

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

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### **SHERIFF'S PREFACE**

#### **FOREWORD**

The functions of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office involve responsibility for the protection of life and property and enforcement of the law including our Administrative, Civil, Field Operations, Communications, Corrections and Emergency Management Divisions. We must recognize that all the operations of this office are in the interest of public welfare and safety. It must also be recognized that we have conferred upon us certain legal powers not possessed by the private citizen. Therefore, it is most important that our objectives be achieved in a manner that inspires the confidence and respect of the public.

While no arbitrary rules of conduct can be established which will embrace all cases arising in the general discharge of our duties, or in the personal activities of each individual employed by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, this manual will provide a basic background for personnel conduct and procedure.

It is my desire that the men and women of this office come to know and thoroughly understand, not only the subject matter herein, but also the underlying spirit and intent.

All persons employed by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall be expected to conform to the provisions contained in this manual, which dictates the policy and procedures of this agency.

Scott L. Johnson

Sheriff

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

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### **LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS**

#### **CODE OF ETHICS:**

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental obligation is to uphold the constitutional rights and freedoms of the people whom I have been sworn to protect.

While I consider the way I choose to conduct my private affairs and personal freedom. I accept the responsibilities for my actions, as well as inactions, while on duty or off duty, when those actions bring disrepute on the public image of my employer, my fellow officers and the law enforcement profession.

I vow to perform all my duties in a professional and competent manner. I consider the ability to be courageous in the face of danger and to exercise restraint in the use of my powers and authority to be the ultimate public trust. I accept that I must consistently strive to achieve excellence in obtaining the necessary knowledge and skills associated with my duties. I will keep myself physically fit and mentally alert so that I am capable of performing my duties according to the standards of quality expected of my position.

I vow to be fully truthful and honest in my dealings with others. I deplore lies and half-truths that mislead or do not fully inform those who must depend upon my honesty. I will obey the very laws I am sworn to uphold. I will seek affirmative ways to comply with the standards of my agency and the lawful directions of my supervisors.

I vow to treat others with courtesy at all times. I consider it to be a professional weakness to allow another's behavior to dictate my response. I will not allow others actions or failings to be my excuse for not performing my duties in a responsible, professional and expected manner.

I vow to empathize with the problems of people whom I come in daily contact. However, I cannot allow my personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence the discretionary authorities entrusted to my job. I will affirmatively seek ways to avoid conflicts of interest that could compromise my official authority or public image.

I hold the authority inherent in my position to be an affirmation of the public's trust in me as a law enforcement officer. I do not take this trust lightly. As long as I remain in this position, I will dedicate myself to maintaining this trust and upholding all the ideals of the law enforcement profession.

#### **ETHICAL VALUES:**

**TRUSTWORTHINESS:** Trustworthiness is one of the most important ethical values and includes qualities such as honesty, integrity, reliability and loyalty. Earned trust allows the community to feel secure and assures them we will meet our obligations. Our ability to function as an organization rises and falls upon this value and it must be jealously guarded to ensure our continued success. The esteem the community holds for the Pacific County Sheriff's Office is based squarely on each member's honesty, integrity, reliability and loyalty.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Our commitment to achieving our mission for the people of Pacific County can only be secured through a responsible, reliable and affirmative effort. Responsibility incorporates qualities such as accountability, self-restraint and the pursuit of excellence. We must accept

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS*

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responsibility for our action, as well as inaction, while on duty or off duty, when what we do brings disrepute on the image of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and fellow members. We shall uphold and follow through on promises and commitments so we can be relied upon.

**RESPECT:** This organization revolves around respecting our duty, mission and the community. Respect in the Sheriff's Office is demonstrated through the courteous treatment we offer each other in the conduct of our daily business. We strive to treat others with courtesy and respect at all times, not because of whom they are, but because of whom we are. We will maintain our professionalism by not allowing another's behavior to dictate our response. Our duties will be carried out in a respectful and professional manner regardless of the actions or failings of others.

**FAIRNESS:** We shall seek to be fair in adhering to a balanced standard of impartiality, equality, openness and due process without relevance to our feelings or inclinations. We will seek out relevant information and conflicting perspective before making judgments and decisions. Our decisions must be made without favoritism or prejudice and we shall not take advantage of weakness or ignorance in others.

**CARING:** We must empathize with the problems of people we work with and contact on a daily basis. Sometimes we must make decisions that cause people both emotional and physical pain. In doing so, we should be consciously aware to cause no more discomfort than is reasonable and necessary to perform our duties. A person who is caring will feel an obligation to be trustworthy, responsible, respectful, fair and to promote good citizen-ship.

**CITIZENSHIP:** The Pacific County Sheriff's Office exists for the service it provides to the community. We consider it our duty to deliver friendly, beneficial service, which promotes our mission. Members are encouraged to provide community service outside of their normal work environment through civic groups, athletics, churches and other forms of volunteerism.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

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### **MISSION STATEMENT/VISION STATEMENT**

#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

To make a positive difference for members of our community by seeking and finding ways to affirmatively promote, preserve and deliver a feeling of security, safety and quality service.

#### **VISION STATEMENT:**

Our community will recognize the Pacific County Sheriff's Office as a progressive leader and trusted community partner working to make Pacific County a safe, secure and productive place for people to work, live and go to school.

We will have a solid reputation for respecting individual rights while aggressively pursuing criminals, arresting drug dealers and enforcing the law.

We will be known for operating a tough, no-frills jail that is clean, meets humanitarian needs and saves the taxpayer dollars

We will be acknowledged for our commitment to make Pacific County a better place to live and an uncomfortable place for people who break the law.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

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## Table of Contents

<b>SHERIFF'S PREFACE . . . . .</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS . . . . .</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MISSION STATEMENT/VISION STATEMENT . . . . .</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Chapter 1 - Law Enforcement Role and Authority . . . . .</b>	<b>10</b>
100 - Law Enforcement Authority . . . . .	11
102 - Law Enforcement Certification . . . . .	13
104 - Oath of Office . . . . .	14
106 - Policy Manual . . . . .	15
<b>Chapter 2 - Organization and Administration . . . . .</b>	<b>19</b>
200 - Organizational Structure and Responsibility . . . . .	20
204 - Departmental Directive . . . . .	22
206 - Emergency Management Plan . . . . .	23
208 - Training Policy . . . . .	25
212 - Electronic Mail . . . . .	29
214 - Administrative Communications . . . . .	31
216 - Staffing Levels . . . . .	32
218 - Concealed Pistol License . . . . .	33
220 - Retiree Concealed Firearms . . . . .	38
<b>Chapter 3 - General Operations . . . . .</b>	<b>41</b>
300 - Use of Force . . . . .	42
302 - Deadly Force Review . . . . .	49
306 - Handcuffing and Restraints . . . . .	52
308 - Control Devices and Techniques . . . . .	56
309 - Conducted Energy Device . . . . .	61
310 - Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths . . . . .	65
312 - Firearms . . . . .	74
314 - Vehicle Pursuits . . . . .	83
316 - Deputy Response to Calls . . . . .	96
318 - Canines . . . . .	99
320 - Domestic Violence . . . . .	108
322 - Search and Seizure . . . . .	113
324 - Temporary Custody of Juveniles . . . . .	115
326 - Adult Abuse . . . . .	123
328 - Discriminatory Harassment . . . . .	129
330 - Child Abuse . . . . .	134
332 - Missing Persons . . . . .	141
334 - Public Alerts . . . . .	148
336 - Victim Witness Assistance . . . . .	153
338 - Hate Crimes . . . . .	155

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

---

340 - Standards of Conduct . . . . .	159
342 - Information Technology Use . . . . .	166
344 - Report Preparation . . . . .	170
346 - News Media Relations . . . . .	175
348 - Court Appearance And Subpoenas . . . . .	179
350 - Reserve Deputies . . . . .	183
352 - Mutual Aid and Outside Agency Assistance . . . . .	188
356 - Registered Offender Information . . . . .	189
358 - Major Incident Notification . . . . .	194
360 - Death Investigation . . . . .	196
362 - Identity Theft . . . . .	198
368 - Limited English Proficiency Services . . . . .	199
370 - Communications with Persons with Disabilities . . . . .	207
376 - Chaplains . . . . .	215
378 - Public Safety Video Surveillance System . . . . .	221
380 - Child and Dependent Adult Safety . . . . .	225
382 - Service Animal Policy . . . . .	229
384 - Volunteer Program . . . . .	231
386 - Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions . . . . .	237
387 - Department Use of Social Media . . . . .	239
 <b>Chapter 4 - Patrol Operations . . . . .</b>	 <b>242</b>
400 - Patrol Function . . . . .	243
402 - Racial/Bias Based Profiling . . . . .	246
406 - Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity . . . . .	249
408 - Crisis Response Unit . . . . .	251
410 - Ride-Along Policy . . . . .	258
412 - Hazardous Material Response . . . . .	261
414 - Hostage and Barricade Incidents . . . . .	263
416 - Response to Bomb Calls . . . . .	268
417 - RESPONSE TO BURGLARIES . . . . .	272
418 - Emergent Detentions . . . . .	273
420 - Citation Releases . . . . .	276
422 - Arrest or Detention of Foreign Nationals . . . . .	279
423 - Marine Safety & Enforcement Unit . . . . .	283
424 - Rapid Deployment Team Policy . . . . .	287
426 - Reporting Police Activity Outside of Jurisdiction . . . . .	289
428 - Immigration Violations . . . . .	290
430 - Emergency Utility Service . . . . .	294
431 - Alarm Response . . . . .	295
432 - Patrol Rifles . . . . .	296
434 - Aircraft Accidents . . . . .	299
436 - Field Training Officer Program . . . . .	302
438 - Obtaining Air Support . . . . .	305
440 - Detentions And Photographing Detainees . . . . .	306
442 - Criminal Organizations . . . . .	312
444 - Sergeants . . . . .	316

---

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

---

448 - Mobile Digital Computer Use . . . . .	317
450 - Portable Audio/Video Recorders . . . . .	320
452 - Medical Marijuana . . . . .	324
456 - Foot Pursuit Policy . . . . .	329
462 - Automated License Plate Readers . . . . .	333
464 - Homeless Persons . . . . .	335
465 - Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity . . . . .	338
465 - First Amendment Assemblies . . . . .	341
466 - Civil Disputes . . . . .	347
467 - Crisis Intervention Incidents . . . . .	349
468 - Medical Aid and Response . . . . .	354
469 - Suspicious Activity Reporting . . . . .	359
<b>Chapter 5 - Traffic Operations . . . . .</b>	<b>361</b>
500 - Traffic Function and Responsibility . . . . .	362
502 - Traffic Collision Reporting . . . . .	366
510 - Vehicle Towing Policy . . . . .	368
512 - Vehicle Impound Hearings . . . . .	371
514 - Impaired Driving . . . . .	372
516 - Traffic Citations . . . . .	377
520 - Disabled Vehicles . . . . .	379
524 - Unauthorized 24 Hour Vehicle Violations . . . . .	380
526 - Vehicle Seizure and Forfeiture . . . . .	381
<b>Chapter 6 - Investigation Operations . . . . .</b>	<b>384</b>
600 - Investigation and Prosecution . . . . .	385
601 - Case Status Reporting Procedures . . . . .	390
606 - Asset Forfeiture . . . . .	395
608 - Confidential Informants . . . . .	401
610 - Eyewitness Identification . . . . .	405
612 - Brady Material Disclosure . . . . .	409
613 - Sexual Assault Investigations . . . . .	411
614 - Warrant Service . . . . .	415
615 - Operations Planning and Deconfliction . . . . .	419
<b>Chapter 7 - Equipment . . . . .</b>	<b>425</b>
700 - Department Owned and Personal Property . . . . .	426
702 - Personal Communication Devices . . . . .	428
704 - Vehicle Maintenance . . . . .	432
706 - Vehicle Use . . . . .	434
<b>Chapter 8 - Support Services . . . . .</b>	<b>438</b>
802 - Communication Operations . . . . .	439
804 - Property and Evidence . . . . .	441
806 - Records . . . . .	451
808 - Restoration of Firearm Serial Numbers . . . . .	456
810 - Records Release and Security . . . . .	458

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

---

811 - ACCESS Misuse . . . . .	465
812 - Protected Information . . . . .	467
813 - Sealing/Destroying Case Files . . . . .	470
820 - Animal Control Procedures . . . . .	474
821 - HUMAN EXPOSURE TO BITE OF PET OR STRAY DOGS, CATS, OR FERRETS . . . . .	478
822 - Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act . . . . .	480
<b>Chapter 9 - Custody . . . . .</b>	<b>485</b>
900 - Temporary Custody of Adults . . . . .	486
902 - Custodial Searches . . . . .	496
904 - Biological Samples . . . . .	502
906 - Prison Rape Elimination . . . . .	505
<b>Chapter 10 - Personnel . . . . .</b>	<b>515</b>
1000 - Recruitment and Selection . . . . .	516
1002 - Evaluation of Employees . . . . .	520
1004 - Promotional and Transfer Policy . . . . .	524
1006 - Grievance Procedure . . . . .	526
1008 - Anti-Retaliation . . . . .	528
1010 - Reporting of Employee Convictions . . . . .	531
1012 - Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace . . . . .	532
1014 - Sick Leave Reporting . . . . .	535
1016 - Communicable Diseases . . . . .	537
1018 - Smoking and Tobacco Use . . . . .	542
1020 - Personnel Complaints . . . . .	543
1022 - Seat Belt Procedure . . . . .	551
1024 - Body Armor . . . . .	553
1026 - Personnel Files . . . . .	556
1028 - Request for Change of Assignment . . . . .	563
1030 - Employee Commendations . . . . .	564
1032 - Fitness for Duty . . . . .	571
1034 - Meal Periods and Breaks . . . . .	574
1035 - Lactation Break Policy . . . . .	576
1036 - Payroll Record Procedures . . . . .	578
1038 - Overtime Compensation Requests . . . . .	579
1040 - Outside Employment . . . . .	581
1042 - On-Duty Injuries . . . . .	586
1044 - Personal Appearance Standards . . . . .	589
1046 - Uniform Regulations . . . . .	591
1050 - Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships . . . . .	599
1052 - Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees . . . . .	602
1054 - Department Badges . . . . .	608
1056 - Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments . . . . .	610
1058 - Performance History Audits . . . . .	614
1060 - Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking . . . . .	617



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

Policy Manual

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<b>Attachments . . . . .</b>	<b>621</b>
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## **Chapter 1 - Law Enforcement Role and Authority**

## Law Enforcement Authority

### 100.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Law enforcement officers are granted the authority to perform their function based on established legal authority. This department does not tolerate abuse of law enforcement authority.

### 100.2 PEACE OFFICER POWERS

Sworn members of this Department shall be considered peace officers as defined by RCW 9A.04.110(13) and RCW 9A.04.110(15). The authority of any such peace officer to make an arrest without a warrant is enumerated in RCW 10.31.100, and includes:

- (a) When the peace officer has probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a felony shall have the authority to arrest the person without a warrant.
- (b) A peace officer may arrest a person without a warrant for committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor only when the offense is committed in the presence of an officer, except as provided in RCW 10.31.100, subsections (1) through (11).

#### 100.2.1 OTHER AUTHORITY

Sworn members of this department who enter the state of Oregon in order to provide or attempt to provide law enforcement assistance have Oregon peace officer authority within 50 miles of the Washington-Oregon border under the following circumstances (ORS 133.405):

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

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

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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Law Enforcement Authority*

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#### **100.3 CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

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

## Law Enforcement Certification

### **102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

All sworn deputies employed by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall receive certification by CJTC prior to assuming law enforcement duties and responsibilities, and shall begin attending an approved academy within the first six months of employment (RCW 43.101.095(1); RCW 43.101.200(1)).

## Oath of Office

### **104.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Deputies of this department are sworn to uphold the federal and state constitutions and to enforce federal, state and local laws.

#### **104.1.1 OATH OF OFFICE**

Upon employment, all sworn employees shall be required to affirm the oath of office expressing commitment and intent to respect constitutional rights in discharging the duties of a law enforcement officer.

All sworn employees shall comply with the oath of office and agency policies, including the duty to be truthful and honest in the conduct of official business.

# Policy Manual

## 106.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The manual of the Pacific 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.

## 106.2 POLICY

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

### 106.2.1 DISCLAIMER

The provisions contained in the Policy Manual are not intended to create an employment contract nor any employment rights or entitlements. The policies contained within this manual are for the internal use of the Pacific 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office reserves the right to revise any policy content, in whole or in part.

## 106.3 AUTHORITY

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

## 106.4 DEFINITIONS

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

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

**CFR** - Code of Federal Regulations.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Policy Manual*

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**County** - The County of Pacific County.

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

**CJTC** - The Criminal Justice Training Commission.

**Department/PCSO** - The Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

**DOL** - The Department of Licensing.

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

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

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

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

**Member** - Any person employed or appointed by the Pacific 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 officer employees of the Pacific 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.

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

**RCW** - Revised Code of Washington (Example: RCW 9.41.040).

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

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

**Staff** - Refers to Command Staff, which includes the Undersheriff, Chief Criminal Deputy, Lieutenant, Chief Civil Deputy, 911/Emergency Management Coordinator, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator.

**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.



## *Policy Manual*

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**USC** - United States Code.

**WAC** - The Washington Administrative Code (Example: WAC 296-24-567).

**WSP** - The Washington State Patrol.

### 106.4.1 STAFF

Staff shall consist of the following:

- Sheriff
- Undersheriff
- Chief Criminal Deputy
- Lieutenant
- Chief Civil Deputy
- 911/Emergency Management Director
- Deputy Emergency Management Director

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

### 106.4.2 SECURITY OF THE MANUAL

Employees will keep their manuals secure. Any information which could hamper the departments's operations will be kept strictly confidential. Strict confidentiality is especially important with regard to information on emergency response to criminal activity. Loss of a manual or any of its parts will immediately be reported to a supervisor.

### 106.4.3 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION OR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Any request for public disclosure or request for information on this manual via court order, subpoena ect. will be directed through the Sheriff or Undersheriff.

### 106.4.4 MECHANICS OF THE MANUAL

This manual has been organized to assist employees in consulting its material easily and quickly. To find a general subject area, consult the Table of Contents at the front of the manual for the correct chapter and section. To find a specific subject, consult the contents page at the beginning of each chapter.

## 106.5 ISSUING THE POLICY MANUAL

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

Each member shall acknowledge that he/she has been provided access to, and has had the opportunity to review the Policy Manual and Departmental Directives. Members shall seek

## *Policy Manual*

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clarification as needed from an appropriate supervisor for any provisions that they do not fully understand.

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

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

### **106.7 REVISIONS TO POLICIES**

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

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

Each Lieutenant 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 Lieutenants, who will consider the recommendations and forward them to the command staff as appropriate.

The Sheriff shall retain the right to exercise the customary functions of management so long as any adjustments do not constitute a unilateral change in wages, hours and/or working conditions. "See section 4.1.1 of the Commissioned and Non-Commissioned CBA.

4.1.1 Except as limited by an express provision of this Agreement and subject to RCW 41.14 and the Civil Service Rules, the Employer shall retain the right to exercise the customary functions of management so long as any adjustments do not constitute a unilateral change in wages, hours, and/or working conditions. These rights include directing the activities of the Office, determining the levels of service and methods of operation, including the introduction of new equipment, the right to hire, lay off, transfer, promote and discipline, and to determine work schedules, assign work and determine time and location of an employee's work shift.

## **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 DIVISIONS

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

- Administrative
- Support Services Division
- Patrol Division
- Corrections Division
- Communications Division
- Emergency Management Division

### 200.2.1 ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Support Services Division is commanded by a Chief Deputy, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Support Services division. The Support Services Division consists of Technical Services and Administrative Services.

### 200.2.2 PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is commanded by a Lieutenant whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for that Division. The Patrol Division consists of Uniformed Patrol and Special Operations, which includes Drug Task Force, Sex Offender management unit and Property Officer.

### 200.2.3 CORRECTIONS DIVISION

### 200.2.4 E911/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

### 200.2.5 COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

### 200.2.6 SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

## 200.3 COMMAND PROTOCOL

### 200.3.1 SUCCESSION OF COMMAND

The Sheriff exercises command over all personnel in the Agency. During planned absences the Sheriff will designate the Undersheriff to serve as the acting Sheriff.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Organizational Structure and Responsibility*

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

- (a) Undersheriff
- (b) Chief Criminal Deputy
- (c) Lieutenant
- (d) Chief Civil Deputy
- (e) Sergeant

#### 200.3.2 UNITY OF COMMAND

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

#### 200.3.3 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.

## Departmental Directive

### 204.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Departmental Directives 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. Departmental Directives will immediately modify or change and supersede sections of this manual to which they pertain.

#### 204.1.1 DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTIVE PROTOCOL

Departmental Directives will be incorporated into the manual as required upon approval of Staff and possible Collective Bargaining Union Review. Departmental Directives will modify existing policies or create a new policy as appropriate and will be rescinded upon incorporation into the manual.

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

Any Departmental Directives 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, 09-01 signifies the first Departmental Directive for the year 2009.

### 204.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Lieutenant will incorporate the new directive revisions or additions into the Pacific County Sheriff's Office policy manual. Distribution of the directives will be completed as per §106.4.1.

#### 204.2.1 STAFF

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

#### 204.2.2 SHERIFF

The Sheriff shall issue all Departmental Directives.

### 204.3 ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTIVES

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

# Emergency Management Plan

## 206.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The County has prepared an Emergency Management Plan Manual for use by all employees in the event of a major disaster, civil disturbance, mass arrest or other emergency event. The manual provides for a strategic response by all employees and assigns specific responsibilities in the event the plan is activated.

The County Emergency Management Plan is written in accordance with the State of Washington's comprehensive emergency management plan and program, and has been approved for local use (RCW 38.52.070). This plan provides guidance for County emergency operations within and outside its borders.

### 206.1.1 AGENCYCITYNAME CODES

An emergency management organization has been established by County of Pacific County. This ordinance has been approved by the County Council (WAC 118-30-050).

## 206.2 ACTIVATING THE EMERGENCY PLAN

The Emergency Management Plan may be activated by the Sheriff, the highest ranking official on-duty or a responder who is at the scene of a major emergency.

Upon activation of the plan, the Sheriff or the authorized designee should, if the need is anticipated, contact the State Emergency Operations Center to assist with a mutual aid response in which local, state and federal law enforcement agencies provide resources to this department.

### 206.2.1 RECALL OF PERSONNEL

In the event that the Emergency Management Plan is activated, all employees of the Pacific 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 respond to an order to report for duty may result in discipline.

## 206.3 LOCATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The manual for the employees is available in Support Services, the Shift Sergeant's office and in Dispatch. All supervisors should familiarize themselves with the Emergency Management Plan and what roles police personnel will play when the plan is implemented. The Training Officer should ensure that all personnel receive periodic training on the Emergency Management Plan.

The Support Services Lieutenant or the authorized designee shall ensure that all copies of the Emergency Management Plan manual are kept current and available to all personnel.

## 206.4 BUILDING EVACUATION PLAN

In the event of a disaster or emergency which requires evacuation of the public safety services building, all employees shall follow implemented evacuation plans and posted exit strategies. The

## *Emergency Management Plan*

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posted exit strategies shall include any special directions for physically impaired employees (WAC 296-24-567).

### **206.5 UPDATING OF MANUALS**

The Sheriff or the authorized 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) (WAC 118-30-060(7)).

### **206.6 TRAINING**

The Department should provide annual training in the Emergency Management Plan for all supervisors and other appropriate personnel. All supervisors should familiarize themselves with the Emergency Management Plan and the roles sheriff's personnel will play when the plan is implemented. Training should incorporate a full or partial exercise, tabletop or command staff discussion.



## Training Policy

### 208.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 208.2 PHILOSOPHY

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

### 208.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Training Program are to:

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

### 208.4 TRAINING PLAN

A training plan for all employees will be developed and maintained by the Training Officer. It is the responsibility of the Training Officer to maintain, review, and update the training plan on an annual basis. The plan will ensure, at minimum, the following:

- (a) All sworn members will successfully complete an annual in-service training program of no less than 24 hours that includes the following required CJTC Training (WAC 139-05-300):
  - 1. Federal and Washington Court cases.
  - 2. Legal updates.
- (b) All sworn members will successfully complete an annual in-service training program on the department use of force and deadly force policies.
- (c) All sworn members will successfully complete in-service training on less-than-lethal weapons every two years.
- (d) Full-time supervisors or managers will receive appropriate training and certification required by CJTC.
- (e) All sworn members will successfully complete the National Incident Management System (NIMS) introductory training course.

## *Training Policy*

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The plan will also address the following areas:

- Legislative Changes
- State Mandated Training
- Critical Issues Training

### 208.4.1 CBA TRAINING PLAN/SWORN

<sup>SS</sup> 10.4.2. of the **CBA** states:

The Sheriff or designee shall schedule each employee for a minimum of thirty-two hours (32) hours of training annually, excluding firearms qualifications.

a) Such training shall be inclusive of in-house training as well as training taken outside of the department. b) The aforementioned minimum shall not be inclusive of travel time to and from such training. c) An employee attending any such training shall report such training to the Sheriff's designated training officer and the Employer's Risk Manager. d) The thirty two (32) hour minimum may be restricted due to budgetary limitations and staffing levels.

### 208.5 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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

### 208.6 TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

Detailed records shall be kept of all in-service training sponsored by or presented on behalf of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Records should minimally include the following:

- An overview of the course content and/or an instructor lesson plan.
- Names and agency contact information of all attendees.
- Instructor credentials or resume.
- Individual attendee test results (if applicable).
- Course completion roster.

### 208.7 TRAINING PROCEDURES

- (a) All employees assigned to attend training shall attend unless previously excused by their immediate supervisor. Excused absences from mandatory training should be limited to:
1. Court appearances
  2. First choice vacation
  3. Sick leave
  4. Physical limitations preventing the employee's participation.

## *Training Policy*

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

### **208.8 TRAINING COMMITTEE**

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

The Training Committee shall be comprised of at least three members, with the senior ranking member of the committee acting as the chairperson. Members should be selected based on their abilities at post-incident evaluation and at assessing related training needs. The Training Officer may remove or replace members of the committee at his/her discretion.

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

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

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

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

### **208.9 DAILY TRAINING BULLETINS**

The Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) are contained in a web-accessed system that provides training on the Pacific 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 Officer.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Training Policy*

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Personnel assigned to participate in DTBs shall only use login credentials assigned to them by the Training Officer. 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 logoff 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.

## Electronic Mail

### 212.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper use and application of the Department electronic e-mail system by employees of this department. E-mail 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., Washington Public Disclosure Act). Messages transmitted over the e-mail system must only be those that involve official business activities or contain information essential to employees for the accomplishment of business-related tasks and/or communication directly related to the business, administration, or practices of the Department.

### 212.2 E-MAIL RIGHT OF PRIVACY

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

The e-mail system is not a confidential system and therefore is not appropriate for confidential communications. If a communication must be confidential, an alternative method to communicate the message should be used. Employees using the department e-mail system shall have no expectation of privacy concerning communications transmitted over the system.

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

### 212.3 PROHIBITED USE OF E-MAIL

Sending derogatory, defamatory, obscene, disrespectful, sexually suggestive, and harassing or any other inappropriate messages on the e-mail system will not be tolerated 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 Lieutenant. 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.

### 212.4 MANAGEMENT OF E-MAIL

Because the e-mail system is not designed for long-term retention of messages, e-mail that the employee desires to save or that becomes part of an official record should be printed and/or stored

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Electronic Mail*

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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.

E-mail messages are public records when they are created or received in the transaction of public business and retained as evidence of official policies, actions, decisions or transactions. E-mail messages should be managed by their category in compliance with the current [Records Management Guidelines and General Records Retention Schedules](#) (Schedule Number L08 "Electronic Mail"). The Local Government General Records Retention Schedule (LGGRRS) is the controlling schedule for records retention and management ([RCW](#) Chapter 40.14).

# Administrative Communications

## 214.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

## 214.2 MEMORANDUMS

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

## 214.3 CORRESPONDENCE

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

## 214.4 SURVEYS

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

## Staffing Levels

### **216.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

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

### **216.2 MINIMUM STAFFING LEVELS**

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

#### **216.2.1 SUPERVISION DEPLOYMENTS**

In order to accommodate training and other unforeseen circumstances, a senior deputy may be used as a field supervisor in place of a field sergeant.

With prior authorization from the Field Operations Lieutenant, a senior deputy may act as the Shift Sergeant for a limited period of time.



## Concealed Pistol License

### 218.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Sheriff is given the statutory responsibility to issue, monitor, and revoke a license to carry a concealed pistol to residents within the community (RCW 9.41.070). This policy will provide a written process for the application, issuance, and revocation of such licenses.

#### 218.1.1 APPLICATION OF POLICY

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the Sheriff from entering into an agreement with any chief of police within the county to process all applications and permits for the carrying of a concealed pistol.

### 218.2 QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

All applicants for a concealed pistol license shall qualify to receive such a license unless the applicant is ineligible for a license or to possess a pistol under any of the following conditions (RCW 9.41.070):

- (a) The applicant is ineligible or is prohibited to possess a firearm under the provisions of RCW 9.41.040, RCW 9.41.045 or federal law.
- (b) The applicant's concealed pistol license is in a revoked status.
- (c) The applicant is under twenty-one years of age.
- (d) The applicant is subject to a court order or injunction regarding firearms.
- (e) The applicant is free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for a felony offense.
- (f) The applicant has an outstanding warrant for his/her arrest from any court of competent jurisdiction for a felony or misdemeanor.
- (g) The applicant has been ordered to forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(e) within one year before filing an application to carry a pistol concealed on his/her person.
- (h) The applicant has been convicted of a felony or is otherwise restricted from possessing a firearm unless the person has been granted relief from disabilities by the United States Attorney General under 18 USC § 925(c), or RCW 9.41.040(3) or (4) applies.

Non-immigrant aliens are not eligible for concealed pistol licenses. However, they may be eligible for an alien firearm license for the purposes of hunting and sport shooting, subject to certain eligibility requirements. Any non-immigrant alien who wishes to obtain an alien firearm license should be directed to apply to the sheriff in the county in which he/she resides (RCW 9.41.173).

### 218.3 APPLICATION PROCESS AND RENEWAL

The Sheriff has thirty days after the filing of an application of any person to issue a license to carry a concealed pistol. If the applicant does not have a valid permanent Washington driver license or

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Concealed Pistol License*

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identification card or has not been a resident of the state for the previous consecutive 90 days, the Sheriff has 60 days to issue a license. The Sheriff must accept completed applications for concealed pistol licenses during regular business hours (RCW 9.41.070).

The Sheriff is required to check with the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), the Washington State Patrol electronic data base, the Department of Social and Health Services electronic data base, and with other agencies or resources as appropriate, to determine whether the applicant is ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 or RCW 9.41.045, or is prohibited under federal law to possess a firearm and therefore ineligible for a concealed pistol license. This subsection applies for a new concealed pistol license or to renew a concealed pistol license.

The license application shall bear the full name, residential address, telephone number at the option of the applicant, date and place of birth, race, gender, physical description, not more than two complete sets of fingerprints, and signature of the licensee, and the licensee's driver's license number or state identification card number if used for identification in applying for the license. A signed application for a concealed pistol license shall constitute a waiver of confidentiality and written request that the Department of Social and Health Services, mental health institutions, and other health care facilities release information relevant to the applicant's eligibility for a concealed pistol license to an inquiring court or law enforcement agency.

If the applicant is not a United States citizen, the applicant must provide his/her country of citizenship, United States issued alien number or admission number, and the basis for any exemptions from federal prohibitions on firearm possession by aliens. The applicant shall not be required to produce a birth certificate or other evidence of citizenship. A person who is not a citizen of the United States shall meet the additional requirements of RCW 9.41.173 and provide proof of compliance (RCW 9.41.070).

The application for an original license shall include two complete sets of fingerprints to be forwarded to the Washington State Patrol (RCW 9.41.070 (4)).

#### 218.3.1 REQUIRED WARNINGS

The license and application shall contain a warning substantially as follows:

"CAUTION: Although state and local laws do not differ, federal law and state law on the possession of firearms differ. If you are prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm, you may be prosecuted in federal court. A state license is not a defense to a federal prosecution."

The license shall contain a description of the major differences between state and federal law and an explanation of the fact that local laws and ordinances on firearms are preempted by state law and must be consistent with state law (RCW 9.41.070). The application shall contain questions about the applicant's eligibility under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a pistol, the applicant's place of birth, and whether the applicant is a United States citizen.

#### 218.3.2 DOCUMENTATION AND FEES

The Sheriff shall deliver the original license to the licensee, within seven days send the duplicate to the Director of Licensing, and shall preserve the triplicate or other form prescribed by the

### *Concealed Pistol License*

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Department of Licensing for six years after the license has expired, been voided or revoked, or as otherwise provided in the department's established records retention schedule (RCW 9.41.070(4)).

The nonrefundable fee for the original five-year license must be paid upon application. Additional charges imposed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation are payable by the applicant. No other state or local branch or unit of government may impose any additional charges on the applicant for the issuance of the license.

A nonrefundable fee for the renewal of such license, or the replacement of lost or damaged licenses is required of the licensee. No other branch or unit of government may impose any additional charges on the licensee for the renewal of the license.

Payment shall be by cash, check, or money order at the option of the applicant. Additional methods of payment may be allowed at the option of the Sheriff.

#### **218.4 LICENSE RENEWAL**

A licensee may renew a license if the licensee applies for renewal within 90 days before or after the expiration date of the license. A license so renewed shall take effect on the expiration date of the prior license. A licensee renewing after the expiration date of the license must pay a late renewal penalty in addition to the renewal fee (RCW 9.41.070(9)).

An active duty member of the armed forces who is unable to renew his/her license within the prescribed time period because of assignment, reassignment or deployment for out-of-state military service may renew his/her license within 90 days after returning to Washington State. Verification for this CPL renewal exception is subject to the requirements of RCW 9.41.070(14).

#### **218.5 TEMPORARY EMERGENCY LICENSE**

The Sheriff may issue a temporary emergency license for good cause to an applicant who resides within his/her jurisdiction pending review. However, a temporary emergency license issued under this subsection shall not exempt the holder of the license from any records check requirement. The Sheriff shall assure temporary emergency licenses are easily distinguishable from regular licenses (RCW 9.41.070).

#### **218.6 REVOCATION OF LICENSES**

The Sheriff shall revoke any license issued pursuant to this policy immediately upon (RCW 9.41.075(1)):

- (a) Discovery that the person was ineligible under RCW 9.41.070 for a concealed pistol license when applying for the license or license renewal.
- (b) Conviction of the licensee of an offense, or commitment of the licensee for mental health treatment, that makes a person ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm.
- (c) Conviction of the licensee for a third violation of RCW Chapter 9.41 within five calendar years.

### *Concealed Pistol License*

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- (d) An order that the licensee forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d).
- (e) Upon notification from the Department of Licensing that the licensee has lost his/her right to possess a firearm as identified in RCW 9.41.047.

#### **218.6.1 INELIGIBILITY**

Upon discovering a person issued a concealed pistol license was ineligible for the license, the Sheriff shall contact the Department of Licensing to determine whether the person purchased a pistol while in possession of the license. If the person did purchase a pistol while in possession of the concealed pistol license, and if the person may not lawfully possess a pistol without a concealed pistol license, the Sheriff shall require the person to present satisfactory evidence of having lawfully transferred ownership of the pistol. The Sheriff shall require the person to produce the evidence within fifteen days of the revocation of the license (RCW 9.41.075(2)).

#### **218.6.2 FIREARM FORFEITURE**

When a licensee is ordered to forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d), the Sheriff shall (RCW 9.41.075(3)):

- (a) On the first forfeiture, revoke the license for one year.
- (b) On the second forfeiture, revoke the license for two years.
- (c) On the third or subsequent forfeiture, revoke the license for five years.

Any person whose license is revoked as a result of a forfeiture of a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d) may not reapply for a new license until the end of the revocation period.

The Sheriff shall notify the Department of Licensing in writing of the revocation of a license.

#### **218.7 RECIPROCITY**

The Sheriff will recognize the validity of a concealed pistol license issued from another state if the laws of that state recognize and give effect to a concealed pistol license issued under the laws of the State of Washington (RCW 9.41.073). A nonresident so licensed is authorized to carry a concealed pistol in this state if:

- (a) The licensing state does not issue concealed pistol licenses to persons under twenty-one years of age, and
- (b) The licensing state requires mandatory fingerprint-based background checks of criminal and mental health history for all persons who apply for a concealed pistol license, and
- (c) The Sheriff will honor such a license only while the license holder is not a resident of this state. A license holder from another state must carry the handgun in compliance with the laws of this state.

## *Concealed Pistol License*

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### **218.8 RESIDENCY**

The Sheriff may issue a license to an applicant if the applicant resides within this County. The Sheriff may issue a license to nonresident of the state in accordance with these procedures and state law.

### **218.9 CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS**

Mental health information received by the Sheriff pursuant to RCW 9.41.047, RCW 9.41.070, RCW 9.41.090 or RCW 9.41.173 is exempt from disclosure except as provided in RCW 42.56.240 (RCW 9.41.097). Disclosure of information otherwise obtained in the licensing process shall be limited as defined by RCW 42.56.

## Retiree Concealed Firearms

### 220.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 220.2 POLICY

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

### 220.3 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.

#### 220.3.1 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 Pacific 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.

#### 220.3.2 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 agency

## *Retiree Concealed Firearms*

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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 Washington law or by a private person or entity on his/her property if such prohibition is permitted by Washington law.

