for the name of an attorney to assist in the estate administration.
- (b) All requests for referral of an attorney or any other legal matters shall be answered by either referring the requestor to the Yolo County Law Library and/or an attorney guide search via internet or telephone directory.

## About the PA Manual

### 1136.1 PURPOSE/POLICY

This PA policy manual is a living document and is subject to constant change. Review and update of this manual will occur on a yearly basis to ensure compliance with new legislation and best practices as determined by the CA PA/PG/PC (statewide professional association); achieving the goal of operational efficiency.

### 1136.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) The Assistant Public Administrator will attend the yearly CA PA/PG/PC training and other educational events to learn new legislation and its implementation.
- (b) The Assistant Public Administrator will coordinate with the Chief Deputy Coroner to learn any updated legislation and/or departmental practices regarding the Coroner's Section in order to foster consistency within office protocol.
- (c) The Assistant Public Administrator will update this PA manual on a yearly basis, at the very least, and as needed throughout the year.
- (d) The updated PA manual will be forwarded to the Undersheriff for review and approval of the updated portions.

### 1136.3 GLOSSARY

See attachment: [Glossary.pdf](#)

## Attachments

**800.04.pdf**

## Glossary.pdf

**YOLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR**

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YOLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

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## GLOSSARY

**Administrator:** When a decedent leaves no Will, the Court appoints someone to handle the administration of the estate. This person is called an administrator, and his/her duties and responsibilities are identical to those of an executor. If appointed, the administrator receives Letter of Administration, as General Administrator.

**Administrator with Will Annexed:** Granted by the Court when a testator's Will does not name an executor or when the executor named is incompetent to act, is deceased, or refuses to act. If appointed, the administrator receives Letters of Administration as General Administrator.

**Claim:** Demand for payment for any of the following, whether due, not due, accrued, or not accrued, or contingent, and whether liquidated or unliquidated.

5. Liability of the decedent, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise

6. Liability for taxes incurred before the decedent's death; whether assessed before or after the decedent's death, other than property taxes and assessments secured by real property liens.

7. Liability of the estate for funeral expenses of the decedent.

8. **Does not include:** a dispute regarding title of a decedent to specific property alleged to be included in the decedent's name.

**Confirmation of Sale:** Court hearing which approves the sale of estate property to a specific buyer.

**Decedent Estate Referral:** Written or telephonic reporting of the death of a Yolo County resident with possible ownership rights to either real or personal property.

**Devisee:** Recipient of property (usually real property) by Will.

**Domestic Partner:** One of two persons who have filed a Declaration of Domestic Partnership with the Secretary of State pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 297) of the Family Code; provided that the domestic partnership has not been terminated pursuant to Section 299 of the Family Code.

**Easement:** An interest in land owned by another person, consisting of the right to use or control the land or an area above or below it, for a specific limited purpose (such as to cross it for access to a public road).

**Encumbrance:** A claim or liability that is attached to property or some other right and may lessen its value; such as a lien or mortgage. Any property right that is not an ownership interest.

**Escheat:** Reversion of property to the State in consequence of a want of any individual competent to inherit. Reversion of property to the county or state upon the death of an owner who has neither a will nor any legal heirs.

**Ex Parte:** Done or made at the insistence and for the benefit of one party only; without notice to, or argument by, any person adversely interested (an Ex Parte hearing).

**Excluded Property (Valuation or Estate Determination):** See CA Probate Code Section 13050.

**Exclusive Listing:** The granting by the court of an "Exclusive Right to Sell Agreement" to a specified broker for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

**Executor:** The person named in a Will to handle the administration of the estate. The executor must be at least 18 years old and a decedent may name more than one person to act as co-executor. If appointed, the executor receives Letters of Testamentary.



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**Extraordinary Fees:** For extraordinary services performed by the personal representative, the court may allow additional compensation in an amount the court deems just and reasonable.

**Fiduciary:** One who must exercise a high standard of care in managing another's money or property.

**Guardianship of Minor's Estate:** The court process in which a person is vested with the power and charged with the duty of managing property of another person, who, for defect of age, is considered incapable of administering his or her own affairs.

**Heir:** Any person, including the surviving spouse, who is entitled to take property of the decedent by intestate succession under the code.

**Interested Person:**

1. An heir, devisee, child, spouse, creditor, beneficiary, and any other person having a property right in or claim against a trust estate or the estate of a decedent which may be affected by the proceeding.
2. Any person having priority for appointment as personal representative.
3. A fiduciary representing an interested person.
4. The definition of "interested person" as it relates to particular persons may vary from time to time and shall be determined according to the particular purposes of, and matter, in any proceeding. (Probate Code Section 48)

**Intestate Succession:** The method used to distribute property owned by a person who dies without a valid will.

**Investigation Expenses:** If the Public Administrator takes possession or control of property and another person subsequently takes charge of the estate, the Public Administrator is entitled to reasonable costs incurred for the preservation of the estate, together with reasonable compensation for services.

**Issue:** A person's lineal descendants of all generations; with the relationship of parent and child at each generation being determined by the definitions of child and parent.

**Legatee:** One who is named in a Will to take personal property; one who has received a legacy or bequest; loosely, one to whom a devise of real property is given.

**Liability of Heir:** See CA Probate Code Section 13109.

**Lineal Descendant:** A direct blood relative.

**Minimum Overbid:** The amount required as the minimum acceptable offer for real or personal property during the court confirmation hearing.

**Minor:** An individual who has not yet reached legal age (18 years).

**Personal Property:** Includes any movable or intangible thing that is subject to ownership and not classified as real property. Furniture, furnishings, vehicles, mobile homes, jewelry, numismatic coin, stocks, bonds, debenture, bank accounts, and investment accounts are all examples of personal property.

**Property:** Anything that may be the subject of ownership and includes both real and personal property and any interest therein.

**Real Property:** Includes improved and unimproved real estate, and a leasehold interest in real property.

**Registered Broker:** A broker registered or required to be registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

**Security:** Includes any note, stock, treasury stock, bond, debenture, land trust certificates, certificates of beneficial trust in trust, investment trust certificates, mortgage participation certificates, or certificates of deposit.

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**Special Administrator:** An administrator with authority to act on behalf of some, but not all, of decedent's effects. The appointment is usually made to preserve the estate pending appointment of an executor or general administrator in instances where the Will is contested or where assets of the estate are subject to immediate loss, or other such special event. If appointed, the administrator receives Letters of Special Administration.

**Statutory Commissions:** For ordinary services, the personal representative shall receive compensation based on the value of the estate.

**Successor Administrator:** When the original executor or administrator is removed by the Probate Court, either because of incapacity, death or malfeasance, a Successor Administrator is appointed. This administrator receives Letters of Successor Administration (possibly with Will annexed, if applicable).

**Successor of the Decedent:** See CA Probate Code Section 13006.

**Tax Return:** An income tax form on which a person or entity reports income, deductions, and exemptions and upon which tax liability is calculated.

**Will:** A document by which a person directs his or her estate to be distributed upon death.

1. There are a variety of types of wills an individual can make. When in doubt whether the writing is a will, always consult with the contracted attorney.
2. A writing that appears to be a will but has been marked upon, altered, or changed, may still be a valid will. Consult with the contracted attorney.
3. Wills can be formally prepared, form-filled, or handwritten on note pads, envelopes, or bits of paper. Always be vigilant when searching a decedent's property.

**Vesting:** A recorded title to property indicating ownership.

**CODE REFERENCES**

**CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODES:**

**27440:**

If the public administrator fails to qualify or fails to perform in person the duties of his office, the coroner shall be ex officio public administrator. If both the public administrator and the coroner fail to qualify or to perform the duties of the office, the board of supervisors shall appoint a suitable person as public administrator. All laws applicable to the qualification, powers, duties, and compensation of the public administrator shall apply to the coroner or appointee of the board.

**27643:**

The board of supervisors may by ordinance require that the county counsel shall act as attorney for the public administrator in all estates in which he or she is executor, administrator with the will annexed, or administrator, where he or she has priority for appointment as established by law, including all cases under Section 7660 of the Probate Code. However, in the case of a noncharter county or a charter county where there is no conflict with the county charter, the public administrator may employ private counsel (a) in those estates in which he or she is nominated and would not otherwise have priority, (b) for those estates in which he or she is appointed administrator with the will annexed, or administrator pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 8400) of Division 7 of the Probate Code, and (c) in those estates in which he or she is appointed administrator with the will annexed for the reason the executor nominated in the will has refused to serve. In those matters where the county counsel furnishes representation the county counsel shall collect the attorney's fees allowed by law and pay them into the county treasury.

**CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODES:**

**7100:**

(a) The right to control the disposition of the remains of a deceased person, the location and conditions of interment, and arrangements for funeral goods and services to be provided, unless other directions have been given by the decedent pursuant to Section 7100.1, vests in, and the duty of disposition and the liability for the reasonable cost of disposition of the remains devolves upon, the following in the order named:

(1) An agent under a power of attorney for health care who has the right and duty of disposition under Division 4.7 (commencing with Section 4600) of the Probate Code, except that the agent is liable for the costs of disposition only in either of the following cases:

(A) Where the agent makes a specific agreement to pay the costs of disposition.

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(B) Where, in the absence of a specific agreement, the agent makes decisions concerning disposition that incur costs, in which case the agent is liable only for the reasonable costs incurred as a result of the agent's decisions, to the extent that the decedent's estate or other appropriate fund is insufficient.

(2) The competent surviving spouse.

(3) The sole surviving competent adult child of the decedent or, if there is more than one competent adult child of the decedent, the majority of the surviving competent adult children. However, less than the majority of the surviving competent adult children shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if they have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult children of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult children.

(4) The surviving competent parent or parents of the decedent. If one of the surviving competent parents is absent, the remaining competent parent shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section after reasonable efforts have been unsuccessful in locating the absent surviving competent parent.

(5) The sole surviving competent adult sibling of the decedent or, if there is more than one surviving competent adult sibling of the decedent, the majority of the surviving competent adult siblings. However, less than the majority of the surviving competent adult siblings shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if they have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult siblings of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult siblings.

(6) The surviving competent adult person or persons respectively in the next degrees of kinship or, if there is more than one surviving competent adult person of the same degree of kinship, the majority of those persons. Less than the majority of surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if those persons have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship.

(7) A conservator of the person appointed under Part 3 (commencing with Section 1800) of Division 4 of the Probate Code when the decedent has sufficient assets.

(8) A conservator of the estate appointed under Part 3 (commencing with Section 1800) of Division 4 of the Probate Code when the decedent has sufficient assets.

(9) The public administrator when the deceased has sufficient assets.

(b) (1) If a person to whom the right of control has vested pursuant to subdivision (a) has been charged with first- or second-degree murder or voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death and those charges are known to the funeral director or cemetery authority, the right of control is relinquished and passed on to the next of kin in accordance with subdivision (a).

(2) If the charges against the person are dropped, or if the person is acquitted of the charges, the right of control is returned to the person.