### **220.4 WASHINGTON IDENTIFICATION CARD**

The Sheriff may issue an identification card to a retired deputy of this department for the purposes of carrying a concealed weapon within the State of Washington under RCW 9.41.060 who:

- (a) Has retired from this department.
- (b) Did not retire because of a mental or stress-related disability.
- (c) Has not been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of a crime making him/her ineligible for a concealed pistol license.

If issued, the identification card must document all of the above qualifications (RCW 9.41.060).

Any retired person receiving such an identification card shall abide by all of the other requirements of this policy that are applicable to a LEOSA identification card.

### **220.5 FORMER DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

A former deputy with a card issued under this policy shall immediately notify the Shift Sergeant 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.

#### **220.5.1 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.
- (d) Successfully pass an annual criminal history background check indicating that he/she is not prohibited by law from receiving or possessing a firearm.

*Retiree Concealed Firearms*

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**220.6 FIREARM QUALIFICATIONS**

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

If provided, the qualification shall include the firearms course and certificate developed by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (RCW 36.28A.090).



## **Chapter 3 - General Operations**

## Use of Force

### 300.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

#### 300.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Deadly force** - Force reasonably anticipated and intended to create a substantial likelihood of causing death or very serious injury.

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

### 300.2 POLICY

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

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

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

#### 300.2.1 DUTY TO INTERCEDE

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

### 300.3 USE OF FORCE

Deputies shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and circumstances perceived by the deputy at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

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

### *Use of Force*

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

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

It is also recognized that circumstances may arise in which deputies reasonably believe that it would be impractical or ineffective to use any of the tools, weapons or methods provided by the Department. 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 reasonable and utilized only to the degree that reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

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

#### 300.3.1 USE OF FORCE TO EFFECT AN ARREST

A deputy may use all means reasonably necessary to effect an arrest if, after notice of the intention to arrest the person, he/she either flees or forcibly resists (RCW 10.31.050).

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

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

- (a) Immediacy and severity of the threat to deputies or others.
- (b) The conduct of the individual being confronted, as reasonably perceived by the deputy at the time.
- (c) Deputy/subject factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, the number of deputies available vs. subjects).
- (d) The effects of drugs or alcohol.
- (e) Subject's mental state or capacity.
- (f) Proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.
- (g) The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and his/her ability to resist despite being restrained.
- (h) The availability of other options and their possible effectiveness.
- (i) Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual.
- (j) Training and experience of the deputy.
- (k) Potential for injury to deputies, suspects and others.

*Use of Force*

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- (l) Whether the person appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight or is attacking the deputy.
- (m) The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape.
- (n) The apparent need for immediate control of the subject or a prompt resolution of the situation.
- (o) Whether the conduct of the individual being confronted no longer reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to the deputy or others.
- (p) Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence.
- (q) Any other exigent circumstances.

**300.3.3 PAIN COMPLIANCE TECHNIQUES**

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

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

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

**300.3.4 CAROTID CONTROL HOLD**

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

- (a) The deputy shall have successfully completed department-approved training in the use and application of the carotid control hold.
- (b) The carotid control hold may only be used when circumstances perceived by the deputy at the time indicate that such application reasonably appears necessary to control a person in any of the following circumstances:
  - 1. The subject is violent or physically resisting.
  - 2. The subject, by words or actions, has demonstrated an intention to be violent and reasonably appears to have the potential to harm deputies, him/herself or others.
- (c) The application of a carotid control hold on the following individuals should generally be avoided unless the totality of the circumstances indicates that other available options reasonably appear ineffective, or would present a greater danger to the deputy, the subject

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Use of Force*

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or others, and the deputy reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the risk of applying a carotid control hold:

1. Females who are known to be pregnant
  2. Elderly individuals
  3. Obvious juveniles
- (d) Any individual who has had the carotid control hold applied, regardless of whether he/she was rendered unconscious, shall be promptly examined by paramedics or other qualified medical personnel and should be monitored until examined by paramedics or other appropriate medical personnel.
- (e) The deputy shall inform any person receiving custody, or any person placed in a position of providing care, that the individual has been subjected to the carotid control hold and whether the subject lost consciousness as a result.
- (f) Any deputy attempting or applying the carotid control hold shall promptly notify a supervisor of the use or attempted use of such hold.
- (g) The use or attempted use of the carotid control hold shall be thoroughly documented by the deputy in any related reports.

#### **300.4 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS**

Use of deadly force is justified in the following circumstances:

- (a) A deputy may use deadly force to protect him/herself or others from what he/she reasonably believes would be an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury.
- (b) A deputy may use deadly force to stop a fleeing subject when the deputy has probable cause to believe that the person has committed, or intends to commit, a felony involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious bodily injury or death, and the deputy reasonably believes that there is an imminent risk of serious bodily injury or death to any other person if the subject is not immediately apprehended. Under such circumstances, a verbal warning should precede the use of deadly force, where feasible.

Imminent does not mean immediate or instantaneous. An imminent danger may exist even if the suspect is not at that very moment pointing a weapon at someone. For example, an imminent danger may exist if a deputy reasonably believes any of the following:

1. The person has a weapon or is attempting to access one and it is reasonable to believe the person intends to use it against the deputy or another.
2. The person is capable of causing serious bodily injury or death without a weapon and it is reasonable to believe the person intends to do so.

## *Use of Force*

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### **300.4.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES**

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

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

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

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

#### **300.5.1 NOTIFICATION TO SUPERVISORS**

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

- (a) The application caused a visible injury.
- (b) The application would lead a reasonable deputy to conclude that the individual may have experienced more than momentary discomfort.
- (c) The individual subjected to the force complained of injury or continuing pain.
- (d) The individual indicates intent to pursue litigation.
- (e) Any application of the TASER® device or control device.
- (f) Any application of a restraint device other than handcuffs, shackles or belly chains.
- (g) The individual subjected to the force was rendered unconscious.
- (h) An individual was struck or kicked.
- (i) An individual alleges any of the above has occurred.

### **300.6 MEDICAL CONSIDERATION**

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

Based upon the deputy's initial assessment of the nature and extent of the subject's injuries, medical assistance may consist of examination by fire personnel, paramedics, hospital staff or medical staff at the jail. If any such individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal shall be

### *Use of Force*

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fully documented in related reports and, whenever practicable, should be witnessed by another deputy and/or medical personnel. If a recording is made of the contact or an interview with the individual, any refusal should be included in the recording, if possible.

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

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

#### **300.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

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

- (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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Use of Force*

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- (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 complete and route a notification of a potential claim through the appropriate channels.
- (h) Evaluate the circumstances surrounding the incident and initiate an administrative investigation if there is a question of policy non-compliance or if for any reason further investigation may be appropriate.

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

#### **300.7.1 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 issues.

#### **300.8 TRAINING**

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



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## Deadly Force Review

### 302.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a process for the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to review the use of force by its employees.

This review process shall be in addition to any other review or investigation that may be conducted by any outside or multi-agency entity having jurisdiction over the investigation or evaluation of the use of deadly force.

### 302.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will objectively evaluate the use of force by its members to ensure that their authority is used lawfully, appropriately and is consistent with training and policy.

### 302.3 REMOVAL FROM LINE DUTY ASSIGNMENT

Generally, whenever an employee's actions or use of force in an official capacity, or while using department equipment, results in death or very serious injury to another, that employee will be placed in a temporary administrative assignment pending an administrative review. The Sheriff may exercise discretion and choose not to place an employee in an administrative assignment in any case.

### 302.4 REVIEW BOARD

The Use of Force Review Board will be convened when the use of force by a member results in very serious injury or death to another.

The Use of Force Review Board will also investigate and review the circumstances surrounding every discharge of a firearm, whether the employee was on- or off-duty, excluding training or recreational use.

The Sheriff may request the Use of Force Review Board to investigate the circumstances surrounding any use of force incident.

The Support Services Lieutenant will convene the Use of Force Review Board as necessary. It will be the responsibility of the Lieutenant or supervisor of the involved employee to notify the Support Services Lieutenant of any incidents requiring board review. The involved employee's Lieutenant or supervisor will also ensure that all relevant reports, documents and materials are available for consideration and review by the board.

#### 302.4.1 COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

The Support Services Lieutenant should select five Use of Force Review Board members from the following, as appropriate:

- Representatives of each division
- Commanding officer in the involved member's chain of command

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Deadly Force Review*

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- Training Officer
- Non-administrative supervisor
- A peer deputy
- A sworn peace officer from an outside law enforcement agency
- Department instructor for the type of weapon, device or technique used

The senior ranking command representative who is not in the same division as the involved employee will serve as chairperson.

#### 302.4.2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The Use of Force Review Board is empowered to conduct an administrative review and inquiry into the circumstances of an incident.

The board members may request further investigation, request reports be submitted for the board's review, call persons to present information and request the involved employee to appear. The involved employee will be notified of the meeting of the board and may choose to have a representative through all phases of the review process.

The board does not have the authority to recommend discipline.

The Sheriff will determine whether the board should delay its review until after completion of any criminal investigation, review by any prosecutorial body, filing of criminal charges, the decision not to file criminal charges, or any other action. The board should be provided all relevant available material from these proceedings for its consideration.

The review shall be based upon those facts which were reasonably believed or known by the deputy at the time of the incident, applying any legal requirements, department policies, procedures and approved training to those facts. Facts later discovered but unknown to the deputy at the time shall neither justify nor call into question a deputy's decision regarding the use of force.

Any questioning of the involved employee conducted by the board will be in accordance with the department's disciplinary procedures, the Personnel Complaints Policy, the current collective bargaining agreement and any applicable state or federal law.

The board shall make one of the following recommended findings:

- (a) The employee's actions were within department policy and procedure.
- (b) The employee's actions were in violation of department policy and procedure.

A recommended finding requires a majority vote of the board. The board may also recommend additional investigations or reviews, such as disciplinary investigations, training reviews to consider whether training should be developed or revised, and policy reviews, as may be appropriate. The board chairperson will submit the written recommendation to the Sheriff.

The Sheriff shall review the recommendation, make a final determination as to whether the employee's actions were within policy and procedure and will determine whether any additional

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Deadly Force Review*

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actions, investigations or reviews are appropriate. The Sheriff's final findings will be forwarded to the involved employee's Lieutenant for review and appropriate action. If the Sheriff concludes that discipline should be considered, a disciplinary process will be initiated.

At the conclusion of any additional reviews, copies of all relevant reports and information will be filed with the Sheriff.

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

## 306.3 USE OF RESTRAINTS

Only members who have successfully completed Pacific 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 an individual 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 assure 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.

No person who is in labor shall be handcuffed or restrained except in extraordinary circumstances and only when a supervisor makes an individualized determination that such restraints are necessary to prevent escape or injury (RCW 70.48.500).

## *Handcuffing and Restraints*

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### **306.3.3 RESTRAINT OF JUVENILES**

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

### **306.3.4 NOTIFICATIONS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **306.5 APPLICATION OF SPIT HOODS/MASKS/SOCKS**

Spit hoods/masks/socks 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 that the restrained person can breathe normally. Deputies should provide assistance during the movement of restrained individuals due to the potential for impaired or distorted vision on the part of the individual. Deputies should avoid comingling individuals wearing spit hoods with other detainees.

## *Handcuffing and Restraints*

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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 capicum (OC) spray should be thoroughly decontaminated including hair, head and clothing prior to application of a spit hood.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

When applying leg restraints the following guidelines should be followed:

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

### *Handcuffing and Restraints*

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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 ambulance/paramedic unit, the restrained person should be accompanied by a deputy when requested by medical personnel. The transporting deputy should describe to medical personnel any unusual behaviors or other circumstances the deputy reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the subject (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

#### **306.8 REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

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

If an individual is arrested, the use of restraints other than handcuffs shall be documented in the related report. The deputy should include, as appropriate:

- (a) The amount of time the suspect was restrained.
- (b) How the suspect was transported and the position of the suspect.
- (c) Observations of the suspect's behavior and any signs of physiological problems.
- (d) Any known or suspected drug use or other medical problems.

## Control Devices and Techniques

### 308.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 308.2 POLICY

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

### 308.3 ISSUING, CARRYING AND USING CONTROL DEVICES

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

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

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

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

### 308.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 308.4.1 WATCHCOMMANDER 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.

#### 308.4.2 RANGEMASTER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Rangemaster 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 Rangemaster or the designated instructor for a particular control device. The inspection shall be documented.

#### 308.4.3 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 Rangemaster for disposition. Damage to County property forms shall also be prepared and forwarded through the chain of command, when appropriate, explaining the cause of damage.

### **308.5 BATON GUIDELINES**

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

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

### **308.6 TEAR GAS GUIDELINES**

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

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

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

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

#### **308.7.1 OC SPRAY**

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

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

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

### *Control Devices and Techniques*

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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.

#### **308.7.3 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## *Control Devices and Techniques*

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

### 308.9.2 DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

### 308.9.3 SAFETY PROCEDURES

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

Deputies 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.

### *Control Devices and Techniques*

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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.

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

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

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

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

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

## Conducted Energy Device

### 309.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 309.2 POLICY

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

### 309.3 ISSUANCE AND CARRYING EMDTDEVICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 309.4 VERBAL AND VISUAL WARNINGS

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

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

## *Conducted Energy Device*

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

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

### **309.5 DOCUMENTATION**

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

#### **309.5.1 EMDTDEVICE FORM**

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

- (a) The type and brand of TASER device and cartridge and cartridge serial number.
- (b) Date, time and location of the incident.
- (c) Whether any display, laser or arc deterred a subject and gained compliance.
- (d) 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.

The Training Officer should periodically analyze the report forms to identify trends, including deterrence and effectiveness. The Training Officer should also conduct audits of data downloads and reconcile TASER device report forms with recorded activations. TASER device information and statistics, with identifying information removed, should periodically be made available to the public.

## *Conducted Energy Device*

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### 309.5.2 REPORTS

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

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

### 309.6 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.

### 309.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

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

### *Conducted Energy Device*

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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 Rangemaster and saved with the related arrest/crime report. Photographs of probe sites should be taken and witnesses interviewed.

#### **309.8 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. Any personnel who have not carried the TASER device as a part of their assignment for a period of six months or more shall be recertified by a department-approved TASER device instructor prior to again carrying or using the device.

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



# Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths

## 310.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish policy and procedures for the investigation of an incident in which a person is injured or dies as the result of an officer-involved shooting or dies as a result of other action of a deputy.

In other incidents not covered by this policy, the Sheriff may decide that the investigation will follow the process provided in this policy.

## 310.2 POLICY

The policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office is to ensure that officer-involved shootings and deaths are investigated in a thorough, fair and impartial manner.

## 310.3 TYPES OF INVESTIGATIONS

Officer-involved shootings and deaths involve several separate investigations. The investigations may include:

- A criminal investigation of the suspect's actions.
- A criminal investigation of the involved officer's action.
- An administrative investigation as to policy compliance by involved deputies.
- A civil investigation to determine potential liability.

## 310.4 CONTROL OF INVESTIGATIONS

Investigators from surrounding agencies may be assigned to work on the criminal investigation of officer-involved shootings and deaths. This may include at least one investigator from the agency that employs the involved officer.

Jurisdiction is determined by the location of the shooting or death and the agency employing the involved officer. The following scenarios outline the jurisdictional responsibilities for investigating officer-involved shootings and deaths.

### 310.4.1 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF SUSPECT ACTIONS

The investigation of any possible criminal conduct by the suspect is controlled by the agency in whose jurisdiction the suspect's crime occurred. For example, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office would control the investigation if the suspect's crime occurred in Pacific County.

If multiple crimes have been committed in multiple jurisdictions, identification of the agency that will control the investigation may be reached in the same way as with any other crime. The investigation may be conducted by the agency in control of the criminal investigation of the involved officer, at the discretion of the Sheriff and with concurrence from the other agency.

## *Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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### **310.4.2 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF OFFICER ACTIONS**

The control of the criminal investigation into the involved deputy's conduct during the incident will be determined by the employing agency's protocol. When a deputy from this department is involved, the criminal investigation will be handled according to the Criminal Investigation section of this policy.

Requests made of this department to investigate a shooting or death involving an outside agency's officer shall be referred to the Sheriff or the authorized designee for approval.

### **310.4.3 ADMINISTRATIVE AND CIVIL INVESTIGATION**

Regardless of where the incident occurs, the administrative and civil investigation of each involved officer is controlled by the respective employing agency.

## **310.5 INVESTIGATION PROCESS**

The following procedures are guidelines used in the investigation of an officer-involved shooting or death.

### **310.5.1 UNINVOLVED DEPUTIES RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon arrival at the scene of an officer-involved shooting or death, the first uninvolved PCSO deputy will be the deputy-in-charge and will assume the responsibilities of a supervisor until properly relieved. This deputy should, as appropriate:

- (a) Secure the scene and identify and eliminate hazards for all those involved.
- (b) Take reasonable steps to obtain emergency medical attention for injured individuals.
- (c) Request additional resources from the Department or other agencies.
- (d) Coordinate a perimeter or pursuit of suspects.
- (e) Check for injured persons and evacuate as needed.
- (f) Brief the supervisor upon arrival.

### **310.5.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon arrival at the scene, the first uninvolved PCSO supervisor should ensure completion of the duties as outlined above, plus:

- (a) Attempt to obtain a brief overview of the situation from any uninvolved officers.
  - 1. In the event that there are no uninvolved officers who can supply adequate overview, the supervisor should attempt to obtain a brief voluntary overview from one involved officer.
- (b) If necessary, the supervisor may administratively order any PCSO deputy to immediately provide public safety information necessary to secure the scene, identify injured parties and pursue suspects.
  - 1. Public safety information shall be limited to such things as outstanding suspect information, number and direction of any shots fired, perimeter of the incident scene, identity of known or potential witnesses and any other pertinent information.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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2. The initial on-scene supervisor should not attempt to order any involved officer to provide any information other than public safety information.
- (c) Provide all available information to the Shift Sergeant and Dispatch. If feasible, sensitive information should be communicated over secure networks.
- (d) Take command of and secure the incident scene with additional PCSO members until properly relieved by another supervisor or other assigned personnel or investigator.
- (e) As soon as practicable, ensure that involved officers are transported (separately, if feasible) to a suitable location for further direction.
  1. Each involved PCSO deputy should be given an administrative order not to discuss the incident with other involved officers or PCSO members pending further direction from a supervisor.
  2. When an involved officer's weapon is taken or left at the scene for other than officer-safety reasons (e.g., evidence), ensure that he/she is provided with a comparable replacement weapon or transported by other deputies.

#### 310.5.3 SHIFT SERGEANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon learning of an officer-involved shooting or death, the Shift Sergeant shall be responsible for coordinating all aspects of the incident until he/she is relieved by the Sheriff or a Lieutenant.

All outside inquiries about the incident shall be directed to the Shift Sergeant.

#### 310.5.4 NOTIFICATIONS

The following persons shall be notified as soon as practicable:

- Sheriff
- Investigation Lieutenant
- Regional Sheriff's Employee Involved Critical Incident Investigation Team rollout team
- Outside agency investigators (if appropriate)
- Lieutenant supervisor
- Civil liability response team
- Psychological/peer support personnel
- Chaplain
- [Medical Examiner] (if necessary)
- Involved officer's agency representative (if requested)
- Public Information Officer

#### 310.5.5 INVOLVED OFFICERS

The following shall be considered for the involved officer:

- (a) Any request for legal or union representation will be accommodated.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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1. Involved PCSO deputies shall not be permitted to meet collectively or in a group with an attorney or any representative prior to providing a formal interview or report.
  2. Requests from involved non-PCSO officers should be referred to their employing agency.
- (b) Discussions with licensed attorneys will be considered privileged as attorney-client communications.
- (c) Discussions with agency representatives/employee groups will be privileged only as to the discussion of non-criminal information.
- (d) A licensed psychotherapist shall be provided by the Department to each involved PCSO deputy. A licensed psychotherapist may also be provided to any other affected PCSO members, upon request.
1. Interviews with a licensed psychotherapist will be considered privileged.
  2. An interview or session with a licensed psychotherapist may take place prior to the member providing a formal interview or report. However, involved members shall not be permitted to consult or meet collectively or in a group with a licensed psychotherapist prior to providing a formal interview or report.
  3. A separate fitness-for-duty exam may also be required (see the Fitness for Duty Policy).
- (e) The Department will consider communications between qualified peer counselors and involved deputies to be privileged (RCW 5.60.060).

Care should be taken to preserve the integrity of any physical evidence present on the involved officer's equipment or clothing, such as blood or fingerprints, until investigators or lab personnel can properly retrieve it.

Each involved PCSO deputy shall be given reasonable paid administrative leave following an officer-involved shooting or death. It shall be the responsibility of the Shift Sergeant to make schedule adjustments to accommodate such leave.

#### **310.6 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

The County Prosecutor's Office is responsible for the criminal investigation into the circumstances of any officer-involved shooting or death.

If available, investigative personnel from this department may be assigned to partner with investigators from outside agencies or the County Prosecutor's Office to avoid duplicating efforts in related criminal investigations.

Once public safety issues have been addressed, criminal investigators should be given the opportunity to obtain a voluntary statement from involved officers and to complete their interviews. The following shall be considered for the involved officer:

- (a) PCSO supervisors and Lieutenant personnel should not participate directly in any voluntary interview of PCSO deputies. This will not prohibit such personnel from monitoring interviews or providing the criminal investigators with topics for inquiry.

## *Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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- (b) If requested, any involved officer will be afforded the opportunity to consult individually with a representative of his/her choosing or an attorney prior to speaking with criminal investigators. However, in order to maintain the integrity of each involved officer's statement, involved deputies shall not consult or meet with a representative or an attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed.
- (c) If any involved officer is physically, emotionally or otherwise not in a position to provide a voluntary statement when interviewed by criminal investigators, consideration should be given to allowing a reasonable period for the officer to schedule an alternate time for the interview.
- (d) Any voluntary statement provided by an involved officer will be made available for inclusion in any related investigation, including administrative investigations. However, no administratively coerced statement will be provided to any criminal investigators unless the officer consents.

### 310.6.1 REPORTS BY INVOLVED PCSO DEPUTIES

In the event that suspects remain outstanding or subject to prosecution for related offenses, this department shall retain the authority to require involved PCSO deputies to provide sufficient information for related criminal reports to facilitate the apprehension and prosecution of those individuals.

While the involved PCSO deputy may write the report, it is generally recommended that such reports be completed by assigned investigators, who should interview all involved officers as victims/witnesses. Since the purpose of these reports will be to facilitate criminal prosecution, statements of involved officers should focus on evidence to establish the elements of criminal activities by suspects. Care should be taken not to duplicate information provided by involved officers in other reports.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to deprive an involved PCSO deputy of the right to consult with legal counsel prior to completing any such criminal report.

Reports related to the prosecution of criminal suspects will be processed according to normal procedures but should also be included for reference in the investigation of the officer-involved shooting or death.

### 310.6.2 WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEWS

Because potential witnesses to an officer-involved shooting or death may become unavailable or the integrity of their statements compromised with the passage of time, a supervisor should take reasonable steps to promptly coordinate with criminal investigators to utilize available law enforcement personnel for the following:

- (a) Identification of all persons present at the scene and in the immediate area.
  - 1. When feasible, a recorded statement should be obtained from those persons who claim not to have witnessed the incident but who were present at the time it occurred.
  - 2. Any potential witness who is unwilling or unable to remain available for a formal interview should not be detained absent reasonable suspicion to detain or probable

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, attempts to identify the witness prior to his/her departure should be made whenever feasible.

- (b) Witnesses who are willing to provide a formal interview should be asked to meet at a suitable location where criminal investigators may obtain a recorded statement. Such witnesses, if willing, may be transported by a member of the Department.
  - 1. A written, verbal or recorded statement of consent should be obtained prior to transporting a witness. When the witness is a minor, consent should be obtained from the parent or guardian, if available, prior to transportation.
- (c) Promptly contacting the suspect's known family and associates to obtain any available and untainted background information about the suspect's activities and state of mind prior to the incident.

#### **310.6.3 INVESTIGATIVE PERSONNEL**

Once notified of an officer-involved shooting or death, it shall be the responsibility of the designated Investigation Unit supervisor to assign appropriate investigative personnel to handle the investigation of related crimes. Department investigators will be assigned to work with investigators from the County Prosecutor's Office and may be assigned to separately handle the investigation of any related crimes not being investigated by the County Prosecutor's Office.

All related department reports, except administrative and/or privileged reports, will be forwarded to the designated Investigation Unit supervisor for approval. Privileged reports shall be maintained exclusively by members who are authorized such access. Administrative reports will be forwarded to the appropriate Lieutenant.

#### **310.7 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION**

In addition to all other investigations associated with an officer-involved shooting or death, this department will conduct an internal administrative investigation of involved PCSO deputies to determine conformance with department policy. This investigation will be conducted under the supervision of the Lieutenant and will be considered a confidential peace officer personnel file.

Interviews of members shall be subject to department policies and applicable laws.

- (a) Any deputy involved in a shooting or death may be requested or administratively compelled to provide a blood sample for alcohol/drug screening. Absent consent from the deputy, such compelled samples and the results of any such testing shall not be disclosed to any criminal investigative agency.
- (b) If any deputy has voluntarily elected to provide a statement to criminal investigators, the assigned administrative investigator should review that statement before proceeding with any further interview of that involved deputy.
  - 1. If a further interview of the deputy is deemed necessary to determine policy compliance, care should be taken to limit the inquiry to new areas with minimal, if any, duplication of questions addressed in the voluntary statement. The involved

*Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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deputy shall be provided with a copy of his or her prior statement before proceeding with any subsequent interviews.

- (c) In the event that an involved deputy has elected to not provide criminal investigators with a voluntary statement, the assigned administrative investigator shall conduct an administrative interview to determine all relevant information.
1. Although this interview should not be unreasonably delayed, care should be taken to ensure that the deputy's physical and psychological needs have been addressed before commencing the interview.
  2. If requested, the deputy shall have the opportunity to select an uninvolved representative to be present during the interview. However, in order to maintain the integrity of each individual deputy's statement, involved deputies shall not consult or meet with a representative or attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed.
  3. Administrative interviews should be recorded by the investigator. The deputy may also record the interview.
  4. The deputy shall be informed of the nature of the investigation. If a deputy refuses to answer questions, he/she should be given his/her Garrity rights and ordered to provide full and truthful answers to all questions. The deputy shall be informed that the interview will be for administrative purposes only and that the statement cannot be used criminally.
  5. The Lieutenant shall complete all relevant information and reports necessary for the Department to determine compliance with applicable policies.
  6. Regardless of whether the use of force is an issue in the case, the completed administrative investigation shall be submitted to the Use of Force Review board, which will restrict its findings as to whether there was compliance with the Use of Force Policy.
  7. Any other indications of potential policy violations shall be determined in accordance with standard disciplinary procedures.

### **310.8 CIVIL LIABILITY RESPONSE**

A member of this department may be assigned to work exclusively under the direction of the legal counsel for the Department to assist in the preparation of materials deemed necessary in anticipation of potential civil litigation.

All materials generated in this capacity shall be considered attorney work product and may not be used for any other purpose. The civil liability response is not intended to interfere with any other investigation but shall be given reasonable access to all other investigations.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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#### **310.9 AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS**

Any officer involved in a shooting or death may be permitted to review available Mobile Audio/Video (MAV), body-worn video, or other video or audio recordings prior to providing a recorded statement or completing reports.

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

Any MAV, body-worn and other known video or audio recordings of an incident should not be publicly released during an ongoing investigation without consulting the prosecuting attorney or Prosecuting Attorney's Office, as appropriate.

#### **310.10 DEBRIEFING**

Following an officer-involved shooting or death, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office should conduct both a critical incident/stress debriefing and a tactical debriefing.

##### **310.10.1 CRITICAL INCIDENT/STRESS DEBRIEFING**

A critical incident/stress debriefing should occur as soon as practicable. The Support Services Lieutenant is responsible for organizing the debriefing. Notes and recorded statements should not be taken because the sole purpose of the debriefing is to help mitigate the stress-related effects of a traumatic event.

The debriefing is not part of any investigative process. Care should be taken not to release or repeat any communication made during a debriefing unless otherwise authorized by policy, law or a valid court order.

Attendance at the debriefing shall only include those members of the Department directly involved in the incident, which can include support personnel (e.g., [dispatcher], other non-sworn). Family or other support personnel may attend with the concurrence of those involved in the incident. The debriefing shall be closed to the public and should be closed to all other members of the Department, including supervisory and Lieutenant personnel.

##### **310.10.2 TACTICAL DEBRIEFING**

A tactical debriefing should take place to identify any training or areas of policy that need improvement. The Sheriff should identify the appropriate participants. This debriefing should not be conducted until all involved members have provided recorded or formal statements to criminal and/or administrative investigators.

#### **310.11 MEDIA RELATIONS**

Any media release shall be prepared with input and concurrence from the supervisor and department representative responsible for each phase of the investigation. Releases will be available to the Shift Sergeant, Investigation Lieutenant and Public Information Officer in the event of inquiries from the media.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths*

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No involved PCSO deputy shall make any comment to the media unless he/she is authorized by the Sheriff or a Lieutenant.

Department members receiving inquiries regarding officer-involved shootings or deaths occurring in other jurisdictions shall refrain from public comment and will direct those inquiries to the agency having jurisdiction and primary responsibility for the investigation.

# Firearms

## 312.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

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

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

## 312.2 POLICY

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

## 312.3 AUTHORIZED FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND OTHER WEAPONS

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

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

### 312.3.1 HANDGUNS

The authorized department-issued handgun is the Glock Model 21 Gen 4 .45 cal. The following additional handguns are approved for on-duty use:

MAKE	MODEL	CALIBER

### 312.3.2 SHOTGUNS

The authorized department-issued shotgun is the [Mossberg Model 500]. The following additional shotguns are approved for on-duty use:

MAKE	MODEL	CALIBER

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Firearms

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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, the trigger pulled to release the hammer and the safety in the safe position.

#### 312.3.3 PATROL RIFLES

The authorized department-issued patrol rifle is the [Colt AR-15]. The following additional patrol rifles are approved for on-duty use:

MAKE	MODEL	CALIBER

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.

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, the trigger pulled to release the hammer and the selector lever in the fire position (selector lever cannot be in the safe position with the hammer released).

#### 312.3.4 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 department 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 department 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.

*Firearms*

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**312.3.5 AUTHORIZED SECONDARY HANDGUN**

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

- (a) The handgun shall be in good working order and on the department list of approved firearms.
- (b) Only one secondary handgun may be carried at a time.
- (c) The purchase of the handgun and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member unless the handgun and ammunition are provided by the Department.
- (d) 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.
- (e) The handgun shall be inspected by the Rangemaster prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.
- (f) Ammunition shall be the same as department issue. If the caliber of the handgun is other than department issue, the Sheriff or the authorized designee shall approve the ammunition.
- (g) Prior to carrying the secondary handgun, members shall qualify under range supervision and thereafter shall qualify in accordance with the department qualification schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency and safe handling, and that the handgun functions properly.
- (h) 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.

**312.3.6 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) A personally owned firearm shall be used, carried and inspected in accordance with the Personally Owned Duty Firearms requirements in this policy.
  - 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 unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.
- (c) It will be the responsibility of the member to submit the firearm to the Rangemaster 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 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Firearms

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- (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 department-authorized ammunition.
- (i) When armed, deputies shall carry their badges and Pacific County Sheriff's Office identification cards under circumstances requiring possession of such identification.

#### 312.3.7 AMMUNITION

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

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

#### 312.4 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.

##### 312.4.1 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 Department or personally owned firearms that are approved for department use may be repaired or modified only by a person who is department-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.

##### 312.4.2 HOLSTERS

Only department-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.

##### 312.4.3 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.

## *Firearms*

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### 312.4.4 OPTICS OR LASER SIGHTS

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.

### 312.5 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.
- (c) Members shall not clean, repair, load or unload a firearm anywhere in the Department, except where clearing barrels are present.
- (d) Shotguns or rifles removed from vehicles or the equipment storage room shall be loaded and unloaded in the parking lot and outside of the vehicle, using clearing barrels.
- (e) Members shall not place or store any firearm or other weapon on department premises except where the place of storage is locked. No one shall carry firearms into the jail section or any part thereof when securing or processing 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.
- (f) 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.
- (g) Any firearm authorized by the Department 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 Department or a Rangemaster approved by the Department 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.

#### 312.5.1 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*

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Personally owned firearms may be safely stored in lockers at the end of the shift. Department-owned firearms shall be stored in the appropriate equipment storage room. 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.

#### **312.5.2 STORAGE AT HOME**

Members shall ensure that all firearms and ammunition are locked and secured while in their homes, vehicles or any other area under their control, and in a manner that will keep them inaccessible to children and others who should not have access. Members shall not permit department-issued firearms to be handled by anyone not authorized by the Department to do so. Members should be aware that negligent storage of a firearm could result in civil liability.

#### **312.5.3 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, taken any drugs or medication, or has taken any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the member's senses or judgment.

#### **312.6 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.

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

## *Firearms*

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

### **312.7 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 Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy. If a firearm was discharged as a use of force, the involved member shall adhere to the additional reporting requirements set forth in the Use of Force Policy.

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

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

#### **312.7.1 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, department 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.

#### **312.7.2 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.

#### **312.7.3 WARNING AND OTHER SHOTS**

Generally, warning shots or shots fired for the purpose of summoning aid are discouraged and may not be discharged unless the member reasonably believes that they appear necessary, effective and reasonably safe.

### **312.8 RANGEMASTER DUTIES**

The range will be under the exclusive control of the Rangemaster. All members attending will follow the directions of the Rangemaster. The Rangemaster will maintain a roster of all members attending the range and will submit the roster to the Training Officer after each range date. Failure



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Firearms*

---

of any deputy to sign in and out with the Rangemaster may result in non-participation or non-qualification.

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

The Rangemaster has the responsibility of making periodic inspections, at least once a year, of all duty weapons carried by deputies of this department to verify proper operation. The Rangemaster has the authority to deem any department-issued or personally owned firearm unfit for service. The member will be responsible for all repairs to his/her personally owned firearm; it will not be returned to service until inspected and approved 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.

The Rangemaster shall complete and submit to the Training Officer documentation of the training courses provided. Documentation shall include the qualifications of each instructor who provides the training, a description of the training provided and, on a form that has been approved by the Department, 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 Officer.

### **312.9 FLYING WHILE ARMED**

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has imposed rules governing law enforcement officers flying armed on commercial aircraft. The following requirements apply to 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 Department based on the law and published TSA rules.
- (b) Deputies must carry their Pacific 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 Department and must present this identification to airline officials when requested. The deputy should also carry the standard photo identification needed for passenger screening by airline and TSA officials (e.g., driver license, passport).
- (c) The Pacific 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 Pacific 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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Firearms

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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 department-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.
- (i) Deputies should try to resolve any problems 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.

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

Qualified, active, full-time deputies of this department 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 Pacific 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 department policies (including qualifying and training).

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

Active permits from other states are subject to all requirements set forth in 18 USC § 926B.

# Vehicle Pursuits

## 314.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

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

Deputies must remember that the most important factors to the successful conclusion of a pursuit are proper self-discipline and sound professional judgment. Deputies' conduct during the course of a pursuit must be objectively reasonable; that is, what a reasonable deputy would do under the circumstances. An unreasonable individual's desire to apprehend a fleeing suspect at all costs has no place in professional law enforcement (RCW\_43.101.225).

### 314.1.1 VEHICLE PURSUIT DEFINED

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

### 314.1.2 ATTEMPTING TO ELUDE

Refers to the actions of a vehicle operator who after being given a visual or audible signal to bring the vehicle to a stop fails or refuses to immediately stop the vehicle and drives in a reckless manner while attempting to elude a uniformed deputy operating a pursuing sheriff's vehicle that is equipped with emergency lights and siren (RCW 46.61.024).

## 314.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

It shall be the policy of this department that a vehicle pursuit shall be conducted only with red light and siren as required by RCW 46.61.035 for exemption from compliance with the rules of the road. The following policy is established to provide deputies with guidelines for driving with due regard and caution for the safety of all persons using the highway as required by RCW 46.61.035(4).

### *Vehicle Pursuits*

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#### 314.2.1 WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT

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

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

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

#### 314.2.2 WHEN TO TERMINATE A PURSUIT

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

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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The factors listed in WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT are expressly included herein and will apply equally to the decision to discontinue as well as the decision to initiate a pursuit. Deputies and supervisors must objectively and continuously weigh the seriousness of the offense against the potential danger to innocent motorists and themselves when electing to continue a pursuit. In the context of this policy, the term "terminate" shall be construed to mean discontinue or to stop chasing the fleeing vehicle(s).

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

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

### **314.2.3 SPEED LIMITS**

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

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

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

### **314.3 PURSUIT UNITS**

Pursuit units should be limited to two vehicles; however, the number of units involved will vary with the circumstances. A deputy or supervisor may request additional units to join a pursuit if, after assessing the factors outlined above, it appears that the number of deputies involved would

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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be insufficient to safely arrest the suspect(s). All other deputies should stay out of the pursuit, but should remain alert to its progress and location. Any deputy who drops out of a pursuit may then, if necessary, proceed to the termination point at legal speeds, following the appropriate rules of the road.

### 314.3.1 MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS

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

### 314.3.2 VEHICLES WITHOUT EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Vehicles not equipped with red light and siren are generally prohibited from initiating or joining in any pursuit. Deputy(s) in such vehicles, however, may become involved in emergency activities involving serious crimes or life threatening situations. Those deputies should terminate their involvement in any pursuit immediately upon arrival of a sufficient number of emergency police vehicles or any police helicopter. The exemptions provided by RCW 46.61.035 do not apply to deputies using vehicles without emergency equipment.