(3) Notwithstanding this subdivision, no person who has been charged with first- or second-degree murder or voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death to whom the right of control has not been returned pursuant to paragraph (2) shall have any right to control disposition pursuant to subdivision (a) which shall be applied, to the extent the funeral director or cemetery authority know about the charges, as if that person did not exist.

(c) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall have complete authority to control the disposition of the remains and to proceed under this chapter to recover usual and customary charges for the disposition when both of the following apply:

(1) Either of the following applies:

(A) The funeral director or cemetery authority has knowledge that none of the persons described in paragraphs (1) to (8), inclusive, of subdivision (a) exists.

(B) None of the persons described in paragraphs (1) to (8), inclusive, of subdivision (a) can be found after reasonable inquiry, or contacted by reasonable means.

(2) The public administrator fails to assume responsibility for disposition of the remains within seven days after having been given written notice of the facts. Written notice may be delivered by hand, United States mail, facsimile transmission, or telegraph.

(d) The liability for the reasonable cost of final disposition devolves jointly and severally upon all kin of the decedent in the same degree of kinship and upon the estate of the decedent. However, if a person accepts the gift of an entire body under subdivision (a) of Section 7155.5, that person, subject to the terms of the gift, shall be liable for the reasonable cost of final disposition of the decedent.

(e) This section shall be administered and construed to the end that the expressed instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition shall be faithfully and promptly performed.

(f) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall not be liable to any person or persons for carrying out the instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition.

(g) For purposes of this section, "adult" means an individual who has attained 18 years of age, "child" means a natural or adopted child of the decedent, and "competent" means an individual who has not been declared incompetent by a court of law or who has been declared competent by a court of law following a declaration of incompetence.

(h) (1) For the purpose of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), the designation of a person authorized to direct disposition (PADD) on a United States Department of Defense Record of Emergency Data, DD Form 93, as that form exists on December 31, 2011, or its successor form, shall take first priority and be used to establish an agent who has the right and duty of disposition for a decedent who died while on duty in any branch or component of the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined by Section 1481 of Title 10 of the United States Code.

(2) This subdivision shall become operative only if the United States Department of Defense Record of Emergency Data, DD Form 93, and Section 1482(c) of Title 10 of the United States Code are amended to allow a service member to designate any person, regardless of the relationship of the designee to the decedent, as the agent who has the right of disposition of a service member's remains.

**CALIFORNIA PROBATE CODES:**

**48:**

(a) Subject to subdivision (b), "interested person" includes any of the following:

(1) An heir, devisee, child, spouse, creditor, beneficiary, and any other person having a property right in or claim against a trust estate or the estate of a decedent which may be affected by the proceeding.

(2) Any person having priority for appointment as personal representative.

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(3) A fiduciary representing an interested person.

(b) The meaning of "interested person" as it relates to particular persons may vary from time to time and shall be determined according to the particular purposes of, and matter involved in, any proceeding.

**50:**

"Issue" of a person means all his or her lineal descendants of all generations, with the relationship of parent and child at each generation being determined by the definitions of child and parent.

**68:**

"Real property" includes a leasehold interest in real property.

**330:**

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a public administrator, government official, law enforcement agency, the hospital or institution in which a decedent died, or the decedent's employer, may, without the need to wait 40 days after death, deliver the tangible personal property of the decedent in its possession, including keys to the decedent's residence, to the decedent's surviving spouse, relative, or conservator or guardian of the estate acting in that capacity at the time of death.

(b) A person shall not deliver property pursuant to this section if the person knows or has reason to believe that there is a dispute over the right to possession of the property.

(c) A person that delivers property pursuant to this section shall require reasonable proof of the status and identity of the person to whom the property is delivered, and may rely on any document described in subdivision (d) of Section 13104 as proof of identity.

(d) A person that delivers property pursuant to this section shall, for a period of three years after the date of delivery of the property, keep a record of the property delivered and the status and identity of the person to whom the property is delivered.

(e) Delivery of property pursuant to this section does not determine ownership of the property or confer any greater rights in the property than the recipient would otherwise have and does not preclude later proceedings for administration of the decedent's estate. If proceedings for administration of the decedent's estate are commenced, the person holding the property shall deliver it to the personal representative on request by the personal representative.

(f) A person that delivers property pursuant to this section is not liable for loss or damage to the property caused by the person to whom the property is delivered.

**1000:**

(a) Except to the extent that this code provides applicable rules, the rules of practice applicable to civil actions, including discovery proceedings and proceedings under Title 3a (commencing with Section 391) of Part 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure, apply to, and constitute the rules of practice in, proceedings under this code. All issues of fact joined in probate proceedings shall be tried in conformity with the rules of practice in civil actions.

(b) For purposes of determining when a petitioner in a proceeding under this code may commence discovery as to nonparties, the time periods set forth in the Civil Discovery Act (Title 4 (commencing with Section 2016.010) of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure) shall apply, except that the time periods shall commence to run upon service of the petition and notice of hearing upon all parties entitled to notice. Nothing in this subdivision shall either alter when a respondent in such a proceeding may commence discovery or increase the extent to which nonparties may be subject to discovery.

**1220:**

(a) If notice of hearing is required to be given as provided in this section:

(1) At least 15 days before the time set for the hearing, the petitioner or the person filing the report, account, or other paper shall cause notice of the time and place of the hearing to be delivered pursuant to Section 1215 to the persons required to be given notice.

(2) Unless the statute requiring notice specifies the persons to be given notice, notice shall be delivered pursuant to Section 1215 to all of the following:

(A) The personal representative.

(B) All persons who have requested special notice in the estate proceeding pursuant to Section 1250.

(3) Subject to Section 1212, the notice shall be delivered pursuant to Section 1215 to the person required to be given notice at the person's place of business, place of residence, or electronic address.

(b) Subject to subdivision (c), this section does not excuse compliance with the requirements for notice to a person who has requested special notice pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 1250).

(c) The court for good cause may dispense with the notice otherwise required to be given to a person as provided in this section.

**1230:**

Where notice of hearing is required to be posted as provided in this section:

(a) At least 15 days before the time set for the hearing, the court clerk shall cause a notice of the time and place of the hearing to be posted at the courthouse of the county where the proceedings are pending. If court is held at a place other than the county seat, the notice may be posted either at the courthouse of the county where the proceedings are pending or at the building where the court is held.

(b) The posted notice of hearing shall state all of the following:

(1) The name of the estate.

(2) The name of the petitioner.

(3) The nature of the petition, referring to the petition for further particulars.

(4) The time and place of the hearing of the petition.

**3400:**

(a) As used in this article, "total estate of the minor" includes both the money and other property belonging to the minor and the money and other property belonging to the guardianship estate, if any, of the minor.

(b) In computing the "total estate of the minor" for the purposes of this article, all of the following shall be deducted:

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- (1) "Custodial property" held pursuant to the California Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, Part 9 (commencing with Section 3900).  
(2) Any money or property subject to court order pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 3602 or Article 2 (commencing with Section 3610) of Chapter 4.

**3401:**

- (a) Where a minor does not have a guardian of the estate, money or other property belonging to the minor may be paid or delivered to a parent of the minor entitled to the custody of the minor to be held in trust for the minor until the minor reaches majority if the requirements of subdivision (c) are satisfied.  
(b) Where the minor has a guardian of the estate, all the money and other property belonging to the guardianship estate may be paid or delivered to a parent entitled to the custody of the minor to be held in trust for the minor until the minor reaches majority if the requirements of subdivision (c) are satisfied.  
(c) This section applies only if both of the following requirements are satisfied:  
(1) The total estate of the minor, including the money and other property to be paid or delivered to the parent, does not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in value.  
(2) The parent to whom the money or other property is to be paid or delivered gives the person making the payment or delivery written assurance, verified by the oath of such parent, that the total estate of the minor, including the money or other property to be paid or delivered to the parent, does not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in value.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**6400:**

Any part of the estate of a decedent not effectively disposed of by will passes to the decedent's heirs as prescribed in this part.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**7600:**

If a public officer or employee knows of property of a decedent that is subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation and that ought to be in the possession or control of the public administrator, the officer or employee shall inform the public administrator.

**7600.5:**

If a person dies in a hospital, convalescent hospital, or board and care facility without known next of kin, the person in charge of the hospital or facility shall give immediate notice of that fact to the public administrator of the county in which the hospital or facility is located. If the notice required by this section is not given, the hospital or facility is liable for (1) any cost of interment incurred by the estate or the county as a result of the failure and (2) any loss to the estate or beneficiaries caused by loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation of property of the decedent as a result of the failure.

**7601:**

- (a) If no personal representative has been appointed, the public administrator of a county shall take prompt possession or control of property of a decedent in the county that is deemed by the public administrator to be subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation, or that the court orders into the possession or control of the public administrator after notice to the public administrator as provided in Section 1220.  
(b) If property described in subdivision (a) is beyond the ability of the public administrator to take possession or control, the public administrator is not liable for failing to take possession or control of the property.

**7603:**

- (a) A public administrator who is authorized to take possession or control of property of a decedent pursuant to this article may issue a written certification of that fact. The written certification is effective for 30 days after the date of issuance.  
(b) The public administrator may record a copy of the written certification in any county in which is located real property of which the public administrator is authorized to take possession or control under this article.  
(c) A financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person shall, without the necessity of inquiring into the truth of the written certification, without requiring a death certificate, without charge, and without court order or letters being issued:  
(1) Provide the public administrator complete information concerning property held in the sole name of the decedent, including the names and addresses of any beneficiaries.  
(2) Grant the public administrator access to a safe-deposit box rented in the sole name of the decedent for the purpose of inspection and removal of any will or instructions for disposition of the decedent's remains. Costs and expenses incurred in drilling or forcing a safe-deposit box shall be borne by the estate of the decedent.  
(3) Surrender to the public administrator any property of the decedent that, in the sole discretion of the public administrator, is deemed to be subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation.  
(d) Receipt of the written certification provided by this section:  
(1) Constitutes sufficient acquittance for providing information or granting access to the safe-deposit box, for removal of the decedent's will and instructions for disposition of the decedent's remains, and for surrendering property of the decedent.  
(2) Fully discharges the financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person from any liability for any act or omission of the public administrator with respect to the property or the safe-deposit box.

**7604:**

If the public administrator takes possession or control of property of a decedent under this article, but another person is subsequently appointed personal representative or subsequently takes control or possession, the public administrator is entitled to reasonable costs

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incurred for the preservation of the estate, together with reasonable compensation for services. The costs and compensation are a proper expense of administration.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**7621:**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, appointment of the public administrator as personal representative shall be made, and letters issued, in the same manner and pursuant to the same procedure as for appointment of and issuance of letters to personal representatives generally.

(b) Appointment of the public administrator may be made on the court's own motion, after notice to the public administrator as provided in Section 1220.

(c) Letters may be issued to "the public administrator" of the county without naming the public administrator.

(d) The public administrator's oath and official bond are in lieu of the personal representative's oath and bond. Every estate administered under this chapter shall be charged an annual bond fee in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25) plus one-fourth of one percent of the amount of an estate greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). The amount charged is an expense of administration and that amount shall be deposited in the county treasury. If a successor personal representative is appointed, the amount of the bond fee shall be prorated over the period of months during which the public administrator acted as personal representative. Upon final distribution by the public administrator, any amount of bond charges in excess of one year shall be a prorated charge to the estate.

**7622:**

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter:

(a) The public administrator shall administer the estate in the same manner as a personal representative generally, and the provisions of this code concerning the administration of the decedent's estate apply to administration by the public administrator.

(b) The public administrator is entitled to receive the same compensation as is granted by this division to a personal representative generally. The attorney for the public administrator is entitled to receive the same compensation as is granted by this division to an attorney for a personal representative generally. However, the compensation of the public administrator and the public administrator's attorney may not be less than the compensation in effect at the time of appointment of the public administrator or the minimum amount provided in subdivision (b) of Section 7666, whichever is greater.

**7660:**

(a) If a public administrator takes possession or control of an estate pursuant to this chapter, the public administrator may, acting as personal representative of the estate, summarily dispose of the estate in the manner provided in this article in either of the following circumstances:

(1) The total value of the property in the decedent's estate does not exceed the amount prescribed in Section 13100. The authority provided by this paragraph may be exercised only upon order of the court. The order may be made upon ex parte application. The fee to be allowed to the clerk for the filing of the application is two hundred five dollars (\$205). The authority for this summary administration of the estate shall be evidenced by a court order for summary disposition.

(2) The total value of the property in the decedent's estate does not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). The authority provided by this paragraph may be exercised without court authorization.

(A) A public administrator who is authorized to summarily dispose of property of a decedent pursuant to this paragraph may issue a written certification of Authority for Summary Administration. The written certification is effective for 30 days after the date of issuance.

(B) A financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person shall, without the necessity of inquiring into the truth of the written certification of Authority for Summary Administration and without court order or letters being issued, do all of the following:

(i) Provide the public administrator complete information concerning any property held in the name of the decedent, including the names and addresses of any beneficiaries or joint owners.

(ii) Grant the public administrator access to a safe-deposit box or storage facility rented in the name of the decedent for the purpose of inspection and removal of property of the decedent. Costs and expenses incurred in accessing a safe-deposit box or storage facility shall be borne by the estate of the decedent.

(iii) Surrender to the public administrator any property of the decedent that is held or controlled by the financial institution, agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person.

(C) Receipt by a financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person of the written certification provided by this article shall do both of the following:

(i) Constitute sufficient acquittance for providing information or granting access to a safe-deposit box or a storage facility and for surrendering any property of the decedent.

(ii) Fully discharge the financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person from liability for any act or omission of the public administrator with respect to the property, a safe-deposit box, or a storage facility.

(b) Summary disposition may be made notwithstanding the existence of the decedent's will, if the will does not name an executor or if the named executor refuses to act.

(c) Nothing in this article precludes the public administrator from filing a petition with the court under any other provision of this code concerning the administration of the decedent's estate.

(d) Petitions filed pursuant to this article shall contain the information required by Section 8002.

(e) If a public administrator takes possession or control of an estate pursuant to this chapter, this article conveys the authority of a personal representative as described in Section 9650 to the public administrator to summarily dispose of the estates pursuant to the procedures described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a).

(f) The fee charged under paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be distributed as provided in Section 68085.4 of the Government Code. When an application is filed under that paragraph, no other fees shall be charged in addition to the uniform filing fee provided for in Section 68085.4 of the Government Code.

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SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED

**8200:**

(a) Unless a petition for probate of the will is earlier filed, the custodian of a will shall, within 30 days after having knowledge of the death of the testator, do both of the following:

(1) Deliver the will, personally or by registered or certified mail, to the clerk of the superior court of the county in which the estate of the decedent may be administered.

(2) Deliver a copy of the will pursuant to Section 1215 to the person named in the will as executor, if the person's whereabouts is known to the custodian, or if not, to a person named in the will as a beneficiary, if the person's whereabouts is known to the custodian.

(b) A custodian of a will who fails to comply with the requirements of this section shall be liable for all damages sustained by any person injured by the failure.

(c) The clerk shall release a copy of a will delivered under this section for attachment to a petition for probate of the will or otherwise on receipt of payment of the required fee and either a court order for production of the will or a certified copy of a death certificate of the decedent.

(d) The fee for delivering a will to the clerk of the superior court pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be as provided in Section 70626 of the Government Code. If an estate is commenced for the decedent named in the will, the fee for any will delivered pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be reimbursable from the estate as an expense of administration.

**8402:**

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a person is not competent to act as personal representative in any of the following circumstances:

(1) The person is under the age of majority.

(2) The person is subject to a conservatorship of the estate or is otherwise incapable of executing, or is otherwise unfit to execute, the duties of the office.

(3) There are grounds for removal of the person from office under Section 8502.

(4) The person is not a resident of the United States.

(5) The person is a surviving business partner of the decedent and an interested person objects to the appointment.

(b) Paragraphs (4) and (5) of subdivision (a) do not apply to a person named as executor or successor executor in the decedent's will.

**8461:**

Subject to the provisions of this article, a person in the following relation to the decedent is entitled to appointment as administrator in the following order of priority:

(a) Surviving spouse or domestic partner as defined in Section 37.

(b) Children.

(c) Grandchildren.

(d) Other issue.

(e) Parents.

(f) Brothers and sisters.

(g) Issue of brothers and sisters.

(h) Grandparents.

(i) Issue of grandparents.

(j) Children of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(k) Other issue of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(l) Other next of kin.

(m) Parents of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(n) Issue of parents of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(o) Conservator or guardian of the estate acting in that capacity at the time of death who has filed a first account and is not acting as conservator or guardian for any other person.

(p) Public administrator.

(q) Creditors.

(r) Any other person.

**8462:**

The surviving spouse or domestic partner of the decedent, a relative of the decedent, or a relative of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner of the decedent, has priority under Section 8461 only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

(a) The surviving spouse, domestic partner, or relative is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate.

(b) The surviving spouse, domestic partner, or relative either takes under the will of, or is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate of, another deceased person who is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate of the decedent.

**8463:**

If the surviving spouse is a party to an action for separate maintenance, annulment, or dissolution of the marriage of the decedent and the surviving spouse, and was living apart from the decedent on the date of the decedent's death, the surviving spouse has priority next after brothers and sisters and not the priority prescribed in Section 8461.

**8464:**

If a person otherwise entitled to appointment as administrator is a person under the age of majority or a person for whom a guardian or conservator of the estate has been appointed, the court in its discretion may appoint the guardian or conservator or another person entitled to appointment.

**8465:**

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(a) The court may appoint as administrator a person nominated by any of the following persons:

(1) A person otherwise entitled to appointment.

(2) A person who would otherwise be entitled for appointment but who is ineligible for appointment under paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 8402 because he or she is not a resident of the United States.

(3) The guardian or conservator of the estate of a person otherwise entitled to appointment. The nomination shall be made in writing and filed with the court.

(b) If a person making a nomination for appointment of an administrator is the surviving spouse or domestic partner, child, grandchild, other issue, parent, brother or sister, or grandparent of the decedent, the nominee has priority next after those in the class of the person making the nomination.

(c) If a person making a nomination for appointment of an administrator is other than a person described in subdivision (b), the court in its discretion may appoint either the nominee or a person of a class lower in priority to that of the person making the nomination, but other persons of the class of the person making the nomination have priority over the nominee.

(d) If a person making a nomination for appointment of an administrator is a person described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the court shall not appoint a nominee who is not a California resident to act as administrator. For California residents nominated under paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the court shall consider whether the nominee is capable of faithfully executing the duties of the office. The court may in its discretion deny the appointment and appoint another person. In determining whether to appoint the nominee, the factors the court may consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Whether the nominee has a conflict of interest with the heirs or any other interested party.

(2) Whether the nominee had a business or personal relationship with the decedent or decedent's family before the decedent's death.

(3) Whether the nominee is engaged in or acting on behalf of an individual, a business, or other entity that solicits heirs to obtain the person's nomination for appointment as administrator.

(4) Whether the nominee has been appointed as a personal representative in any other estate.

(e) If the court decides to appoint a nominee under the circumstances described in subdivision (d), the court shall require the nominee to obtain bond, unless the court orders otherwise for good cause. Any order for good cause must be supported by specific findings of fact, and shall consider the need for the protection of creditors, heirs, and any other interested parties. Before waiving a bond, the court shall consider all other alternatives, including, but not limited to, the deposit of property in the estate pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 9700) of Part 5 on the condition that the property, including any earnings thereon, will not be withdrawn except on authorization of the court. The waiver of all of the heirs of the requirement of a bond shall not constitute good cause.

(f) If the appointed nominee ceases to be a California resident following his or her appointment, he or she shall be deemed to have resigned as administrator for the purposes of Article 7 (commencing with Section 8520). The court shall not lose jurisdiction of the proceeding by any resignation under this subdivision.

(g) By accepting appointment as personal representative, the nominee shall submit personally to the jurisdiction of the court.

**9000:**

As used in this division:

(a) "Claim" means a demand for payment for any of the following, whether due, not due, accrued or not accrued, or contingent, and whether liquidated or unliquidated:

(1) Liability of the decedent, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise.

(2) Liability for taxes incurred before the decedent's death, whether assessed before or after the decedent's death, other than property taxes and assessments secured by real property liens.

(3) Liability of the estate for funeral expenses of the decedent.

(b) "Claim" does not include a dispute regarding title of a decedent to specific property alleged to be included in the decedent's estate.

(c) "Creditor" means a person who may have a claim against estate property.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**9600:**

(a) The personal representative has the management and control of the estate and, in managing and controlling the estate, shall use ordinary care and diligence. What constitutes ordinary care and diligence is determined by all the circumstances of the particular estate.

(b) The personal representative:

(1) Shall exercise a power to the extent that ordinary care and diligence require that the power be exercised.

(2) Shall not exercise a power to the extent that ordinary care and diligence require that the power not be exercised.

**9940:**

For the purpose of this chapter:

(a) "Lease" includes, without limitation, a lease that includes an option to purchase real property of the estate.

(b) If a lease gives the lessee the right to extend the term of the lease, the length of the term shall be considered as though the right to extend had been exercised.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**10250:**

Subject to Sections 10251 and 10252 and except as otherwise provided by statute, personal property of the estate may be sold only after notice of sale is given by one or both of the following methods, as the personal representative may determine:

(a) Posting at the county courthouse of the county in which the proceedings are pending at least 15 days before:

(1) In the case of a private sale, the day specified in the notice of sale as the day on or after which the sale is to be made.

(2) In the case of a public auction sale, the day of the auction.

(b) Publication pursuant to Section 6063a of the Government Code in a newspaper in the county in which the proceedings are pending, such publication to be completed before:

(1) In the case of a private sale, the day specified in the notice of sale as the day on or after which the sale is to be made.



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(2) In the case of a public auction sale, the day of the auction.

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**10300:**

(a) Except as provided in Sections 10301 to 10303, inclusive, and in Section 10503, real property of the estate may be sold only after notice of sale has been published pursuant to Section 6063a of the Government Code (1) in a newspaper published in the county in which the real property or some portion thereof is located or (2) if there is no such newspaper, in such newspaper as the court or judge may direct.