### 314.3.3 PRIMARY UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Notify Dispatch that a vehicle pursuit has been initiated and as soon as practical provide information including, but not limited to:

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

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

### 314.3.4 SECONDARY UNIT(S) RESPONSIBILITIES

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



## Policy Manual

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



## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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- (e) Directing that the pursuit be terminated if, in his/her judgment, it is unjustified to continue the pursuit under the guidelines of this policy.
- (f) Ensuring that aircraft are requested if available.
- (g) Ensuring that the proper radio channel is being used.
- (h) Ensuring the notification and/or coordination of outside agencies if the pursuit either leaves or is likely to leave the jurisdiction of this agency.
- (i) Control and manage PCSO units when a pursuit enters another jurisdiction.
- (j) Preparing post-pursuit critique and analysis of the pursuit for training purposes.

### 314.4.1 SHIFT SERGEANT RESPONSIBILITY

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

The Shift Sergeant shall review all pertinent reports for content and forward them to the Lieutenant.

## **314.5 COMMUNICATIONS**

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

### 314.5.1 COMMUNICATION CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon notification that a pursuit has been initiated, Dispatch will:

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

### 314.5.2 LOSS OF PURSUED VEHICLE

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

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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### **314.6 INTER-JURISDICTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

When a pursuit enters another agency's jurisdiction, the primary deputy or supervisor, taking into consideration distance traveled, unfamiliarity with the area, and other pertinent facts, should determine whether or not 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 or not such jurisdiction is expected to assist.

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

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

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

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

#### **314.6.2 PURSUITS EXTENDING INTO THIS JURISDICTION**

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

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

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

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

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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

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

### **314.7 PURSUIT INTERVENTION**

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

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

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

It is imperative that deputies act within the bounds of legality, good judgment and accepted practices.

#### **314.7.2 DEFINITIONS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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### 314.7.3 USE OF FIREARMS

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

### 314.7.4 INTERVENTION STANDARDS

Any pursuit intervention tactic, depending upon the conditions and circumstances under which it is used, may present dangers to the deputies, the public, or anyone in or on the vehicle being pursued. Certain applications of intervention tactics may be construed to be a use of deadly force and subject to the requirements for such use. Deputies who have not received certified departmental training in the application and use of any intervention tactic or equipment shall consider these facts and requirements prior to deciding how, when, where, and if an intervention tactic should be employed.

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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Vehicle Pursuits*

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

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

#### **314.7.5 CAPTURE OF SUSPECTS**

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

Unless relieved by a supervisor the primary deputy should coordinate efforts to apprehend the suspect(s) following the pursuit. Deputies should consider safety of the public and the involved officers when formulating plans to contain and capture the suspect.

#### **314.8 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

The following reports should be completed:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Vehicle Pursuits*

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- (a) The primary deputy shall complete appropriate crime/arrest reports.
- (b) The primary deputy shall complete a Pursuit Report to be reviewed by the Sergeant, which shall minimally contain the following information.
  - 1. Whether any person involved in the pursuit or subsequent arrest was injured, specifying the nature of that injury and differentiating between the suspect driver, a suspect passenger and the deputies involved.
  - 2. The violation(s) that caused the pursuit to be initiated.
  - 3. The identity of the deputies involved in the pursuit.
  - 4. The means or methods used to stop the suspect being pursued.
  - 5. The charges filed with the court by the County Prosecutor.
  - 6. The conditions of the pursuit, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
    - (a) Duration.
    - (b) Mileage.
    - (c) Number of deputies involved.
    - (d) Maximum number of units involved.
    - (e) Time of day.
    - (f) Weather conditions.
    - (g) Maximum speeds.
  - 7. Whether the pursuit resulted in a collision and a resulting injury or fatality to an uninvolved third party, and the corresponding number of persons involved.
  - 8. Whether the pursuit involved multiple agencies.
  - 9. How the pursuit was terminated.
- (c) After first obtaining available information, a field supervisor shall promptly complete a Supervisor's Log, briefly summarizing the pursuit to his/her department manager. This memo should minimally contain the following information:
  - (a) Date and time of pursuit.
  - (b) Length of pursuit.
  - (c) Involved units and deputies.
  - (d) Initial reason for pursuit.
  - (e) Starting and termination points.
  - (f) Disposition: arrest, citation, etc. Arrestee information should be provided if applicable.

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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- (g) Injuries and/or property damage.
- (h) Medical treatment.
- (i) Name of supervisor at scene.
- (j) A preliminary determination, simply stating whether or not the pursuit appears to be in compliance with this policy.
- (k) Determine the need for any additional review and/or follow up.

### 314.8.1 REGULAR AND PERIODIC PURSUIT TRAINING

In addition to initial and supplementary CJTC training on pursuits, all sworn members of this department will participate no less than annually in regular and periodic department training addressing this policy and the importance of vehicle safety and protecting the public at all times.

### 314.8.2 POLICY REVIEW

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

## Deputy Response to Calls

### 316.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 316.2 RESPONSE TO CALLS

Deputies 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 (RCW 46.61.035).

Responding with emergency lights 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 emergency lights and siren does not provide any exemption from the law (RCW 46.61.035; WAC 204-21-130).

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

### 316.3 REQUESTING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

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

#### 316.3.1 NUMBER OF UNITS ASSIGNED

Normally, only one unit should respond to an emergency call Code-3 unless the Shift Sergeant or the field supervisor authorizes an additional unit(s). Circumstances may dictate the response of additional Code-3 units.

### 316.4 INITIATING CODE 3 RESPONSE

If a deputy believes a Code-3 response to any call is appropriate, the deputy shall immediately notify Dispatch. Generally, only one unit should respond Code-3 to any situation. Should another



### *Deputy Response to Calls*

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deputy believe a Code-3 response is appropriate, Dispatch shall be notified and the Shift Sergeant or field supervisor will make a determination as to whether one or more deputies driving Code-3 is appropriate.

#### **316.5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESPONDING DEPUTY(S)**

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.

Upon receiving authorization or determining a Code-3 response is appropriate, a deputy shall immediately give the location from which he/she is responding.

#### **316.6 COMMUNICATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Deputy or field supervisor shall determine if a Code-3 response is necessary. If a deputy requests emergency assistance or available information reasonably indicates that the public is threatened with serious injury or death and immediate police response is needed Code 3 is authorized. The dispatcher shall:

- (a) Attempt to assign the closest available unit to the location requiring assistance.
- (b) Immediately notify the Shift Sergeant or the on call supervisor.
- (c) Confirm the location from which the unit is responding.
- (d) Notify and coordinate allied emergency services (e.g., fire and ambulance).
- (e) Continue to obtain and broadcast information as necessary concerning the response and monitor the situation until it is stabilized or terminated.
- (f) Control all radio communications during the emergency and coordinate assistance under the direction of the Shift Sergeant or field supervisor.

#### **316.7 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

### *Deputy Response to Calls*

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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 Sergeant or the field supervisor should consider the following:

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

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

## Canines

### 318.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of canines to augment law enforcement services to the community including, but not limited to, locating individuals and contraband and apprehending criminal offenders.

#### 318.1.1 CROSS TRAINING OFF CANINE

Canine's Teams are generally only trained in one aspect (Narcotics/Tracking/Cadaver and Bomb sniffing), however the department recognizes that Canine Teams can be crossed trained in more than one of these categories.

Canine team should be utilized only in task they are trained for.

### 318.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office that teams of handlers and canines meet and maintain the appropriate proficiency to effectively and reasonably carry out legitimate law enforcement objectives.

### 318.3 ASSIGNMENT

Canine teams should be assigned to assist and supplement the Field Operations to function primarily in assist or cover assignments. However, they may be assigned by the Shift Sergeant to other functions, such as routine calls for service, based on the current operational needs.

Canine teams should generally not be assigned to handle routine matters that will take them out of service for extended periods of time and then only with the approval of the Shift Sergeant.

### 318.4 CANINE COORDINATOR

The canine coordinator shall be appointed by and directly responsible to the Field Operations division or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the coordinator include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Reviewing all canine use reports to ensure compliance with policy and to identify training issues and other needs of the program.
- (b) Maintaining liaison with the vendor kennel.
- (c) Maintaining liaison with command staff and functional supervisors.
- (d) Maintaining liaison with other agency canine coordinators.
- (e) Maintaining accurate records to document canine activities.
- (f) Recommending and overseeing the procurement of equipment and services for the teams of handlers and canines.
- (g) Scheduling all canine-related activities.
- (h) Ensuring the canine teams are scheduled for regular training to maximize their capabilities.

*Canines*

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**318.5 REQUESTS FOR CANINE TEAMS**

Field Operations Division members are encouraged to request the use of a canine. Requests for a canine team from department units outside of the Field Operations Division shall be reviewed by the Shift Sergeant.

**318.5.1 OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUEST**

All requests for canine assistance from outside agencies must be approved by the Shift Sergeant and are subject to the following:

- (a) Canine teams shall not be used for any assignment that is not consistent with this policy.
- (b) The canine handler shall have the authority to decline a request for any specific assignment that he/she deems unsuitable.
- (c) Calling out off-duty canine teams is discouraged.
- (d) It shall be the responsibility of the canine handler to coordinate operations with agency personnel in order to minimize the risk of unintended injury.
- (e) It shall be the responsibility of the canine handler to complete all necessary reports or as directed.

**318.5.2 PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS**

All public requests for a canine team shall be reviewed and, if appropriate, approved by the canine coordinator prior to making any resource commitment. The canine coordinator is responsible for obtaining resources and coordinating involvement in the demonstration to include proper safety protocols. Canine handlers shall not demonstrate any apprehension work unless authorized to do so by the canine coordinator.

**318.6 APPREHENSION GUIDELINES**

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

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

It is recognized that situations may arise that do not fall within the provisions set forth in this policy. Such events require consideration of the totality of the circumstances and the use of an objective reasonableness standard applied to the decision to use a canine.

## *Canines*

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Absent a reasonable belief that a suspect has committed, is committing or threatening to commit a serious offense, mere flight from a pursuing deputy, without any of the above conditions, shall not serve as the basis for the use of a canine to apprehend a suspect.

Use of a canine to locate and apprehend a suspect wanted for a lesser criminal offense than those identified above requires approval from the Shift Sergeant. Absent a change in circumstances that present an imminent threat to deputies, the canine or the public, such canine use should be conducted on-leash or under conditions that minimize the likelihood the canine will bite or otherwise injure the individual.

In all applications, once the suspect has been located and no longer reasonably appears to present a threat or risk of escape, the handler should secure the canine as soon as it becomes reasonably practicable. If the canine has apprehended the suspect with a secure bite, the handler should promptly command the canine to release the suspect.

### 318.6.1 PREPARATION FOR DEPLOYMENT

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

- (a) The nature and seriousness of the suspected offense.
- (b) Whether violence or weapons were used or are anticipated.
- (c) The degree of resistance or threatened resistance, if any, the suspect has shown.
- (d) The suspect's known or perceived age.
- (e) The potential for injury to deputies or the public caused by the suspect if the canine is not utilized.
- (f) Any potential danger to the public and/or other deputies at the scene if the canine is released.
- (g) The potential for the suspect to escape or flee if the canine is not utilized.

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

It is the canine handler's responsibility to evaluate each situation and determine whether the use of a canine is appropriate and reasonable. The canine handler shall have the authority to decline the use of the canine whenever he/she deems deployment is unsuitable.

A supervisor who is sufficiently apprised of the situation may prohibit deploying the canine.

Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor, assisting members should take direction from the handler in order to minimize interference with the canine.

### 318.6.2 WARNINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unless it would increase the risk of injury or escape, a clearly audible warning announcing that a canine will be used if the suspect does not surrender should be made prior to releasing a canine. The handler should allow a reasonable time for a suspect to surrender and should quiet the canine

### *Canines*

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momentarily to listen for any verbal response to the warning. If feasible, other members should be in a location opposite the warning to verify that the announcement could be heard. If available, warnings given in other languages should be used as necessary.

If a warning is not to be given, the canine handler, when practicable, should first advise the supervisor of his/her decision before releasing the canine. In the event of an apprehension, the handler shall document in any related report how the warning was given and, if none was given, the reasons why.

#### **318.6.3 REPORTING DEPLOYMENTS, BITES AND INJURIES**

Whenever a canine deployment results in a bite or causes injury to an intended suspect, a supervisor should be promptly notified and the injuries documented in a canine use report. The injured person shall be promptly treated by emergency medical services personnel and, if appropriate, transported to an appropriate medical facility for further treatment. The deployment and injuries should also be included in any related incident or arrest report.

Any unintended bite or injury caused by a canine, whether on- or off-duty, shall be promptly reported to the canine coordinator. Unintended bites or injuries caused by a canine should be documented in an administrative report, not in a canine use report.

If an individual alleges an injury, either visible or not visible, a supervisor shall be notified and both the individual's injured and uninjured areas shall be photographed as soon as practicable after first tending to the immediate needs of the injured party. Photographs shall be retained as evidence in accordance with current department evidence procedures. The photographs shall be retained until the criminal proceeding is completed and the time for any related civil proceeding has expired.

#### **318.7 NON-APPREHENSION GUIDELINES**

Properly trained canines may be used to track or search for non-criminals (e.g., lost children, individuals who may be disoriented or in need of medical attention). The canine handler is responsible for determining the canine's suitability for such assignments based on the conditions and the particular abilities of the canine. When the canine is deployed in a search or other non-apprehension operation, the following guidelines apply.

- (a) Absent a change in circumstances that present an immediate threat to deputies, the canine or the public, such applications should be conducted on-leash or under conditions that minimize the likelihood the canine will bite or otherwise injure the individual, if located.
- (b) Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor, assisting members should take direction from the handler in order to minimize interference with the canine.
- (c) Throughout the deployment the handler should periodically give verbal assurances that the canine will not bite or hurt the individual and encourage the individual to make him/herself known.
- (d) Once the individual has been located, the canine should be placed in a down-stay or otherwise secured as soon as it becomes reasonably practicable.

## *Canines*

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### 318.7.1 ARTICLE DETECTION

A canine trained to find objects or property related to a person or crime may be used to locate or identify articles. A canine search should be conducted in a manner that minimizes the likelihood of unintended bites or injuries.

### 318.7.2 NARCOTICS DETECTION

A canine trained in narcotics detection may be used in accordance with current law and under certain circumstances, including:

- (a) The search of vehicles, buildings, bags and other articles.
- (b) Assisting in the search for narcotics during a search warrant service.
- (c) Obtaining a search warrant by using the narcotics-detection trained canine in support of probable cause.

A narcotics-detection trained canine will not be used to search a person for narcotics unless the canine is trained to passively indicate the presence of narcotics.

### 318.7.3 BOMB/EXPLOSIVE DETECTION

Because of the high risk of danger to the public and deputies when a bomb or other explosive device is suspected, the use of a canine team trained in explosive detection may be considered. When available, an explosive-detection canine team may be used in accordance with current law and under certain circumstances, including:

- (a) Assisting in the search of a building, structure, area, vehicle or article where an actual or suspected explosive device has been reported or located.
- (b) Assisting with searches at transportation facilities and vehicles (e.g., buses, airplanes and trains).
- (c) Preventive searches at special events, VIP visits, official buildings and other restricted areas. Searches of individuals should remain minimally intrusive and shall be strictly limited to the purpose of detecting explosives.
- (d) Assisting in the search of scenes where an explosion has occurred and an explosive device or secondary explosive device is suspected.

At no time will an explosive-detection trained canine be used to render a suspected device safe or clear.

## **318.8 HANDLER SELECTION**

The minimum qualifications for the assignment of canine handler include:

- (a) A deputy who is currently off probation.
- (b) Residing in an adequately fenced, single-family residence (minimum 5-foot high fence with locking gates).
- (c) A garage that can be secured and accommodate a canine vehicle.
- (d) Living within 30 minutes travel time from the Pacific County County limits.

## *Canines*

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- (e) Agreeing to be assigned to the position for a minimum of three years.

### **318.9 HANDLER RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

The canine handler will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Except as required during appropriate deployment, the handler shall not expose the canine to any foreseeable and unreasonable risk of harm.
- (b) The handler shall maintain all department equipment under his/her control in a clean and serviceable condition.
- (c) When not in service, the handler shall maintain the canine vehicle in a locked garage, away from public view.
- (d) When a handler is off-duty for an extended number of days, the assigned canine vehicle should be stored at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office facility.
- (e) Handlers shall permit the canine coordinator to conduct spontaneous on-site inspections of affected areas of their homes as well as their canine vehicles to verify that conditions and equipment conform to this policy.
- (f) Any changes in the living status of the handler that may affect the lodging or environment of the canine shall be reported to the canine coordinator as soon as possible.
- (g) When off-duty, the canine shall be in a kennel provided by the County at the home of the handler. When a canine is kenneled at the handler's home, the gate shall be secured with a lock. When off-duty, the canine may be let out of the kennel while under the direct control of the handler.
- (h) The canine should be permitted to socialize in the home with the handler's family for short periods of time and under the direct supervision of the handler.
- (i) Under no circumstances will the canine be lodged at another location unless approved by the canine coordinator or Shift Sergeant.
- (j) When off-duty, the handler shall not involve the canine in any law enforcement activity or official conduct unless approved in advance by the canine coordinator or Shift Sergeant.
- (k) Whenever a canine handler is off-duty for an extended number of days, it may be necessary to temporarily relocate the canine. In those situations, the handler shall give reasonable notice to the canine coordinator so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

#### **318.9.1 CANINE IN PUBLIC AREAS**

The canine should be kept on a leash when in areas that allow access to the public. Exceptions to this rule would include specific law enforcement operations for which the canine is trained.

- (a) A canine shall not be left unattended in any area to which the public may have access.



## Canines

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- (b) When the canine vehicle is left unattended, all windows and doors shall be secured in such a manner as to prevent unauthorized access to the dog. The handler shall also ensure that the unattended vehicle remains inhabitable for the canine.

### **318.10 CANINE INJURY AND MEDICAL CARE**

In the event that a canine is injured, or there is an indication that the canine is not in good physical condition, the injury or condition will be reported to the canine coordinator or Shift Sergeant as soon as practicable and appropriately documented.

All medical attention shall be rendered by the designated canine veterinarian, except during an emergency where treatment should be obtained from the nearest available veterinarian. All records of medical treatment shall be maintained in the handler's personnel file.

### **318.11 TRAINING**

Before assignment in the field, each canine team shall be trained and certified to meet current Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) standards or other recognized and approved certification standards. Cross-trained canine teams or those canine teams trained exclusively for the detection of narcotics and/or explosives also shall be trained and certified to meet current nationally recognized standards or other recognized and approved certification standards established for their particular skills (WAC 139-05-915).

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

All canine training should be conducted while on-duty unless otherwise approved by the canine coordinator or Shift Sergeant.

#### **318.11.1 CONTINUED TRAINING**

Each canine team shall thereafter be recertified to current CJTC standards or other recognized and approved certification standards on an annual basis. Additional training considerations are as follows:

- (a) Canine teams should receive training as defined in the current contract with the Pacific County Sheriff's Office canine training provider.
- (b) Canine handlers are encouraged to engage in additional training with approval of the canine coordinator.
- (c) To ensure that all training is consistent, no handler, trainer or outside vendor is authorized to train to a standard that is not reviewed and approved by this department.

#### **318.11.2 FAILURE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE TRAINING**

Any canine team failing to graduate or obtain certification shall not be deployed in the field for tasks the team is not certified to perform until graduation or certification is achieved. When reasonably practicable, pending successful certification, the canine handler shall be temporarily reassigned to regular patrol duties.

## *Canines*

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### 318.11.3 TRAINING RECORDS

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

### 318.11.4 TRAINING AIDS

Training aids are required to effectively train and maintain the skills of canines. Deputies possessing, using or transporting controlled substances or explosives for canine training purposes must comply with federal and state requirements regarding the same. Alternatively, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office may work with outside trainers with the applicable licenses or permits.

### 318.11.5 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TRAINING AIDS

Deputies acting in the performance of their official duties may possess or transfer controlled substances for the purpose of narcotics-detection canine training in compliance with state and federal laws. (21 USC § 823(f); RCW 69.50.302; RCW 69.50.508; WAC 246-887-200).

The Sheriff or the authorized designee may authorize a member to seek a court order to allow controlled substances seized by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to be possessed by the member or a narcotics-detection canine trainer who is working under the direction of this department for training purposes, provided the controlled substances are no longer needed as criminal evidence.

As an alternative, the Sheriff or the authorized designee may request narcotics training aids from the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

These procedures are not required if the canine handler uses commercially available synthetic substances that are not controlled narcotics.

### 318.11.6 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PROCEDURES

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

- (a) All controlled substance training samples shall be weighed and tested prior to dispensing to the individual canine handler or trainer.
- (b) The weight and test results shall be recorded and maintained by this department.
- (c) Any person possessing controlled substance training samples pursuant to court order or DEA registration shall maintain custody and control of the controlled substances and shall keep records regarding any loss of, or damage to, those controlled substances.
- (d) All controlled substance training samples will be inspected, weighed and tested quarterly. The results of the quarterly testing shall be recorded and maintained by the canine coordinator with a copy forwarded to the dispensing agency.
- (e) All controlled substance training samples will be stored in locked, airtight and watertight cases at all times, except during training. The locked cases shall be secured in the trunk of the canine handler's assigned patrol vehicle during transport and stored in an appropriate locked container. There are no exceptions to this procedure.
- (f) The canine coordinator shall periodically inspect every controlled substance training sample for damage or tampering and take any appropriate action.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Canines*

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- (g) Any unusable controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the Evidence Room or to the dispensing agency.
- (h) All controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the dispensing agency upon the conclusion of the training or upon demand by the dispensing agency.

#### 318.11.7 EXPLOSIVE TRAINING AIDS

Deputies may possess, transport, store or use explosives or destructive devices in compliance with state and federal laws (18 USC § 842; 27 CFR 555.41; RCW 70.74.191(4)).

Explosive training aids designed specifically for canine teams should be used whenever feasible. Due to the safety concerns in the handling and transportation of explosives, inert or non-hazardous training aids should be employed whenever feasible. The use of explosives or destructive devices for training aids by canine teams is subject to the following:

- (a) All explosive training aids, when not in use, shall be properly stored in a secure facility appropriate for the type of materials.
- (b) An inventory ledger shall be maintained to document the type and quantity of explosive training aids that are stored.
- (c) The canine coordinator shall be responsible to verify the explosive training aids on hand against the inventory ledger once each quarter.
- (d) Only members of the canine team shall have access to the explosive training aids storage facility.
- (e) A primary and secondary custodian will be designated to minimize the possibility of loss of explosive training aids during and after the training. Generally, the handler will be designated as the primary custodian while the trainer or authorized second person on-scene will be designated as the secondary custodian.
- (f) Any lost or damaged explosive training aids shall be promptly reported to the canine coordinator, who will determine if any further action will be necessary. Any loss of explosives will be reported to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

## Domestic Violence

### 320.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

#### 320.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

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

### 320.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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 department to facilitate victims' and offenders' access to appropriate civil remedies and community resources whenever feasible.

### 320.3 OFFICER SAFETY

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

### 320.4 INVESTIGATIONS

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

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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *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 Investigation Unit 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.
- (i) When completing an incident or arrest report for violation of a court order, deputies should include specific information that establishes that the offender has been served, including the date the offender was served, the name of the agency that served the order and the provision of the order that the subject is alleged to have violated. When reasonably available, the arresting deputy should attach a copy of the order to the incident or arrest report.
- (j) Deputies should take appropriate enforcement action when there is probable cause to believe an offense has occurred. Factors that should not be used as sole justification for declining to take enforcement action include:
  - 1. Marital status of suspect and victim.
  - 2. Whether the suspect lives on the premises with the victim.
  - 3. Claims by the suspect that the victim provoked or perpetuated the violence.
  - 4. The potential financial or child custody consequences of arrest.
  - 5. The physical or emotional state of either party.
  - 6. Use of drugs or alcohol by either party.
  - 7. Denial that the abuse occurred where evidence indicates otherwise.
  - 8. A request by the victim not to arrest the suspect.
  - 9. Location of the incident (public/private).
  - 10. Speculation that the complainant may not follow through with the prosecution.
  - 11. The racial, cultural, social, professional position or sexual orientation of the victim or suspect.

*Domestic Violence*

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- (k) Unless doing so would jeopardize the criminal investigation, the victim should be apprised of investigative plans such as when the suspect or witnesses are going to be interviewed and any plans for making an arrest.

**320.4.1 HOSPITALIZED VICTIM**

When responding to a medical facility regarding an injured person, deputies should make a reasonable attempt to determine whether the injury was a result of domestic violence prior to contacting the victim or person who reported the incident.

If domestic violence is suspected, contact should be made with the medical facility representatives out of the view and hearing of the victim and any potential suspects when practical.

**320.4.2 IF A SUSPECT IS ARRESTED**

If a suspect is arrested, deputies should:

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

**320.4.3 IF NO ARREST IS MADE**

If no arrest is made, the deputy should:

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

**320.5 VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

Victims may be traumatized or confused. Deputies should:

- (a) Recognize that a victim's behavior and actions may be affected.
- (b) Provide the victim with the department'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.

*Domestic Violence*

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- (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.

**320.6 DISPATCH ASSISTANCE**

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

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

**320.7 FOREIGN COURT ORDERS**

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

**320.8 VERIFICATION AND SERVICE 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.
- (b) Check available records or databases that may show the status or conditions of the order.
- (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.

*Domestic Violence*

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**320.9 STANDARDS FOR ARRESTS**

Deputies investigating a domestic violence report should consider the following:

- (a) The primary duty of deputies when responding to a domestic violence situation is to enforce the laws allegedly violated and to protect the complaining party (RCW 10.99.030(5)).
- (b) When a deputy responds to a domestic violence call and has probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed, he/she shall make an arrest pursuant to the criteria in RCW 10.31.100 and RCW 10.99.030(6)(a).
- (c) When a deputy has confirmed that a valid court order exists and has probable cause to believe the defendant has violated that order, the deputy shall make a physical arrest (RCW 10.99.055; RCW 10.31.100(a)(b)). Whenever a member of this department serves or assists in serving a court order and that service is completed, a return of service form shall be completed and submitted to the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC).

**320.10 REPORTS AND RECORDS**

- (a) Deputies responding to a domestic violence call shall take a complete offense report, including the disposition of the case (RCW 10.99.030(6)(b)).
- (b) All such reports should be documented under the appropriate crime classification and should use the distinction "Domestic Violence" in the Type of Crime box of the crime report form (RCW 10.99.030(11)).
- (c) Whenever there is probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed and unless the case is under active investigation, the Investigation Supervisor shall ensure that all domestic violence crime reports are forwarded to the County Prosecutor's Office within 10 days of the date the incident was reported (RCW 10.99.030(9)).
- (d) The Chief Civil Deputy shall ensure that accurate records of domestic violence incidents are maintained and submitted to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), in accordance with state law (RCW 10.99.030(12)).



## Search and Seizure

### 322.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 322.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 322.3 SEARCHES

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

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

- Valid consent
- Incident to a lawful arrest
- Legitimate community caretaking interests
- 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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### **322.4 SEARCH PROTOCOL**

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

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

### **322.5 DOCUMENTATION**

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

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

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

# Temporary Custody of Juveniles

## 324.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines consistent with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act for juveniles taken into temporary custody by members of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office (42 USC § 5633).

### 324.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

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

**Juvenile offender** - A juvenile 17 years of age or younger who is alleged to have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest (a non-status offense) or a juvenile who has violated RCW 9.41.040(2)(a)(iv) by possessing a handgun (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.

**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.

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.
- (d) A juvenile being processed in a secure booking area when an unsecure 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.

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

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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**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 or truancy. A juvenile in custody on a court order or warrant based upon a status offense is also a status offender.

### **324.2 POLICY**

The Pacific 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Juveniles should be held in temporary custody only for as long as reasonably necessary for processing, transfer or release.

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

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

- (a) Unconscious
- (b) Seriously injured
- (c) A known suicide risk or obviously severely emotionally disturbed
- (d) Significantly intoxicated
- (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.

These juveniles should not be held at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office unless they have been evaluated by a qualified medical and/or mental health professional.

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.

### **324.4 CUSTODY OF JUVENILES**

Deputies should take custody of a juvenile and temporarily hold the juvenile at the Pacific 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office without authorization of the arresting deputy's supervisor or the Shift Sergeant.

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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office (42 USC § 5633; RCW 13.04.116(b)).

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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### 324.4.1 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE NON-OFFENDERS

Non-offenders taken into protective custody in compliance with the Child Abuse Policy should generally not be held at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Custodial arrangements should be made for non-offenders as soon as reasonably possible. Juvenile non-offenders may not be held in secure custody (42 USC § 5633).

### 324.4.2 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE STATUS OFFENDERS

Status offenders should generally be released by citation or with a warning rather than taken into temporary custody. However, deputies may take custody of a status offender if requested to do so by a parent or legal guardian in order to facilitate reunification (e.g., transported home or to the station to await a parent). Juvenile status offenders may not be held in secure custody (42 USC § 5633).

### 324.4.3 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

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

Generally, juvenile offenders may be taken into custody under the following circumstances (RCW 13.40.040(1)):

- (a) Pursuant to a court order.
- (b) Without a court order, by a deputy if grounds exist for the arrest of an adult in identical circumstances.
- (c) When his/her parole has been suspended.

### 324.4.4 LIMITATIONS ON RELEASE OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Juveniles should be referred to the appropriate juvenile authority and not released to a parent or guardian when there is probable cause to believe the juvenile (RCW 13.40.040(2)):

- (a) Will likely fail to appear for further proceedings.
- (b) Needs protection from him/herself.
- (c) Is a threat to community safety.
- (d) Will intimidate witnesses or otherwise unlawfully interfere with the administration of justice.
- (e) Has committed a crime while another case was pending.
- (f) Is a fugitive from justice.
- (g) Has had his/her parole suspended or modified.
- (h) Is a material witness.

### *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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#### **324.5 ADVISEMENTS**

When a juvenile offender is taken into custody, the deputy should, as soon as practicable, notify the juvenile's parent, guardian or a responsible relative that the juvenile is in custody.

#### **324.6 JUVENILE CUSTODY LOGS**

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

- (a) Identifying information about the juvenile being held.
- (b) Date and time of arrival and release from the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.
- (c) Shift Sergeant 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.
- (f) Time of all welfare checks.
- (g) Any medical and other screening requested and completed.
- (h) Circumstances that justify any secure custody.
- (i) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors or a local juvenile court authority.

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

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

Sight and sound separation shall be maintained between all juveniles and adults while in custody at the Department (42 USC § 5633). There should also be sight and sound separation between non-offenders and juvenile and status offenders.

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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall maintain a constant, immediate 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.

#### **324.8 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS**

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

- (a) The Shift Sergeant should be notified if it is anticipated that a juvenile may need to remain at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office more than four hours. This will enable the Shift Sergeant to ensure no juvenile is held at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office more than six hours.

*Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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- (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 visual checks and significant incidents/activities shall be noted on the log.
- (d) There shall be no viewing devices, such as peep holes or mirrors, of which the juvenile is not aware. Therefore, an employee should inform a juvenile under his/her care that the juvenile will be monitored at all times, unless he/she is using the toilet. This does not apply to surreptitious and legally obtained recorded interrogations.
- (e) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to toilets and wash basins.
- (f) Food should 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.
- (g) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to a drinking fountain or water.
- (h) Juveniles shall have reasonable opportunities to stand and stretch, particularly if handcuffed or restrained in any way.
- (i) Juveniles should have privacy during family, guardian and/or lawyer visits.
- (j) Juveniles should 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.
- (k) Blankets should be provided as reasonably necessary.
- (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.
- (n) Juveniles shall have the right to the same number of telephone calls as an adult in custody.
- (o) No discipline may be administered to any juvenile, nor may juveniles be subjected to corporal or unusual punishment, humiliation or mental abuse.

**324.9 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Juvenile offenders may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. A juvenile offender may be handcuffed at the Pacific 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.

Other restraints shall only be used after less restrictive measures have failed and with the approval of the Shift Sergeant. Restraints shall only be used so long as it reasonably appears necessary for the juvenile's protection or the protection of others.

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

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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### **324.10 PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The deputy taking custody of a juvenile offender or status offender at the Pacific 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

### **324.11 SECURE CUSTODY**

Only juvenile offenders 14 years and older may be placed in secure custody. Shift Sergeant 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.

Members of this department should not use secure custody for convenience when non-secure custody is, or later becomes, a reasonable option.

When practicable, 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, rather than the use of a locked enclosure. An employee must be present at all times to ensure the juvenile's safety while secured to a stationary object.

Generally, juveniles should 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. Supervisor approval should be documented.

#### **324.11.1 LOCKED ENCLOSURES**

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

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

- (a) The juvenile shall constantly be monitored by an audio/video system during the entire custody.
- (b) Juveniles shall have constant auditory access to department members.
- (c) Initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged.
- (d) Random personal visual checks of the juvenile by staff member, no less than every 15 minutes, shall occur.

- 1. All checks shall be logged.



*Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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2. The 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.
- (f) Juvenile offenders should be separated according to severity of the crime (e.g., felony or misdemeanor).
- (g) Restrained juveniles shall not be mixed in a cell or room with unrestrained juveniles.

**324.12 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY OF A JUVENILE**

The Shift Sergeant will ensure procedures are in place to address the suicide attempt, death or serious injury of any juvenile held at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. The procedures will address:

- (a) Immediate notification of the on-duty supervisor, Sheriff and Investigation Unit 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 Prosecuting Attorney.
- (e) Evidence preservation.

**324.13 INTERVIEWING OR INTERROGATING JUVENILE SUSPECTS**

No interview or interrogation of a juvenile should occur unless the juvenile has the apparent capacity to consent, and does consent to an interview or interrogation.

**324.14 RESTRICTION ON FINGERPRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING**

A juvenile offender may be photographed and fingerprinted as provided by RCW 43.43.735.

**324.15 RELEASE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING JUVENILES**

Court decisions and legislation have combined to carefully specify situations in which information may be given out or exchanged when a case involves a juvenile. Deputies of this department shall not divulge any information regarding juveniles in situations where they are uncertain of the legal authority to do so.

**324.15.1 RELEASE OF INFORMATION PURSUANT TO WASHINGTON LAW**

Juvenile records are confidential and may be released only as provided in RCW 13.50.010 and RCW 13.50.050:

- (a) Information may be released to other participants in the juvenile justice or care system only when an investigation or case involving the juvenile is being pursued by the other participant, or when that other participant is assigned the responsibility for supervising the juvenile.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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- (b) Information not in the juvenile court file that could not reasonably be expected to identify the juvenile or the juvenile's family may be released.
- (c) Following the decision to arrest, information about an investigation, diversion or prosecution of a juvenile, including an incident report, may be released to the school in which the juvenile is enrolled to assist in protecting other students, staff and school property.
- (d) Information about a juvenile offender, the offender's parent or guardian and the circumstances of the crime may be released to the victim or the victim's immediate family.
- (e) Information identifying child victims of sexual assault committed by juvenile offenders may be released only with the permission of the child victim or legal guardian.
- (f) A court may permit certain juvenile records to be released by rule or order.

It shall be the responsibility of the Chief Civil Deputy and the appropriate Investigation Unit supervisors to ensure that personnel of those bureaus act within legal guidelines.

## Adult Abuse

### 326.1 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office members as required by law.

#### 326.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Adult abuse** - Any offense or attempted offense involving violence or neglect of an adult victim when committed by a person responsible for the adult's care, or any other act that would mandate reporting or notification to a social service agency or law enforcement.

### 326.2 POLICY

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

### 326.3 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Members of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall notify the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) when there is reasonable cause to believe that abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation or neglect of a vulnerable adult has occurred. Members shall also notify DSHS when there is reason to suspect sexual assault or physical assault or reasonable cause to believe that an act has caused fear of imminent harm. The medical examiner or coroner shall also be notified when there is reason to suspect that the death of a vulnerable adult was caused by abuse, neglect or abandonment by another person (RCW 74.34.035).

For purposes of notification (RCW 74.34.020):

- Abandonment is action or inaction by a person or entity with a duty of care for a vulnerable adult that leaves the person without the means or ability to obtain necessary food, clothing, shelter or health care.
- Abuse is willful action or inaction that inflicts injury, unreasonable confinement, sexual abuse, physical abuse, financial exploitation, mental abuse, intimidation or punishment as provided.
- A vulnerable adult is a person who is:
  - (a) 60 years or older who has the functional, mental or physical inability to care for himself/herself.
  - (b) Is found by the superior court to be incapacitated under RCW 11.88.005 et seq.
  - (c) Has a developmental disability as defined under RCW 71A.10.020.
  - (d) Is admitted to any facility as defined in RCW 74.34.020 (assisted living facility, nursing home or other facility licensed by DSHS).

## *Adult Abuse*

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- (e) Is receiving services from an individual provider or licensed home health, hospice or home care agency.
- (f) Self-directs his/her own care and receives services from a person aide under RCW 74.39.001 et seq.