(b) The publication of notice of sale shall be completed before:

(1) In the case of a private sale, the day specified in the notice as the day on or after which the sale is to be made.

(2) In the case of a public auction sale, the day of the auction.

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**10500:**

(a) Subject to the limitations and conditions of this part, a personal representative who has been granted authority to administer the estate under this part may administer the estate as provided in this part without court supervision, but in all other respects the personal representative shall administer the estate in the same manner as a personal representative who has not been granted authority to administer the estate under this part.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the personal representative may obtain court supervision as provided in this code of any action to be taken by the personal representative during administration of the estate.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**10510:**

The personal representative may exercise the powers described in this article only if the requirements of Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 10580) (notice of proposed action procedure) are satisfied.

**10511:**

The personal representative who has full authority has the power to sell or exchange real property of the estate.

**10538:**

(a) The personal representative has the following powers:

(1) The power to grant an exclusive right to sell property for a period not to exceed 90 days.

(2) The power to grant to the same broker one or more extensions of an exclusive right to sell property, each extension being for a period not to exceed 90 days.

(b) Except as provided in subdivision (c), the personal representative may exercise the powers described in subdivision (a) without giving notice of proposed action under Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 10580).

(c) The personal representative shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 10580) where the personal representative grants to the same broker an extension of an exclusive right to sell property and the period of the extension, together with the periods of the original exclusive right to sell the property and any previous extensions of that right, is more than 270 days.

**10800:**

(a) Subject to the provisions of this part, for ordinary services the personal representative shall receive compensation based on the value of the estate accounted for by the personal representative, as follows:

(1) Four percent on the first one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

(2) Three percent on the next one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

(3) Two percent on the next eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000).

(4) One percent on the next nine million dollars (\$9,000,000).

(5) One-half of one percent on the next fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000).

(6) For all amounts above twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), a reasonable amount to be determined by the court.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the value of the estate accounted for by the personal representative is the total amount of the appraisal value of property in the inventory, plus gains over the appraisal value on sales, plus receipts, less losses from the appraisal value on sales, without reference to encumbrances or other obligations on estate property.

**10801:**

(a) Subject to the provisions of this part, in addition to the compensation provided by Section 10800, the court may allow additional compensation for extraordinary services by the personal representative in an amount the court determines is just and reasonable.

(b) The personal representative may also employ or retain tax counsel, tax auditors, accountants, or other tax experts for the performance of any action which such persons, respectively, may lawfully perform in the computation, reporting, or making of tax returns, or in negotiations or litigation which may be necessary for the final determination and payment of taxes, and pay from the funds of the estate for such services.

**11420:**

(a) Debts shall be paid in the following order of priority among classes of debts, except that debts owed to the United States or to this state that have preference under the laws of the United States or of this state shall be given the preference required by such laws:

(1) Expenses of administration. With respect to obligations secured by mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien, including, but not limited to, a judgment lien, only those expenses of administration incurred that are reasonably related to the administration of that property by which obligations are secured shall be given priority over these obligations.

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(2) Obligations secured by a mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien, including, but not limited to, a judgment lien, in the order of their priority, so far as they may be paid out of the proceeds of the property subject to the lien. If the proceeds are insufficient, the part of the obligation remaining unsatisfied shall be classed with general debts.

(3) Funeral expenses.

(4) Expenses of last illness.

(5) Family allowance.

(6) Wage claims.

(7) General debts, including judgments not secured by a lien and all other debts not included in a prior class.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by statute, the debts of each class are without preference or priority one over another. No debt of any class may be paid until all those of prior classes are paid in full. If property in the estate is insufficient to pay all debts of any class in full, each debt in that class shall be paid a proportionate share.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**13006:**

"Successor of the decedent" means:

(a) If the decedent died leaving a will, the sole beneficiary or all of the beneficiaries who succeeded to a particular item of property of the decedent under the decedent's will. For the purposes of this part, a trust is a beneficiary under the decedent's will if the trust succeeds to the particular item of property under the decedent's will.

(b) If the decedent died without a will, the sole person or all of the persons who succeeded to the particular item of property of the decedent under Sections 6401 and 6402 or, if the law of a sister state or foreign nation governs succession to the particular item of property, under the law of the sister state or foreign nation.

**13050:**

(a) For the purposes of this part:

(1) Any property or interest or lien thereon which, at the time of the decedent's death, was held by the decedent as a joint tenant, or in which the decedent had a life or other interest terminable upon the decedent's death, or which was held by the decedent and passed to the decedent's surviving spouse pursuant to Section 13500, shall be excluded in determining the property or estate of the decedent or its value. This excluded property shall include, but not be limited to, property in a trust revocable by the decedent during his or her lifetime.

(2) A multiple-party account to which the decedent was a party at the time of the decedent's death shall be excluded in determining the property or estate of the decedent or its value, whether or not all or a portion of the sums on deposit are community property, to the extent that the sums on deposit belong after the death of the decedent to a surviving party, P.O.D. payee, or beneficiary. For the purposes of this paragraph, the terms "multiple-party account," "party," "P.O.D. payee," and "beneficiary" are defined in Article 2 (commencing with Section 5120) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 5.

(b) For the purposes of this part, all of the following property shall be excluded in determining the property or estate of the decedent or its value:

(1) Any vehicle registered under Division 3 (commencing with Section 4000) of the Vehicle Code or titled under Division 16.5 (commencing with Section 38000) of the Vehicle Code.

(2) Any vessel numbered under Division 3.5 (commencing with Section 9840) of the Vehicle Code.

(3) Any manufactured home, mobilehome, commercial coach, truck camper, or floating home registered under Part 2 (commencing with Section 18000) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code.

(c) For the purposes of this part, the value of the following property shall be excluded in determining the value of the decedent's property in this state:

(1) Any amounts due to the decedent for services in the Armed Forces of the United States.

(2) The amount, not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), of salary or other compensation, including compensation for unused vacation, owing to the decedent for personal services from any employment.

**13100:**

Excluding the property described in Section 13050, if the gross value of the decedent's real and personal property in this state does not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) and if 40 days have elapsed since the death of the decedent, the successor of the decedent may, without procuring letters of administration or awaiting probate of the will, do any of the following with respect to one or more particular items of property:

(a) Collect any particular item of property that is money due the decedent.

(b) Receive any particular item of property that is tangible personal property of the decedent.

(c) Have any particular item of property that is evidence of a debt, obligation, interest, right, security, or chose in action belonging to the decedent transferred, whether or not secured by a lien on real property.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**13114:**

(a) A public administrator who has taken possession or control of property of a decedent under Article 1 (commencing with Section 7600) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 7 may refuse to pay money or deliver property pursuant to this chapter if payment of the costs and fees described in Section 7604 has not first been made or adequately assured to the satisfaction of the public administrator.

(b) A coroner who has property found upon the body of a decedent, or who has taken charge of property of the decedent pursuant to Section 27491.3 of the Government Code, may refuse to pay or deliver the property pursuant to this chapter if payment of the

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reasonable costs of holding or safeguarding the property has not first been made or adequately assured to the satisfaction of the coroner.

## **Statutes and Legal Requirements.pdf**

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## Statutes and Legal Requirements

Items listed in this section include sections from the California Penal Code (CPC), Welfare and Institutions Code (WI) and Government Code (GC).

### *Definitions*

CPC 422.55 - Provides general definition of hate crimes in California.

CPC 422.56- Provides definitions of terms included in hate crimes statutes.

GC 12926- Disability-related definitions applicable to some hate crime statutes.

## Felonies

### *Hate Crimes*

CPC 422.7 - Commission of a crime for the purpose of interfering with another's exercise of civil rights.

### *Related Crimes*

CPC 190.2(a)(16) - Homicide penalties related to certain hate crime related acts.

CPC 190.03(a) - Homicide penalties related to certain hate crime related acts.

CPC 288(b)(2) - Sexual assault of dependent person by caretaker

CPC 368(b) - Dependent adult abuse generally - may apply as disability-related hate crime.

CPC 594.3 - Vandalism of places of worship.

CPC 11412 - Causing or attempting to cause other to refrain from exercising religion by threat.

CPC 11413 - Arson or destructive device at place of worship.

## Misdemeanors

### *Hate Crimes*

CPC 422.6 - Use of force, threats, or destruction of property to interfere with another's exercise of civil rights.

CPC 422.77 - Violation of civil order (Bane Act) protecting the exercise of civil rights

### *Related Crimes*

CPC 302 - Disorderly conduct during an assemblage of people gathered for religious worship at a tax-exempt place of worship.

CPC 538(c) - Unauthorized insertion of advertisements in newspapers and redistribution to the public.

CPC 640.2 - Placing handbill, notice of advertisement on a consumer product or product packaged without authorization.

CPC 11411 - Terrorism of owner or occupant of real property. Placement or display of sign, symbol, or other physical impression without authorization, engagement in pattern of conduct, or burning or desecration of religious symbols.

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## Enhancements

**CPC 190.2(a)(16)** - Special circumstances imposing the Death Penalty or Life Without Possibility of Parole, if the victim was intentionally killed because of sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

**CPC 190.3** - Special circumstances imposing LWOP if the victim was intentionally killed because of sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

**CPC 422.75** - Penalty for felony committed because of victim's race, color, religion, nationality, country or origin, ancestry, disability, or sexual orientation shall be enhanced one, two, or three years in prison, if the person acts alone; and two, three, or four years if the person commits the act with another.

**CPC 1170.8** - Enhancement for robbery or assault at a place of worship.

**CPC 1170.85(b)** - Felony assault or battery enhancement due to age or disability.

## Reporting

**CPC 13023**- Requirement for law enforcement agencies to report hate crime data to DOJ.

**WI 15630** – Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Mandated Reporting (may apply in disability-related hate crimes).

## Training and Policy Requirements

**CPC 422.87** - Hate crimes policy adoption and update requirements (AB 1985, Effective January 1, 2019).

**CPC 13519.6** - Defines hate crime training requirements for peace officers.

**CPC 13519.41** - Training requirements on sexual orientation and gender identity-related hate crimes for peace officers and dispatchers (AB 2504, Effective January 1, 2019).

## Miscellaneous Provisions

**CPC 422.78** - Responsibility for prosecution of stay away order violations.

**CPC 422.86** - Public policy regarding hate crimes.

**CPC 422.89** - Legislative intent regarding violations of civil rights and hate crimes

**CPC 422.92** - Hate crimes victims brochure requirement for law enforcement agencies.

**CPC 422.93** - Protection of victims and witnesses from being reported to immigration authorities.

**GC 6254** - Victim confidentiality.

**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and  
Training Hate Crimes Model Policy 2019.pdf**

## Hate Crime Checklist.pdf



# HATE CRIME CHECKLIST

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

<b>VICTIM</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Victim Type:</u></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Individual</b> Legal name (Last, First): _____ Other Names used (AKA): _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>School, business or organization</b> Name: _____ Type: _____ <i>(e.g., non-profit, private, public school)</i> Address: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Faith-based organization</b> Name: _____ Faith: _____ Address: _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Target of Crime (Check all that apply):</u></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Person    <input type="checkbox"/> Private property    <input type="checkbox"/> Public property</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Nature of Crime (Check all that apply):</u></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bodily injury                      <input type="checkbox"/> Threat of violence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Property damage</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other crime: _____</p> <p>Property damage - estimated value _____</p>
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<b>BIAS</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Type of Bias</u></b> <b>(Check all characteristics that apply):</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gender</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gender identity/expression</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Race</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nationality</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Religion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Significant day of offense <i>(e.g., 9/11, holy days)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p>Specify disability (be specific): _____ _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Actual or Perceived Bias – Victim’s Statement:</u></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Actual bias [Victim actually has the indicated characteristic(s)].</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Perceived bias [Suspect believed victim had the indicated characteristic(s)]. <i>If perceived, explain the circumstances in narrative portion of Report.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Reason for Bias:</u></b></p> <p><b>Do you feel you were targeted based on one of these characteristics?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <i>Explain in narrative portion of Report.</i></p> <p><b>Do you know what motivated the suspect to commit this crime?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <i>Explain in narrative portion of Report.</i></p> <p><b>Do you feel you were targeted because you associated yourself with an individual or a group?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <i>Explain in narrative portion of Report.</i></p> <p><b>Are there indicators the suspect is affiliated with a Hate Group (i.e., literature/tattoos)?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <i>Describe in narrative portion of Report.</i></p> <p><b>Are there Indicators the suspect is affiliated with a criminal street gang?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    <i>Describe in narrative portion of Report.</i></p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Bias Indicators (Check all that apply):</u></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hate speech                      <input type="checkbox"/> Acts/gestures                      <input type="checkbox"/> Property damage                      <input type="checkbox"/> Symbol used</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Written/electronic communication                      <input type="checkbox"/> Graffiti/spray paint                      <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p><i>Describe with exact detail in narrative portion of Report.</i></p>
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<b>HISTORY</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Relationship Between Suspect &amp; Victim:</u></b></p> <p>Suspect known to victim?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Nature of relationship: _____</p> <p>Length of relationship: _____</p> <p><i>If Yes, describe in narrative portion of Report</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Prior reported incidents with suspect? Total # _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Prior unreported incidents with suspect? Total # _____</p> <p>Restraining orders?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>If Yes, describe in narrative portion of Report</i></p> <p>Type of order: _____    Order/Case# _____</p>
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<b>WEAPONS</b>	<p>Weapon(s) used during incident?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No    Type: _____</p> <p>Weapon(s) booked as evidence?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Automated Firearms System (AFS) Inquiry attached to Report?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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# HATE CRIME CHECKLIST

Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_

<b>EVIDENCE</b>	Witnesses present during incident? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Statements taken? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Evidence collected? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Recordings: <input type="checkbox"/> Video <input type="checkbox"/> Audio <input type="checkbox"/> Booked
	Photos taken? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Suspect identified: <input type="checkbox"/> Field ID <input type="checkbox"/> By photo
	Total # of photos: _____ D#: _____ Taken by: _____ Serial #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Known to victim

<b>OBSERVATIONS</b>	<b><u>VICTIM</u></b>	<b><u>SUSPECT</u></b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tattoos <input type="checkbox"/> Shaking <input type="checkbox"/> Unresponsive <input type="checkbox"/> Crying <input type="checkbox"/> Scared <input type="checkbox"/> Angry <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful <input type="checkbox"/> Calm <input type="checkbox"/> Agitated <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous <input type="checkbox"/> Threatening <input type="checkbox"/> Apologetic <input type="checkbox"/> Other observations: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Tattoos <input type="checkbox"/> Shaking <input type="checkbox"/> Unresponsive <input type="checkbox"/> Crying <input type="checkbox"/> Scared <input type="checkbox"/> Angry <input type="checkbox"/> Fearful <input type="checkbox"/> Calm <input type="checkbox"/> Agitated <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous <input type="checkbox"/> Threatening <input type="checkbox"/> Apologetic <input type="checkbox"/> Other observations: _____

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS (Explain all boxes marked "Yes" in narrative portion of report):**

Has suspect ever threatened you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Has suspect ever harmed you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does suspect possess or have access to a firearm?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are you afraid for your safety?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have any other information that may be helpful?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Resources offered at scene:**  Yes  No Type: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>MEDICAL</b>	<b><u>Victim</u></b>	<b><u>Suspect</u></b>	<b>Paramedics at scene?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Unit # _____
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined medical treatment	Name(s)/ID #: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Will seek own medical treatment	Hospital: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Received medical treatment	Jail Dispensary: _____
Authorization to Release Medical Information, Form 05.03.00, signed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			Physician/Doctor: _____
			Patient #: _____

Officer (Name/Rank)	Date
Officer (Name/Rank)	Date
Supervisor Approving (Name/Rank)	Date

**Yolo County Protocol for Response to  
Officer-involved Fatal Incidents (r).pdf**

## PA Glossary.pdf

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## GLOSSARY

**Administrator:** When a decedent leaves no Will, the Court appoints someone to handle the administration of the estate. This person is called an administrator, and his/her duties and responsibilities are identical to those of an executor. If appointed, the administrator receives Letter of Administration, as General Administrator.

**Administrator with Will Annexed:** Granted by the Court when a testator's Will does not name an executor or when the executor named is incompetent to act, is deceased, or refuses to act. If appointed, the administrator receives Letters of Administration as General Administrator.

**Claim:** Demand for payment for any of the following, whether due, not due, accrued, or not accrued, or contingent, and whether liquidated or unliquidated.

5. Liability of the decedent, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise

6. Liability for taxes incurred before the decedent's death; whether assessed before or after the decedent's death, other than property taxes and assessments secured by real property liens.

7. Liability of the estate for funeral expenses of the decedent.

8. **Does not include:** a dispute regarding title of a decedent to specific property alleged to be included in the decedent's name.

**Confirmation of Sale:** Court hearing which approves the sale of estate property to a specific buyer.

**Decedent Estate Referral:** Written or telephonic reporting of the death of a Yolo County resident with possible ownership rights to either real or personal property.

**Devisee:** Recipient of property (usually real property) by Will.

**Domestic Partner:** One of two persons who have filed a Declaration of Domestic Partnership with the Secretary of State pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with Section 297) of the Family Code; provided that the domestic partnership has not been terminated pursuant to Section 299 of the Family Code.

**Easement:** An interest in land owned by another person, consisting of the right to use or control the land or an area above or below it, for a specific limited purpose (such as to cross it for access to a public road).

**Encumbrance:** A claim or liability that is attached to property or some other right and may lessen its value; such as a lien or mortgage. Any property right that is not an ownership interest.

**Escheat:** Reversion of property to the State in consequence of a want of any individual competent to inherit. Reversion of property to the county or state upon the death of an owner who has neither a will nor any legal heirs.

**Ex Parte:** Done or made at the insistence and for the benefit of one party only; without notice to, or argument by, any person adversely interested (an Ex Parte hearing).

**Excluded Property (Valuation or Estate Determination):** See CA Probate Code Section 13050.

**Exclusive Listing:** The granting by the court of an "Exclusive Right to Sell Agreement" to a specified broker for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

**Executor:** The person named in a Will to handle the administration of the estate. The executor must be at least 18 years old and a decedent may name more than one person to act as co-executor. If appointed, the executor receives Letters of Testamentary.

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**Extraordinary Fees:** For extraordinary services performed by the personal representative, the court may allow additional compensation in an amount the court deems just and reasonable.

**Fiduciary:** One who must exercise a high standard of care in managing another's money or property.

**Guardianship of Minor's Estate:** The court process in which a person is vested with the power and charged with the duty of managing property of another person, who, for defect of age, is considered incapable of administering his or her own affairs.

**Heir:** Any person, including the surviving spouse, who is entitled to take property of the decedent by intestate succession under the code.

**Interested Person:**

1. An heir, devisee, child, spouse, creditor, beneficiary, and any other person having a property right in or claim against a trust estate or the estate of a decedent which may be affected by the proceeding.
2. Any person having priority for appointment as personal representative.
3. A fiduciary representing an interested person.
4. The definition of "interested person" as it relates to particular persons may vary from time to time and shall be determined according to the particular purposes of, and matter, in any proceeding. (Probate Code Section 48)

**Intestate Succession:** The method used to distribute property owned by a person who dies without a valid will.

**Investigation Expenses:** If the Public Administrator takes possession or control of property and another person subsequently takes charge of the estate, the Public Administrator is entitled to reasonable costs incurred for the preservation of the estate, together with reasonable compensation for services.

**Issue:** A person's lineal descendants of all generations; with the relationship of parent and child at each generation being determined by the definitions of child and parent.

**Legatee:** One who is named in a Will to take personal property; one who has received a legacy or bequest; loosely, one to whom a devise of real property is given.

**Liability of Heir:** See CA Probate Code Section 13109.

**Lineal Descendant:** A direct blood relative.

**Minimum Overbid:** The amount required as the minimum acceptable offer for real or personal property during the court confirmation hearing.

**Minor:** An individual who has not yet reached legal age (18 years).

**Personal Property:** Includes any movable or intangible thing that is subject to ownership and not classified as real property. Furniture, furnishings, vehicles, mobile homes, jewelry, numismatic coin, stocks, bonds, debenture, bank accounts, and investment accounts are all examples of personal property.

**Property:** Anything that may be the subject of ownership and includes both real and personal property and any interest therein.

**Real Property:** Includes improved and unimproved real estate, and a leasehold interest in real property.

**Registered Broker:** A broker registered or required to be registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

**Security:** Includes any note, stock, treasury stock, bond, debenture, land trust certificates, certificates of beneficial trust in trust, investment trust certificates, mortgage participation certificates, or certificates of deposit.

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**Special Administrator:** An administrator with authority to act on behalf of some, but not all, of decedent's effects. The appointment is usually made to preserve the estate pending appointment of an executor or general administrator in instances where the Will is contested or where assets of the estate are subject to immediate loss, or other such special event. If appointed, the administrator receives Letters of Special Administration.

**Statutory Commissions:** For ordinary services, the personal representative shall receive compensation based on the value of the estate.

**Successor Administrator:** When the original executor or administrator is removed by the Probate Court, either because of incapacity, death or malfeasance, a Successor Administrator is appointed. This administrator receives Letters of Successor Administration (possibly with Will annexed, if applicable).

**Successor of the Decedent:** See CA Probate Code Section 13006.

**Tax Return:** An income tax form on which a person or entity reports income, deductions, and exemptions and upon which tax liability is calculated.

**Will:** A document by which a person directs his or her estate to be distributed upon death.

1. There are a variety of types of wills an individual can make. When in doubt whether the writing is a will, always consult with the contracted attorney.
2. A writing that appears to be a will but has been marked upon, altered, or changed, may still be a valid will. Consult with the contracted attorney.
3. Wills can be formally prepared, form-filled, or handwritten on note pads, envelopes, or bits of paper. Always be vigilant when searching a decedent's property.