### **326.3.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE**

Notification should occur as follows (RCW 74.34.035):

- (a) All notification to DSHS shall be made immediately or as soon as practicable by telephone
- (b) Information provided shall include, if known:
  - 1. The name and address of the person making the report.
  - 2. The name and address of the vulnerable adult.
  - 3. The name and address of the facility or agency providing care for the vulnerable adult.
  - 4. The name and address of the legal guardian or alternate decision maker.
  - 5. The nature and extent of the abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, neglect or self-neglect.
  - 6. Any history of previous abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, neglect or self-neglect.
  - 7. The identity of the alleged perpetrator, if known.
  - 8. Any other information that may be helpful in establishing the extent of abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, neglect or the cause of death of the deceased vulnerable adult.

### **326.4 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS**

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

- (a) Conduct interviews in appropriate interview facilities.
- (b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to adult abuse investigations.
- (c) Present all cases of alleged adult abuse to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and facility administrators as needed.
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians and support for the victim and family as appropriate.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable.

### **326.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING**

All reported or suspected cases of adult abuse require investigation and a report, even if the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated. If the investigation reveals that a crime may

## *Adult Abuse*

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have been committed, the County prosecutor shall be provided a written report of the incident (RCW 74.34.063(3)).

Investigations and reports related to suspected cases of 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 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.
- (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.

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

### **326.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY**

Before taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody when facts indicate the adult may not be able to care for him/herself, the deputy should make reasonable attempts to contact DSHS. 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 department should remove an adult abuse victim from his/her family or guardian without a court order only when no other effective alternative is reasonably available and immediate action reasonably appears necessary to protect the victim. Prior to taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody, the deputy should take reasonable steps to deliver the adult to another qualified legal guardian, unless it reasonably appears that the release would endanger the victim or result in abduction. If this is not a reasonable option, the deputy shall ensure that the adult is delivered to DSHS.

## *Adult Abuse*

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Whenever practicable, the deputy should inform a supervisor of the circumstances prior to taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody. If prior notification is not practicable, deputies should contact a supervisor promptly after taking the adult into protective custody.

When adult abuse victims are under state control, have a state-appointed guardian or there are other legal holdings for guardianship, it may be necessary or reasonable to seek a court order on behalf of the adult victim to either remove the adult from a dangerous environment (protective custody) or restrain a person from contact with the adult.

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 should make an attempt to obtain a protective order against the person alleged to have committed or threatened such abuse pursuant to RCW 74.34.110; RCW 74.34.210; or other applicable statutes.

### **326.7 INTERVIEWS**

#### **326.7.1 PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS**

Absent extenuating circumstances or impracticality, deputies should audio record the preliminary interview with a suspected 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.

#### **326.7.2 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.

### **326.8 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

When an 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.

### *Adult Abuse*

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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.

#### **326.9 DRUG-ENDANGERED VICTIMS**

A coordinated response by law enforcement and social services agencies is appropriate to meet the immediate and longer-term medical and safety needs of an adult abuse victim who has been exposed to the manufacturing, trafficking or use of narcotics.

##### **326.9.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Investigation Unit supervisor should:

- (a) Work with professionals from the appropriate agencies, including DSHS, other law enforcement agencies, medical service providers and local prosecutors, to develop community-specific procedures for responding to situations where there are adult abuse victims endangered by exposure to methamphetamine labs or the manufacture and trafficking of other drugs.
- (b) Activate any available interagency response when a deputy notifies the Investigation Unit supervisor that he/she has responded to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where an adult abuse victim is present or where evidence indicates that an adult abuse victim lives.
- (c) Develop a report format or checklist for use when deputies respond to drug labs or other narcotics crime scenes. The checklist will help deputies document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions that may affect the adult.

##### **326.9.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Deputies responding to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where an adult abuse victim is present or where there is evidence that an 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 Investigation Unit supervisor so an interagency response can begin.

#### **326.10 STATE MANDATES AND OTHER RELEVANT LAWS**

Washington requires or permits the following:

##### **326.10.1 CIVIL DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Civil Division is responsible for:

- (a) Providing a copy of the adult abuse report to DSHS as required by law.
- (b) Retaining the original adult abuse report with the initial case file.

## *Adult Abuse*

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### **326.11 TRAINING**

The Department should provide training on best practices in 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 adult abuse investigations.
- (f) Availability of victim advocates or other support.



## **Discriminatory Harassment**

### **328.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This policy is intended to prevent department members from being subjected to discrimination or sexual harassment.

### **328.2 POLICY**

The Pacific 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. The Department will not tolerate discrimination against employees in hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, fringe benefits and other privileges of employment. The Department will take preventive and corrective action to address any behavior that violates this policy or the rights it is designed to protect.

The non-discrimination policies of the Department 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.

### **328.3 DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED**

#### **328.3.1 DISCRIMINATION**

The Department prohibits all forms of discrimination, including any employment-related action by an employee that adversely affects an applicant or employee and is based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, disability, military service, sexual orientation 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 department equipment and/or systems to transmit or receive offensive material, statements or pictures. Such conduct is contrary to department policy and to the department's commitment to a discrimination free work environment.

Retaliation is treating a person or applicant 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Discriminatory Harassment*

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#### **328.3.2 SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

The Department prohibits all forms of discrimination and discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment. It is unlawful to harass an applicant or an employee because of that person's sex.

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 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.

#### **328.3.3 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 Washington State Human Rights Commission.
- (b) Bona fide requests or demands by a supervisor that an employee improve his/her work quality or output, that the employee report to the job site on time, that the employee comply with County or department rules or regulations, or any other appropriate work-related communication between supervisor and employee.

#### **328.4 RESPONSIBILITIES**

This policy applies to all department personnel. All members shall follow the intent of these guidelines in a manner that reflects department policy, professional law enforcement standards and the best interest of the Department 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 employee 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, Chief Civil Deputy or the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Any member who believes, in good faith, that he/she has been discriminated against, harassed, 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Discriminatory Harassment*

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#### **328.4.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

Each supervisor and manager shall:

- (a) Continually monitor the work environment and strive to ensure that it is free from all types of unlawful discrimination, including harassment or retaliation.
- (b) Take prompt, appropriate action within their work units to avoid and minimize the incidence of any form of discrimination, harassment or retaliation.
- (c) Ensure their subordinates understand their responsibilities under this policy.
- (d) Ensure that employees 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) Notify the Sheriff in writing of the circumstances surrounding any reported allegations or observed acts of discrimination/harassment no later than the next business day.

#### **328.4.2 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 Department and professional law enforcement standards.
- (b) False or mistaken accusations of discrimination, harassment or retaliation have negative effects on the careers of innocent members.
- (c) Supervisors and managers must act promptly and responsibly in the resolution of such situations.
- (d) Supervisors and managers shall make a timely determination regarding the substance of any allegation based upon all available facts.

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 employees or issuing discipline, in a manner that is consistent with established procedures.

#### **328.5 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS**

Various methods of resolution exist. During the pendency of any such investigation, the supervisor of the involved members should take prompt and reasonable steps to mitigate or eliminate any continuing abusive or hostile work environment. It is the policy of the Department that all complaints of discrimination or harassment shall be fully documented, and promptly and thoroughly investigated. The participating or opposing member should be protected against retaliation, and the complaint and related investigation should be kept confidential to the extent possible.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Discriminatory Harassment*

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#### **328.5.1 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. However, if the member feels uncomfortable, 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.

#### **328.5.2 FORMAL INVESTIGATION**

If the complaint cannot be satisfactorily resolved through the process described above, a formal investigation will be conducted.

The employee 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 not be 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, Chief Civil Deputy, or the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

#### **328.5.3 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT COMPLAINTS**

No provision of this policy shall be construed to prevent any employee from seeking legal redress outside the Department. Employees who believe that they have been harassed or discriminated 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. Employees are advised that proceeding with complaints under the provisions of this policy does not in any way affect those filing requirements.

#### **328.6 NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSITION**

The complainant and/or victim will be notified in writing of the disposition of the investigation and actions taken to remedy the complaint.

#### **328.7 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, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS or the Chief Civil Deputy, if more appropriate.
- Maintained for the period established in the department's records retention schedule.

## *Discriminatory Harassment*

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### **328.8 TRAINING**

All new employees shall be provided with a copy of this policy as part of their orientation. The policy shall be reviewed with each new employee. The employee 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 of employment.

All employees 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.

#### **328.8.1 QUESTIONS REGARDING DISCRIMINATION OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

Members with questions regarding discrimination or sexual harassment are encouraged to contact a supervisor, manager, the Sheriff, Chief Civil Deputy or the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, or they may contact the Washington State Human Rights Commission at 800-233-3247.

# Child Abuse

## 330.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 330.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Child** - Unless otherwise specified by a cited statute, a child is any person under the age of 18 years.

**Child abuse** - Any offense or attempted offense involving violence or neglect with a child victim when committed by a person responsible for the child's care or any other act that would mandate notification to a social service agency.

## 330.2 POLICY

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

## 330.3 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Members of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall notify CPS when a report of abuse or neglect of a child is received or when there is reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect (RCW 26.44.030).

For purposes of notification, abuse or neglect of a child includes sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or injury inflicted by any person under circumstances that cause harm to the child's health, welfare or safety, excluding lawful discipline, or the negligent treatment or maltreatment by a person who is responsible for, or providing care to, a child (RCW 26.44.020).

Deputies shall promptly notify CPS whenever a child under 13 years of age is in a vehicle being driven by the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian and that person is being arrested for a drug or alcohol-related driving offense (RCW 26.44.250).

If, during an investigation of drug manufacturing, a deputy discovers that a child is present at the investigation site, the deputy shall notify CPS immediately (RCW 26.44.200).

### 330.3.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Notification should occur as follows (RCW 26.44.030(5)):

- (a) In emergency cases, notification to CPS should be made immediately when the child's welfare is endangered but in all such cases within 24 hours.

*Child Abuse*

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- (b) In non-emergency cases, notification to CPS shall be made within 72 hours after a report is received.
- (c) Notification, when possible, should include (RCW 26.44.040):
  - 1. The name, address and age of the child.
  - 2. The name and address of the child's parents, stepparents, guardians or other persons having custody of the child.
  - 3. The nature and extent of the alleged injury or injuries.
  - 4. The nature and extent of the alleged neglect.
  - 5. The nature and extent of the alleged sexual abuse.
  - 6. Any evidence of previous injuries, including the nature and extent of the injury.
  - 7. Any other information that may be helpful in establishing the cause of the child's death, injury or injuries, and the identity of the alleged perpetrator or perpetrators.
- (d) The Department shall forward all case dispositions to CPS.

**330.4 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS**

Qualified investigators should be available for child abuse investigations. These investigators should:

- (a) Conduct interviews in child appropriate interview facilities.
- (b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to child abuse investigations.
- (c) Present all cases of alleged child abuse to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and school administrators as needed.
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians and support for the child and family as appropriate.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable (RCW 26.44.180 et seq.)

**330.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING**

In all reported or suspected cases of child abuse, a report will be written. Deputies shall write a report even if the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated.

Investigations and reports related to suspected cases of child abuse should address, as applicable:

- (a) The overall basis for the contact. This should be done by the investigating deputy in all circumstances where a suspected child abuse victim was contacted.

*Child Abuse*

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- (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.
- (k) Applicable local protocol regarding child abuse investigations (RCW 26.44.180 et seq.).

All cases of the unexplained death of a child should be investigated as thoroughly as if it had been a case of suspected child abuse (e.g., a sudden or unexplained death of an infant).

### **330.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY**

Before taking any child into protective custody, the deputy should make reasonable attempts to contact CPS. Generally, removal of a child from his/her family, guardian or other responsible adult should be left to the child welfare authorities when they are present or have become involved in an investigation.

Generally, members of this department should remove a child from his/her parent or guardian without a court order only when no other effective alternative is reasonably available and immediate action reasonably appears necessary to protect the child. Prior to taking a child into protective custody, the deputy should take reasonable steps to deliver the child to another qualified parent or legal guardian, unless it reasonably appears that the release would endanger the child or result in abduction. If this is not a reasonable option, the deputy shall ensure that the child is delivered to CPS.

Whenever practicable, the deputy should inform a supervisor of the circumstances prior to taking a child into protective custody. If prior notification is not practicable, deputies should contact a supervisor promptly after taking a child into protective custody.



## *Child Abuse*

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Children may only be removed from a parent or guardian in the following situations (RCW 26.44.050):

- (a) A court order has been issued authorizing the removal of the child.
- (b) There is probable cause to believe that the child is abused or neglected and that the child would be injured or could not be taken into custody if it were necessary to first obtain a court order (e.g., the child could be taken and concealed).

### **330.6.1 SAFE HAVEN LAW**

A parent is not guilty of abandonment when leaving a newborn 72 hours old or younger with a qualified person at the emergency department of a licensed hospital or a fire station while personnel are present (RCW 13.34.360). The qualified person shall notify CPS. CPS shall assume custody of the newborn.

## **330.7 INTERVIEWS**

### **330.7.1 PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS**

Absent extenuating circumstances or impracticality, deputies should record the preliminary interview with suspected child abuse victims. Deputies should avoid multiple interviews with a child victim and should attempt to gather only the information necessary to begin an investigation. When practicable, investigating deputies should defer interviews until a person who is specially trained in such interviews is available. Generally, child victims should not be interviewed in the home or location where the alleged abuse occurred.

### **330.7.2 DETAINING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE VICTIMS FOR AN INTERVIEW**

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

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

### **330.7.3 TRAINING REQUIREMENT**

Only those members who have successfully completed Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) sponsored training on interviewing child victims of sexual abuse shall participate in or conduct such interviews. Interviews of children who are suspected victims

## *Child Abuse*

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of sexual abuse will be conducted in compliance with the training standards set forth in RCW 43.101.224.

### **330.8 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

If the child has been the victim of abuse that requires a medical examination, the investigating deputy should obtain consent for such examination from the appropriate parent, guardian or agency having legal custody of the child. The deputy should also arrange for the child's transportation to the appropriate medical facility.

In cases where the alleged offender is the custodial parent or guardian and is refusing consent for the medical examination, deputies should notify a supervisor before proceeding. If exigent circumstances do not exist or if state law does not provide for deputies to take the child for a medical examination, the notified supervisor should consider obtaining a court order for such an examination.

### **330.9 DRUG-ENDANGERED CHILDREN**

A coordinated response by law enforcement and social services agencies is appropriate to meet the immediate and longer-term medical and safety needs of children exposed to the manufacturing, trafficking or use of narcotics.

#### **330.9.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Investigation Unit Supervisor should:

- (a) Work with professionals from the appropriate agencies, including CPS, other law enforcement agencies, medical service providers and local prosecutors to develop community specific procedures for responding to situations where there are children endangered by exposure to methamphetamine labs or the manufacture and trafficking of other drugs.
- (b) Activate any available interagency response when a deputy notifies the Investigation Unit Supervisor that the deputy has responded to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where a child is present or where evidence indicates that a child lives there.
- (c) Develop a report format or checklist for use when deputies respond to drug labs or other narcotics crime scenes. The checklist will help deputies document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions that may affect the child.

#### **330.9.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Deputies responding to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where a child is present or where there is evidence that a child lives should:

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

*Child Abuse*

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**330.10 STATE MANDATES AND OTHER RELEVANT LAWS**

Washington requires or permits the following:

**330.10.1 RELEASE OF REPORTS**

Information related to incidents of child abuse or suspected child abuse shall be confidential and may only be disclosed pursuant to state law and the Records Release and Security Policy (RCW 42.56.240).

**330.10.2 ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT**

When a deputy responds to a call alleging that a child has been subjected to sexual or physical abuse or criminal mistreatment and has probable cause that a crime has been committed, or the deputy responds to a call alleging that a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction has been violated, he/she has the authority to arrest the person without a warrant (RCW 10.31.100; RCW 26.44.130).

**330.10.3 CASE SUBMISSION TO PROSECUTOR**

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall forward all cases of child abuse to the appropriate prosecutor when a crime may have been committed and (RCW 26.44.030):

- (a) A child has died or has had a physical injury.
- (b) Injuries were inflicted upon a child other than by accidental means.
- (c) A child has been subjected to alleged sexual abuse.

**330.10.4 AGENCY COORDINATION**

If this department responds to a complaint of alleged child abuse and discovers that another agency has also responded to the complaint, this department shall notify the other agency of its presence. The agencies shall coordinate the investigation and keep each other apprised of progress (RCW 26.44.035).

**330.10.5 LOCAL CHILD ABUSE PROTOCOLS**

The Investigation Unit Supervisor should ensure that local child abuse protocols for the investigation of child abuse are available to those department members who have a role in child abuse investigations (RCW 26.44.180 et seq.).

**330.10.6 CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN INVESTIGATIONS**

A deputy shall not participate as an investigator in a child abuse case concerning a child for whom he/she is, or has been, a parent, guardian or foster parent (RCW 26.44.190).

**330.11 TRAINING**

The Department should provide training on best practices in child abuse investigations to members tasked with investigating these cases. The training should include:

- (a) Participating in multidisciplinary investigations, as appropriate.
- (b) Conducting forensic interviews.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Child Abuse*

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- (c) Availability of therapy services for children and families.
- (d) Availability of specialized forensic medical exams.
- (e) Cultural competence (including interpretive services) related to child abuse investigations.
- (f) Availability of victim advocate or guardian ad litem support.

# Missing Persons

## 332.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for handling missing person investigations.

### 332.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**At risk** - This includes persons who:

- (a) Are 13 years of age or younger.
- (b) Regardless of age, are believed or determined to be experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:
  - 1. Missing under unexplained, involuntary or suspicious circumstances and is believed to be in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, in combination with environmental or weather conditions, or it is believed that the person is unable to return to safety without assistance.
  - 2. Out of the zone of safety for his/her chronological age and developmental stage.
  - 3. Mentally or behaviorally disabled.
  - 4. Drug dependent, including prescribed medication and/or illegal substances, and the dependency is potentially life-threatening.
  - 5. Absent from home for more than 24 hours before being reported to law enforcement as missing.
  - 6. In a life-threatening situation.
  - 7. In the company of others who could endanger his/her welfare.
  - 8. Absent in a way that is inconsistent with established patterns of behavior and cannot be readily explained. Most children have an established and reasonably predictable routine.
  - 9. Involved in a situation that would cause a reasonable person to conclude the person should be considered at risk.

**Missing person** - Any person who is reported missing to law enforcement when that person's location is unknown.

**Missing person networks** - Databases or computer networks that are available to law enforcement and are suitable for obtaining information related to missing person investigations. This includes the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC).

### *Missing Persons*

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#### **332.2 POLICY**

The Pacific 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office gives missing person cases priority over property-related cases and does not require a specific amount of time to have passed before beginning a missing person investigation.

#### **332.3 REQUIRED FORMS AND BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION KITS**

The Investigation Unit Supervisor shall ensure the following forms and kits are developed and available:

- Missing person report form
- Missing person investigation checklist that provides investigation guidelines and resources that could be helpful in the early hours of a missing person investigation
- Missing person school notification form
- Medical records release form
- Biological sample collection kits

#### **332.4 ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

Any member encountering a person who wishes to report a missing person or runaway shall render assistance without delay. 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 give 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 question of jurisdiction.

#### **332.5 INITIAL INVESTIGATION**

Deputies or other members conducting the initial investigation of a missing person should take the following investigative actions, as applicable:

- (a) Respond to a dispatched call 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 16 years of age or there is evidence that the missing person is at risk. The BOLO should be broadcast as soon

## *Missing Persons*

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as practicable but in no event more than one hour after determining the missing person is under 16 years of age or may be at risk.

- (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 fingerprint card of the missing person, if available.
  - 2. A voluntarily provided biological sample of the missing person, if available (e.g., toothbrush, hairbrush).
  - 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 missing person report previously made to another agency and that agency is actively investigating the report. When this is not practicable, 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.
- (j) Consider contacting the Washington State Patrol's (WSP) Missing and Exploited Children's Task Force (MECTF) on if additional resources are needed (RCW 13.60.110).

### **332.6 REPORT PROCEDURES AND ROUTING**

Members should complete all missing person reports and forms promptly and advise the appropriate supervisor as soon as a missing person report is ready for review.

#### **332.6.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of the supervisor shall include, but are not be limited to:

- (a) Reviewing and approving missing person reports upon receipt.
  - 1. The reports should be promptly sent to the Civil Division.
- (b) Ensuring resources are deployed as appropriate.
- (c) Initiating a command post as needed.

## *Missing Persons*

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- (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.
  - 1. If the case falls within the jurisdiction of another agency, the supervisor should facilitate transfer of the case to the agency of jurisdiction.

### **332.6.2 CIVIL DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES**

The receiving member shall:

- (a) As soon as reasonable under the circumstances, notify and forward a copy of the report to the agency of jurisdiction for the missing person's residence in cases where the missing person is a resident of another jurisdiction.
- (b) Notify and forward a copy of the report to the agency of jurisdiction where the missing person was last seen.
- (c) Notify and forward a copy of the report to the agency of jurisdiction for the missing person's intended or possible destination, if known.
- (d) Forward a copy of the report to the Investigation Unit.

### **332.7 INVESTIGATION UNIT FOLLOW-UP**

The investigator assigned to a missing person investigation:

- (a) Should 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.
  - 2. The investigator should meet with school officials as appropriate to stress the importance of including the notice in the child's student file, along with the investigator's contact information if the school receives a call requesting the transfer of the missing child's files to another school.
- (b) Should re-contact 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.
- (c) Should consider contacting other agencies involved in the case to determine if any additional information is available.
- (d) Shall verify and update WACIC, NCIC and any other applicable missing person networks within 60 days of the original entry into the networks and every 45 days thereafter until the missing person is located (42 USC § 5780).
- (e) Should continue to make reasonable efforts to locate the missing person and document these efforts at least every 45 days.



## *Missing Persons*

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- (f) Shall maintain a close liaison with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children® (NCMEC) if the missing person is under the age of 21 (42 USC § 5780).
- (g) Should make appropriate inquiry with the Medical Examiner.
- (h) Should obtain and forward medical records, photos, X-rays and biological samples, as applicable.
- (i) Should attempt to obtain the most recent photograph for persons under 18 years of age if it has not been obtained previously and forward the photograph to the WSP Missing and Unidentified Persons Unit (MUPU).
- (j) Should consider making appropriate entries and searches in the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs).

### **332.7.1 MISSING OVER 30 DAYS OR WHEN CRIMINAL ACTIVITY SUSPECTED**

When a person reported missing has not been found within 30 days of the report or at any time when criminal activity is suspected, the handling detective shall contact the county coroner or medical examiner to determine if that office has any information concerning the missing person. If, after conferring with the coroner or medical examiner, the person is still determined to be missing the handling deputies shall complete the following:

- (a) File a missing person's report with MUPU.
- (b) Initiate the collection of biological samples from the known missing person and his/her family members for nuclear and mitochondrial DNA testing along with the necessary consent forms, if not previously obtained during the investigation.
- (c) Ask the missing person's family or next of kin to give written consent to request the person's dental records.
  - 1. Whenever possible, obtain diagnostic quality copies or original records of the missing person's dental records. As soon as possible, biological samples shall be submitted to the appropriate lab; dental records shall be submitted to MUPU (RCW 43.43.751; RCW 68.50.320).

In all missing person cases, the assigned detective should attempt contact with the reporting party no less than every three months in order to verify the status of the reported missing person. After 12 months, contact with the reporting party should be attempted yearly. All verifications should be reported to WSP via A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS).

### **332.8 WHEN A MISSING PERSON IS FOUND**

When any person reported missing is found, the assigned investigator shall document the location of the missing person in the appropriate report, notify the reporting party and other involved agencies and refer the case for additional investigation if warranted.

The Chief Civil Deputy should ensure that, upon receipt of information that a missing person has been located, the following occurs:

## *Missing Persons*

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- (a) Notification is made to MUPU.
- (b) A missing child's school is notified.
- (c) Entries are made in the applicable missing person networks.
- (d) When a person is at risk, the fact that the person has been found should be reported within 24 hours to MUPU.
- (e) Notification shall be made to any other law enforcement agency that took the initial report or participated in the investigation.

### **332.8.1 UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS**

Department members investigating a case of an unidentified person who is deceased or a living person who cannot assist in identifying him/herself should:

- (a) Obtain a complete description of the person.
- (b) Enter the unidentified person's description into the NCIC Unidentified Person File.
- (c) Use available resources, such as those related to missing persons, to identify the person.

### **332.9 CASE CLOSURE**

The Investigation Unit 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 matches an unidentified person or body.
- (b) If the missing person is a resident of Pacific County or this department is the lead agency, the case should be kept under active investigation for as long as the person may still be alive. Exhaustion of leads in the investigation should not be a reason for closing a case.
- (c) If this department is not the lead agency, the case can be made inactive if all investigative leads have been exhausted, the lead agency has been notified and entries are made in the applicable missing person networks, as appropriate.
- (d) A missing person case should not be closed or reclassified because the person would have reached a certain age or adulthood or because the person is now the subject of a criminal or civil warrant.

### **332.10 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Training Officer should ensure that members of this department whose duties include missing person investigations and reports receive training that includes:

- (a) The initial investigation:
  - 1. Assessments and interviews
  - 2. Use of current resources, such as Mobile Audio Video (MAV)

## *Missing Persons*

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3. Confirming missing status and custody status of minors
  4. Evaluating the need for a heightened response
  5. Identifying the zone of safety based on chronological age and developmental stage
- (b) Briefing of department members at the scene.
  - (c) Identifying NCIC Missing Person File categories (e.g., disability, endangered, involuntary, juvenile and catastrophe).
  - (d) Verifying the accuracy of all descriptive information.
  - (e) Initiating a neighborhood investigation.
  - (f) Investigating any relevant recent family dynamics.
  - (g) Addressing conflicting information.
  - (h) Key investigative and coordination steps.
  - (i) Managing a missing person case.
  - (j) Additional resources and specialized services.
  - (k) Update procedures for case information and descriptions.
  - (l) Preserving scenes.
  - (m) Internet and technology issues (e.g., Internet use, cell phone use).
  - (n) Media relations.

## Public Alerts

### 334.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for alerting the public to important information and soliciting public aid when appropriate.

### 334.2 POLICY

Public alerts may be employed using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), local radio, television and press organizations and other groups to notify the public of incidents, or enlist the aid of the public, when the exchange of information may enhance the safety of the community. Various types of alerts may be available based upon each situation and the alert system's individual criteria.

### 334.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 334.3.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office should notify their supervisor, Shift Sergeant or Investigation Unit Supervisor as soon as practicable upon learning of a situation where public notification, a warning or enlisting the help of the media and public could assist in locating a missing person, apprehending a dangerous person or gathering information.

#### 334.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor apprised of the need for a public alert is responsible to make the appropriate notifications based upon the circumstances of each situation. The supervisor shall promptly notify the Sheriff, the appropriate Lieutenant 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 Lieutenant

#### 334.3.3 PUBLIC ALERT REPORTING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sheriff should designate a public alert reporting officer, who is responsible for:

- (a) Remaining familiar with the protocols for activating, maintaining and cancelling all applicable public alerts.
- (b) Being the point of contact with the Washington AMBER Alert Advisory Committee.
- (c) Ensuring the Department has members who have completed the appropriate training.

*Public Alerts*

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**334.4 WASHINGTON STATEWIDE AMBER ALERT™ PLAN**

The AMBER Alert™ Plan is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement, state government agencies, broadcasters and other participants to rapidly disseminate information to enhance the public's ability to assist in recovering abducted children (RCW 13.60.010).

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office participates in this partnership and may initiate an AMBER Alert to disseminate information to the public when the criteria for an AMBER Alert are met.

**334.4.1 ALERT CRITERIA**

The following criteria must exist prior to requesting an AMBER Alert:

- (a) The child is under 18 years of age and is known to have been abducted. The child is not a runaway or a throw-away child.
- (b) The abducted child is believed to be in danger of death or serious bodily injury.
- (c) The AMBER Alert activation should occur within four hours of the qualifying event unless circumstances or the timeliness of the information warrant otherwise.
- (d) There must be enough descriptive information to believe that an AMBER Alert activation will assist in the recovery of the child, including:
  - 1. Where the abduction took place.
  - 2. A physical description of the child: height, weight, age, hair color and length, eye color, clothing worn when the child was last seen, and any distinguishing physical characteristics.
  - 3. A physical description of the abductor: height, weight, age, hair color and length, eye color, clothing worn when the suspect last seen, and any distinguishing physical characteristics.
  - 4. Place last seen.
  - 5. Description of the vehicle: color, make, model, license number, approximate year.
- (e) The incident must be reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

**334.4.2 PROCEDURE**

Should the Shift Sergeant or supervisor determine that the incident meets the criteria of the Washington Statewide AMBER Alert Plan, the Shift Sergeant or supervisor should:

- (a) Ensure that department protocol is followed regarding approval of the alert.
- (b) Ensure all appropriate documentation is completed.
- (c) Contact the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Communication Center for entry into the Law Enforcement Alerting Portal (LEAP).

**334.4.3 INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS**

Upon initiation of an AMBER Alert, the Shift Sergeant or supervisor shall:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Public Alerts*

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- (a) Ensure prompt entry of information into the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) databases.
- (b) Promptly notify the Sheriff and the appropriate Lieutenant of any AMBER Alert activation.
- (c) Ensure the preparation of an initial press release that includes all the information required by the Washington Statewide AMBER Alert Plan, and any other available information that might aid in locating the child, such as:
  - 1. A photograph.
  - 2. Detail regarding location of incident, direction of travel, potential destinations, etc., if known.
  - 3. Name and telephone number of the Public Information Officer or other authorized point of contact to handle media and law enforcement liaison.
  - 4. A telephone number and point of contact for the public to call with leads or information.

#### 334.4.4 POST-INCIDENT REPORTING

The Sheriff shall be responsible for submitting the AMBER Alert Report to the Washington State Police Chiefs (WASPC) in a timely fashion. The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall be responsible for representing the Department during the AMBER Alert Review Committee's after-action review of the alert.

#### **334.5 ENDANGERED MISSING PERSON ADVISORY**

The Endangered Missing Person Advisory is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement, other government agencies and local broadcasters to rapidly disseminate information to law enforcement agencies, the media and the public about a missing and endangered person in circumstances that do not qualify for an AMBER Alert (RCW 13.60.050).

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office participates in this partnership and may initiate the required notifications whenever a person is reported missing from this jurisdiction and meets the criteria of an Endangered Missing Person.

##### 334.5.1 ADVISORY CRITERIA

All of the following criteria must exist prior to initiating an Endangered Missing Person Advisory:

- (a) The person is missing under unexplained, involuntary or suspicious circumstances.
- (b) The person has a developmental disability, is a vulnerable adult or is believed to be in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, in combination with environmental or weather conditions, or is believed to be unable to return to safety without assistance (RCW 13.60.010).
- (c) There is enough information that could assist the public in the safe recovery of the missing person (e.g., photo or description, clothing worn when last seen, vehicle, location last seen).

## *Public Alerts*

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- (d) The incident has been reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

### 334.5.2 PROCEDURE

Should the Shift Sergeant or supervisor determine that the incident meets the criteria of an Endangered Missing Person Advisory, the Shift Sergeant or supervisor should:

- (a) Ensure that department protocol is followed regarding approval of the alert.
- (b) Ensure all appropriate documentation is completed.
- (c) Contact the WSP Communication Center for entry into LEAP.
- (d) Direct Civil Division personnel to enter the information into the WACIC and NCIC databases using the proper message key: Missing (MNP), Endangered (EME), or Involuntary (EMI).
- (e) Notify Dispatch of the advisory and ensure that it is prepared to handle a high volume of telephone calls.
- (f) Ensure that the handling deputy attempts to obtain a photograph of the missing person and/or suspect as soon as possible.
- (g) Direct the Civil Division to enter the photograph into WACIC and NCIC, then send an email to the WSP Missing Persons Unit (MPU).
- (h) Appoint a Public Information Officer to handle the media.
  - 1. The Public Information Officer should notify the media through appropriate channels regarding the Endangered Person Advisory. Upon request, the WSP MPU can provide electronic posters with details of the missing person.
  - 2. If the Endangered Missing Person is 21 years of age or younger, NCMEC should be notified as soon as practicable.
- (i) The Civil Division personnel should promptly cancel the advisory after an Endangered Missing Person is located by sending an administrative message through A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS), noting that the person has been found.

### 334.6 BLUE ALERTS

The Blue Alert system is a voluntary cooperation between law enforcement, state government agencies and local broadcasters to enhance the public's ability to assist in locating and apprehending persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring a law enforcement officer (RCW 10.108.030).

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office participates in this partnership and may initiate a Blue Alert to disseminate information to the public when the criteria for a Blue Alert are met.

#### 334.6.1 CRITERIA

All of the following criteria are required to exist prior to initiating a Blue Alert (RCW 10.108.030):

*Public Alerts*

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- (a) The suspect has not been apprehended.
- (b) The suspect poses a serious threat to the public.
- (c) Sufficient information is available to disseminate to the public to assist in locating and apprehending the suspect.
- (d) The release of the information will not compromise the investigation.
- (e) The release of the information will not improperly notify a deputy's next of kin.

**334.6.2 PROCEDURE**

Should the Shift Sergeant or supervisor determine that the incident meets the criteria of a Blue Alert, the Shift Sergeant or supervisor should:

- (a) Direct Civil Division personnel to prepare a Blue Alert administrative message through ACCESS. The words, "Blue Alert Advisory" should be included in the title of the message.
- (b) Contact WSP Communications to verify that the advisory was received and, if available, provide the suspect's vehicle information and request the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to activate variable message signs.
- (c) Ensure that descriptive information about the suspect, the suspect's whereabouts and the suspect's method of escape is disseminated.
- (d) Appoint a Public Information Officer to issue press releases and handle media inquiries.
  - 1. The Public Information Officer should be updated continually and be in constant contact with all media outlets to obtain maximum media exposure, provide updates and cancel the Blue Alert when appropriate.
- (e) Advise Dispatch of the Blue Alert and ensure that it is prepared to handle a high volume of telephone calls.
- (f) Ensure that a press release is issued cancelling the Blue Alert.

**334.7 OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS**

The Shift Sergeant or supervisor should consider the following resources, as appropriate:

- (a) Local allied law enforcement agency resources
- (b) FBI local office
- (c) The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)
  - 1. Monitor the Cyber Tipline® link and post missing children alerts
- (d) The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - 1. Will relay AMBER Alerts over Weather Radio



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## Victim Witness Assistance

### 336.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that crime victims and witnesses receive appropriate assistance, that they are provided with information from government and private resources, and that the agency meets all related legal mandates.

### 336.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing guidance and assistance to the victims and witnesses of crime. The employees of the Pacific 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.

### 336.3 CRIME VICTIM LIAISON

The Sheriff may appoint a member of the Department 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 Pacific 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.

#### 336.3.1 SPECIFIC VICTIM LIAISON DUTIES

The victim liaison should:

- (a) Ensure that the Department affords victims and witnesses the rights (RCW 7.69.030).
- (b) Ensure that child victims and witnesses are provided appropriate services and rights (RCW 7.69A.030).
- (c) Coordinate with the County Prosecutor's Office to ensure that all other required notifications are provided to victims and witnesses.

### 336.4 CRIME VICTIMS

Deputies should provide all victims with the applicable victim information handouts.

Deputies should never guarantee a victim's safety from future harm but may make practical safety suggestions to victims who express fear of future harm or retaliation. Deputies should never guarantee that a person qualifies as a victim for the purpose of compensation or restitution but may direct him/her to the proper written department material or available victim resources.

### 336.5 VICTIM INFORMATION

The Support Services Supervisor shall ensure that victim information handouts are available and current. These should include as appropriate:

- (a) Shelters and other community resources for victims of domestic violence.

*Victim Witness Assistance*

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- (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 (42 USC § 3796gg).
- (d) 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.
- (e) A clear explanation of relevant court orders and how they can be obtained.
- (f) Information regarding available compensation for qualifying victims of crime.
- (g) 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.
- (h) Notice regarding U-Visa and T-Visa application processes.
- (i) Resources available for victims of identity theft.
- (j) A place for the deputy's name, badge number and any applicable case or incident number.
- (k) A written statement enumerating the rights of victims (RCW 7.69.030; RCW 7.69A.030; RCW 7.69B.020).
- (l) The name, address and telephone number of the local victim/witness program, or contact information for the Washington Coalition of Crime Victim Advocates.
- (m) An advisement notifying victims of their right to personally initiate a criminal proceeding (RCW 10.99.030(6)(a)).

### **336.6 WITNESSES**

Deputies should never guarantee a witness' safety from future harm or that his/her identity will always remain confidential. Deputies may make practical safety suggestions to witnesses who express fear of future harm or retaliation.

Deputies should investigate allegations of witness intimidation and take enforcement action when lawful and reasonable.

### **336.7 WITNESS INFORMATION**

Any person who has been or expects to be summoned to testify for the prosecution in a criminal action, or who is subject to call or is likely to be called as a witness, has rights to specific information about the case (RCW 7.69.030).

The Support Services Supervisor shall ensure that witness information handouts are available and current. These should include information regarding witness rights (RCW 7.69.030).

## Hate Crimes

### 338.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This department recognizes and places a high priority on the rights of all individuals guaranteed under the Constitution and the laws of this state. When such rights are infringed upon by violence, threats or other harassment, this department will utilize all available resources to see that justice is served under the law. This policy has been developed to provide members of this department with guidelines for identifying and investigating incidents and crimes that may be motivated by hatred or other bias.

### 338.2 DEFINITIONS

Except where otherwise noted, the following definitions are provided per RCW 9A.04.110:

**Bodily Injury, Physical Injury, or Bodily Harm** - Physical pain or injury, illness, or an impairment of physical condition.