**Vesting:** A recorded title to property indicating ownership.

**CODE REFERENCES**

**CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODES:**

**27440:**

If the public administrator fails to qualify or fails to perform in person the duties of his office, the coroner shall be ex officio public administrator. If both the public administrator and the coroner fail to qualify or to perform the duties of the office, the board of supervisors shall appoint a suitable person as public administrator. All laws applicable to the qualification, powers, duties, and compensation of the public administrator shall apply to the coroner or appointee of the board.

**27643:**

The board of supervisors may by ordinance require that the county counsel shall act as attorney for the public administrator in all estates in which he or she is executor, administrator with the will annexed, or administrator, where he or she has priority for appointment as established by law, including all cases under Section 7660 of the Probate Code. However, in the case of a noncharter county or a charter county where there is no conflict with the county charter, the public administrator may employ private counsel (a) in those estates in which he or she is nominated and would not otherwise have priority, (b) for those estates in which he or she is appointed administrator with the will annexed, or administrator pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 8400) of Division 7 of the Probate Code, and (c) in those estates in which he or she is appointed administrator with the will annexed for the reason the executor nominated in the will has refused to serve. In those matters where the county counsel furnishes representation the county counsel shall collect the attorney's fees allowed by law and pay them into the county treasury.

**CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODES:**

**7100:**

(a) The right to control the disposition of the remains of a deceased person, the location and conditions of interment, and arrangements for funeral goods and services to be provided, unless other directions have been given by the decedent pursuant to Section 7100.1, vests in, and the duty of disposition and the liability for the reasonable cost of disposition of the remains devolves upon, the following in the order named:

(1) An agent under a power of attorney for health care who has the right and duty of disposition under Division 4.7 (commencing with Section 4600) of the Probate Code, except that the agent is liable for the costs of disposition only in either of the following cases:

(A) Where the agent makes a specific agreement to pay the costs of disposition.



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(B) Where, in the absence of a specific agreement, the agent makes decisions concerning disposition that incur costs, in which case the agent is liable only for the reasonable costs incurred as a result of the agent's decisions, to the extent that the decedent's estate or other appropriate fund is insufficient.

(2) The competent surviving spouse.

(3) The sole surviving competent adult child of the decedent or, if there is more than one competent adult child of the decedent, the majority of the surviving competent adult children. However, less than the majority of the surviving competent adult children shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if they have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult children of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult children.

(4) The surviving competent parent or parents of the decedent. If one of the surviving competent parents is absent, the remaining competent parent shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section after reasonable efforts have been unsuccessful in locating the absent surviving competent parent.

(5) The sole surviving competent adult sibling of the decedent or, if there is more than one surviving competent adult sibling of the decedent, the majority of the surviving competent adult siblings. However, less than the majority of the surviving competent adult siblings shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if they have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult siblings of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult siblings.

(6) The surviving competent adult person or persons respectively in the next degrees of kinship or, if there is more than one surviving competent adult person of the same degree of kinship, the majority of those persons. Less than the majority of surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship shall be vested with the rights and duties of this section if those persons have used reasonable efforts to notify all other surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship of their instructions and are not aware of any opposition to those instructions by the majority of all surviving competent adult persons of the same degree of kinship.

(7) A conservator of the person appointed under Part 3 (commencing with Section 1800) of Division 4 of the Probate Code when the decedent has sufficient assets.

(8) A conservator of the estate appointed under Part 3 (commencing with Section 1800) of Division 4 of the Probate Code when the decedent has sufficient assets.

(9) The public administrator when the deceased has sufficient assets.

(b) (1) If a person to whom the right of control has vested pursuant to subdivision (a) has been charged with first- or second-degree murder or voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death and those charges are known to the funeral director or cemetery authority, the right of control is relinquished and passed on to the next of kin in accordance with subdivision (a).

(2) If the charges against the person are dropped, or if the person is acquitted of the charges, the right of control is returned to the person.

(3) Notwithstanding this subdivision, no person who has been charged with first- or second-degree murder or voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death to whom the right of control has not been returned pursuant to paragraph (2) shall have any right to control disposition pursuant to subdivision (a) which shall be applied, to the extent the funeral director or cemetery authority know about the charges, as if that person did not exist.

(c) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall have complete authority to control the disposition of the remains and to proceed under this chapter to recover usual and customary charges for the disposition when both of the following apply:

(1) Either of the following applies:

(A) The funeral director or cemetery authority has knowledge that none of the persons described in paragraphs (1) to (8), inclusive, of subdivision (a) exists.

(B) None of the persons described in paragraphs (1) to (8), inclusive, of subdivision (a) can be found after reasonable inquiry, or contacted by reasonable means.

(2) The public administrator fails to assume responsibility for disposition of the remains within seven days after having been given written notice of the facts. Written notice may be delivered by hand, United States mail, facsimile transmission, or telegraph.

(d) The liability for the reasonable cost of final disposition devolves jointly and severally upon all kin of the decedent in the same degree of kinship and upon the estate of the decedent. However, if a person accepts the gift of an entire body under subdivision (a) of Section 7155.5, that person, subject to the terms of the gift, shall be liable for the reasonable cost of final disposition of the decedent.

(e) This section shall be administered and construed to the end that the expressed instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition shall be faithfully and promptly performed.

(f) A funeral director or cemetery authority shall not be liable to any person or persons for carrying out the instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition.

(g) For purposes of this section, "adult" means an individual who has attained 18 years of age, "child" means a natural or adopted child of the decedent, and "competent" means an individual who has not been declared incompetent by a court of law or who has been declared competent by a court of law following a declaration of incompetence.

(h) (1) For the purpose of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), the designation of a person authorized to direct disposition (PADD) on a United States Department of Defense Record of Emergency Data, DD Form 93, as that form exists on December 31, 2011, or its successor form, shall take first priority and be used to establish an agent who has the right and duty of disposition for a decedent who died while on duty in any branch or component of the Armed Forces of the United States, as defined by Section 1481 of Title 10 of the United States Code.

(2) This subdivision shall become operative only if the United States Department of Defense Record of Emergency Data, DD Form 93, and Section 1482(c) of Title 10 of the United States Code are amended to allow a service member to designate any person, regardless of the relationship of the designee to the decedent, as the agent who has the right of disposition of a service member's remains.

**CALIFORNIA PROBATE CODES:**

**48:**

(a) Subject to subdivision (b), "interested person" includes any of the following:

(1) An heir, devisee, child, spouse, creditor, beneficiary, and any other person having a property right in or claim against a trust estate or the estate of a decedent which may be affected by the proceeding.

(2) Any person having priority for appointment as personal representative.

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(3) A fiduciary representing an interested person.

(b) The meaning of "interested person" as it relates to particular persons may vary from time to time and shall be determined according to the particular purposes of, and matter involved in, any proceeding.

**50:**

"Issue" of a person means all his or her lineal descendants of all generations, with the relationship of parent and child at each generation being determined by the definitions of child and parent.

**68:**

"Real property" includes a leasehold interest in real property.

**330:**

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a public administrator, government official, law enforcement agency, the hospital or institution in which a decedent died, or the decedent's employer, may, without the need to wait 40 days after death, deliver the tangible personal property of the decedent in its possession, including keys to the decedent's residence, to the decedent's surviving spouse, relative, or conservator or guardian of the estate acting in that capacity at the time of death.

(b) A person shall not deliver property pursuant to this section if the person knows or has reason to believe that there is a dispute over the right to possession of the property.

(c) A person that delivers property pursuant to this section shall require reasonable proof of the status and identity of the person to whom the property is delivered, and may rely on any document described in subdivision (d) of Section 13104 as proof of identity.

(d) A person that delivers property pursuant to this section shall, for a period of three years after the date of delivery of the property, keep a record of the property delivered and the status and identity of the person to whom the property is delivered.

(e) Delivery of property pursuant to this section does not determine ownership of the property or confer any greater rights in the property than the recipient would otherwise have and does not preclude later proceedings for administration of the decedent's estate. If proceedings for administration of the decedent's estate are commenced, the person holding the property shall deliver it to the personal representative on request by the personal representative.

(f) A person that delivers property pursuant to this section is not liable for loss or damage to the property caused by the person to whom the property is delivered.

**1000:**

(a) Except to the extent that this code provides applicable rules, the rules of practice applicable to civil actions, including discovery proceedings and proceedings under Title 3a (commencing with Section 391) of Part 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure, apply to, and constitute the rules of practice in, proceedings under this code. All issues of fact joined in probate proceedings shall be tried in conformity with the rules of practice in civil actions.

(b) For purposes of determining when a petitioner in a proceeding under this code may commence discovery as to nonparties, the time periods set forth in the Civil Discovery Act (Title 4 (commencing with Section 2016.010) of Part 4 of the Code of Civil Procedure) shall apply, except that the time periods shall commence to run upon service of the petition and notice of hearing upon all parties entitled to notice. Nothing in this subdivision shall either alter when a respondent in such a proceeding may commence discovery or increase the extent to which nonparties may be subject to discovery.

**1220:**

(a) If notice of hearing is required to be given as provided in this section:

(1) At least 15 days before the time set for the hearing, the petitioner or the person filing the report, account, or other paper shall cause notice of the time and place of the hearing to be delivered pursuant to Section 1215 to the persons required to be given notice.

(2) Unless the statute requiring notice specifies the persons to be given notice, notice shall be delivered pursuant to Section 1215 to all of the following:

(A) The personal representative.

(B) All persons who have requested special notice in the estate proceeding pursuant to Section 1250.

(3) Subject to Section 1212, the notice shall be delivered pursuant to Section 1215 to the person required to be given notice at the person's place of business, place of residence, or electronic address.

(b) Subject to subdivision (c), this section does not excuse compliance with the requirements for notice to a person who has requested special notice pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 1250).

(c) The court for good cause may dispense with the notice otherwise required to be given to a person as provided in this section.

**1230:**

Where notice of hearing is required to be posted as provided in this section:

(a) At least 15 days before the time set for the hearing, the court clerk shall cause a notice of the time and place of the hearing to be posted at the courthouse of the county where the proceedings are pending. If court is held at a place other than the county seat, the notice may be posted either at the courthouse of the county where the proceedings are pending or at the building where the court is held.

(b) The posted notice of hearing shall state all of the following:

(1) The name of the estate.

(2) The name of the petitioner.

(3) The nature of the petition, referring to the petition for further particulars.

(4) The time and place of the hearing of the petition.

**3400:**

(a) As used in this article, "total estate of the minor" includes both the money and other property belonging to the minor and the money and other property belonging to the guardianship estate, if any, of the minor.

(b) In computing the "total estate of the minor" for the purposes of this article, all of the following shall be deducted:

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- (1) "Custodial property" held pursuant to the California Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, Part 9 (commencing with Section 3900).  
(2) Any money or property subject to court order pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 3602 or Article 2 (commencing with Section 3610) of Chapter 4.

**3401:**

- (a) Where a minor does not have a guardian of the estate, money or other property belonging to the minor may be paid or delivered to a parent of the minor entitled to the custody of the minor to be held in trust for the minor until the minor reaches majority if the requirements of subdivision (c) are satisfied.  
(b) Where the minor has a guardian of the estate, all the money and other property belonging to the guardianship estate may be paid or delivered to a parent entitled to the custody of the minor to be held in trust for the minor until the minor reaches majority if the requirements of subdivision (c) are satisfied.  
(c) This section applies only if both of the following requirements are satisfied:  
(1) The total estate of the minor, including the money and other property to be paid or delivered to the parent, does not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in value.  
(2) The parent to whom the money or other property is to be paid or delivered gives the person making the payment or delivery written assurance, verified by the oath of such parent, that the total estate of the minor, including the money or other property to be paid or delivered to the parent, does not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in value.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**6400:**

Any part of the estate of a decedent not effectively disposed of by will passes to the decedent's heirs as prescribed in this part.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**7600:**

If a public officer or employee knows of property of a decedent that is subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation and that ought to be in the possession or control of the public administrator, the officer or employee shall inform the public administrator.

**7600.5:**

If a person dies in a hospital, convalescent hospital, or board and care facility without known next of kin, the person in charge of the hospital or facility shall give immediate notice of that fact to the public administrator of the county in which the hospital or facility is located. If the notice required by this section is not given, the hospital or facility is liable for (1) any cost of interment incurred by the estate or the county as a result of the failure and (2) any loss to the estate or beneficiaries caused by loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation of property of the decedent as a result of the failure.

**7601:**

- (a) If no personal representative has been appointed, the public administrator of a county shall take prompt possession or control of property of a decedent in the county that is deemed by the public administrator to be subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation, or that the court orders into the possession or control of the public administrator after notice to the public administrator as provided in Section 1220.  
(b) If property described in subdivision (a) is beyond the ability of the public administrator to take possession or control, the public administrator is not liable for failing to take possession or control of the property.

**7603:**

- (a) A public administrator who is authorized to take possession or control of property of a decedent pursuant to this article may issue a written certification of that fact. The written certification is effective for 30 days after the date of issuance.  
(b) The public administrator may record a copy of the written certification in any county in which is located real property of which the public administrator is authorized to take possession or control under this article.  
(c) A financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person shall, without the necessity of inquiring into the truth of the written certification, without requiring a death certificate, without charge, and without court order or letters being issued:  
(1) Provide the public administrator complete information concerning property held in the sole name of the decedent, including the names and addresses of any beneficiaries.  
(2) Grant the public administrator access to a safe-deposit box rented in the sole name of the decedent for the purpose of inspection and removal of any will or instructions for disposition of the decedent's remains. Costs and expenses incurred in drilling or forcing a safe-deposit box shall be borne by the estate of the decedent.  
(3) Surrender to the public administrator any property of the decedent that, in the sole discretion of the public administrator, is deemed to be subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation.  
(d) Receipt of the written certification provided by this section:  
(1) Constitutes sufficient acquittance for providing information or granting access to the safe-deposit box, for removal of the decedent's will and instructions for disposition of the decedent's remains, and for surrendering property of the decedent.  
(2) Fully discharges the financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person from any liability for any act or omission of the public administrator with respect to the property or the safe-deposit box.

**7604:**

If the public administrator takes possession or control of property of a decedent under this article, but another person is subsequently appointed personal representative or subsequently takes control or possession, the public administrator is entitled to reasonable costs

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## PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

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incurred for the preservation of the estate, together with reasonable compensation for services. The costs and compensation are a proper expense of administration.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**7621:**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, appointment of the public administrator as personal representative shall be made, and letters issued, in the same manner and pursuant to the same procedure as for appointment of and issuance of letters to personal representatives generally.

(b) Appointment of the public administrator may be made on the court's own motion, after notice to the public administrator as provided in Section 1220.

(c) Letters may be issued to "the public administrator" of the county without naming the public administrator.

(d) The public administrator's oath and official bond are in lieu of the personal representative's oath and bond. Every estate administered under this chapter shall be charged an annual bond fee in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25) plus one-fourth of one percent of the amount of an estate greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). The amount charged is an expense of administration and that amount shall be deposited in the county treasury. If a successor personal representative is appointed, the amount of the bond fee shall be prorated over the period of months during which the public administrator acted as personal representative. Upon final distribution by the public administrator, any amount of bond charges in excess of one year shall be a prorated charge to the estate.

**7622:**

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter:

(a) The public administrator shall administer the estate in the same manner as a personal representative generally, and the provisions of this code concerning the administration of the decedent's estate apply to administration by the public administrator.

(b) The public administrator is entitled to receive the same compensation as is granted by this division to a personal representative generally. The attorney for the public administrator is entitled to receive the same compensation as is granted by this division to an attorney for a personal representative generally. However, the compensation of the public administrator and the public administrator's attorney may not be less than the compensation in effect at the time of appointment of the public administrator or the minimum amount provided in subdivision (b) of Section 7666, whichever is greater.

**7660:**

(a) If a public administrator takes possession or control of an estate pursuant to this chapter, the public administrator may, acting as personal representative of the estate, summarily dispose of the estate in the manner provided in this article in either of the following circumstances:

(1) The total value of the property in the decedent's estate does not exceed the amount prescribed in Section 13100. The authority provided by this paragraph may be exercised only upon order of the court. The order may be made upon ex parte application. The fee to be allowed to the clerk for the filing of the application is two hundred five dollars (\$205). The authority for this summary administration of the estate shall be evidenced by a court order for summary disposition.

(2) The total value of the property in the decedent's estate does not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). The authority provided by this paragraph may be exercised without court authorization.

(A) A public administrator who is authorized to summarily dispose of property of a decedent pursuant to this paragraph may issue a written certification of Authority for Summary Administration. The written certification is effective for 30 days after the date of issuance.

(B) A financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person shall, without the necessity of inquiring into the truth of the written certification of Authority for Summary Administration and without court order or letters being issued, do all of the following:

(i) Provide the public administrator complete information concerning any property held in the name of the decedent, including the names and addresses of any beneficiaries or joint owners.

(ii) Grant the public administrator access to a safe-deposit box or storage facility rented in the name of the decedent for the purpose of inspection and removal of property of the decedent. Costs and expenses incurred in accessing a safe-deposit box or storage facility shall be borne by the estate of the decedent.

(iii) Surrender to the public administrator any property of the decedent that is held or controlled by the financial institution, agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person.

(C) Receipt by a financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person of the written certification provided by this article shall do both of the following:

(i) Constitute sufficient acquittance for providing information or granting access to a safe-deposit box or a storage facility and for surrendering any property of the decedent.

(ii) Fully discharge the financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person from liability for any act or omission of the public administrator with respect to the property, a safe-deposit box, or a storage facility.

(b) Summary disposition may be made notwithstanding the existence of the decedent's will, if the will does not name an executor or if the named executor refuses to act.

(c) Nothing in this article precludes the public administrator from filing a petition with the court under any other provision of this code concerning the administration of the decedent's estate.

(d) Petitions filed pursuant to this article shall contain the information required by Section 8002.

(e) If a public administrator takes possession or control of an estate pursuant to this chapter, this article conveys the authority of a personal representative as described in Section 9650 to the public administrator to summarily dispose of the estates pursuant to the procedures described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a).

(f) The fee charged under paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be distributed as provided in Section 68085.4 of the Government Code. When an application is filed under that paragraph, no other fees shall be charged in addition to the uniform filing fee provided for in Section 68085.4 of the Government Code.

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**8200:**

(a) Unless a petition for probate of the will is earlier filed, the custodian of a will shall, within 30 days after having knowledge of the death of the testator, do both of the following:

(1) Deliver the will, personally or by registered or certified mail, to the clerk of the superior court of the county in which the estate of the decedent may be administered.

(2) Deliver a copy of the will pursuant to Section 1215 to the person named in the will as executor, if the person's whereabouts is known to the custodian, or if not, to a person named in the will as a beneficiary, if the person's whereabouts is known to the custodian.

(b) A custodian of a will who fails to comply with the requirements of this section shall be liable for all damages sustained by any person injured by the failure.

(c) The clerk shall release a copy of a will delivered under this section for attachment to a petition for probate of the will or otherwise on receipt of payment of the required fee and either a court order for production of the will or a certified copy of a death certificate of the decedent.

(d) The fee for delivering a will to the clerk of the superior court pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be as provided in Section 70626 of the Government Code. If an estate is commenced for the decedent named in the will, the fee for any will delivered pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be reimbursable from the estate as an expense of administration.

**8402:**

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a person is not competent to act as personal representative in any of the following circumstances:

(1) The person is under the age of majority.

(2) The person is subject to a conservatorship of the estate or is otherwise incapable of executing, or is otherwise unfit to execute, the duties of the office.

(3) There are grounds for removal of the person from office under Section 8502.

(4) The person is not a resident of the United States.

(5) The person is a surviving business partner of the decedent and an interested person objects to the appointment.

(b) Paragraphs (4) and (5) of subdivision (a) do not apply to a person named as executor or successor executor in the decedent's will.

**8461:**

Subject to the provisions of this article, a person in the following relation to the decedent is entitled to appointment as administrator in the following order of priority:

(a) Surviving spouse or domestic partner as defined in Section 37.

(b) Children.

(c) Grandchildren.

(d) Other issue.

(e) Parents.

(f) Brothers and sisters.

(g) Issue of brothers and sisters.

(h) Grandparents.

(i) Issue of grandparents.

(j) Children of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(k) Other issue of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(l) Other next of kin.

(m) Parents of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(n) Issue of parents of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner.

(o) Conservator or guardian of the estate acting in that capacity at the time of death who has filed a first account and is not acting as conservator or guardian for any other person.

(p) Public administrator.

(q) Creditors.

(r) Any other person.

**8462:**

The surviving spouse or domestic partner of the decedent, a relative of the decedent, or a relative of a predeceased spouse or domestic partner of the decedent, has priority under Section 8461 only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

(a) The surviving spouse, domestic partner, or relative is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate.

(b) The surviving spouse, domestic partner, or relative either takes under the will of, or is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate of, another deceased person who is entitled to succeed to all or part of the estate of the decedent.

**8463:**

If the surviving spouse is a party to an action for separate maintenance, annulment, or dissolution of the marriage of the decedent and the surviving spouse, and was living apart from the decedent on the date of the decedent's death, the surviving spouse has priority next after brothers and sisters and not the priority prescribed in Section 8461.

**8464:**

If a person otherwise entitled to appointment as administrator is a person under the age of majority or a person for whom a guardian or conservator of the estate has been appointed, the court in its discretion may appoint the guardian or conservator or another person entitled to appointment.

**8465:**

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(a) The court may appoint as administrator a person nominated by any of the following persons:

(1) A person otherwise entitled to appointment.

(2) A person who would otherwise be entitled for appointment but who is ineligible for appointment under paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 8402 because he or she is not a resident of the United States.

(3) The guardian or conservator of the estate of a person otherwise entitled to appointment. The nomination shall be made in writing and filed with the court.

(b) If a person making a nomination for appointment of an administrator is the surviving spouse or domestic partner, child, grandchild, other issue, parent, brother or sister, or grandparent of the decedent, the nominee has priority next after those in the class of the person making the nomination.

(c) If a person making a nomination for appointment of an administrator is other than a person described in subdivision (b), the court in its discretion may appoint either the nominee or a person of a class lower in priority to that of the person making the nomination, but other persons of the class of the person making the nomination have priority over the nominee.