**Malice and Maliciously** - To import an evil intent, wish, or design to vex, annoy, or injure another person. Malice may be inferred from an act done in willful disregard of the rights of another, or an act wrongfully done without just cause or excuse, or an act or omission of duty betraying a willful disregard of social duty.

**Reasonable Person** - A member of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation, or who has the same mental, physical, or sensory handicap as the victim (RCW 9A.36.080).

**Sexual Orientation** - Heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality and gender expression or identity. As used in this definition, gender expression or identity means having or being perceived as having a gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior or expression, whether or not that gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior or expression is different from that traditionally associated with the sex assigned to that person at birth (RCW 49.60.040(15)).

**Threat** - To communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent to cause bodily injury immediately or in the future to any other person or to cause physical damage immediately or in the future to the property of another person.

### 338.3 CRIMINAL STATUTES

#### 338.3.1 MALICIOUS HARASSMENT

A person is guilty of malicious harassment if he/she maliciously and intentionally commits one of the following acts because of his/her perception of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, or sensory handicap (RCW 9A.36.080):

- (a) Causes physical injury to the victim or another person.
- (b) Causes physical damage to or destruction of the property of the victim or another person.

## *Hate Crimes*

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- (c) Threatens a specific person or group of persons and places that person, or members of the specific group of persons, in reasonable fear of harm to person or property. The fear must be a fear that a reasonable person would have under the circumstances.

### **338.3.2 PRIMA FACIE ACTS OF HATE**

Prima facie acts of hate are (RCW 9A.36.080):

- (a) Burning a cross on property of a victim who is or whom the actor perceives to be of African American heritage.
- (b) Defaces property of a victim who is or whom the actor perceives to be of Jewish heritage by defacing the property with a swastika.

### **338.3.3 THREATS TO BOMB OR INJURE PROPERTY**

It is unlawful for any person to threaten to bomb or otherwise injure any public or private school building, any place of worship or public assembly, any governmental property, or any other building, common carrier, or structure, or any place used for human occupancy; or to communicate or repeat any information concerning such a threatened bombing or injury, knowing such information to be false and with intent to alarm the person or persons to whom the information is communicated or repeated (RCW 9.61.160).

### **338.3.4 FEDERAL JURISDICTION**

The federal government has the power to investigate and prosecute bias-motivated violence by giving the U.S. Department of Justice jurisdiction over crimes of violence where the perpetrator has selected the victim because of the person's actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability (18 USC § 245).

### **338.4 CIVIL STATUTES**

In addition to the criminal penalty provided in RCW 9A.36.080 for committing a crime of malicious harassment, the victim may bring a civil cause of action for malicious harassment against the harasser. A person may be liable to the victim of malicious harassment for actual damages, punitive damages of up to ten thousand dollars, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in bringing the action (RCW 9A.36.083).

### **338.5 PREVENTING AND PREPARING FOR LIKELY HATE CRIMES**

While it is recognized that not all crime can be prevented, this department is committed to taking a proactive approach to preventing and preparing for likely hate crimes by:

- (a) Making an affirmative effort to establish contact with persons and groups within the community who are likely targets of hate crimes to form and cooperate with prevention and response networks.
- (b) Providing victim assistance and follow-up as outlined below, including community follow-up.
- (c) Educating community and civic groups about hate crime laws.

## *Hate Crimes*

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### **338.6 PROCEDURE FOR INVESTIGATING HATE CRIMES**

Whenever any member of this department receives a report of a suspected hate crime or other activity that reasonably appears to involve a potential hate crime, the following should occur:

- (a) Deputy(s) will be promptly assigned to contact the victim, witness, or reporting party to investigate the matter further as circumstances may dictate.
- (b) A supervisor should be notified of the circumstances as soon as practical.
- (c) Once "in progress" aspects of any such situation have been stabilized (e.g., treatment of victims, apprehension of present suspects, etc.), the assigned deputy(s) will take all reasonable steps to preserve available evidence that may tend to establish that a hate crime was involved.
- (d) The assigned deputy(s) will interview available witnesses, victims and others to determine what circumstances, if any, indicate that the situation may involve a hate crime.
- (e) Depending on the situation, the assigned deputy(s) or supervisor may request additional assistance from detectives or other resources to further the investigation.
- (f) The assigned deputy(s) will include all available evidence indicating the likelihood of a hate crime in the relevant report(s). All related reports will be clearly marked as "Hate Crimes" and, absent prior approval of a supervisor, will be completed and submitted by the assigned deputy(s) before the end of the shift.
- (g) The assigned deputy(s) will provide the victim(s) of any suspected hate crime with a brochure on hate crimes. Such brochures will also be available to members of the general public upon request. The assigned deputy(s) should also make reasonable efforts to assist the victim(s) by providing available information on local assistance programs and organizations.
- (h) The assigned deputy(s) and supervisor should take reasonable steps to ensure that any such situation does not escalate further.

#### **338.6.1 INVESTIGATIONS RESPONSIBILITY**

If a case is assigned to the Investigation Unit, the assigned detective will be responsible for following up on the reported hate crime as follows:

- (a) Coordinate further investigation with the County Prosecutor and other appropriate law enforcement agencies, as appropriate.
- (b) Maintain contact with the victim(s) and other involved individuals as needed.
- (c) Maintain statistical data on suspected hate crimes and tracking as indicated and report such data to the Washington Association of Sheriff's and Police Chiefs (WASPC) (RCW 36.28A.030).

### **338.7 TRAINING**

All members of this department will receive CJTC approved training on hate crime recognition and investigation (RCW 43.101.290).

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Hate Crimes*

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# Standards of Conduct

## 340.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and are expected of all department members. The standards contained in this policy are not intended to be an exhaustive list of requirements and prohibitions but they do identify many of the important matters concerning conduct. In addition to the provisions of this policy, members are subject to all other provisions contained in this manual, as well as any additional guidance on conduct that may be disseminated by this department or a member's supervisors.

## 340.2 POLICY

The continued employment or appointment of every member of the Pacific 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.

### 340.2.1 PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE

The administration of discipline is generally expected to be progressive in nature, with relatively minor violations of rules resulting in minor disciplinary action for first offenders. Repetitive similar violations, or more serious violations, would generally result in progressively more serious forms of discipline being administered.

Nothing in this policy is intended to preclude the administration of more serious forms of discipline, including termination, for a first offense when warranted by the seriousness of the offense.

## 340.3 DIRECTIVES AND ORDERS

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

### 340.3.1 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 department 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.

## *Standards of Conduct*

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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, department 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.

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

### **340.3.2 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.

### **340.4 GENERAL STANDARDS**

Members shall conduct themselves, whether on- or off-duty, in accordance with the United States and Washington 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.

### **340.5 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 department service.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Standards of Conduct*

---

#### 340.5.1 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 department or County manuals.
- (b) Disobedience of any legal directive or order issued by any department member of a higher rank.
- (c) Violation of federal, state, local or administrative laws, rules or regulations.

#### 340.5.2 ETHICS

- (a) Using or disclosing one's status as a member of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office in any way that could reasonably be perceived as an attempt to gain influence or authority for non-department 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 department 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.

#### 340.5.3 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.

#### 340.5.4 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Standards of Conduct*

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This includes any organization involved in a definable criminal activity or enterprise, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.

- (e) Associating on a personal, rather than official basis with persons who demonstrate recurring involvement in serious violations of state or federal laws after the member knows, or reasonably should know of such criminal activities, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.

#### 340.5.5 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.

#### 340.5.6 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 department.
- (b) Disclosing to any unauthorized person any active investigation information.
- (c) The use of any information, photograph, video or other recording obtained or accessed as a result of employment or appointment to this department for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (d) Loaning, selling, allowing unauthorized use, giving away or appropriating any Pacific County Sheriff's Office badge, uniform, identification card or department property for personal use, personal gain or any other improper or unauthorized use or purpose.
- (e) Using department resources in association with any portion of an independent civil action. These resources include, but are not limited to, personnel, vehicles, equipment and non-subpoenaed records.

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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Standards of Conduct*

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#### 340.5.8 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.
- (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 department 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 department--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 department or its members.
- (e) Disparaging remarks or conduct concerning duly constituted authority to the extent that such conduct disrupts the efficiency of this department or subverts the good order, efficiency and discipline of this department 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:
  - 1. While on department premises.
  - 2. At any work site, while on--duty or while in uniform, or while using any department equipment or system.
  - 3. Gambling activity undertaken as part of a deputy's official duties and with the express knowledge and permission of a direct supervisor is exempt from this prohibition.
- (g) Improper political activity including:
  - 1. Unauthorized attendance while on--duty at official legislative or political sessions.
  - 2. Solicitations, speeches or distribution of campaign literature for or against any political candidate or position while on-duty or on department property except as expressly authorized by County policy, the collective bargaining agreement, or the Sheriff.
- (h) Engaging in political activities during assigned working hours except as expressly authorized by County policy, the collective bargaining agreement, or the Sheriff.
- (i) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this department.

#### 340.5.9 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Standards of 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 department 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 department.
- (i) Unauthorized possession of, loss of, or damage to department property or the property of others, or endangering it through carelessness or maliciousness.
- (j) Attempted or actual theft of department property; misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel or the services or property of others; unauthorized removal or possession of department 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 collective bargaining agreement 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 department, is contrary to good order, efficiency or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon this department or its members.

#### 340.5.10 SAFETY

- (a) Failure to observe or violating department 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.

*Standards of Conduct*

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340.5.11 INTOXICANTS

- (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.

# Information Technology Use

## 342.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

### 342.1.1 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 Pacific 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 Department or department 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.

## 342.2 POLICY

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

## 342.3 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 department computer system.

The Department reserves the right to access, audit and disclose, for whatever reason, any message, including attachments, and any information accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed over any technology that is issued or maintained by the Department, including the department email system, computer network and/or any information placed into storage on any department system or device. This includes records of all keystrokes or Web-browsing history made at any department computer or over any department network. The fact that access to a database, service or website requires a username or password will not create an expectation of privacy if it is accessed through department computers, electronic devices or networks.

### *Information Technology Use*

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Employees may not be asked or required to disclose logon information for their personal social networking accounts or to provide access to their personal social networking accounts unless otherwise allowed under RCW 49.44.200 (RCW 49.44.200).

#### **342.4 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 Sergeants.

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.

##### **342.4.1 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 department computer. Members shall not install personal copies of any software onto any department 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 Department while on department premises, computer systems or electronic devices. Such unauthorized use of software exposes the Department 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 department- 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.

##### **342.4.2 HARDWARE**

Access to technology resources provided by or through the Department shall be strictly limited to department-related activities. Data stored on or available through department 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 department-related purpose to access such data. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by a supervisor.

## *Information Technology Use*

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### **342.4.3 INTERNET USE**

Internet access provided by or through the Department shall be strictly limited to department-related activities. Internet sites containing information that is not appropriate or applicable to department 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.

### **342.4.4 OFF-DUTY USE**

Members shall only use technology resources provided by the Department 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 computers that are used to access department resources.

Refer to the Personal Communication Devices Policy for guidelines regarding off-duty use of personally owned technology.

## **342.5 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 department 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.

## **342.6 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 Department



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Information Technology Use*

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involving one of its members or a member's duties, an alleged or suspected violation of any department policy, a request for disclosure of data, or a need to perform or provide a service.

The IT staff may extract, download or otherwise obtain any and all temporary or permanent files residing or located in or on the department computer system when requested by a supervisor or during the course of regular duties that require such information.

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## Report Preparation

### 344.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Report preparation is a major part of each deputy's job. The purpose of reports is to document sufficient information to refresh the deputy's memory and to provide sufficient information for follow-up investigation and successful prosecution. Report writing is the subject of substantial formalized training and on-the-job training.

#### 344.1.1 REPORT PREPARATION

Employees should ensure that reports are sufficiently detailed for their purpose and free from errors prior to submission. It is the responsibility of the assigned employee to complete and submit all reports taken during the shift before going off-duty unless permission to hold the report has been approved by a supervisor. Generally, reports requiring prompt follow-up action on active leads, or arrest reports where the suspect remains in custody should not be held.

Handwritten reports must be prepared legibly. If the report is not legible, the submitting employee will be required by the reviewing supervisor to promptly make corrections and resubmit the report. Employees who dictate reports shall use appropriate grammar, as content is not the responsibility of the typist. Employees who generate reports on computers are subject to all requirements of this policy.

All reports shall accurately reflect the identity of the persons involved, all pertinent information seen, heard or assimilated by any other sense, and any actions taken. Employees shall not suppress, conceal or distort the facts of any reported incident, nor shall any employee make a false report orally or in writing. Generally, the reporting employee's opinions should not be included in reports unless specifically identified as such.

### 344.2 REQUIRED REPORTING

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

#### 344.2.1 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

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:
  - 1. Use of Force Policy

*Report Preparation*

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2. Domestic Violence Policy
  3. Child Abuse Policy
  4. Adult Abuse Policy
  5. Hate Crimes Policy
  6. Suspicious Activity Reports Policy
- (e) All misdemeanor crimes where the victim desires a report

**344.2.2 NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**

Incidents that require documentation on the appropriate approved report include:

- (a) Any time 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) Any time a person is reported missing, regardless of jurisdiction (see the Missing Persons Reporting Policy).
- (e) Any found property or found evidence.
- (f) Any traffic collisions above the minimum reporting level (see Traffic Collision Reporting Policy).
- (g) Suspicious incidents that may indicate a potential for crimes against children or that a child's safety is in jeopardy.
- (h) All protective custody detentions.
- (i) Suspicious incidents that may place the public or others at risk.
- (j) Whenever the employee believes the circumstances should be documented or at the direction of a supervisor.

**344.2.3 DEATH CASES**

Death investigations require specific investigation methods depending on circumstances and should be handled in accordance with the Death Investigation Policy. A deputy handling a death investigation should notify and apprise a supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the incident and a determination will be made on 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.

## *Report Preparation*

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(d) Unattended deaths (No physician in attendance within 36 hours preceding death).

(e) Found dead bodies or body parts.

### 344.2.4 INJURY OR DAMAGE BY COUNTY PERSONNEL

Reports shall be taken if an injury occurs that is a result of an act of a County employee. Additionally, reports shall be taken involving damage to County property or County equipment.

### 344.2.5 MISCELLANEOUS INJURIES

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

(a) The injury is a result of drug overdose.

(b) Attempted suicide.

(c) The injury is major/serious, whereas death could result.

(d) The circumstances surrounding the incident are suspicious in nature and it is desirable to record the event.

The above reporting requirements are not intended to be all-inclusive. A supervisor may direct an employee to document any incident he/she deems necessary.

### 344.2.6 ALTERNATE REPORTING FOR VICTIMS

Reports that may be submitted by the public via online or other self-completed reporting processes include:

(a) Lost property.

(b) Misdemeanor thefts of property, other than firearms or materials that threaten public safety, when there is no suspect information, serial number or ability to trace the item.

1. Misdemeanor thefts of cellular telephones may be reported even though they have a serial number.

(c) Misdemeanor vandalism with no suspect information and no hate crime implications.

(d) Vehicle burglaries with no suspect information or evidence.

(e) Stolen vehicle attempts with no suspect information or evidence.

(f) Annoying telephone calls with no suspect information.

(g) Identity theft without an identifiable suspect.

(h) Online or email fraud solicitations without an identifiable suspect and if the financial loss classifies the crime as a misdemeanor.

(i) Hit-and-run vehicle collisions with no suspect or suspect vehicle.

(j) Supplemental property lists.

Members at the scene of one of the above incidents should not refer the reporting party to an alternate means of reporting without authorization from a supervisor. Members may refer victims

## *Report Preparation*

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to online victim assistance programs (e.g., Federal Communications Commission (FCC) website for identity theft, Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) website for computer crimes).

### **344.3 GENERAL POLICY OF EXPEDITIOUS REPORTING**

In general, all deputies and supervisors shall act with promptness and efficiency in the preparation and processing of all reports. An incomplete report, unorganized reports or reports delayed without supervisory approval are not acceptable. Reports shall be processed according to established priorities or according to special priority necessary under exceptional circumstances.

#### **344.3.1 GENERAL POLICY OF HANDWRITTEN REPORTS**

Some incidents and report forms lend themselves to block print rather than typing. In general, the narrative portion of those reports where an arrest is made or when there is a long narrative should be typed or dictated.

Supervisors may require, with the foregoing general policy in mind, block printing or typing of reports of any nature for departmental consistency.

#### **344.3.2 GENERAL USE OF OTHER HANDWRITTEN FORMS**

County, state and federal agency forms may be block printed as appropriate. In general, the form itself may make the requirement for typing apparent.

### **344.4 REPORT CORRECTIONS**

Supervisors shall review reports for content and accuracy. If a correction is necessary, the reviewing supervisor should complete the Report Correction form stating the reasons for rejection. The original report and the correction form should be returned to the reporting employee for correction as soon as practical. It shall be the responsibility of the originating deputy to ensure that any report returned for correction is processed in a timely manner.

### **344.5 REPORT CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS**

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

### **344.6 ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES**

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office has established an electronic signature procedure for use by all employees of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. The Field Operations Lieutenant shall be responsible for maintaining the electronic signature system and ensuring that each employee creates a unique, confidential password for his/her electronic signature.

- Employees may only use their electronic signature for official reports or other official communications.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Report Preparation*

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- Each employee shall be responsible for the security and use of his/her electronic signature and shall promptly notify a supervisor if the electronic signature has or may have been compromised or misused.

## News Media Relations

### 346.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for media releases and media access to scenes of disasters, criminal investigations, emergencies and other law enforcement activities.

### 346.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The ultimate authority and responsibility for the release of information to the media shall remain with the Sheriff, however, in situations not warranting immediate notice to the Sheriff and in situations where the Sheriff has given prior approval, Lieutenants, Shift Sergeants and designated Public Information Officer(s) may prepare and release information to the media in accordance with this policy and the applicable law.

#### 346.2.1 MEDIA REQUEST

Any media request for information or access to a law enforcement situation shall be referred to the designated department media representative, or if unavailable, to the first available supervisor. Prior to releasing any information to the media, employees shall consider the following:

- (a) At no time shall any employee of this department make any comment or release any official information to the media without prior approval from a supervisor or the designated department media representative.
- (b) In situations involving multiple law enforcement agencies, every reasonable effort should be made to coordinate media releases with the authorized representative of each involved agency prior to the release of any information by this department.
- (c) Under no circumstance should any member of this department make any comment(s) to the media regarding any law enforcement incident not involving this department without prior approval of the Sheriff.

### 346.3 MEDIA ACCESS

Authorized members of the media shall be provided access to scenes of disasters, criminal investigations, emergencies and other law enforcement activities subject to the following conditions:

- (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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *News Media Relations*

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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 Sergeant. 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.
- (d) Media interviews with individuals who are in custody shall 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 should be permitted within the outer perimeter of the scene, subject to any restrictions as determined by the supervisor in charge. Department members shall not jeopardize a tactical operation in order to accommodate the news media. All comments to the media shall be coordinated through a supervisor or the Public Information Officer.

#### **346.3.1 PROVIDING ADVANCE INFORMATION**

To protect the safety and rights of deputies and other persons, advance information about planned actions by law enforcement personnel, such as movement of persons in custody or the execution of an arrest or search warrant, should not be disclosed to the news media, nor should media representatives be invited to be present at such actions except with the prior approval of the Sheriff.

Any exceptions to the above should only be considered for the furtherance of legitimate law enforcement purposes. Prior to approving any exception the Sheriff will consider, at minimum, whether the release of information or presence of the media would unreasonably endanger any individual, prejudice the rights of any person or is otherwise prohibited by law.

#### **346.4 SCOPE OF INFORMATION SUBJECT TO RELEASE**

The Department will maintain a daily information log of significant law enforcement activities that shall be made available, upon request, to media representatives through the Shift Sergeant. When requested, additional information may be made available (RCW 42.56.070(1)). 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.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *News Media Relations*

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- (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, victim, or witness be publicly released except as permitted under RCW 13.50.010 and RCW 13.50.050, or with prior approval of a court.

Information concerning incidents involving certain sex crimes and other offenses shall be restricted in accordance with applicable statutory provisions.

Identifying information concerning deceased individuals shall not be released to the media until notification of next of kin or otherwise cleared through the Coroner's Office.

Any requests for copies of related reports or additional information not contained in this log shall be referred to the designated department media representative, the custodian of records, or if unavailable, to the Shift Sergeant. Such requests will generally be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Records Act (RCW Chapter 42.56).

#### 346.4.1 RESTRICTED INFORMATION

It shall be the responsibility of the authorized employee dealing with media requests to ensure that restricted information is not inappropriately released to the media by this department. When in doubt, authorized and available legal counsel should be obtained. Examples of such restricted information include, but are not limited to (RCW 42.56.240):

- (a) Specific intelligence information and specific investigative records compiled by investigative, law enforcement and penology agencies, and state agencies vested with the responsibility to discipline members of any profession, the nondisclosure of which is essential to effective law enforcement or for the protection of any person's right to privacy.
- (b) Information revealing the identity of persons who are witnesses to or victims of crime or who file complaints with investigative, law enforcement, penology agencies, other than the public disclosure commission, if disclosure would endanger any person's life, physical safety, or property. If at the time a complaint is filed the complainant, victim, or witness indicates a desire for disclosure or nondisclosure, such desire shall govern. However, all complaints filed with the public disclosure commission about any elected official or candidate for public office must be made in writing and signed by the complainant under oath.
- (c) Any records of investigative reports prepared by any state, county, municipal, or other law enforcement agency pertaining to sex offenses contained in RCW Chapter 9A.44 or sexually violent offenses as defined in RCW 71.09.020, which have been transferred to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs for permanent electronic retention and retrieval pursuant to RCW 40.14.070(2)(b).
- (d) License applications under RCW 9.41.070; copies of license applications or information on the applications may be released to law enforcement or corrections agencies.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *News Media Relations*

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- (e) Information revealing the identity of child victims of sexual assault who are under age 18. Identifying information means the child victim's name, address, location, photograph, and in cases in which the child victim is a relative or stepchild of the alleged perpetrator, identification of the relationship between the child and the alleged perpetrator.

## Court Appearance And Subpoenas

### 348.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This procedure has been established to provide for the acceptance of subpoenas and to ensure that employees appear when subpoenaed, or are available to appear in court when requested and present a professional appearance.

#### 348.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**On-Call** - When an employee has appeared in court, or is at the time on-duty, and has been told by a member of the court that he/she is free to leave the court or return to duty, subject to being available by phone or pager if called back.

**Standby** - When an employee receives a subpoena of a type which allows him or her to not appear in court, but remain available by phone or pager so that he or she may be directed to appear in court within a reasonable amount of time.

**Trailing Status** - When an employee remains on standby status for additional court sessions until notified otherwise.

**Mandatory Appearance** - Subpoenas marked as mandatory appearance require an employee's physical appearance in the specified court. Failure to timely appear in the specified court, either intentionally or by negligence, may result in disciplinary action.

### 348.2 COURT SUBPOENAS

Employees who receive subpoenas related to their employment with this department are subject to the provisions of this policy. Employees should be aware that their compliance is mandatory on all cases for which they have been properly subpoenaed, or properly notified. This policy applies to civil and criminal subpoenas. Employees are expected to cooperate with the prosecution to ensure the successful conclusion of a case.

#### 348.2.1 SERVICE OF SUBPOENA

A subpoena may be served by any suitable person over eighteen years of age, by reading it to the witness, or by delivering to him/her a copy at his/her residence. (RCW 12.16.020, WA CR 45) . Service of a subpoena on a law enforcement officer may be effected by serving the subpoena upon the officer's employer.

A subpoena may be served by any suitable person over eighteen years of age, by exhibiting and reading it to the witness, or by giving him/her a copy thereof, or by leaving such copy at the place of his/her abode. When service is made by any person other than an officer authorized to serve process, proof of service shall be made by affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury. Service of a subpoena on a law enforcement officer may be effected by serving the subpoena upon the officer's employer.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Court Appearance And Subpoenas*

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#### 348.2.2 VALID SUBPOENAS

No subpoena shall be accepted for an employee of this department unless it has been properly served and verified to have originated from a recognized legal authority.

#### 348.2.3 ACCEPTANCE OF SUBPOENA

- (a) Only the employee named in a subpoena, his/her immediate supervisor or the department subpoena clerk shall be authorized to accept service of a subpoena. Any authorized employee accepting a subpoena shall immediately provide a copy of the subpoena to the department subpoena clerk. The subpoena clerk shall maintain a chronological log of all department subpoenas and provide a copy of the subpoena to each involved employee.
- (b) Any supervisor or other authorized individual accepting a subpoena on behalf of another employee shall immediately check available schedules to determine the availability of the named employee for the date listed on the subpoena.
- (c) Once a subpoena has been received by a supervisor or other authorized individual, a copy of the subpoena shall be promptly provided to the subpoena clerk as well as a copy to the individually named employee.

#### 348.2.4 REFUSAL OF SUBPOENA

- (a) Valid reasons for an individually named employee not accepting subpoenas include illness, previously approved training, and vacations, which are scheduled and approved, before receipt of the subpoena. Regular scheduled days off are not valid reasons for refusing the subpoena or missing court. If the subpoena has been received by the individually named employee from the subpoena clerk and a valid reason exists for refusing the subpoena, the subpoena shall be promptly returned to the subpoena clerk with a specified reason for refusal as well as the dates when the deputy will become available. It shall then become the responsibility of the subpoena clerk to notify the assigned County Prosecutor or other attorney of record of the bona fide unavailability of the employee.
- (b) If the immediate supervisor or other authorized individual knows that he/she will be unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the named employee within sufficient time for the named employee to comply with the subpoena, the supervisor or other authorized individual may return the subpoena to the issuing court with a request to quash.
- (c) If, after initially accepting service of a subpoena, a supervisor or other authorized individual determines that he/she will be unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the individually named employee within sufficient time for the named employee to comply with the subpoena, the supervisor or the subpoena clerk shall notify the server or the attorney named on the subpoena of such not less than 48 hours prior to the date listed for the appearance.

#### 348.2.5 COURT STANDBY

To facilitate court standby agreements with the courts, employees are required to provide and maintain current information on their address and phone number with the Department. Employees

## *Court Appearance And Subpoenas*

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are required to notify the Department within 24 hours of any change in residence address or home phone number, and to provide accurate and reasonably reliable means or methods for contact.

If an employee on standby changes his/her location during the day, the employee shall notify the subpoena clerk of how he/she can be reached by telephone. Employees are required to remain on standby each day the case is trailing. In a criminal case the County Prosecutor handling the case is the only person authorized to excuse an employee from standby status.

### **348.2.6 OFF-DUTY RELATED SUBPOENAS**

Employees receiving valid subpoenas for actions taken off-duty not related to their employment with Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall comply with the requirements of the subpoena. Employees receiving these subpoenas are not compensated for their appearance and arrangements for time off shall be coordinated through their immediate supervisor.

### **348.2.7 FAILURE TO APPEAR**

Any employee who fails to comply with the terms of any valid and properly served subpoena may be subject to discipline as well as court imposed civil and/or criminal sanctions.

## **348.3 CIVIL SUBPOENAS**

The Department will compensate employees who appear in their official capacity on civil matters arising out of the employee's official duties as directed by the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. In such situations, the Department will also reimburse any deputy for reasonable and necessary travel expenses.

The Department will receive reimbursement for the deputy's compensation through the civil attorney of record who subpoenaed the deputy.

## **348.4 OVERTIME APPEARANCES**

If the deputy appeared on his/her off-duty time, he/she will be compensated in accordance with the current employee Collective Bargaining Agreement. The overtime on such appearance will be paid from the time the deputy left his/her residence until he/she returned.

## **348.5 COURTROOM PROTOCOL**

Employees must be punctual when appearing in court and shall be prepared to proceed immediately with the case for which they are subpoenaed.

### **348.5.1 PREPARATION FOR TESTIMONY**

Before the date of testifying, the subpoenaed deputy shall request a copy of relevant reports and become familiar with their content in order to be prepared for court.

### **348.5.2 COURTROOM ATTIRE**

Employees shall dress in uniform or business attire. Suitable business attire for men would consist of a coat, tie, and dress pants. Suitable business attire for female employees would consist of a dress jacket, dress blouse, and skirt or slacks.

*Court Appearance And Subpoenas*

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**348.6 COURTHOUSE DECORUM**

Employees shall observe all rules of the court in which they are appearing, refrain from smoking or chewing gum in the courtroom, and shall remain alert to changes in the assigned courtroom where their matter is to be heard.

**348.7 TESTIFYING AGAINST THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE**

Any member or employee who is subpoenaed to testify, who has agreed to testify, or who anticipates testifying or providing information on behalf of or at the request of any party other than the People of the State of Washington, any county, any city, or any of their officers and employees in which any of those entities are parties, will notify their immediate supervisor without delay. The supervisor will then notify the Sheriff, County Prosecutor's Office in criminal cases, County Counsel or City Attorney, as may be indicated by the case.

This includes, but is not limited to the following situations:

- (a) Providing testimony or information for the defense in any criminal trial or proceeding.
- (b) Providing testimony or information for the plaintiff in a civil proceeding against any county, any city, or their officers and employees.
- (c) Providing testimony or information on behalf of or at the request of any party other than any county, city, or any county or city official in any administrative proceeding, including but not limited to personnel and/or disciplinary matter.

## Reserve Deputies

### 350.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Pacific 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.

### 350.2 SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFF'S RESERVE DEPUTIES

The Pacific 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.

#### 350.2.1 PROCEDURE

All applicants shall be required to meet and pass the same pre-employment procedures as regular sheriff's deputies before appointment (RCW 43.101.095).

After appointment to the Sheriff's Reserve Unit, reserves will be expected to attend the next CJTC approved reserve academy.

#### 350.2.2 APPOINTMENT

Applicants who are selected for appointment to the Sheriff's Reserve 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.

#### 350.2.3 COMPENSATION FOR SHERIFF'S RESERVE DEPUTIES

Compensation for reserve deputies is provided as follows:

All reserve deputy appointees are issued two sets of uniforms and all designated attire and safety equipment. All property issued to the reserve deputy shall be returned to the Department upon termination or resignation.

#### 350.2.4 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 Civil Division prior to an employee serving in a reserve or volunteer capacity (29 C.F.R.553.30).

Per CBA 10.6.1 "It is agreed that Reserves, Special Deputies or volunteers are only to be used to supplement the work force rather than supplant the work force unless such Reserve, Special Deputy or volunteer is duly certified by the Pacific County Civil Service Commission as a temporary or emergency appointment."

## *Reserve Deputies*

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Per CBA 10.6.2 "Reserves or non-Civil Service authorized employees shall be prohibited from performing bargaining unit work until such work has been offered to all qualified bargaining unit employees."

### **350.3 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 Patrol Division. Reserve deputies may be assigned to other areas within the Sheriff's Office as needed. Reserve deputies are required to work a minimum of 8 hours per month and attend all designated training sessions as directed by the Reserve Coordinator.

#### **350.3.1 POLICY COMPLIANCE**

Sheriff's reserve deputies shall be required to adhere to all departmental policies and procedures. A copy of 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.

#### **350.3.2 RESERVE DEPUTIES ASSIGNMENTS**

All reserve deputies will be assigned to duties by the Reserve Coordinator or his/her designee.

#### **350.3.3 RESERVE COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff shall delegate the responsibility for administering the Reserve Deputy Program to a 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.
- (f) Monitoring the overall Reserve Program.
- (g) Maintaining liaison with other agency Reserve Coordinators.

### **350.4 FIELD TRAINING**

#### **350.4.1 TRAINING OFFICERS**

Deputies of this office, who demonstrate a desire and ability to train reserve deputies, may train the reserves , subject to Shift Sergeant approval.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Reserve Deputies*

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#### **350.4.2 TRAINING OFFICERS**

Reserve deputies will be assigned to a field training officer. The reserve deputy will be assigned to work with his/her field training officer during the first 80 hours of training. This time shall be known as the Primary Training Phase.

#### **350.4.3 COMPLETION OF THE PRIMARY TRAINING PHASE**

At the completion of the Primary Training Phase, (Phase I) the field training officer will meet with the Reserve Coordinator. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the progress of the reserve deputy in training.

If the reserve deputy has progressed satisfactorily, he/she will then proceed to Phase II of the training. If he/she has not progressed satisfactorily, the Reserve Coordinator will determine the appropriate action to be taken.

#### **350.4.4 SECONDARY TRAINING PHASE**

The Secondary Training Phase (Phase II) shall consist of additional on-duty training as deemed necessary by the Reserve Coordinator. The reserve deputy will no longer be required to ride with his/her field training officer. The reserve deputy may now ride with any designated by the seargeant .

During this phase, the field training officer will evaluate the reserve deputy for suitability to be advanced into the Reserve Law Enforcement Academy.

The Reserve Coordinator shall decide if the reserve deputy has satisfactorily completed his/her formal training. If his/her progress is not satisfactory, the Reserve Coordinator will recommend to the Sheriff the appropriate action to be taken.

#### **350.4.5 COMPLETION OF THE FORMAL TRAINING PROCESS**

When a reserve deputy has satisfactorily completed all formal training, including the CJTC approved Reserve Law Enforcement Academy, he/she will have had a minimum of 400 hours of on-duty training. With the approval of the Sheriff or his designee he/she will no longer be required to ride with a field training officer.

### **350.5 SUPERVISION OF RESERVE DEPUTIES**

Reserve deputies shall be under the immediate supervision of a regular sworn deputy. The immediate supervision requirement shall continue for reserve deputies unless special authorization is received from the Reserve Coordinator with the approval of the Lieutenant.

#### **350.5.1 SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

Reserve deputies may, with authorization of the Reserve Coordinator and/or approval of the Lieutenant, be relieved of the immediate supervision requirement. The Lieutenant, or the Shift Sergeant may assign a reserve deputy to function without immediate supervision for specific purposes and duration.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Reserve Deputies*

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#### **350.5.2 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.

#### **350.5.3 IDENTIFICATION OF RESERVE DEPUTIES**

All reserve deputies will be issued a uniform badge and an 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.

#### **350.5.4 UNIFORM**

Reserve deputies shall conform to all uniform regulation and appearance standards of this department.

#### **350.5.5 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 or his designee.

Reserve deputies are considered at-will employees.

Any disciplinary action that may have to be administered to a reserve deputy shall be accomplished as outlined in the Policy Manual.

#### **350.5.6 RESERVE DEPUTY EVALUATIONS**

While in training reserves will be continuously evaluated using standardized daily and weekly observation reports. The reserve will be considered a trainee until all of the training phases have been completed. Reserves having completed their field training will be evaluated annually using performance dimensions applicable to the duties and authorities granted to that reserve.

### **350.6 FIREARMS REQUIREMENTS**

#### **350.6.-1 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, with the following exceptions:

- (a) All reserve deputies are required to qualify annually.
- (b) Reserve deputies may fire at the approved range to maintain proficiency.
- (c) Should a reserve deputy fail to qualify annually, that reserve deputy will not be allowed to carry a firearm until he/she has reestablished his/her proficiency.

#### **350.7 EMERGENCY CALL-OUT FOR RESERVE PERSONNEL**

The Reserve Coordinator shall develop a plan outlining an emergency call-out procedure for reserve personnel.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Reserve Deputies*

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## Mutual Aid and Outside Agency Assistance

### 352.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to deputies in the request of or answering the request for assistance involving another law enforcement agency.

It is the policy of this department to provide assistance whenever possible, consistent with the applicable laws of arrest and detention policies of this department, when another law enforcement agency requests assistance with an arrest or detention of any person. This department may also request an outside agency to provide assistance.

#### 352.1.1 ASSISTING OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Generally, calls for assistance from other agencies are routed to the Shift Sergeant's office for approval. When an authorized employee of an outside agency requests the assistance of this department in taking a person into custody, available deputies shall respond and assist in making a lawful arrest. If a deputy receives a request in the field for assistance, that deputy shall notify a supervisor. Arrestees may be temporarily detained by our agency until arrangements for transportation are made by the outside agency. Only in exceptional circumstances will this department provide transportation of arrestees to other county facilities.

When such assistance is rendered, a case number will be issued to report action taken by Pacific County Sheriff's Office Personnel. Probation violators temporarily detained by this department will not ordinarily be booked at this department.

#### 352.1.2 REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES

If assistance is needed from another agency, the employee requesting assistance shall first notify a supervisor of his/her intentions. The handling deputy or supervisor should direct assisting personnel to where they are needed and to whom they should report when they arrive.

The requesting deputy should secure radio frequencies for use by all involved agencies so that communication can be coordinated as needed. If necessary, reasonable effort should be taken to provide radio equipment capable of communicating on the assigned frequency to any personnel who do not have compatible radios.

## Registered Offender Information

### 356.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines by which the Pacific County Sheriff's Office will address issues associated with certain offenders who are residing in the jurisdiction and how the Department will disseminate information and respond to public inquiries for information about registered offenders.

### 356.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 356.3 REGISTRATION

The Investigation Unit 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 Washington State Patrol (WSP) within five working days in accordance with RCW 43.43.540.

A criminal investigation for failure to register will be initiated if a registrant refuses to provide any of the required information or complete the process.

#### 356.3.1 CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION FOR SEX OR KIDNAPPING OFFENDERS

Sex or kidnapping offenders who are required to register must appear in person and provide the following (RCW 9A.44.130):

- Name
- Complete residential address or where he/she plans to stay
- Date and place of birth
- Place of employment
- Crime for which the person has been convicted
- Date and place of conviction
- Aliases
- Social Security number

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Registered Offender Information*

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Offenders lacking a fixed residence must keep an accurate accounting of where he/she stays during the week and provide it to the county sheriff upon request.