(d) If a person making a nomination for appointment of an administrator is a person described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the court shall not appoint a nominee who is not a California resident to act as administrator. For California residents nominated under paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the court shall consider whether the nominee is capable of faithfully executing the duties of the office. The court may in its discretion deny the appointment and appoint another person. In determining whether to appoint the nominee, the factors the court may consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Whether the nominee has a conflict of interest with the heirs or any other interested party.

(2) Whether the nominee had a business or personal relationship with the decedent or decedent's family before the decedent's death.

(3) Whether the nominee is engaged in or acting on behalf of an individual, a business, or other entity that solicits heirs to obtain the person's nomination for appointment as administrator.

(4) Whether the nominee has been appointed as a personal representative in any other estate.

(e) If the court decides to appoint a nominee under the circumstances described in subdivision (d), the court shall require the nominee to obtain bond, unless the court orders otherwise for good cause. Any order for good cause must be supported by specific findings of fact, and shall consider the need for the protection of creditors, heirs, and any other interested parties. Before waiving a bond, the court shall consider all other alternatives, including, but not limited to, the deposit of property in the estate pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 9700) of Part 5 on the condition that the property, including any earnings thereon, will not be withdrawn except on authorization of the court. The waiver of all of the heirs of the requirement of a bond shall not constitute good cause.

(f) If the appointed nominee ceases to be a California resident following his or her appointment, he or she shall be deemed to have resigned as administrator for the purposes of Article 7 (commencing with Section 8520). The court shall not lose jurisdiction of the proceeding by any resignation under this subdivision.

(g) By accepting appointment as personal representative, the nominee shall submit personally to the jurisdiction of the court.

**9000:**

As used in this division:

(a) "Claim" means a demand for payment for any of the following, whether due, not due, accrued or not accrued, or contingent, and whether liquidated or unliquidated:

(1) Liability of the decedent, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise.

(2) Liability for taxes incurred before the decedent's death, whether assessed before or after the decedent's death, other than property taxes and assessments secured by real property liens.

(3) Liability of the estate for funeral expenses of the decedent.

(b) "Claim" does not include a dispute regarding title of a decedent to specific property alleged to be included in the decedent's estate.

(c) "Creditor" means a person who may have a claim against estate property.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**9600:**

(a) The personal representative has the management and control of the estate and, in managing and controlling the estate, shall use ordinary care and diligence. What constitutes ordinary care and diligence is determined by all the circumstances of the particular estate.

(b) The personal representative:

(1) Shall exercise a power to the extent that ordinary care and diligence require that the power be exercised.

(2) Shall not exercise a power to the extent that ordinary care and diligence require that the power not be exercised.

**9940:**

For the purpose of this chapter:

(a) "Lease" includes, without limitation, a lease that includes an option to purchase real property of the estate.

(b) If a lease gives the lessee the right to extend the term of the lease, the length of the term shall be considered as though the right to extend had been exercised.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**10250:**

Subject to Sections 10251 and 10252 and except as otherwise provided by statute, personal property of the estate may be sold only after notice of sale is given by one or both of the following methods, as the personal representative may determine:

(a) Posting at the county courthouse of the county in which the proceedings are pending at least 15 days before:

(1) In the case of a private sale, the day specified in the notice of sale as the day on or after which the sale is to be made.

(2) In the case of a public auction sale, the day of the auction.

(b) Publication pursuant to Section 6063a of the Government Code in a newspaper in the county in which the proceedings are pending, such publication to be completed before:

(1) In the case of a private sale, the day specified in the notice of sale as the day on or after which the sale is to be made.

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(2) In the case of a public auction sale, the day of the auction.

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**10300:**

(a) Except as provided in Sections 10301 to 10303, inclusive, and in Section 10503, real property of the estate may be sold only after notice of sale has been published pursuant to Section 6063a of the Government Code (1) in a newspaper published in the county in which the real property or some portion thereof is located or (2) if there is no such newspaper, in such newspaper as the court or judge may direct.

(b) The publication of notice of sale shall be completed before:

(1) In the case of a private sale, the day specified in the notice as the day on or after which the sale is to be made.

(2) In the case of a public auction sale, the day of the auction.

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**10500:**

(a) Subject to the limitations and conditions of this part, a personal representative who has been granted authority to administer the estate under this part may administer the estate as provided in this part without court supervision, but in all other respects the personal representative shall administer the estate in the same manner as a personal representative who has not been granted authority to administer the estate under this part.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the personal representative may obtain court supervision as provided in this code of any action to be taken by the personal representative during administration of the estate.

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**10510:**

The personal representative may exercise the powers described in this article only if the requirements of Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 10580) (notice of proposed action procedure) are satisfied.

**10511:**

The personal representative who has full authority has the power to sell or exchange real property of the estate.

**10538:**

(a) The personal representative has the following powers:

(1) The power to grant an exclusive right to sell property for a period not to exceed 90 days.

(2) The power to grant to the same broker one or more extensions of an exclusive right to sell property, each extension being for a period not to exceed 90 days.

(b) Except as provided in subdivision (c), the personal representative may exercise the powers described in subdivision (a) without giving notice of proposed action under Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 10580).

(c) The personal representative shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 10580) where the personal representative grants to the same broker an extension of an exclusive right to sell property and the period of the extension, together with the periods of the original exclusive right to sell the property and any previous extensions of that right, is more than 270 days.

**10800:**

(a) Subject to the provisions of this part, for ordinary services the personal representative shall receive compensation based on the value of the estate accounted for by the personal representative, as follows:

(1) Four percent on the first one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

(2) Three percent on the next one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

(3) Two percent on the next eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000).

(4) One percent on the next nine million dollars (\$9,000,000).

(5) One-half of one percent on the next fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000).

(6) For all amounts above twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), a reasonable amount to be determined by the court.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the value of the estate accounted for by the personal representative is the total amount of the appraisal value of property in the inventory, plus gains over the appraisal value on sales, plus receipts, less losses from the appraisal value on sales, without reference to encumbrances or other obligations on estate property.

**10801:**

(a) Subject to the provisions of this part, in addition to the compensation provided by Section 10800, the court may allow additional compensation for extraordinary services by the personal representative in an amount the court determines is just and reasonable.

(b) The personal representative may also employ or retain tax counsel, tax auditors, accountants, or other tax experts for the performance of any action which such persons, respectively, may lawfully perform in the computation, reporting, or making of tax returns, or in negotiations or litigation which may be necessary for the final determination and payment of taxes, and pay from the funds of the estate for such services.

**11420:**

(a) Debts shall be paid in the following order of priority among classes of debts, except that debts owed to the United States or to this state that have preference under the laws of the United States or of this state shall be given the preference required by such laws:

(1) Expenses of administration. With respect to obligations secured by mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien, including, but not limited to, a judgment lien, only those expenses of administration incurred that are reasonably related to the administration of that property by which obligations are secured shall be given priority over these obligations.

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(2) Obligations secured by a mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien, including, but not limited to, a judgment lien, in the order of their priority, so far as they may be paid out of the proceeds of the property subject to the lien. If the proceeds are insufficient, the part of the obligation remaining unsatisfied shall be classed with general debts.

(3) Funeral expenses.

(4) Expenses of last illness.

(5) Family allowance.

(6) Wage claims.

(7) General debts, including judgments not secured by a lien and all other debts not included in a prior class.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by statute, the debts of each class are without preference or priority one over another. No debt of any class may be paid until all those of prior classes are paid in full. If property in the estate is insufficient to pay all debts of any class in full, each debt in that class shall be paid a proportionate share.

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**13006:**

"Successor of the decedent" means:

(a) If the decedent died leaving a will, the sole beneficiary or all of the beneficiaries who succeeded to a particular item of property of the decedent under the decedent's will. For the purposes of this part, a trust is a beneficiary under the decedent's will if the trust succeeds to the particular item of property under the decedent's will.

(b) If the decedent died without a will, the sole person or all of the persons who succeeded to the particular item of property of the decedent under Sections 6401 and 6402 or, if the law of a sister state or foreign nation governs succession to the particular item of property, under the law of the sister state or foreign nation.

**13050:**

(a) For the purposes of this part:

(1) Any property or interest or lien thereon which, at the time of the decedent's death, was held by the decedent as a joint tenant, or in which the decedent had a life or other interest terminable upon the decedent's death, or which was held by the decedent and passed to the decedent's surviving spouse pursuant to Section 13500, shall be excluded in determining the property or estate of the decedent or its value. This excluded property shall include, but not be limited to, property in a trust revocable by the decedent during his or her lifetime.

(2) A multiple-party account to which the decedent was a party at the time of the decedent's death shall be excluded in determining the property or estate of the decedent or its value, whether or not all or a portion of the sums on deposit are community property, to the extent that the sums on deposit belong after the death of the decedent to a surviving party, P.O.D. payee, or beneficiary. For the purposes of this paragraph, the terms "multiple-party account," "party," "P.O.D. payee," and "beneficiary" are defined in Article 2 (commencing with Section 5120) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 5.

(b) For the purposes of this part, all of the following property shall be excluded in determining the property or estate of the decedent or its value:

(1) Any vehicle registered under Division 3 (commencing with Section 4000) of the Vehicle Code or titled under Division 16.5 (commencing with Section 38000) of the Vehicle Code.

(2) Any vessel numbered under Division 3.5 (commencing with Section 9840) of the Vehicle Code.

(3) Any manufactured home, mobilehome, commercial coach, truck camper, or floating home registered under Part 2 (commencing with Section 18000) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code.

(c) For the purposes of this part, the value of the following property shall be excluded in determining the value of the decedent's property in this state:

(1) Any amounts due to the decedent for services in the Armed Forces of the United States.

(2) The amount, not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), of salary or other compensation, including compensation for unused vacation, owing to the decedent for personal services from any employment.

**13100:**

Excluding the property described in Section 13050, if the gross value of the decedent's real and personal property in this state does not exceed one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) and if 40 days have elapsed since the death of the decedent, the successor of the decedent may, without procuring letters of administration or awaiting probate of the will, do any of the following with respect to one or more particular items of property:

(a) Collect any particular item of property that is money due the decedent.

(b) Receive any particular item of property that is tangible personal property of the decedent.

(c) Have any particular item of property that is evidence of a debt, obligation, interest, right, security, or chose in action belonging to the decedent transferred, whether or not secured by a lien on real property.

**SEE [LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV](http://LEGINFO.LEGISLATURE.CA.GOV) FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION AS REFERENCED**

**13114:**

(a) A public administrator who has taken possession or control of property of a decedent under Article 1 (commencing with Section 7600) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 7 may refuse to pay money or deliver property pursuant to this chapter if payment of the costs and fees described in Section 7604 has not first been made or adequately assured to the satisfaction of the public administrator.

(b) A coroner who has property found upon the body of a decedent, or who has taken charge of property of the decedent pursuant to Section 27491.3 of the Government Code, may refuse to pay or deliver the property pursuant to this chapter if payment of the



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reasonable costs of holding or safeguarding the property has not first been made or adequately assured to the satisfaction of the coroner.

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