The registering employee shall take photographs and fingerprints of all sex/kidnapping offenders.

#### **356.3.2 CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION FOR FELONY FIREARM OFFENDERS**

Felony firearm offenders who are required to register must appear in person and provide the following (RCW 9.41.330; RCW 9.41.333):

- Name and any aliases
- Complete residential address or where he/she plans to stay
- Identifying information, including a physical description
- Crime for which the person has been convicted
- Date and place of conviction
- Names of any other county where the firearm offender may have registered

The registering employee may take photographs and fingerprints of the felony firearm offender.

#### **356.4 MONITORING OF REGISTERED OFFENDERS**

The Investigation Unit 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, as applicable:

- (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 WASPC Sex Offender Information Center website.
- (c) Contact with a registrant's community correction officer.
- (d) Review any available Washington State database of felony firearm offenders.

Any discrepancies with sex/kidnapping offenders should be reported to ACCESS (A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System), which is administered by WSP, and, in the case of sex offenders only, to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), which administers the Sex Offender Information Center website.

The Investigation Unit Supervisor should also establish a procedure to routinely disseminate information regarding registered offenders to Pacific County Sheriff's Office personnel, including timely updates regarding new or relocated registrants.

#### **356.5 DISSEMINATION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Employees will not unilaterally make a public notification advising the community of a particular sex/kidnapping registrant's presence in the community. Employees who identify a significant risk or other public safety issue associated with a sex/kidnapping registrant should promptly advise

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Registered Offender Information*

---

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/kidnapping registrants should be provided the WASPC Sex Offender Information Center website or the Pacific County Sheriff's Office's website.

The Chief Civil Deputy shall release local sex/kidnapping registered offender information to residents in accordance with RCW 4.24.550 and in compliance with a request under the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56).

Information pertaining to felony firearm offenders should not be disseminated to the public. All inquiries should be referred to WSP.

#### 356.5.1 RELEASE NOTIFICATIONS FOR SEX OR KIDNAPPING OFFENDERS

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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office has no authority to direct where an offender may live.

#### 356.5.2 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

The Investigation Lieutenant shall ensure that:

- (a) A public notification is made for sex offenders who are classified as Risk Level III and who register in the County. The notice must be published in at least one newspaper that has a general circulation in the geographic area of each sex offender's registered address or location. The notice must be in the form of a legal notice, advertisement or news release (RCW 4.24.550(4)). The notice shall conform to the guidelines established in RCW 4.24.5501.
- (b) All information on sex/kidnapping offenders registered in the County is regularly updated and posted on the WASPC Sex Offender Information Center website (RCW 4.24.550(5)).

#### 356.5.3 DISCRETIONARY DISSEMINATION FOR SEX OFFENDERS

Dissemination should be predicated upon the levels detailed below (RCW 4.24.550(3)):

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Registered Offender Information*

---

- (a) Offenders classified as Risk Level I: The Department may disclose, upon request, relevant, necessary and accurate information to any victim or witness to the offense and to any individual community member who lives near the residence where the sex offender resides, expects to reside or is regularly found.
- (b) Offenders classified as Risk Level II: In addition to the dissemination for Level I, the Department may also disclose relevant, necessary and accurate information to public and private schools, child day care centers, family day care providers, public libraries, businesses and organizations that serve primarily children, women or vulnerable adults, and neighbors and community groups near the residence where the sex offender resides, expects to reside or is regularly found.
- (c) Offenders classified as Risk Level III: In addition to the dissemination of Level I and Level II, the Department may also disclose relevant, necessary and accurate information to the public at large.
- (d) Homeless and transient sex offenders may present unique risks to the community due to the impracticality of localized notification. The Department may also disclose relevant, necessary and accurate information to the public at large for sex offenders registered as homeless or transient.

#### **356.5.4 SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS**

The Sheriff has the responsibility of notifying the applicable school's principal or public safety department of any sex/kidnapping offender who attends or is employed at the school and for providing the following information about the offender (RCW 9A.44.138):

- Name
- Complete residential address
- Date and place of birth
- Place of employment
- Crime for which the person have been convicted
- Date and place of conviction
- Aliases
- Social Security number
- Photograph
- Risk level classification

#### **356.6 SEX OFFENDER RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Investigation Lieutenant shall establish a procedure to review and assign an initial risk level classification of sex offenders who have moved or are released into this jurisdiction and the risk



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Registered Offender Information*

---

assessment level has not already been assigned by the Washington Department of Corrections. That procedure shall address (RCW 4.24.550(6)):

- The circumstances under which the Pacific County Sheriff's Office is authorized to assign its own risk level.
- What risk assessment tools may be used and how such tools are scored.
- Notification process following a change in the risk level classification.

# Major Incident Notification

## 358.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members of this department in determining when, how and to whom notification of major incidents should be made.

## 358.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

## 358.3 MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR NOTIFICATION

Most situations where the media show a strong interest are also of interest to the Sheriff and the affected Lieutenant. The following list of incident types is provided as a guide for notification and is not intended to be all-inclusive:

- Homicides.
- Traffic accidents with fatalities.
- Officer-involved shooting on- or off-duty (See the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy for special notifications).
- Significant injury or death to employee on- or off-duty.
- Death of a prominent Pacific County official.
- Arrest of Department employee or prominent Pacific County official.
- Aircraft crash with major damage and/or injury or death.
- In-custody deaths.

## 358.4 SHIFT SERGEANT RESPONSIBILITY

The Shift Sergeant is responsible for making the appropriate notifications. The Shift Sergeant shall make reasonable attempts to obtain as much information on the incident as possible before notification. The Shift Sergeant shall attempt to make the notifications as soon as practical. Notification should be made by calling the home phone number first and then any additional contact numbers supplied.

### 358.4.1 STAFF NOTIFICATION

In the event an incident occurs described in MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR NOTIFICATION, the Sheriff shall be notified along with the affected Lieutenant and the Detective Lieutenant if that division is affected.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Major Incident Notification*

---

#### 358.4.2 DETECTIVE NOTIFICATION

If the incident requires that a detective respond from home, the immediate supervisor of the appropriate detail shall be contacted who will then contact the appropriate detective.

#### 358.4.3 TRAFFIC BUREAU NOTIFICATION

In the event of a traffic fatality or major injury, the Sergeant shall be notified who will then contact the appropriate accident investigator. The Sergeant will notify the Lieutenant.

#### 358.4.4 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO)

The Public Information Officer shall be called after members of staff have been notified that it appears the media may have a significant interest in the incident.

# Death Investigation

## 360.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The investigations of cases involving death include those ranging from natural cause to homicide. Some causes of death may not be readily apparent and some cases differ substantially from what they appeared to be initially. The thoroughness of death investigations cannot be emphasized enough.

## 360.2 INVESTIGATION CONSIDERATIONS

Death investigation cases require certain actions be taken. Paramedics shall be called in all suspected death cases unless the death is obvious (decapitated, decomposed, etc.). Deputies are not authorized to pronounce death. A supervisor shall be notified in all death investigations.

### 360.2.1 CORONER JURISDICTION OVER REMAINS

The coroner has jurisdiction of bodies of all deceased persons who come to their death suddenly in any of the following cases (RCW 68.50.010):

- (a) When in apparent good health without medical attendance within the thirty-six hours preceding death.
- (b) Where the circumstances of death indicate death was caused by unnatural or unlawful means.
- (c) Where death occurs under suspicious circumstances.
- (d) Where a coroner's autopsy or post mortem or coroner's inquest is to be held.
- (e) Where death results from unknown or obscure causes.
- (f) Where death occurs within one year following an accident.
- (g) Where the death is caused by any violence whatsoever.
- (h) Where death results from a known or suspected abortion; whether self-induced or otherwise.
- (i) Where death apparently results from drowning, hanging, burns, electrocution, gunshot wounds, stabs or cuts, lightning, starvation, radiation, exposure, alcoholism, narcotics or other addictions, tetanus, strangulations, suffocation or smothering.
- (j) Where death is due to premature birth or still birth.
- (k) Where death is due to a violent contagious disease or suspected contagious disease which may be a public health hazard.
- (l) Where death results from alleged rape, carnal knowledge or sodomy.
- (m) Where death occurs in a jail or prison.
- (n) Where a body is found dead or is not claimed by relatives or friends.

## *Death Investigation*

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The body shall not be disturbed or moved from the position or place of death without permission of the coroner (RCW 68.50.050).

### 360.2.2 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 requested to make the notification. The Coroner needs to know if notification has been made. Assigned detectives may need to talk to the next-of-kin.

### 360.2.3 UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODIES

If the identity of a dead body cannot be established after the Coroner arrives, the Coroner's office will issue a "John Doe" or "Jane Doe" number for the report.

### 360.2.4 DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORTING

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

### 360.2.5 SUSPECTED HOMICIDE

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

# Identity Theft

## 362.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Identity theft is a growing trend that frequently involves related crimes in multiple jurisdictions. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for the reporting and investigation of such crimes.

## 362.2 REPORTING

This department will initiate an incident report whenever a person reasonably suspects that his/her financial information or means of identification has been unlawfully obtained, used, or transferred to another person or entity in all cases where the victim resides or works within this jurisdiction, or where any part of the crime occurred within this jurisdiction. The employee receiving the report will ensure that the complainant receives a copy of the incident report (RCW 9.35.050).

In cases where the reporting party does not reside or work within this jurisdiction and there is no known or suspected criminal activity occurring within this jurisdiction the reporting party may be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency having jurisdiction. If it is not reasonably practical for the reporting party to file a timely report with his/her home jurisdiction the receiving employee should take a courtesy incident report to be forwarded to the agency having jurisdiction.

Reports 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).

The employee preparing the report should also cross-reference all other known reports made by the victim (e.g., US Secret Service, credit reporting bureaus, US Postal Service and DOL) with all known report numbers.

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.

## Limited English Proficiency Services

### 368.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) (42 USC § 2000d).

#### 368.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Authorized interpreter** - A person who has been screened and authorized by the Department to act as an interpreter and/or translator for others.

**Interpret or interpretation** - The act of listening to a communication in one language (source language) and orally converting it to another language (target language) while retaining the same meaning.

**Limited English proficient (LEP)** - Any individual whose primary language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English. These individuals may be competent in certain types of communication (e.g., speaking or understanding) but still be LEP for other purposes (e.g., reading or writing). Similarly, LEP designations are context-specific; an individual may possess sufficient English language skills to function in one setting but these skills may be insufficient in other situations.

**Qualified bilingual member** - A member of the Pacific 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).

### 368.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 368.3 LEP COORDINATOR

The Sheriff shall delegate certain responsibilities to an LEP Coordinator. The LEP Coordinator shall be appointed by, and directly responsible to, the Field Operations Lieutenant or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the LEP Coordinator include, but are not limited to:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Limited English Proficiency Services*

---

- (a) Coordinating and implementing all aspects of the Pacific 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 Sergeant and 911 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.

#### **368.4 FOUR-FACTOR ANALYSIS**

Since there are many different languages that members could encounter, the Department will utilize the four-factor analysis outlined in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients, available at the DOJ website, to determine which measures will provide meaningful access to its services and programs. It is recognized that law enforcement contacts and circumstances will vary considerably. This analysis, therefore, must remain flexible and will require an ongoing balance of four factors, which are:



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Limited English Proficiency Services*

---

- (a) The number or proportion of LEP individuals eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by department members, or who may benefit from programs or services within the jurisdiction of the Department or a particular geographic area.
- (b) The frequency with which LEP individuals are likely to come in contact with department members, programs or services.
- (c) The nature and importance of the contact, program, information or service provided.
- (d) The cost of providing LEP assistance and the resources available.

#### **368.5 TYPES OF LEP ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Pacific 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.

#### **368.6 WRITTEN FORMS AND GUIDELINES**

Vital documents or those that are frequently used should be translated into languages most likely to be encountered. The LEP Coordinator will arrange to make these translated documents available to members and other appropriate individuals, as necessary.

#### **368.7 AUDIO RECORDINGS**

The Department may develop audio recordings of important or frequently requested information in a language most likely to be understood by those LEP individuals who are representative of the community being served.

#### **368.8 QUALIFIED BILINGUAL MEMBERS**

Bilingual members may be qualified to provide LEP services when they have demonstrated through established department procedures a sufficient level of skill and competence to fluently communicate in both English and a non-English language. Members utilized for LEP services must demonstrate knowledge of the functions of an interpreter/translator and the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit. Additionally, bilingual members must be able to communicate technical and law enforcement terminology, and be sufficiently proficient in the non-English language to perform complicated tasks, such as conducting interrogations, taking statements, collecting evidence or conveying rights or responsibilities.

## *Limited English Proficiency Services*

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When a qualified bilingual member from this department is not available, personnel from other County departments, who have been identified by the Department as having the requisite skills and competence, may be requested.

### **368.9 AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS**

Any person designated by the Department to act as an authorized interpreter and/or translator must have demonstrated competence in both English and the involved non-English language, must have an understanding of the functions of an interpreter that allows for correct and effective translation, and should not be a person with an interest in the department case or investigation involving the LEP individual. A person providing interpretation or translation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation or translation in a court proceeding.

Authorized interpreters must pass a screening process established by the LEP Coordinator which demonstrates that their skills and abilities include:

- (a) The competence and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language.
- (b) Knowledge, in both languages, of any specialized terms or concepts peculiar to this department and of any particularized vocabulary or phraseology used by the LEP individual.
- (c) The ability to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (d) Knowledge of the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit.

#### **368.9.1 SOURCES OF AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS**

The Department may contract with authorized interpreters who are available over the telephone. Members may use these services with the approval of a supervisor and in compliance with established procedures.

Other sources may include:

- Qualified bilingual members of this department or personnel from other County departments.
- Individuals employed exclusively to perform interpretation services.
- Contracted in-person interpreters, such as state or federal court interpreters, among others.
- Interpreters from other agencies who have been qualified as interpreters by this department, and with whom the Department has a resource-sharing or other arrangement that they will interpret according to department guidelines.

*Limited English Proficiency Services*

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**368.9.2 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER SOURCES OF LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE**

Language assistance may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in either monolingual (direct) communication and/or in interpretation or translation (as noted in above), and have been approved by the Department to communicate with LEP individuals.

Where qualified bilingual members or other authorized interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, department members must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the LEP individual and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

While family or friends of an LEP individual may offer to assist with communication or interpretation, members should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. For example, children should not be relied upon except in exigent or very informal and non-confrontational situations.

**368.10 CONTACT AND REPORTING**

While all law enforcement contacts, services and individual rights are important, this department will utilize the four-factor analysis to prioritize service to LEP individuals so that such services may be targeted where they are most needed, according to the nature and importance of the particular law enforcement activity involved.

Whenever any member of this department is required to complete a report or other documentation and interpretation services are provided to any involved LEP individual, such services should be noted in the related report. Members should document the type of interpretation services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the Department or some other identified source.

**368.11 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will take reasonable steps and will work with the Civil Division to develop in-house language capacity by hiring or appointing qualified members proficient in languages representative of the community being served.

**368.11.1 EMERGENCY CALLS TO 9-1-1**

Department members will make every reasonable effort to promptly accommodate LEP individuals utilizing 9-1-1 lines. When a 9-1-1 call-taker receives a call and determines that the caller is an LEP individual, the call-taker shall quickly determine whether sufficient information can be obtained to initiate an appropriate emergency response. If language assistance is still needed, the language is known and a qualified bilingual member is available in 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.

### *Limited English Proficiency Services*

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Dispatchers will make every reasonable effort to dispatch a qualified bilingual member to the assignment, if available and appropriate.

While 9-1-1 calls shall receive top priority, reasonable efforts should also be made to accommodate LEP individuals seeking routine access to services and information by utilizing the resources listed in this policy.

#### **368.12 FIELD ENFORCEMENT**

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts that may involve LEP individuals. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary. Members and/or supervisors must assess each situation to determine the need and availability of language assistance to all involved LEP individuals and utilize the methods outlined in this policy to provide such assistance.

Although not every situation can be addressed in this policy, it is important that members are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action. For example, it would be meaningless to request consent to search if the deputy is unable to effectively communicate with an LEP individual.

If available, deputies should obtain the assistance of a qualified bilingual member or an authorized interpreter before placing an LEP individual under arrest.

#### **368.13 INVESTIGATIVE FIELD INTERVIEWS**

In any situation where an interview may reveal information that could be used as the basis for arrest or prosecution of an LEP individual and a qualified bilingual member is unavailable or lacks the skills to directly communicate with the LEP individual, an authorized interpreter should be used. This includes interviews conducted during an investigation with victims, witnesses and suspects. In such situations, audio recordings of the interviews should be made when reasonably possible. Identification and contact information for the interpreter (e.g., name, address) should be documented so that the person can be subpoenaed for trial if necessary.

If an authorized interpreter is needed, deputies should consider calling for an authorized interpreter in the following order:

- An authorized department member or allied agency interpreter
- An authorized telephone interpreter
- Any other authorized interpreter

Any *Miranda* warnings 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.

*Limited English Proficiency Services*

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**368.14 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS**

Miscommunication during custodial interrogations may have a substantial impact on the evidence presented in a criminal prosecution. Only qualified bilingual members or, if none is available or appropriate, authorized interpreters shall be used during custodial interrogations. *Miranda* warnings shall be provided to suspects in their primary language by the qualified bilingual member or an authorized interpreter.

In order to ensure that translations during custodial interrogations are accurately documented and are admissible as evidence, interrogations should be recorded whenever reasonably possible. See guidance on recording custodial interrogations in the Investigation and Prosecution Policy.

**368.15 BOOKINGS**

When gathering information during the booking process, members should remain alert to the impediments that language barriers can create. In the interest of the arrestee's health and welfare, the safety and security of the facility, and to protect individual rights, it is important that accurate medical screening and booking information be obtained. Members should seek the assistance of a qualified bilingual member whenever there is concern that accurate information cannot be obtained or that booking instructions may not be properly understood by an LEP individual.

**368.16 COMPLAINTS**

The Department shall ensure that LEP individuals who wish to file a complaint regarding members of this department are able to do so. The Department may provide an authorized interpreter or translated forms, as appropriate. Complaints will be referred to the LEP Coordinator.

Investigations into such complaints shall be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy. Authorized interpreters used for any interview with an LEP individual during an investigation should not be members of this department.

Any notice required to be sent to an LEP individual as a complaining party pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy should be translated or otherwise communicated in a language-accessible manner.

**368.17 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department are important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. This department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

**368.18 TRAINING**

To ensure that all members who may have contact with LEP individuals are properly trained, the Department will provide periodic training on this policy and related procedures, including how to access department-authorized telephonic and in-person interpreters and other available resources.

### *Limited English Proficiency Services*

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The Training Officer 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 Officer shall maintain records of all LEP training provided, and will retain a copy in each member's training file in accordance with established records retention schedules.

#### 368.18.1 TRAINING FOR AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS

All members on the authorized interpreter list must successfully complete prescribed interpreter training. To complete interpreter training successfully, an interpreter must demonstrate proficiency in and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language, demonstrate knowledge in both languages of any specialized terms or phraseology, and understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.

Members on the authorized interpreter list must receive refresher training annually or they will be removed from the authorized interpreter list. This annual training should include language skills competency (including specialized terminology) and ethical considerations.

The Training Officer shall be responsible for coordinating the annual refresher training and will maintain a record of all training the interpreters have received.

# Communications with Persons with Disabilities

## 370.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with disabilities, including those who are deaf or hard of hearing, have impaired speech or vision, or are blind.

### 370.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Auxiliary aids** - These are used to communicate with people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech. They include but are not limited to, the use of gestures or visual aids to supplement oral communication; use of a notepad and pen or pencil to exchange written notes; use of a computer or typewriter; use of an assistive listening system or device to amplify sound; use of a teletypewriter (TTY), videophones (video relay service or VRS); or use of a qualified interpreter.

**Deaf or hard of hearing** - An individual who has or is regarded as having substantially limited hearing with or without assistance.

**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, transliterators, sign language interpreters and intermediary interpreters. Qualified interpreters should be certified pursuant to RCW 2.42.110.

## 370.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

## 370.3 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 Lieutenant 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 Pacific 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.
- (c) Acting as a liaison with local disability advocacy groups or other disability groups regarding access to department services, programs and activities.

*Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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- (d) Ensuring that a list of qualified interpreter services is maintained and available to each Shift Sergeant and 911 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.

**370.4 FACTORS TO CONSIDER**

Because the nature of any law enforcement contact may vary substantially from one situation to the next, members of this department should consider all information reasonably available to them when determining how to communicate with an individual with a disability. Members should carefully balance all known factors in an effort to reasonably ensure people who are disabled have equal access to services, programs and activities. These factors may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Members should not always assume that effective communication is being achieved. The fact that an individual appears to be nodding in agreement does not always mean he/she completely understands the message. When there is any doubt, members should ask the individual to communicate back or otherwise demonstrate their understanding.
- (b) The nature of the disability (e.g., deafness or blindness vs. hard of hearing or low vision).
- (c) The nature of the law enforcement contact (e.g., emergency vs. non-emergency, custodial vs. consensual contact).
- (d) The availability of auxiliary aids. The fact that a particular aid is not available does not eliminate the obligation to reasonably ensure access. However, in an emergency, availability may factor into the type of aid used.

**370.5 INITIAL AND IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS**

Recognizing that various law enforcement encounters may be potentially volatile and/or emotionally charged, members should remain alert to the possibility of communication problems.

Members should exercise special care in the use of all gestures, and verbal and written communication to minimize initial confusion and misunderstanding when dealing with any individual with known or suspected disabilities.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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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 Pacific 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.

#### **370.6 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Pacific 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.

Department-provided auxiliary aids or services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

#### **370.7 AUDIO RECORDINGS AND ENLARGED PRINT**

The Department may develop audio recordings to assist people who are blind or have a visual impairment with accessing important information. If such a recording is not available, members may read aloud from the appropriate form, for example a personnel complaint form, or provide forms with enlarged print.

*Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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**370.8 QUALIFIED INTERPRETERS**

A qualified interpreter may be needed in lengthy or complex transactions (e.g., interviewing a victim, witness, suspect or arrestee), if the individual to be interviewed normally relies on sign language or speechreading (lip-reading) to understand what others are saying. The qualified interpreter should not be a person with an interest in the case or the investigation. A person providing interpretation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation in a court proceeding.

Qualified interpreters should be:

- (a) Available within a reasonable amount of time but in no event longer than one hour if requested.
- (b) Experienced in providing interpretation services related to law enforcement matters.
- (c) Familiar with the use of VRS and/or video remote interpreting services.
- (d) Certified in either American Sign Language (ASL) or Signed English (SE).
- (e) Able to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (f) Knowledgeable of the ethical issues involved when providing interpreter services.

Members should use department-approved procedures to request a qualified interpreter at the earliest reasonable opportunity, and generally not more than 15 minutes after a request for an interpreter has been made or it is reasonably apparent that an interpreter is needed. No individual who is disabled shall be required to provide his/her own interpreter (28 CFR 35.160).

**370.9 TTY AND RELAY SERVICES**

In situations where an individual without a disability would have access to a telephone (e.g., booking or attorney contacts), members must also provide those who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech the opportunity to place calls using an available TTY (also known as a telecommunications device for deaf people, or TDD). Members shall provide additional time, as needed, for effective communication due to the slower nature of TTY and TDD communications.

The Department will accept all TTY or TDD calls placed by those who are deaf or hard of hearing and received via a telecommunications relay service (28 CFR 35.162).

Note that relay services translate verbatim, so the conversation must be conducted as if speaking directly to the caller.

**370.10 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

Interpreter services may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in communication services, such as ASL or SE, and have been approved by the Department to provide interpreter services.

### *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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Where qualified interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, department members must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the individual with the disability and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

#### **370.11 FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

While family or friends may offer to assist with interpretation, members should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. The nature of the contact and relationship between the individual with the disability and the person offering services must be carefully considered (e.g., victim/suspect).

Children shall not be relied upon except in emergency or critical situations when there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.

Adults may be relied upon when (28 CFR 35.160):

- (a) There is an emergency or critical situation and there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.
- (b) The person with the disability requests that the adult interpret or facilitate communication and the adult agrees to provide such assistance, and reliance on that adult for such assistance is reasonable under the circumstances.

#### **370.12 REPORTING**

Whenever any member of this department is required to complete a report or other documentation, and communication assistance has been provided, such services should be noted in the related report. Members should document the type of communication services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the Department or some other identified source. If the individual's express preference is not honored, the member must document why another method of communication was used.

All written communications exchanged in a criminal case shall be attached to the report or placed into evidence.

#### **370.13 FIELD ENFORCEMENT**

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts that may involve individuals with disabilities. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary.

The Department recognizes that it would be virtually impossible to provide immediate access to complete communication services to every member of this department. Members and/or supervisors must assess each situation and consider the length, complexity and importance of the

## *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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communication, as well as the individual's preferred method of communication, when determining the type of resources to use and whether a qualified interpreter is needed.

Although not every situation can be addressed in this policy, it is important that members are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action. For example, it would be meaningless to verbally request consent to search if the deputy is unable to effectively communicate with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing and requires communications assistance.

If available, deputies should obtain the assistance of a qualified interpreter before placing an individual with a disability under arrest. Individuals who are arrested and are assisted by service animals should be permitted to make arrangements for the care of such animals prior to transport.

### **370.13.1 FIELD RESOURCES**

Examples of methods that may be sufficient for transactions, such as checking a license or giving directions to a location or for urgent situations such as responding to a violent crime in progress, may, depending on the circumstances, include such simple things as:

- (a) Hand gestures or visual aids with an individual who is deaf, hard of hearing or has impaired speech.
- (b) Exchange of written notes or communications.
- (c) Verbal communication with an individual who can speechread by facing the individual and speaking slowly and clearly.
- (d) Use of computer, word processing, personal communication device or similar device to exchange texts or notes.
- (e) Slowly and clearly speaking or reading simple terms to individuals who have a visual or mental impairment.

Members should be aware that these techniques may not provide effective communication as required by law and this policy depending on the circumstances.

### **370.14 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS**

In an effort to ensure that the rights of individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech impairment are protected during a custodial interrogation, this department will provide interpreter services before beginning an interrogation, unless exigent circumstances exist. 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.

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.

### *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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#### **370.15 ARRESTS AND BOOKINGS**

If an individual with speech or hearing disabilities is arrested, the arresting deputy shall use department-approved procedures to provide a qualified interpreter at the place of arrest or booking as soon as reasonably practicable, unless the individual indicates that he/she prefers a different auxiliary aid or service or the deputy reasonably determines another effective method of communication exists under the circumstances.

When gathering information during the booking process, members should remain alert to the impediments that often exist when communicating with those who are deaf, hard of hearing, who have impaired speech or vision, are blind, or have other disabilities. In the interest of the arrestee's health and welfare, the safety and security of the facility and to protect individual rights, it is important that accurate medical screening and booking information be obtained. If necessary, members should seek the assistance of a qualified interpreter whenever there is concern that accurate information cannot be obtained or that booking instructions may not be properly understood by the individual.

Individuals who require and possess personally owned communication aids (e.g., hearing aids, cochlear processors) should be permitted to retain them while in custody.

#### **370.16 COMPLAINTS**

The Department shall ensure that individuals with disabilities who wish to file a complaint regarding members of this department are able to do so. The Department may provide a qualified interpreter or forms in enlarged print, as appropriate. Complaints will be referred to the department ADA Coordinator.

Investigations into such complaints shall be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy. Qualified interpreters used during the investigation of a complaint should not be members of this Department.

#### **370.17 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department are important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. This department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

#### **370.18 TRAINING**

To ensure that all members who may have contact with individuals who are disabled are properly trained, the Department will provide periodic training that should include:

- (a) Awareness and understanding of this policy and related procedures, related forms and available resources.
- (b) Procedures for accessing qualified interpreters and other available resources.
- (c) Working with in-person and telephone interpreters and related equipment.

### *Communications with Persons with Disabilities*

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The Training Officer 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 Officer shall maintain records of all training provided, and will retain a copy in each member's training file in accordance with established records retention schedules.

#### 370.18.1 CALL-TAKER TRAINING

Emergency call-takers shall be trained in the use of TTY equipment protocols for communicating with individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or who have speech impairments. Such training and information should include:

- (a) The requirements of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act for telephone emergency service providers.
- (b) ASL syntax and accepted abbreviations.
- (c) Practical instruction on identifying and processing TTY or TDD calls, including the importance of recognizing silent TTY or TDD calls, using proper syntax, abbreviations and protocol when responding to TTY or TDD calls.
- (d) Hands-on experience in TTY and TDD communications, including identification of TTY or TDD tones.

Training should be mandatory for all Dispatch members who may have contact with individuals from the public who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech. Refresher training should occur every six months.

# Chaplains

## 376.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for Pacific County Sheriff's Office chaplains to provide counseling or emotional support to members of the Department, their families and members of the public (RCW 41.22.030; RCW 41.22.040).

## 376.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall ensure that department chaplains are properly appointed, trained and supervised to carry out their responsibilities without financial compensation.

## 376.3 ELIGIBILITY

Requirements for participation as a chaplain for the Department may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Being above reproach, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, be free from addiction to alcohol or other drugs, and excessive debt.
- (b) Managing their households, families and personal affairs well.
- (c) Having a good reputation in the community.
- (d) Successful completion of an appropriate-level background investigation.
- (e) A minimum of five years of successful counseling experience.
- (f) Possession of a valid driver license.

The Sheriff may apply exceptions for eligibility based on organizational needs and the qualifications of the individual.

## 376.4 RECRUITMENT, SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall endeavor to recruit and appoint only those applicants who meet the high ethical, moral and professional standards set forth by this department.

All applicants shall be required to meet and pass the same pre-employment procedures as department personnel before appointment.

### 376.4.1 RECRUITMENT

Chaplains should be recruited on a continuous and ongoing basis consistent with department policy on equal opportunity and 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. Chaplain candidates are encouraged to participate in ride-alongs with department members before and during the selection process.

### 376.4.2 SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

Chaplain candidates shall successfully complete the following process prior to appointment as a chaplain:

### *Chaplains*

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- (a) Submit the appropriate written application.
- (b) Include a recommendation from employers or volunteer programs.
- (c) Interview with the Sheriff and the chaplain coordinator.
- (d) Successfully complete an appropriate-level background investigation.
- (e) Complete an appropriate probationary period as designated by the Sheriff.

Chaplains are volunteers and serve at the discretion of the Sheriff. Chaplains shall have no property interest in continued appointment. However, if a chaplain is removed for alleged misconduct, the chaplain will be afforded an opportunity solely to clear his/her name through a liberty interest hearing, which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

#### **376.5 IDENTIFICATION AND UNIFORMS**

As representatives of the Department, chaplains are responsible for presenting a professional image to the community. Chaplains shall dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties. Uniforms and necessary safety equipment will be provided for each chaplain. Identification symbols worn by chaplains shall be different and distinct from those worn by deputies through the inclusion of "Chaplain" on the uniform and not reflect any religious affiliation.

Chaplains will be issued Pacific County Sheriff's Office identification cards, which must be carried at all times while on-duty. The identification cards will be the standard Pacific County Sheriff's Office identification cards, with the exception that "Chaplain" will be indicated on the cards. Chaplains shall be required to return any issued uniforms or department property at the termination of service.

Chaplains shall conform to all uniform regulations and appearance standards of this department.

#### **376.6 CHAPLAIN COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff shall delegate certain responsibilities to a chaplain coordinator. The coordinator shall be appointed by and directly responsible to the Support Services Lieutenant or the authorized designee.

The chaplain coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the chaplains and the Sheriff. The function of the coordinator is to provide a central coordinating point for effective chaplain management within the Department, and to direct and assist efforts to jointly provide more productive chaplain services. Under the general direction of the Sheriff or the authorized designee, chaplains shall report to the chaplain coordinator and/or Shift Sergeant.

The chaplain coordinator may appoint a senior chaplain or other designee to assist in the coordination of chaplains and their activities.

The responsibilities of the coordinator or the authorized designee include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Recruiting, selecting and training qualified chaplains.
- (b) Conducting chaplain meetings.



## *Chaplains*

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- (c) Establishing and maintaining a chaplain callout roster.
- (d) Maintaining records for each chaplain.
- (e) Tracking and evaluating the contribution of chaplains.
- (f) Maintaining a record of chaplain schedules and work hours.
- (g) Completing and disseminating, as appropriate, all necessary paperwork and information.
- (h) Planning periodic recognition events.
- (i) Maintaining liaison with other agency chaplain coordinators.

An evaluation of the overall use of chaplains will be conducted on an annual basis by the coordinator.

### **376.7 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Chaplains assist the Department, its members and the community, as needed. Assignments of chaplains will usually be to augment the Field Operations Division. Chaplains may be assigned to other areas within the Department as needed. Chaplains should be placed only in assignments or programs that are consistent with their knowledge, skills, abilities and the needs of the Department.

All chaplains will be assigned to duties by the chaplain coordinator or the authorized designee.

Chaplains may not proselytize or attempt to recruit members of the Department or the public into a religious affiliation while representing themselves as chaplains with this department. If there is any question as to the receiving person's intent, chaplains should verify that the person is desirous of spiritual counseling or guidance before engaging in such discussion.

Chaplains may not accept gratuities for any service or any subsequent actions or follow-up contacts that were provided while functioning as a chaplain for the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

#### **376.7.1 COMPLIANCE**

Chaplains are volunteer members of this department, and except as otherwise specified within this policy, are required to comply with the Volunteer Program Policy and other applicable policies.

#### **376.7.2 OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

- (a) Chaplains will be scheduled to be on-call for a period of seven consecutive days during each month, beginning on Monday and ending on the following Sunday.
- (b) Generally, each chaplain will serve with Pacific County Sheriff's Office personnel a minimum of eight hours per month.
- (c) At the end of each watch the chaplain will complete a chaplain shift report and submit it to the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Chaplains

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- (d) Chaplains shall be permitted to ride with deputies during any shift and observe Pacific County Sheriff's Office operations, provided the Shift Sergeant has been notified and has approved the activity.
- (e) Chaplains shall not be evaluators of members of the Department.
- (f) In responding to incidents, a chaplain shall never function as a deputy.
- (g) When responding to in-progress calls for service, chaplains may be required to stand-by in a secure area until the situation has been deemed safe.
- (h) Chaplains shall serve only within the jurisdiction of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office unless otherwise authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (i) Each chaplain shall have access to current department member rosters, addresses, telephone numbers, duty assignments and other information that may assist in his/her duties. Such information will be considered confidential and each chaplain will exercise appropriate security measures to prevent distribution of the data.

#### 376.7.3 ASSISTING DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

The responsibilities of a chaplain related to department members include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting in making notification to families of members who have been seriously injured or killed and, after notification, responding to the hospital or home of the member.
- (b) Visiting sick or injured members in the hospital or at home.
- (c) Attending and participating, when requested, in funerals of active or retired members.
- (d) Serving as a resource for members when dealing with the public in incidents, such as accidental deaths, suicides, suicidal subjects, serious accidents, drug and alcohol abuse and other such situations that may arise.
- (e) Providing counseling and support for members and their families.
- (f) Being alert to the needs of members and their families.

#### 376.7.4 ASSISTING THE DEPARTMENT

The responsibilities of a chaplain related to this department include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting members in the diffusion of a conflict or incident, when requested.
- (b) Responding to natural and accidental deaths, suicides and attempted suicides, family disturbances and any other incident that in the judgment of the Shift Sergeant or supervisor aids in accomplishing the mission of the Department.
- (c) Responding to all major disasters, such as natural disasters, bombings and similar critical incidents.
- (d) Being on-call and, if possible, on-duty during major demonstrations or any public function that requires the presence of a large number of department members.
- (e) Attending department and academy graduations, ceremonies and social events and offering invocations and benedictions, as requested.
- (f) Participating in in-service training classes.

## Chaplains

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- (g) Willingness to train others to enhance the effectiveness of the Department.

### 376.7.5 ASSISTING THE COMMUNITY

The duties of a chaplain related to the community include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Fostering familiarity with the role of law enforcement in the community.
- (b) Providing an additional link between the community, other chaplain coordinators and the Department.
- (c) Providing liaison with various civic, business and religious organizations.
- (d) Promptly facilitating requests for representatives or leaders of various denominations.
- (e) Assisting the community in any other function as needed or requested.
- (f) Making referrals in cases where specialized attention is needed or in cases that are beyond the chaplain's ability to assist.

### 376.7.6 CHAPLAIN MEETINGS

All chaplains are required to attend scheduled meetings. Any absences must be satisfactorily explained to the chaplain coordinator.

### 376.8 PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

No person who provides chaplain services to members of the Department may work or volunteer for the Pacific County Sheriff's Office in any capacity other than that of chaplain.

Department chaplains shall be familiar with state evidentiary laws and rules pertaining to the limits of the clergy-penitent, psychotherapist-patient and other potentially applicable privileges and shall inform members when it appears reasonably likely that the member is discussing matters that are not subject to privileged communications. In such cases, the chaplain should consider referring the member to a non-department counseling resource.

No chaplain shall provide counsel to or receive confidential communications from any Pacific County Sheriff's Office member concerning an incident personally witnessed by the chaplain or concerning an incident involving the chaplain.

### 376.9 TRAINING

The Department will establish a minimum number of training hours and standards for department chaplains. The training, as approved by the Training Officer, may include:

- Stress management
- Death notifications
- Symptoms of post-traumatic stress
- Burnout for members of law enforcement and chaplains
- Legal liability and confidentiality
- Ethics

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Chaplains*

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- Responding to crisis situations
- The law enforcement family
- Substance abuse
- Suicide
- Deputy injury or death
- Sensitivity and diversity

# Public Safety Video Surveillance System

## 378.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for the placement and monitoring of department public safety video surveillance, as well as the storage and release of the captured images.

This policy only applies to overt, marked public safety video surveillance systems operated by the Department. It does not apply to mobile audio/video systems, covert audio/video systems or any other image-capturing devices used by the Department.

## 378.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office operates a public safety video surveillance system to complement its anti-crime strategy, to effectively allocate and deploy personnel, and to enhance public safety and security in public areas. Cameras may be placed in strategic locations throughout the County to detect and deter crime, to help safeguard against potential threats to the public, to help manage emergency response situations during natural and man-made disasters and to assist County officials in providing services to the community.

Video surveillance in public areas will be conducted in a legal and ethical manner while recognizing and protecting constitutional standards of privacy.

## 378.3 OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Only department-approved video surveillance equipment shall be utilized. Members authorized to monitor video surveillance equipment should only monitor public areas and public activities where no reasonable expectation of privacy exists. The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall approve all proposed locations for the use of video surveillance technology and should consult with and be guided by legal counsel as necessary in making such determinations.

### 378.3.1 PLACEMENT AND MONITORING

Camera placement will be guided by the underlying purpose or strategy associated with the overall video surveillance plan. As appropriate, the Sheriff should confer with other affected County divisions and designated community groups when evaluating camera placement. Environmental factors, including lighting, location of buildings, presence of vegetation or other obstructions, should also be evaluated when determining placement.

Cameras shall only record video images and not sound. Recorded images may be used for a variety of purposes, including criminal investigations and monitoring of activity around high-value or high-threat areas. The public safety video surveillance system may be useful for the following purposes:

- (a) To prevent, deter and identify criminal activity.
- (b) To target identified areas of gang and narcotics complaints or activity.
- (c) To respond to critical incidents.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Public Safety Video Surveillance System*

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- (d) To assist in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting offenders.
- (e) To document deputy and offender conduct during interactions to safeguard the rights of the public and deputies.
- (f) To augment resources in a cost-effective manner.
- (g) To monitor pedestrian and vehicle traffic activity.

Images from each camera should be recorded in a manner consistent with the underlying purpose of the particular camera. Images should be transmitted to monitors installed in the Shift Sergeant's office and Dispatch. When activity warranting further investigation is reported or detected at any camera location, the available information should be provided to responding deputies in a timely manner. The Shift Sergeant or trained Dispatch personnel are authorized to adjust the cameras to more effectively view a particular area for any legitimate public safety purpose.

The Sheriff may authorize video feeds from the public safety video surveillance system to be forwarded to a specified location for monitoring by other than sheriff's personnel, such as allied government agencies, road or traffic crews, or fire or emergency operations personnel.

Unauthorized recording, viewing, reproduction, dissemination or retention is prohibited.

#### **378.3.2 CAMERA MARKINGS**

All public areas monitored by public safety surveillance equipment shall be marked in a conspicuous manner with appropriate signs to inform the public that the area is under sheriff's surveillance. Signs should be well lit, placed appropriately and without obstruction to ensure visibility.

#### **378.3.3 INTEGRATION WITH OTHER TECHNOLOGY**

The Department may elect to integrate its public safety video surveillance system with other technology to enhance available information. Systems such as gunshot detection, incident mapping, crime analysis, license plate recognition, facial recognition and other video-based analytical systems may be considered based upon availability and the nature of department strategy.

The Department should evaluate the availability and propriety of networking or otherwise collaborating with appropriate private sector entities and should evaluate whether the use of certain camera systems, such as pan-tilt-zoom systems and video enhancement or other analytical technology, requires additional safeguards.

#### **378.4 VIDEO SUPERVISION**

Supervisors should monitor video surveillance access and usage to ensure members are within department policy and applicable laws. Supervisors should ensure such use and access is appropriately documented.

##### **378.4.1 VIDEO LOG**

A log should be maintained at all locations where video surveillance monitors are located. The log should be used to document all persons not assigned to the monitoring locations who have

## *Public Safety Video Surveillance System*

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been given access to view or monitor images provided by the video surveillance cameras. The logs should, at a minimum, record the:

- (a) Date and time access was given.
- (b) Name and agency of the person being given access to the images.
- (c) Name of person authorizing access.
- (d) Identifiable portion of images viewed.

### **378.4.2 PROHIBITED ACTIVITY**

Public safety video surveillance systems will not intentionally be used to invade the privacy of individuals or observe areas where a reasonable expectation of privacy exists.

Public video surveillance equipment shall not be used in an unequal or discriminatory manner and shall not target protected individual characteristics including, but not limited to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, gender or sexual orientation.

Video surveillance equipment shall not be used to harass, intimidate or discriminate against any individual or group.

### **378.5 STORAGE AND RETENTION OF MEDIA**

All downloaded media shall be stored in a secure area with access restricted to authorized persons. A recording needed as evidence shall be copied to a suitable medium and booked into evidence in accordance with established evidence procedures. All actions taken with respect to retention of media shall be appropriately documented.

The type of video surveillance technology employed and the manner in which recordings are used and stored will affect retention periods. The recordings should be stored and retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

#### **378.5.1 EVIDENTIARY INTEGRITY**

All downloaded and retained media shall be treated in the same manner as other evidence. Media shall be accessed, maintained, stored and retrieved in a manner that ensures its integrity as evidence, including strict adherence to chain of custody requirements. Electronic trails, including encryption, digital masking of innocent or uninvolved individuals to preserve anonymity, authenticity certificates and date and time stamping, shall be used as appropriate to preserve individual rights and to ensure the authenticity and maintenance of a secure evidentiary chain of custody.

### **378.6 RELEASE OF VIDEO IMAGES**

All recorded video images gathered by the public safety video surveillance equipment are for the official use of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

Requests for recorded video images from the public or the media shall be processed in the same manner as requests for department public records.

### *Public Safety Video Surveillance System*

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Requests for recorded images from other law enforcement agencies shall be referred to the Shift Sergeant for release in accordance with a specific and legitimate law enforcement purpose.

Recorded video images that are the subject of a court order or subpoena shall be processed in accordance with the established department subpoena process.

#### **378.7 VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AUDIT**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee will conduct an annual review of the public safety video surveillance system. The review should include an analysis of the cost, benefit and effectiveness of the system, including any public safety issues that were effectively addressed or any significant prosecutions that resulted, and any systemic operational or administrative issues that were identified, including those related to training, discipline or policy.

The results of each review shall be appropriately documented and maintained by the Sheriff or the authorized designee and other applicable advisory bodies. Any recommendations for training or policy should be promptly addressed.

#### **378.8 TRAINING**

All department members authorized to operate or access public video surveillance systems shall receive appropriate training. Training should include guidance on the use of cameras, interaction with dispatch and patrol operations and a review regarding relevant policies and procedures, including this policy. Training should also address state and federal law related to the use of video surveillance equipment and privacy.



## Child and Dependent Adult Safety

### 380.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that children and dependent adults are not left without appropriate care in the event their caregiver or guardian is arrested or otherwise prevented from providing care due to actions taken by members of this department.

This policy does not address the actions to be taken during the course of a child abuse or dependent adult investigation. These are covered in the Child Abuse and Adult Abuse policies.

### 380.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to mitigate, to the extent reasonably possible, the stressful experience individuals may have when their parent or caregiver is arrested. The Pacific 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.

### 380.3 PROCEDURES DURING AN ARREST

When encountering an arrest or prolonged detention situation, deputies should make reasonable attempts to determine if the arrestee is responsible for children or dependent adults. In some cases this may be obvious, such as when children or dependent adults are present. However, deputies should inquire if the arrestee has caregiver responsibilities for any children or dependent adults who are without appropriate supervision. The following steps should be taken:

- (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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**380.3.1 AFTER AN ARREST**

Whenever an arrest is made, the deputy should take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the arrestee's disclosed or discovered, children or dependent adults.

Deputies should allow the arrestee reasonable time to arrange for care of children and dependent adults. Temporary placement with family or friends may be appropriate. However, any decision should give priority to a care solution that is in the best interest of the child or dependent adult. In such cases the following guidelines should be followed:

- (a) Allow the person reasonable time to arrange for the care of children and dependent adults with a responsible party, as appropriate.
  - 1. Unless there is evidence to the contrary (e.g., signs of abuse, drug use, unsafe environment), deputies should respect the parent or caregiver's judgment regarding arrangements for care. It is generally best if the child or dependent adult remains with relatives or family friends that he/she knows and trusts because familiarity with surroundings and consideration for comfort, emotional state and safety are important.
  - 2. Except when a court order exists limiting contact, the deputy should attempt to locate and place children or dependent adults with the non-arrested parent, guardian or caregiver.
- (b) Provide for the immediate supervision of children or dependent adults until an appropriate caregiver arrives.
- (c) Notify the Department of Social and Health Services, if appropriate.
- (d) Notify the field supervisor or Shift Sergeant of the disposition of children and 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.

Deputies shall promptly notify Child Protective Services (CPS) whenever a child under 13 years of age is present in a vehicle and his/her parent, guardian or legal custodian is arrested for a drug or alcohol driving offense in accordance with the department Child Abuse Policy (RCW 26.44.250).

**380.3.2 DURING THE BOOKING PROCESS**

During the booking process, the arrestee shall be allowed to make additional telephone calls to relatives or other responsible individuals as is reasonably necessary to arrange for the care of any child or dependent adult. These telephone calls should be given as soon as practicable and are in addition to any other telephone calls allowed by law.

*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.

**380.3.3 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. How, where and with whom or which agency the child was placed

(b) For all arrests where dependent adults are present or living in the household, the reporting 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

**380.3.4 SUPPORT AND COUNSELING REFERRAL**

If, in the judgment of the handling deputies, the child or dependent adult would benefit from additional assistance, such as counseling services, contact with a victim advocate or a crisis telephone number, the appropriate referral information may be provided.

**380.4 DEPENDENT WELFARE SERVICES**

Whenever an arrestee is unwilling or incapable of arranging for the appropriate care of any child or dependent adult, the handling deputy should consider contacting the appropriate welfare service or other department-approved social service to determine whether protective custody is appropriate.

Only when other reasonable options are exhausted should a child or dependent adult be transported to the sheriff's facility, transported in a marked law enforcement vehicle or taken into formal protective custody.

Under no circumstances should a child or dependent adult be left unattended or without appropriate care.

### *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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#### **380.5 TRAINING**

The Training Officer is responsible to ensure that all members of this department who may be involved in arrests affecting children or dependent adults receive approved training on effective safety measures when a parent, guardian or caregiver is arrested.

## Service Animal Policy

### 382.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Service animals play an important role in helping to overcome the limitations often faced by people with disabilities. The Pacific County Sheriff's Office recognizes this need and is committed to making reasonable modifications to its policies, practices, and procedures in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) to permit the use of service animals that are individually trained to assist a person with a disability.

### 382.2 SERVICE ANIMALS

The ADA defines a service animal as any dog or miniature horse that is individually 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 owner's disability (28 CFR 35.104).

#### 382.2.1 USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS

Some service animals may be readily identifiable. However, many do not have a distinctive symbol, harness or collar. Service animals are not pets and may be trained by an individual or organization to assist people with disabilities.

Examples of how service animals may be used to provide assistance include:

- 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 schizophrenia to distinguish between hallucinations and reality, and helping people with traumatic brain injury to locate misplaced items or follow daily routines.

### 382.3 EMPLOYEE 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office affords to all members of the public.

### *Service Animal Policy*

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If an animal 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 owner 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 animal. 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.

If it is apparent or if the deputy is aware the animal is a service animal, the owner 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 deputy should ask the individual only the following questions:

- 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 person should not be questioned about his/her disabilities nor should the person be asked to provide any license, certification or identification card for the service animal.

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.

When handling calls of a complaint regarding a service animal, members of this department should remain neutral and should be prepared to explain the ADA requirements concerning service animals to the concerned parties. Businesses are required to allow service animals to accompany their owner into all areas that other customers or members of the public are allowed.

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.

# Volunteer Program

## 384.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of this department to use qualified volunteers for specified tasks and duties in order to create efficiencies for the Department and improve services to the community. Volunteers are intended to supplement and support, rather than supplant, sworn deputies and civilian personnel. Volunteers can be an important part of any organization and have proven to be a valuable asset to law enforcement agencies. Volunteers help to increase departmental responsiveness, delivery of services and information input, and provide new program opportunities. In addition, volunteers bring new skills and expertise to the Department and prompt new enthusiasm.

### 384.1.1 DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEER

An individual who performs a service for the Department without promise, expectation or receipt of compensation for services rendered. This may include unpaid chaplains, unpaid reserve deputies, interns, persons providing administrative support and youth involved in a law enforcement Explorer Post, among others.

## 384.2 VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

### 384.2.1 VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Volunteer Coordinator shall be appointed by the Support Services Lieutenant. 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.

## *Volunteer Program*

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- (j) Maintaining liaison with other volunteer-utilizing programs in the community and assisting in community-wide efforts to recognize and promote volunteering.

### 384.2.2 RECRUITMENT

Volunteers should be recruited on a continuous and ongoing basis consistent with department policy on equal opportunity nondiscriminatory employment. A primary qualification for participation in the application process should be an interest in, and an ability to assist the Department in serving the public.

Requests for volunteers should be submitted in writing by interested staff to the Volunteer Coordinator through the requester's immediate supervisor. A complete position description and a requested time frame should be included in the request. All parties should understand that the recruitment of volunteers is enhanced by creative and interesting assignments. The Volunteer Coordinator may withhold assignment of any volunteer until such time as the requesting unit is prepared to make effective use of volunteer resources.

### 384.2.3 SCREENING

All prospective volunteers should complete the volunteer application form. The Volunteer Coordinator or designee should conduct a face-to-face interview with an applicant under consideration.

A documented background investigation shall be completed on each volunteer applicant and shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- (a) Traffic and criminal background check. Fingerprints shall be obtained from all applicants and applicants shall be processed for criminal history.
- (b) Employment.
- (c) References.
- (d) Credit check.

A polygraph exam may be required of each applicant depending on the type of assignment.

### 384.2.4 SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

Service as a volunteer with the Department shall begin with an official notice of acceptance or appointment to a volunteer position. Notice may only be given by an authorized representative of the Department, who will normally be the Volunteer Coordinator. No volunteer should begin any assignment until they have been officially accepted for that position and completed all required screening and paperwork. At the time of final acceptance, each volunteer should complete all required enrollment paperwork and will receive a copy of their position description and agreement of service with the Department. All volunteers shall receive a copy of the volunteer handbook and shall be required to sign a volunteer agreement.

Volunteers should be placed only in assignments or programs that are consistent with their knowledge, skills, abilities and the needs of the Department.



## *Volunteer Program*

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### 384.2.5 TRAINING

Volunteers will be provided with an orientation program to acquaint them with the Department, personnel, policies and procedures that have a direct impact on their work assignment.

Volunteers should receive position-specific training to ensure they have adequate knowledge and skills to complete tasks required by the position and should receive periodic ongoing training as deemed appropriate by their supervisor or the Volunteer Coordinator.

Training should reinforce to volunteers that they may not intentionally represent themselves as, or by omission infer that they are sworn deputies or other full-time members of the Department. They shall always represent themselves as volunteers.

All volunteers shall comply with the rules of conduct and with all orders and directives, either oral or written, issued by the Department.

### 384.2.6 FITNESS FOR DUTY

No volunteer shall report to work or be on-duty when his/her judgment or physical condition has been impaired by alcohol, medication, other substances, illness or injury.

Volunteers shall report to their supervisor any changes in status that may affect their ability to fulfill their duties. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Driver's license
- (b) Medical condition
- (c) Arrests
- (d) Criminal investigations

All volunteers shall adhere to the guidelines set forth by this department regarding drug and alcohol use.

### 384.2.7 DRESS CODE

As representatives of the Department, volunteers are responsible for presenting a professional image to the community. Volunteers shall dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties.

Volunteers shall conform to department-approved dress consistent with their duty assignment. Uniforms authorized for volunteers should be readily distinguishable from those worn by sworn deputies. The uniform or identifiable parts of the uniform shall not be worn while off-duty except volunteers may choose to wear the uniform while in transit to or from official department assignments or functions provided an outer garment is worn over the uniform shirt so as not to bring attention to the volunteer while he/she is off duty.

Volunteers shall be required to return any issued uniform or department property at the termination of service.

## *Volunteer Program*

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### **384.3 SUPERVISION OF VOLUNTEERS**

Each volunteer who is accepted to a position with the Department must have a clearly identified supervisor who is responsible for direct management of that volunteer. This supervisor will be responsible for day-to-day management and guidance of the work of the volunteer and should be available to the volunteer for consultation and assistance.

A volunteer may be assigned as and act as a supervisor of other volunteers provided that the supervising volunteer is under the direct supervision of a paid staff member.

Functional supervision of volunteers is the responsibility of the supervisor in charge of the unit where the volunteer is assigned. Following are some considerations to keep in mind while supervising volunteers:

- (a) Take the time to introduce volunteers to employees on all levels.
- (b) Ensure volunteers have work space and necessary office supplies.
- (c) Make sure the work is challenging. Do not hesitate to give them an assignment or task that will tap these valuable resources.

### **384.4 CONFIDENTIALITY**

With appropriate security clearance, volunteers may have access to confidential information such as criminal histories or investigative files. Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor or departmental policy, all information shall be considered confidential. Only that information specifically identified and approved by authorized personnel shall be released. Confidential information shall be given only to persons who have a need and a right to know as determined by departmental policy and supervisory personnel.

Each volunteer will be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement before being given an assignment with the Department. Subsequent unauthorized disclosure of any confidential information, verbally, in writing or by any other means, by the volunteer is grounds for immediate dismissal and possible criminal prosecution.

Volunteers shall not address public gatherings, appear on radio or television, prepare any article for publication, act as correspondents to a newspaper or other periodical, release or divulge any information concerning the activities of the Department, or maintain that they represent the Department in such matters without permission from the proper department personnel.

### **384.5 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Volunteers will be issued an identification card that must be worn at all times while on-duty.

Any fixed and portable equipment issued by the Department shall be for official and authorized use only. Any property or equipment issued to a volunteer shall remain the property of the Department and shall be returned at the termination of service.

## *Volunteer Program*

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### **384.5.1 VEHICLE USE**

Volunteers assigned to duties such as vacation house checks or other assignments that require the use of a vehicle must first complete the following:

- (a) A driving safety briefing and department approved driver safety course.
- (b) Verification that the volunteer possesses a valid Washington Driver's 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 volunteers are not authorized to operate a Department vehicle Code-3.

### **384.5.2 RADIO AND MDC USAGE**

Volunteers shall successfully complete Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS) 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 ACCESS training is provided for volunteers whenever necessary.

## **384.6 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES/TERMINATION**

A volunteer may be removed from the volunteer program at the discretion of the Sheriff or the Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteers shall have no property interests in their continued appointment. However, if a volunteer is removed for alleged misconduct, the volunteer will be afforded an opportunity solely to clear his/her name through a liberty interest hearing which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Sheriff or authorized designee.

Volunteers may resign from volunteer service with the Department at any time. It is requested that volunteers who intend to resign provide advance notice of their departure and a reason for their decision.

### **384.6.1 EXIT INTERVIEWS**

Exit interviews, where possible, should be conducted with volunteers who are leaving their positions. The interview should ascertain why the volunteer is leaving the position and solicit the volunteer's suggestions on improving the position. When appropriate, the interview should also include a discussion on the possibility of involvement in some other capacity with the Department.

## **384.7 EVALUATION**

An evaluation of the overall volunteer program will be conducted on an annual basis by the Volunteer Coordinator. Regular evaluations should be conducted with volunteers to ensure the

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Volunteer Program*

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best use of human resources available, to ensure personnel problems can be identified and dealt with promptly and fairly, and to ensure optimum satisfaction on the part of volunteers.

## Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions

### 386.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The decision to become involved in a law enforcement action when off-duty can place a deputy as well as others at great risk and must be done with careful consideration. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for deputies of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office with respect to taking law enforcement action while off-duty.

### 386.2 POLICY

Initiating law enforcement action while off-duty is generally discouraged. Deputies should not attempt to initiate enforcement action when witnessing minor crimes, such as suspected intoxicated drivers, reckless driving or minor property crimes. Such incidents should be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Deputies are not expected to place themselves in unreasonable peril. However, any sworn member of this department who becomes aware of an incident or circumstance that he/she reasonably believes poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death, or significant property damage may take reasonable action to minimize the threat.

When public safety or the prevention of major property damage requires immediate action, deputies should first consider reporting and monitoring the activity and only take direct action as a last resort.

### 386.3 FIREARMS

Deputies of this department may carry firearms while off-duty in accordance with federal regulations and department policy. All firearms and ammunition must meet guidelines as described in the department Firearms 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 member, either on- or off-duty, who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage, taken any drugs or medication or any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the deputy's senses or judgment.

### 386.4 DECISION TO INTERVENE

There is no legal requirement for off-duty deputies to take law enforcement action. However, should deputies decide to intervene, they must evaluate whether the action is necessary or desirable, and should take into consideration the following:

- (a) The tactical disadvantage of being alone and the fact there may be multiple or hidden suspects.
- (b) The inability to communicate with responding units.

## *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.

### **386.4.1 INTERVENTION PROCEDURE**

If involvement is reasonably necessary, the deputy should attempt to call or have someone else call 9-1-1 to request immediate assistance. The operator should be informed that an off-duty deputy is on-scene and should be provided a description of the officer if possible.

Whenever practicable, the deputy should loudly and repeatedly identify him/herself as an Pacific County Sheriff's Office deputy until acknowledged. Official identification should also be displayed.

### **386.4.2 INCIDENTS OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

Deputies should refrain from handling incidents of personal interest, (e.g., family or neighbor disputes) and should remain neutral. In such circumstances deputies should call the responsible agency to handle the matter.

### **386.4.3 CIVILIANNONSWORN 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.

### **386.4.4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

When encountering a non-uniformed deputy in public, uniformed deputies should wait for acknowledgement by the non-uniformed deputy in case he/she needs to maintain an undercover capability.

## **386.5 REPORTING**

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

## Department Use of Social Media

### 387.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that any use of social media on behalf of the Department is consistent with the department mission.

This policy does not address all aspects of social media use. Specifically, it does not address:

- Personal use of social media by department members (see the Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking Policy).
- Use of social media in personnel processes (see the Recruitment and Selection Policy).
- Use of social media as part of a criminal investigation, other than disseminating information to the public on behalf of this department (see the Investigation and Prosecution Policy).

#### 387.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Social media** - Any of a wide array of Internet-based tools and platforms that allow for the sharing of information, such as the department website or social networking services.

### 387.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office may use social media as a method of effectively informing the public about department services, issues, investigations and other relevant events.

Department members shall ensure that the use or access of social media is done in a manner that protects the constitutional rights of all.

### 387.3 AUTHORIZED USERS

Only members authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee may utilize social media on behalf of the Department. Authorized members shall use only department-approved equipment during the normal course of duties to post and monitor department-related social media, unless they are specifically authorized to do otherwise by their supervisors.

The Sheriff may develop specific guidelines identifying the type of content that may be posted. Any content that does not strictly conform to the guidelines should be approved by a supervisor prior to posting.

Requests to post information over department social media by members who are not authorized to post should be made through the member's chain of command.

### 387.4 AUTHORIZED CONTENT

Only content that is appropriate for public release, that supports the department mission and conforms to all department policies regarding the release of information may be posted.

Examples of appropriate content include:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Department Use of Social Media*

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- (a) Announcements.
- (b) Tips and information related to crime prevention.
- (c) Investigative requests for information.
- (d) Requests that ask the community to engage in projects that are relevant to the department mission.
- (e) Real-time safety information that is related to in-progress crimes, geographical warnings or disaster information.
- (f) Traffic information.
- (g) Press releases.
- (h) Recruitment of personnel.

#### **387.4.1 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.

#### **387.5 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office or its members.
- (e) Any information that could compromise the safety and security of department operations, members of the Department, victims, suspects or the public.
- (f) Any content posted for personal use.
- (g) Any content that has not been properly authorized by this policy or a supervisor.

Any member who becomes aware of content on this department's social media site that he/she believes is unauthorized or inappropriate should promptly report such content to a supervisor. The supervisor will ensure its removal from public view and investigate the cause of the entry.

#### **387.5.1 PUBLIC POSTING PROHIBITED**

Department social media sites shall be designed and maintained to prevent posting of content by the public.

The Department may provide a method for members of the public to contact department members directly.



## *Department Use of Social Media*

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### **387.6 MONITORING CONTENT**

The Sheriff will appoint a supervisor to review, at least annually, the use of department social media and report back on, at a minimum, the resources being used, the effectiveness of the content, any unauthorized or inappropriate content and the resolution of any issues.

### **387.7 RETENTION OF RECORDS**

The Support Services Lieutenant 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.

### **387.8 TRAINING**

Authorized members should receive training that, at a minimum, addresses legal issues concerning the appropriate use of social media sites, as well as privacy, civil rights, dissemination and retention of information posted on department sites.

## **Chapter 4 - Patrol Operations**

## Patrol Function

### 400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the functions of the patrol unit of the Department to ensure intra-department cooperation and information sharing.

#### 400.1.1 FUNCTION

Deputies will generally patrol in clearly marked vehicles, patrol assigned jurisdictional areas of Pacific 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 Department, 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 Pacific 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 Investigation Unit Supervisor in a timely fashion.

### 400.2 PATROL INFORMATION SHARING PROCEDURES

The following guidelines are intended to develop and maintain intra-department cooperation and information flow between the various divisions of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

### *Patrol Function*

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#### 400.2.1 CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) will be the central unit for information exchange. Criminal information and intelligence reports can be submitted to the Lieutenant for distribution to all divisions within the Department through daily and special bulletins. Information sharing and intra-department communication are important tools in our fight against crime.

#### 400.2.2 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.

#### 400.2.3 PATROL BRIEFING

Patrol supervisors, 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 as time permits throughout their shift.

#### 400.2.4 INFORMATION CLIPBOARDS (READ AND INITIAL BOARD)

The read and initial board will be maintained by the Sergeants and will be available for review by deputies from all divisions within the Department. These will include, but not be limited to, the patrol check clipboard, the wanted persons clipboard, and the written directive clipboard.

New Departmental Directives will be made available for patrol supervisors and will be discussed at briefings and shift meetings. A copy of the Departmental Directive will be placed on the written directive clipboard.

- (a) The read and initial board in the North District is located in the entry way to the Squad room.
- (b) The read and initial board in the South District is located on the count in near the copy center.

#### 400.2.5 WHITE BOARDS

A white board will be kept by the Sergeant, one north, one south. The boards will be available to all deputies. Investigations for display of suspect information, intelligence reports and photographs.

### **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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Patrol Function*

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Deputies should consider enforcement of applicable state and local laws, when the activity blocks the entrance or egress of a facility or location and when voluntary compliance with the law is not achieved.

## Racial/Bias Based Profiling

### 402.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to department members and establishes appropriate controls to ensure that employees of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office do not engage in racial- or bias-based profiling or violate any related laws while serving the community.

#### 402.1.1 DEFINITION

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Racial- or bias-based profiling** - An inappropriate reliance on factors such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, economic status, age, cultural group, disability or affiliation with any other similar identifiable group as a factor in deciding whether to take law enforcement action or to provide service.

### 402.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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 department to provide law enforcement services and to enforce the law equally, fairly and without discrimination toward any individual or group.

Race, ethnicity or nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, economic status, age, cultural group, disability or affiliation with any other similar identifiable group shall not be used as the basis for providing differing levels of law enforcement service or the enforcement of the law.

### 402.3 RACIAL- OR BIAS-BASED PROFILING PROHIBITED

Racial- or bias-based profiling is strictly prohibited. However, nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit a deputy from considering factors such as race or ethnicity in combination with other legitimate factors to establish reasonable suspicion or probable cause (e.g., suspect description is limited to a specific race or group).

#### 402.3.1 OTHER PROFILING PROHIBITED

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office also condemns the illegal use of an individual or group's attire, appearance or mode of transportation, including the fact that an individual rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related paraphernalia, as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action, arrest or search a person or vehicle with or without a legal basis under the United States Constitution or Washington State Constitution (RCW 43.101.410).

### 402.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY

Every member of this department shall perform his/her duties in a fair and objective manner and is responsible for promptly reporting any known instances of racial- or bias-based profiling to a supervisor.

*Racial/Bias Based Profiling*

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**402.4.1 REASON FOR DETENTION**

Deputies detaining a person shall be prepared to articulate sufficient reasonable suspicion to justify the detention, independent of the individual's membership in a protected class.

To the extent that written documentation would otherwise be completed (e.g., arrest report, Field Interview card), the involved deputy should include those facts giving rise to the deputy's reasonable suspicion or probable cause for the detention, as applicable.

Nothing in this policy shall require any deputy to document a contact that would not otherwise require reporting.

**402.4.2 REPORTING TRAFFIC STOPS**

Each time a deputy makes a traffic stop, the deputy shall report any demographic information required by the Department (RCW 43.101.410).

**402.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

Supervisors shall monitor those individuals under their command for any behavior that may conflict with the purpose of this policy and shall handle any alleged or observed violation of this policy 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.
- (b) Supervisors should periodically review MAV recordings, MDC data and any other available resource used to document contact between deputies and the public to ensure compliance with this policy.
  - 1. Supervisors should document these periodic reviews.
  - 2. Recordings that capture a potential instance of racial- or bias-based profiling 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 ensure that no retaliatory action is taken against any member of this department who discloses information concerning racial- or bias-based profiling.

**402.6 STATE REPORTING**

Subject to any fiscal constraints, the Field Operations Lieutenant should review available data related to traffic stops, including demographic data, existing procedures, practices and training, as well as complaints. The data should be analyzed for any patterns or other possible indicators of racial- or bias-based profiling and included in an annual report for the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (RCW 43.101.410(3)).

**402.7 ADMINISTRATION**

Each year, the Field Operations Lieutenant shall review the efforts of the Department to prevent racial- or bias-based profiling and submit an overview, including public concerns and complaints,

### *Racial/Bias Based Profiling*

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to the Sheriff. This report should not contain any identifying information regarding any specific complaint, citizen or deputies. It should be reviewed by the Sheriff to identify any changes in training or operations that should be made to improve service.

Supervisors shall review the annual report submitted to the Washington Association of Chiefs of Police and discuss the results with those they are assigned to supervise.

#### **402.8 TRAINING**

Each member of this department will be required to complete an approved refresher training course every five years, or sooner if deemed necessary, in order to keep current with changing community trends (RCW 43.101.410(c)).



# Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity

## 406.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance in handling a major crime or disaster.

## 406.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

## 406.3 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.

## 406.4 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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**406.5 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.

**406.5.1 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.

**406.6 EXECUTION OF HEALTH ORDERS**

Sworn members of this department shall enforce all lawful orders of the local health officer, issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious or communicable disease (RCW 70.05.070; WAC 246-100-040(2)).

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## Crisis Response Unit

### 408.1 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.

#### 408.1.1 OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

The sections of this policy 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 sections serve as a guideline to department personnel allowing for appropriate on scene decision making as required. The Administrative Procedures, however, are more restrictive and few exceptions should be taken.

#### 408.1.2 SWAT TEAM DEFINED

A SWAT team is a designated unit of law enforcement officers that is specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that are so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or investigative units including, but not limited to, hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts and other high-risk incidents. As a matter of department policy, such a unit may also be used to serve high-risk warrants, both search and arrest, where public and officer safety issues warrant the use of such a unit.

### 408.2 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The SWAT/CRU Commander shall conduct an annual SWAT Training needs assessment to ensure that training is conducted within team capabilities and department policy.

#### 408.2.1 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.

*Crisis Response Unit*

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- (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 will not be used in SWAT operations until qualified. Team members who fail to qualify must retest within 30 days. Failure to qualify within 30 days with or without remedial training may result in dismissal from the team.
- (e) 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.

**408.3 UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIREARMS**

**408.3.1 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.

**408.4 MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The Commander of the CRU shall be selected by the Sheriff upon recommendation of staff.

**408.4.1 PRIMARY UNIT MANAGER**

Under the direction of the Sheriff, through the Field Operations Lieutenant, the Crisis Response Unit shall be managed by a lieutenant.

**408.4.2 TEAM SUPERVISORS**

The Crisis Negotiation Team and each Special Weapons and Tactics Team will be supervised by a sergeant.

The team supervisors shall be selected by the Sheriff upon specific recommendation by staff and the CRU Commander.

### *Crisis Response Unit*

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The following represent the supervisor responsibilities for the Crisis Response Unit.

- (a) The Crisis Negotiation Team supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the Crisis Negotiation Team which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the CRU Commander.
- (b) The Special Weapons and Tactics Team supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the SWAT Team, which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the CRU Commander.

#### **408.5 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.

##### **408.5.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL**

Interested sworn personnel, who are off probation, shall submit a change of assignment request to their appropriate Lieutenant. 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.

##### **408.5.2 TRAINING OF NEGOTIATORS**

Those deputies selected as members of the Negotiation Team should attend the Basic Negotiators Course as approved by the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) 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.

## *Crisis Response Unit*

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Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the team supervisor. Performance and efficiency levels, established by the team supervisor, will be met and maintained by all team members. Any member of the Negotiation Team who performs or functions at a level less than satisfactory shall be subject to dismissal from the unit.

### **408.6 SWAT TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team was established to provide a skilled and trained team which may be deployed during events requiring specialized tactics in such situations as cases where suspects have taken hostages and/or barricaded themselves as well as prolonged or predictable situations in which persons armed or suspected of being armed pose a danger to themselves or others.

The following procedures serve as directives for the administrative operation of the Special Weapons and Tactics Team.

#### **408.6.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL**

Interested sworn personnel who are off probation shall submit a change of assignment request to their appropriate Lieutenant, a copy of which will be forwarded to the CRU Commander and other SWAT supervisors. Those qualifying applicants will then be invited to participate in the testing process. The order of the tests will be given at the discretion of the CRU Commander. The testing process will consist of an oral board, physical agility, SWAT basic handgun, and team evaluation.

- (a) Oral board: The oral board will consist of personnel selected by the CRU Commander. Applicants will be evaluated by the following criteria:
  - 1. Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance.
  - 2. Demonstrated good judgment and understanding of critical role of SWAT member.
  - 3. Special skills, training, or appropriate education as it pertains to this assignment.
  - 4. Commitment to the unit, realizing that the additional assignment may necessitate unusual working hours, conditions, and training obligations.
- (b) Physical agility: The physical agility test is designed to determine the physical capabilities of the applicant as it relates to performance of SWAT-related duties. The test and scoring procedure will be established by the CRU Commander. A minimum qualifying score shall be attained by the applicant to be considered for the position.
- (c) SWAT basic handgun: Candidates will be invited to shoot the SWAT Basic Drill for the handgun. A minimum qualifying score of 400 out of a possible score of 500 must be attained to qualify.
- (d) Team evaluation: Current team members will evaluate each candidate on his/her field tactical skills, teamwork, ability to work under stress, communication skills, judgment, and any special skills that could benefit the team.

*Crisis Response Unit*

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- (e) A list of successful applicants shall be submitted to staff, by the CRU Commander, for final selection.

**408.6.2 TEAM EVALUATION**

Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the CRU Commander. The performance and efficiency level, as established by the team supervisor, will be met and maintained by all SWAT Team members. Any member of the SWAT Team who performs or functions at a level less than satisfactory shall be subject to dismissal from the team.

**408.7 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.

**408.7.1 ON-SCENE DETERMINATION**

The supervisor in charge on the scene of a particular event will assess whether the Crisis Response Unit is to respond to the scene. Upon final determination by the Shift Sergeant, he/she will notify the CRU Commander.

**408.7.2 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.

**408.7.3 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Crisis Response Unit*

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- (b) Members of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office SWAT team shall operate under the policies, procedures and command of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office when working in a multi-agency situation.

#### 408.7.4 MOBILIZATION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

The on-scene supervisor shall make a request to the Shift Sergeant for the Crisis Response Unit. The Shift Sergeant shall then notify the CRU Commander. If unavailable, a team supervisor shall be notified. A current mobilization list shall be maintained in the Shift Sergeant's office by the CRU Commander. The Shift Sergeant will then notify the Field Operations Lieutenant as soon as practical.

The Shift Sergeant 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.

#### 408.7.5 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 CRU Commander on situation.



## *Crisis Response Unit*

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(g) Plan for, and stage, anticipated resources.

### 408.7.6 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 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/her designee) shall maintain communications at all times.

### 408.7.7 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/her designee.

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## Ride-Along Policy

### 410.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Ride-Along Program provides an opportunity for citizens to experience the law enforcement function first hand. This policy provides the requirements, approval process, and hours of operation for the Ride-Along Program.

#### 410.1.1 ELIGIBILITY

The Pacific 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.

#### 410.1.2 AVAILABILITY

The Ride-Along Program is available on most days of the week, with certain exceptions. The ride-along times are from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Exceptions to this schedule may be made as approved by the Sheriff, Lieutenant, or Shift Sergeant.

### 410.2 PROCEDURE TO REQUEST A RIDE-ALONG

Generally, ride-along requests will be scheduled by the Sergeant. The participant will complete a ride-along waiver form. Information requested will include a valid ID or Washington 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 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 Sergeant as soon as possible for his/her scheduling considerations.

If the ride-along is denied after the request has been made, a representative of the Department will contact the applicant and advise him/her of the denial.

#### 410.2.1 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Once approved, civilian ride-alongs will be allowed to ride no more than once every six months. An exception would apply to the following: Cadets, Explorers, RSVP, Chaplains, Reserves, sheriff's applicants, and all others with approval of the Shift Sergeant.

### *Ride-Along Policy*

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An effort will be made to ensure that no more than one citizen will participate in a ride-along during any given time period. Normally, no more than one ride-along will be allowed in the deputy's vehicle at a given time.

Ride-along requirements for sheriff's cadets are covered in the Sheriff's Cadet Program Policy.

#### **410.2.2 SUITABLE ATTIRE**

Any person approved to ride along is required to be suitably dressed in collared shirt, blouse or jacket, slacks and shoes. Sandals, T-shirts, tank tops, shorts and ripped or torn blue jeans are not permitted. Hats and ball caps will not be worn in the sheriff's vehicle. The Shift Sergeant or field supervisor may refuse a ride along to anyone not properly dressed.

#### **410.2.3 PEACE OFFICER RIDE-ALONGS**

Off-duty members of this department or any other law enforcement agency will not be permitted to ride-along with on-duty deputies without the expressed consent of the Shift Sergeant. In the event that such a ride-along is permitted, the off-duty employee shall not be considered on-duty and shall not represent themselves as a peace officer or participate in any law enforcement activity except as emergency circumstances may require.

#### **410.3 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 Sergeant is responsible for maintaining and scheduling ride-alongs. Upon completion of the ride-along, the form shall be returned to the Sergeant with any comments which may be offered by the deputy.

#### **410.4 CONTROL OF RIDE-ALONG**

The assigned employee shall maintain control over the ride-along at all times and instruct him/her in the conditions that necessarily limit their participation. These instructions should include:

- (a) The ride-along will follow the directions of the deputy.
- (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-along 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Ride-Along Policy*

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- (e) Deputies will not allow any ride-alongs to be present in any residences or situations that would jeopardize their safety or cause undue stress or embarrassment to a victim or any other citizen.
- (f) Under no circumstance shall a civilian ride along be permitted to enter a private residence with a deputy without the expressed consent of the resident or other authorized person.

# Hazardous Material Response

## 412.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Hazardous materials present a potential harm to employees resulting from their exposure. To comply with RCW 70.105, WAC 173-303, and guidelines from the Washington State Department of Ecology, the following is to be the policy of this department.

### 412.1.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL DEFINED

A hazardous material is a substance which by its nature, containment and reactivity, has the capability of inflicting harm during exposure; characterized as being toxic, corrosive, flammable, reactive, an irritant or strong sensitizer and thereby posing a threat to health when improperly managed.

## 412.2 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE

Employees may encounter situations involving suspected hazardous materials, such as at the scene of a traffic accident, chemical spill, or fire. When employees come into contact with a suspected hazardous material, certain steps should be taken to protect themselves and citizens.

The following steps should be considered at any scene involving suspected hazardous materials:

- (a) Attempt to identify the type of hazardous substance. (Identification can be determined by placard, driver's manifest or statements from the person transporting).
- (b) Notify the Fire Department.
- (c) Provide first-aid for injured parties if it can be done safely and without contamination.
- (d) Dependent upon the substance and other specific conditions, consider initiating an emergency public notification or evacuation. The decision to initiate public notifications and/or evacuations shall be in accordance with the Pacific County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) procedures.

## 412.3 REPORTING EXPOSURE

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.

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.

### *Hazardous Material Response*

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#### 412.3.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

When a supervisor has been informed that an employee has been exposed to a hazardous material, he/she shall ensure that immediate medical treatment is obtained and appropriate action is taken to lessen the exposure.

To ensure the safety of employees, safety equipment is available through supervisory personnel. Safety items not maintained by the Department will be obtained through the Fire Department.

## Hostage and Barricade Incidents

## 414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for situations where deputies have legal cause to contact, detain or arrest a person, and the person refuses to submit to the lawful requests of the deputies by remaining in a structure or vehicle and/or by taking a hostage.

The scope of this policy is not intended to address all variables that deputies encounter during their initial response or when a hostage or barricade situation has developed. This policy does not require or purport to recommend specific strategies or tactics for resolution as each incident is a dynamic and rapidly evolving event.

#### 414.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Barricade situation** - An incident where a person maintains a position of cover or concealment and ignores or resists law enforcement personnel, and it is reasonable to believe the subject is armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon.

**Hostage situation** - An incident where it is reasonable to believe a person is unlawfully held by a hostage-taker as security so that specified terms or conditions will be met.

## 414.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 414.3 COMMUNICATION

[REDACTED]

1 - RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative

[REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

## Policy Manual

[illegible]



## Policy Manual

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## *Hostage and Barricade Incidents*

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### **414.7 REPORTING**

Unless otherwise relieved by a supervisor or Incident Commander, the handling deputy at the scene is responsible for completion and/or coordination of incident reports.

## Response to Bomb Calls

### 416.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to assist members of the Pacific 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.

### 416.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 416.3 RECEIPT OF BOMB THREAT

Department members receiving a bomb threat should obtain as much information from the individual as reasonably possible, including the type, placement and alleged detonation time of the device.

If the bomb threat is received on a recorded line, reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that the recording is preserved in accordance with established department evidence procedures.

The member receiving the bomb threat should ensure that he is immediately advised Shift Sergeant and informed of the details. This will enable the Shift Sergeant to ensure that the appropriate personnel are dispatched and, as appropriate, the threatened location is given an advance warning.

### 416.4 GOVERNMENT FACILITY OR PROPERTY

A bomb threat targeting a government facility may require a different response based on the government agency.

#### 416.4.1 PACIFIC COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FACILITY

If the bomb threat is against the Pacific County Sheriff's Office facility, the Shift Sergeant will direct and assign deputies as required for coordinating a general building search or evacuation of the sheriff's department, as he/she deems appropriate.

#### 416.4.2 OTHER COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL FACILITY OR PROPERTY

If the bomb threat is against a county or municipal facility within the jurisdiction of the Pacific 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 Sergeant deems appropriate.

*Response to Bomb Calls*

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**416.4.3 FEDERAL BUILDING OR PROPERTY**

If the bomb threat is against a federal building or property, the Federal Protective Service should be immediately notified. The Federal Protective Service provides a uniformed law enforcement response for most facilities, which may include use of its Explosive Detector Dog teams.

If the bomb threat is against a federal government property where the Federal Protective Service is unable to provide a timely response, the appropriate facility's security or command staff should be notified.

Bomb threats against a military installation should be reported to the military police or other military security responsible for the installation.

**416.5 PRIVATE FACILITY OR PROPERTY**

When a member of this department receives notification of a bomb threat at a location in the County of Pacific County, 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 Sergeant is immediately notified so that he/she can communicate with the person in charge of the threatened facility.

**416.5.1 ASSISTANCE**

The Shift Sergeant should be notified when sheriff's assistance is requested. The Shift Sergeant 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 Sergeant determine that the Department will assist or control such an incident, he/she will determine:

- (a) The appropriate level of assistance.

*Response to Bomb Calls*

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- (b) The plan for assistance.
- (c) Whether to evacuate and/or search the facility.
- (d) Whether to involve facility staff in the search or evacuation of the building.
  - 1. The person in charge of the facility should be made aware of the possibility of damage to the facility as a result of a search.
  - 2. The safety of all participants is the paramount concern.
- (e) The need for additional resources, including:
  - 1. Notification and response, or standby notice, for fire and emergency medical services.

Even though a facility does not request sheriff's assistance to clear the interior of a building, based upon the circumstances and known threat, deputies may be sent to the scene to evacuate other areas that could be affected by the type of threat, or for traffic and pedestrian control.

**416.6 FOUND DEVICE**

When handling an incident involving a suspected explosive device, the following guidelines, while not all inclusive, should be followed:

- (a) No known or suspected explosive item should be considered safe regardless of its size or apparent packaging.
- (b) The device should not be touched or moved except by the bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team.
- (c) Personnel should not transmit on any equipment that is capable of producing radio frequency energy within the evacuation area around the suspected device. This includes the following:
  - 1. Two-way radios
  - 2. Cell phones
  - 3. Other personal communication devices
- (d) The appropriate bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team should be summoned for assistance.
- (e) The largest perimeter reasonably possible should initially be established around the device based upon available personnel and the anticipated danger zone.
- (f) A safe access route should be provided for support personnel and equipment.
- (g) Search the area for secondary devices as appropriate and based upon available resources.
- (h) Consider evacuation of buildings and personnel near the device or inside the danger zone and the safest exit route.
- (i) Promptly relay available information to the Shift Sergeant 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).

*Response to Bomb Calls*

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4. The anticipated danger zone and perimeter.
5. The areas to be evacuated or cleared.

**416.7 EXPLOSION/BOMBING INCIDENTS**

When an explosion has occurred, there are multitudes of considerations which may confront the responding deputies. As in other catastrophic events, a rapid response may help to minimize injury to victims, minimize contamination of the scene by gathering crowds, or minimize any additional damage from fires or unstable structures.

**416.7.1 CONSIDERATIONS**

Deputies responding to explosions, whether accidental or a criminal act, should consider the following actions:

- (a) Assess the scope of the incident, including the number of victims and extent of injuries.
- (b) Request additional personnel and resources, as appropriate.
- (c) Assist with first aid.
- (d) Identify and take appropriate precautions to mitigate scene hazards, such as collapsed structures, bloodborne pathogens and hazardous materials.
- (e) Assist with the safe evacuation of victims, if possible.
- (f) Establish an inner perimeter to include entry points and evacuation routes. Search for additional or secondary devices.
- (g) Preserve evidence.
- (h) Establish an outer perimeter and evacuate if necessary.
- (i) Identify witnesses.

## RESPONSE TO BURGLARIES

### 417.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

These guidelines have been prepared to assist deputies in their initial response to incidents involving burglaries.

#### 417.1.1 BURGLARY

Deputies will be dispatched to all commercial burglar complaints. Unless the burglary is in progress they will be dispatched as "Cold Burglary" and will be handled as follows:

1. A deputy shall respond to the call or incident in person. In progress calls or incidents still do take precedence over cold burglaries. However, if an in progress call interrupts a deputy response to a cold burglary, the deputy will return to investigate the cold burglary after taking care of the in progress call.
2. The telecommunicator shall assign the cold burglary to the appropriate deputy working at that time in accordance to their coverage area.



## Emergent Detentions

### 418.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for when deputies may place an individual under an emergent detention (RCW 71.05.153).

### 418.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to protect the public and individuals through legal and appropriate use of the emergent detention process.

### 418.3 AUTHORITY

A deputy who has reasonable cause to believe that a person is suffering from a mental disorder and presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm, or is in imminent danger because of being gravely disabled, may take the person into emergent detention and immediately transport the person to a triage facility, crisis stabilization unit, evaluation and treatment facility, or the emergency department of a local hospital (RCW 71.05.153).

A deputy may also take a person into emergent detention and deliver the person to an evaluation and treatment facility upon the written or oral request of a mental health professional designated by the county or other authority who has determined that the person, as the result of a mental disorder, presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm, or is in imminent danger because of being gravely disabled (RCW 71.05.153).

#### 418.3.1 VOLUNTARY EVALUATION

If deputies encounter an individual who may qualify for an emergent detention, they may inquire as to whether the person desires to voluntarily be evaluated at an appropriate facility. If the individual so desires, the deputies should:

- (a) Transport the individual to an appropriate facility that is able to conduct the evaluation and admit the person pursuant to emergent detention.
- (b) If at any point the individual changes his/her mind regarding voluntary evaluation deputies should proceed with the emergent detention, if appropriate.
- (c) Document the circumstances surrounding the individual's desire to pursue voluntary evaluation and/or admission.

### 418.4 CONSIDERATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Any deputy handling a call involving an individual who may qualify for an emergent detention should consider, as time and circumstances reasonably permit:

- (a) Available information that might assist in determining the cause and nature of the individual's action or stated intentions.
- (b) Community or neighborhood mediation services.

## *Emergent Detentions*

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- (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.

Emergent detentions should be preferred over arrest for individuals with mental disorders, who are suspected of committing minor crimes or creating other public safety issues.

### **418.5 TRANSPORTATION**

When transporting any individual for an emergent detention, 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 vehicle 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 Sergeant approval is required before transport commences.

### **418.6 TRANSFER TO APPROPRIATE FACILITY**

Upon arrival at the facility, the deputy will escort the individual into a treatment area designated by a facility staff member. If the individual is not seeking voluntary treatment, the deputy should provide the staff member with the written application for an emergent detention 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 and delivered while restrained, the deputy may assist with transferring the individual to facility restraints and will be available to assist during the admission process, if requested. Under normal circumstances, deputies will not apply facility-ordered restraints.

### **418.7 DOCUMENTATION**

The deputy should complete an application for emergency admission, provide it to the facility staff member assigned to the individual and retain a copy of the emergency application for inclusion in the case report.

The deputy should also provide a verbal summary to any evaluating staff member regarding the circumstances leading to the involuntary emergent detention.

### **418.8 CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

Deputies investigating an individual who is suspected of committing a minor criminal offense and who is being taken on an emergent detention should resolve the criminal matter by issuing a warning or a citation, as appropriate.

## *Emergent Detentions*

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When an individual who may qualify for an emergent detention 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.
- (b) Notify the appropriate supervisor of the facts supporting the arrest and the facts that would support the emergent detention.
- (c) Facilitate the individual's transfer to the jail facility.
- (d) Thoroughly document in the related reports the circumstances that indicate the individual may qualify for an emergent detention.

In the supervisor's judgment, the individual may be arrested or booked and transported to the appropriate mental health facility. The supervisor should consider the seriousness of the offense, the treatment options available, the ability of this department to regain custody of the individual, department resources (e.g., posting a guard) and other relevant factors in making this decision.

### **418.9 FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS**

Whenever an individual is taken into custody for an emergent detention, the handling deputies should seek to determine if the individual owns or has access to any firearm or other deadly weapon. 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 warrant may also be needed before searching for or seizing weapons.

The handling deputies should further advise the individual of the procedure for the return of any firearm or other weapon that has been taken into custody.

### **418.10 TRAINING**

This department will endeavor to provide department-approved training on interaction with mentally disabled persons, emergent detentions and crisis intervention.

## Citation Releases

### 420.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Deputies may use citation and notice to appear release procedures in lieu of arrest for misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor offenses with certain exceptions. The state courts have shown the intent to release all persons on misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor citations, if qualified for such release.

### 420.2 RELEASE METHODS

Release by citation for misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor offenses can be accomplished in two separate ways:

- (a) A field release is when the violator is released in the field without being transported to a jail facility.
- (b) A jail release is when a violator is released after being transported to the jail and booked.

#### 420.2.1 DISCRETION TO ARREST

While this department recognizes the statutory power of peace officers to make arrests throughout the state, deputies are encouraged to use sound discretion in the enforcement of the law. On-duty arrests will not generally be made outside the jurisdiction of this department except in cases of hot and/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.

Off-duty deputies observing criminal activity should generally take enforcement action only when it reasonably appears that imminent risk to life or property exists and the reasonable opportunity does not exist to contact the law enforcement agency with primary jurisdiction. In such situations the involved deputy shall clearly identify him/herself as a sheriff's deputy.

Deputies are authorized to use verbal or written warnings to resolve minor traffic and criminal violations when appropriate.

### 420.3 DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE

The following procedure will be followed to comply with state court rules.

#### 420.3.1 FIELD RELEASE

Whenever a person is arrested or could have been arrested pursuant to statute for a violation of law which is punishable as a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor, the arresting deputy or any other authorized peace officer, may release the person in the field and serve upon the person a citation and Notice to Appear in court (CrRLJ 2.1 (b)(1)).

### *Citation Releases*

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#### 420.3.2 JAIL RELEASE

In certain cases, it may be impractical to release a person arrested for misdemeanor offenses in the field. With a supervisors approval the person arrested may instead be released from the jail after booking.

Any person arrested for a misdemeanor offense shall be released on his/her written promise to appear after the booking procedure is completed, unless disqualified for reasons listed below.

#### 420.3.3 DISQUALIFYING CIRCUMSTANCES

In determining whether to release the person or to hold him or her in custody, deputies shall consider the following factors (CrRLJ 2.1 (b)(2)):

- (a) Whether the person has identified himself or herself satisfactorily.
- (b) Whether detention appears reasonably necessary to prevent imminent bodily harm to himself, herself, or another, or injury to property, or breach of the peace.
- (c) Whether the person has ties to the community reasonably sufficient to assure his/her appearance or whether there is substantial likelihood that he or she will refuse to respond to the citation and notice.
- (d) Whether the person previously has failed to appear in response to a citation and notice issued pursuant to this rule or to other lawful process.
- (e) Whether a Felony was committed during a misdemeanor offense. No citation can be issued for the misdemeanor offense when arrest also involves a felony. All charges are filed with the prosecutor, by Probable Cause Statement or Deputies report.

#### 420.3.4 INSTRUCTIONS TO CITED PERSON

The citing deputy shall, at the time he/she issues the defendant the notice to appear, call attention to the time and place for appearance and take any other steps he/she deems necessary to ensure that the defendant understands his/her written promise to appear.

#### **420.4 CITATION RELEASE ON MISDEMEANOR WARRANTS**

Deputies may release misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor warrant arrestees on a citation unless one or more of the following conditions exist:

- (a) The warrant of arrest indicates that the person is not eligible to be released on a citation.
- (b) The person requires medical examination or medical care or was otherwise unable to care for his/her own safety.
- (c) The person has other ineligible charges pending against him/her.
- (d) 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.
- (e) The person cannot provide satisfactory evidence of personal identification.

### *Citation Releases*

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Release under this section shall be done in accordance with the provisions of this section.

#### **420.5 JUVENILE CITATIONS**

Completion of criminal citations for juveniles is generally not appropriate with the following exception:

- Misdemeanor traffic violations of the RCW (RCW 13.04.030(1)(e))

All other misdemeanor violations for juveniles shall be documented with a case number and the case should be referred to the Investigation Unit for further action including diversion.

#### **420.6 REQUESTING CASE NUMBERS**

Many cases involving a criminal citation release can be handled without requesting a case number. Traffic situations and local code violations can be documented on the reverse side of the records copy of the citation. This section does not preclude a deputy from requesting a case number if he/she feels the situation should be documented more thoroughly in a case report.

## Arrest or Detention of Foreign Nationals

### 422.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that members of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office extend appropriate privileges and immunities to foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in accordance with international law.

### 422.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

### 422.3 CLAIMS OF IMMUNITY

If a member comes into contact with a person where law enforcement action may be warranted and the person claims diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, the member should, without delay:

- (a) Notify a supervisor.
- (b) Advise the person that his/her claim will be investigated and he/she may be released in accordance with the law upon confirmation of the person's status.
- (c) Request the person's identification card, either issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS), Office of the Chief of Protocol, or in the case of persons accredited to the United Nations, by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. These are the only reliable documents for purposes of determining privileges and immunities.
- (d) Contact the DOS Diplomatic Security Command Center at 571-345-3146 or toll free at 866-217-2089, or at another current telephone number and inform the center of the circumstances.
- (e) Verify the immunity status with DOS and follow any instructions regarding further detention, arrest, prosecution and/or release, as indicated by the DOS representative. This may require immediate release, even if a crime has been committed.

Identity or immunity status should not be presumed from the type of license plates displayed on a vehicle. If there is a question as to the status or the legitimate possession of a Diplomat or Consul license plate, a query should be run via the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), designating "US" as the state.

### 422.4 ENFORCEMENT ACTION

If the DOS is not immediately available for consultation regarding law enforcement action, members shall be aware of the following:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Arrest or Detention of Foreign Nationals*

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- (a) Generally, all persons with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may be issued a citation or notice to appear.
- (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

#### **422.5 DOCUMENTATION**

All contacts with persons who have claimed privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives should be thoroughly documented and the related reports forwarded to DOS.

#### **422.6 DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY TABLE**

Reference table on diplomatic immunity:

Category	Arrested or Detained	Enter Residence Subject to Ordinary Procedures	Issued Traffic Citation	Subpoenaed as Witness	Prosecuted	Recognized Family Members



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Arrest or Detention of Foreign Nationals

<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
<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

## *Arrest or Detention of Foreign Nationals*

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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.

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## Marine Safety & Enforcement Unit

### 423.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

To establish the general operational guidelines of the Sheriff's Office Marine Safety & Enforcement Unit. Marine Safety & Enforcement Unit has three primary functions: Law Enforcement; Search and Rescue; and Boating Safety and Education. The primary responsibilities for Marine Units Deputies are enforcement and safety patrols on the various waterways in and adjacent to Pacific County. Marine Units are not available for routine calls for service unless the call is related to a boating enforcement action or an emergency and/ officer safety issues.

### 423.2 PROCEDURES

#### (a) Jurisdiction

The Marine Unit is responsible for enforcement of laws and regulations as they relate to the use of watercraft upon all waterways in the County and within three miles offshore of the Pacific County coast line.

#### (b) Responsibilities

The Marine Unit is required to investigate and complete reports on all fatal, serious injury, and major property damage boating accidents occurring within the County. The Unit may also investigate other activities in which boats are primarily involved such as vessel theft, narcotic trafficking, fish and game violations, and waterborne environmental crimes.

Marine Unit Deputies conduct inspections of vessels for compliance with required safety equipment, registrations requirements, and sanitation and pollution control that satisfy the intent of State law.

Deputies in the Unit are equipped and trained to conduct searches for lost/overdue boaters, assist stranded boaters, BUI (boating under the influence) evaluations, boating related investigations, and assist in most water related rescue activity or other related emergencies.

Promoting boating safety is also a primary function. Deputies within the Unit do this during routine boater contacts, during their daily activities, and by participating in organized events and functions. The Unit regularly conducts boating safety education programs within schools, safety fairs and other organized groups. The Deputies develop partnerships with citizens, communities, user groups, other governmental agencies and organizations, water safety councils and the media in an effort to educate the public on boating safety issues and maximize the Units' efforts in accomplishing its mission.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Marine Safety & Enforcement Unit*

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The Marine Unit provides supervision of organized on-the-water boating or water events that allows for the protection and safety of the boating public during such activities and events. Marine Unit personnel work cooperatively with other local Marine Safety & Enforcement Units on events in Pacific County.

Marine Unit Deputies function as role models to the boating public for the safe and responsible operation of vessels. The Marine Unit has a **NO TOLERANCE** policy in dealing with intoxicated boaters and PFD violations.

#### (c) Call-out:

Deputies assigned to the Marine Unit are not required to be "on-call." Deputies are assumed to be available for after hour calls (per bargaining unit language), on an overtime basis, unless they have notified County Dispatch of the unavailability. Attempts to call out Marine Unit Deputies should be made in the event of a boating accident involving serious injury or death, or whenever an incident requires access by a boat, such as a lost or overdue boater, or a reported in-progress crime at a location where access can only be made by a boat.

After hour call-outs must have a supervisor's approval.

After-hour response times may vary, however in most situations a Marine Unit

Deputy should be able to be on the water within 30-60 minutes of a call-out.

#### (d) After Hours Investigators:

If a Deputy assigned to the Marine Unit cannot be located for an afterhours call to a boating accident or incident that may require enforcement action, the Sergeant in charge of the unit should be notified immediately. If no Deputy can be located with boating accident investigation training, and no enforcement action needs to be taken immediately, the patrol Deputy shall respond and collect the basic identification information, and write an "Incident Report." A copy of the report shall be sent to the Sergeant in charge of the unit and the incident assigned to a Marine Unit Deputy for proper documentation and follow up investigation. If enforcement action is required immediately, such as an operator that is under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, the patrol Deputy shall take the appropriate enforcement action.

#### (e) Intoxicated Boater

Non-accident: Patrol Deputies who respond to calls of intoxicated boaters on waterways shall take the appropriate enforcement action for the situation.

#### (f) Accidents:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Marine Safety & Enforcement Unit*

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When no Marine Deputy is available for an after hour's investigation, and the boat operator involved in a boating accident or incident appears to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, the patrol Deputy will conduct a thorough investigation. If the boat operator is determined to be in violation of State Law, the patrol Deputy shall take the appropriate enforcement action. Evidence to determine the blood alcohol/drug level of the arrested operator is critical and shall be collected pursuant to statutory and case law. The patrol Deputy will not be responsible for writing the accident portion of the enforcement report.

The report shall be forwarded to the Marine Unit Sergeant for assignment to a Deputy assigned to the Marine Unit for proper documentation and investigation of the accident.

#### (g) Training:

Deputies assigned to the Marine Unit receive specialized training for this assignment. Training includes enforcement of boating related laws, intoxicated boat operator enforcement, vessel theft investigation, accident investigation, navigation, rescue boat operations, and marine firefighting. The Marine Unit also works and trains with allied agencies affiliated with the waterways within this County and adjoining Counties to develop rapid and efficient responses to mutual aid requests.

Deputies who have left the program and remained out of the program for 1 year or longer will need to take a refresher course and demonstrate to the Marine Supervisor their knowledge and proficiencies in operating a boat are up to the Sheriff Office standards. Returning deputies must patrol with a current member of the Marine program for 16 hours before they are allowed to operate a boat without supervision.

#### (h) Equipment:

##### Patrol Vessels:

The Unit currently has one primary patrol vessels selected and equipped specifically for conditions on each of the major county waterways: Columbia River, Willapa River, Naselle River, North River, Willapa Bay and the Pacific Ocean. This boat is equipped to handle search and rescue, law enforcement type operations and assist with medical transports in water related emergencies. The boat is equipped with radar, GPS, marine band radios, and equipment necessary for night operation.

##### Patrol Vehicles:

The Marine Unit maintains four-wheel drive vehicles specially equipped for towing, launching, and fueling Unit vessels, carrying necessary tools equipment and personnel.

##### Authorization to Operate:

### *Marine Safety & Enforcement Unit*

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No person shall be allowed to operate a Marine Unit vessel without vessel-specific training, sign-off by the Marine Unit Deputy assigned responsibility for that vessel, and authorization by the Marine Unit Supervisor.

(i) Grant & Contract Obligations:

As the Office's Marine Unit is largely supported by State and Federal funds, it is very important that all grant and contract requirements be fully met by accurate and timely recording of necessary statistical data and timely submission of required billing and related reports. The Office maintains and reports statistical data utilizing the SOAR reporting document, which is maintained by the Lieutenant.

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## Rapid Deployment Team Policy

### 424.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Violence in schools, workplaces and other locations by any individual or group of individuals presents a difficult situation for law enforcement. The purpose of this policy is to identify guidelines and factors that will assist responding deputies as they make decisions in these rapidly unfolding and tense situations.

### 424.2 POLICY

The policy of this department in dealing with the crisis situation shall be:

- (a) To obtain and maintain complete operative control of the incident.
- (b) To explore every reasonably available source of intelligence regarding the circumstances, location, and suspect(s) in the incident.
- (c) To attempt, by every means available, to attain any tactical advantage over the responsible individual(s).
- (d) To attempt, whenever feasible, a negotiated surrender of the suspect(s) and release of the hostages through the expertise of the members of this department and others.
- (e) When an emergency situation exists, neutralize the threat as rapidly as reasonably possible to minimize injury and loss of life.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of necessary force, deadly or otherwise, by members of this department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

### 424.3 PROCEDURE

If there is a reasonable belief that acts or threats by a suspect are placing lives in imminent danger, first responding deputies should consider reasonable options to immediately eliminate the threat. Deputies must decide, often under a multitude of difficult and rapidly evolving circumstances, whether to advance on the suspect, take other actions to deal with the threat or wait for additional resources.

When deciding on a course of action deputies should consider:

- (a) Whether sufficient personnel are available on-scene to advance on the suspect. Any advance on a suspect should be made using teams of two or more deputies whenever reasonably possible.
- (b) Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved out of danger with reasonable safety.
- (c) Whether the deputies have the ability to effectively communicate with others in the field.
- (d) Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Rapid Deployment Team Policy*

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- (e) The availability of rifles, shotguns, shields, control devices and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.
- (f) In a case of a barricaded suspect with no hostages and no immediate threat to others, deputies should consider summoning and waiting for additional assistance (special tactics and/or hostage negotiation team response).
- (g) If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, the deputy should take immediate action, if reasonably possible, to stop the threat presented by the suspect while calling for additional assistance.



## Reporting Police Activity Outside of Jurisdiction

### 426.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

#### 426.1.1 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 Sergeant. If the request is of an emergency nature, the deputy shall notify Dispatch before responding and thereafter notify a supervisor as soon as practical.

#### 426.1.2 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 Pacific County shall notify his/her supervisor or the Shift Sergeant at the earliest possible opportunity. Any off-duty deputy who engages in any law enforcement activities, regardless of jurisdiction shall notify the Shift Sergeant 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 Lieutenant.

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## Immigration Violations

### 428.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to members of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office for investigating and enforcing immigration laws.

### 428.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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 department in protecting and serving the entire community and recognizing the dignity of all persons, regardless of their immigration status.

### 428.3 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

To encourage crime reporting and cooperation in the investigation of criminal activity, all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, must feel secure that contacting or being addressed by members of law enforcement will not automatically lead to immigration inquiry and/or deportation. While it may be necessary to determine the identity of a victim or witness, members shall treat all individuals equally and without regard to race, color or national origin in any way that would violate the United States or Washington Constitutions.

### 428.4 ENFORCEMENT

A deputy may detain an individual when there are facts supporting a reasonable suspicion that the individual entered into the United States in violation of a federal criminal law. Federal authorities shall be notified as soon as possible and the detained individual shall be immediately released if the federal authorities do not want the person held. A deputy should not detain any individual, for any length of time, for a civil violation of federal immigration laws or a related civil warrant.

#### 428.4.1 CIVIL VS. CRIMINAL FEDERAL OFFENSES

An individual who enters into the United States illegally has committed a misdemeanor (8 USC § 1325(a)). Generally, an alien who initially made a legal entry into the United States but has remained beyond what is a legal period of time has committed a federal civil offense.

Reasonable suspicion that a criminal immigration violation has occurred shall not be based on race, color, national origin or any other generalization that would cast suspicion on or stigmatize any person, except to the extent permitted by the United States or Washington Constitutions. Instead, the totality of circumstances shall be used to determine reasonable suspicion, and shall include factors weighing for and against reasonable suspicion.

Factors that may be considered in determining reasonable suspicion that a criminal immigration violation has occurred may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) An admission that the person entered the United States illegally.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Immigration Violations*

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- (b) Reason to suspect that the person possesses immigration documentation that is forged, altered or otherwise indicative that the person is not legally present in the United States.
- (c) While a lack of English proficiency may be considered, it should not be the sole factor in establishing reasonable suspicion. When practicable, reasonable effort should be made to accommodate persons with limited English proficiency.
- (d) Other factors based upon training and experience.

#### **428.4.2 IMMIGRATION CHECKS**

Immigration status may be determined through any of the following sources:

- (a) A law enforcement officer who is authorized by the federal government under 8 USC § 1357 to verify or ascertain an alien's immigration status (sometimes referred to as a 287(g) certified officer)
- (b) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- (c) U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

A deputy shall verify from a 287(g) certified officer, ICE or CBP whether a person's presence in the United States relates to a federal civil violation or a criminal violation.

If the deputy has facts that establish probable cause to believe that a person already lawfully detained has committed a criminal immigration offense, he/she may continue the detention and may request ICE or CBP to respond to the location to take custody of the detained person. In addition, the deputy should notify a supervisor as soon as practicable. No individual who is otherwise ready to be released should continue to be detained only because questions about the individual's status are unresolved.

A deputy is encouraged to forgo detentions made solely on the basis of a misdemeanor offense when time limitations, availability of personnel, issues of officer safety, communication capabilities or the potential to obstruct a separate investigation outweigh the need for the detention.

#### **428.4.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

When notified that a deputy has detained a person and established probable cause to believe the person has violated a criminal immigration offense, the supervisor should:

- (a) Confirm that the detained person's immigration status was properly verified.
- (b) Ensure that the detained person is taken into custody when appropriate. Take any additional steps necessary that may include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Transfer to federal authorities.
  - 2. Lawful arrest for a criminal offense or warrant.

#### **428.5 ARREST NOTIFICATION TO IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT**

Generally, a deputy will not need to notify ICE when booking arrestees at the county jail. Immigration officials routinely interview suspected undocumented aliens who are booked into the county jail on criminal charges. Notification will be handled according to jail operation

## *Immigration Violations*

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procedures. No individual who is otherwise ready to be released should continue to be detained solely for the purpose of notification.

### **428.6 ICE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE**

Requests by ICE, or any other federal agency, for assistance from this department should be directed to a supervisor. The Department may provide available support services, such as traffic control or peacekeeping efforts, to ICE or other federal agencies.

### **428.7 INFORMATION SHARING**

No member of this department 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):

- (a) Sending information to, or requesting or receiving such information from ICE
- (b) Maintaining such information in department records
- (c) Exchanging such information with any other federal, state or local government entity

#### **428.7.1 IMMIGRATION HOLDS**

No individual should be held based solely on a federal immigration detainer under 8 CFR 287.7 unless the person has been charged with a federal crime or the detainer is accompanied by a warrant, affidavit of probable cause, or removal order. Notification to the federal authority issuing the detainer should be made prior to the release.

### **428.8 U VISA AND T VISA NON-IMMIGRANT 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)). A law enforcement certification for a U visa may be completed by a deputy in order for a U visa to be issued.

Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)). A law enforcement declaration for a T visa may be completed by a deputy in order for a T visa to be issued.

Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Investigation Unit supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case. The Investigation Unit 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.

## *Immigration Violations*

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1. The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.
- (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.

### **428.9 TRAINING**

The Training Officer shall ensure that all appropriate members receive immigration training.

## Emergency Utility Service

### 430.1 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 Department. Requests for such service received by this department should be handled in the following manner.

#### 430.1.1 BROKEN WATER LINES

The County's responsibility ends at the water meter; any break or malfunction in the water system from the water meter to the citizen's residence or business is the customer's responsibility. Public Works can only turn off the valve at the meter. The citizen can normally accomplish this.

If a break occurs on the County side of the meter, emergency personnel should be called as soon as practical by Dispatch.

#### 430.1.2 ELECTRICAL LINES

County Public Works does not maintain electrical lines to street light poles. 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.

#### 430.1.3 RESERVOIRS, PUMPS, WELLS, ETC.

Public Works maintains the reservoirs and public water equipment, as well as several underpass and other street drainage pumps. In the event of flooding or equipment malfunctions, emergency personnel should be contacted as soon as possible.

#### 430.1.4 EMERGENCY NUMBERS

A current list of emergency personnel who are to be called for municipal utility emergencies is maintained by Dispatch.

### 430.2 TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE

The County of Pacific County contracts with a private maintenance company to furnish maintenance for all traffic signals within the County, other than those maintained by the State of Washington.

#### 430.2.1 DEPUTY'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.

## Alarm Response

### 431.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office recognizes the need to assist citizens and business owners with the protection of their homes, business and property. Request are often made from alarm companies and/or private citizens alarming their homes. This policy is to give guidance for the Sheriff's Office response to such request.

#### 431.1.1 ALARMS CALLED IN BY ALARM COMPANIES

Responding to an alarm is the responsibility of the Alarm Company and Property Owner, it is not a service provided by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Response to alarms will be determined by the following criteria:

1. All Commercial Alarms.
2. Alarm Company reporting room-to-room movement or multiple trips.
3. Reporting Party is present and has not gone through the structure.

#### 431.1.2 ALARMS CALLED IN BY PRIVATE CITIZEN

Response to alarms will be determined by the following criteria:

1. Deputies will not respond if no local responsible is available.
2. Deputies may respond if in the area and not engaged on a priority call at their own discretion.
3. Is there a history of response to that particular address, if there are multiple response or history of false alarms deputies will not respond.

#### 431.1.3 FIRE ALARMS

Fire alarms shall be given to the appropriate Fire District. If requested and a deputy is available he/she may respond to check for smoke or flame.

## Patrol Rifles

### 432.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to more effectively and accurately address the increasing level of fire power and body armor utilized by criminal suspects, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office will make patrol rifles available to qualified patrol deputies as an additional and more immediate tactical resource.

### 432.2 PATROL RIFLE

#### 432.2.1 DEFINITION

A patrol rifle is an authorized weapon which is owned by the Department and which is made available to properly trained and qualified deputies as a supplemental resource to their duty handgun or shotgun. No personally owned rifles may be carried for patrol duty unless pre-approved in writing by the Sheriff or his designee and the department armorer.

### 432.3 SPECIFICATIONS

Only weapons and ammunition that meet agency authorized specifications, approved by the Sheriff, and issued by the Department may be used by deputies in their law enforcement responsibilities. The authorized patrol rifle issued by the Department is the Colt M-16.

### 432.4 RIFLE MAINTENANCE

- (a) Primary responsibility for maintenance of patrol rifles shall fall on the Rangemaster who shall inspect and service each patrol rifle on a monthly basis.
- (b) Each patrol deputy carrying a patrol rifle may be required to field strip and clean an assigned patrol rifle as needed.
- (c) Each patrol deputy shall be responsible for promptly reporting any damage or malfunction of an assigned patrol rifle.
- (d) Any patrol rifle found to be unserviceable shall be removed from service. The rifle shall be clearly labeled as "out of service" and details regarding the weapon's condition shall be included on the label.
- (e) Each patrol rifle shall be subject to inspection by a supervisor or the Rangemaster at any time.
- (f) No modification shall be made to any patrol rifle without prior written authorization from the Rangemaster.

### 432.5 TRAINING

Deputies shall not carry or utilize the patrol rifle unless they have successfully completed departmental training. This training shall consist of an initial 8-hour patrol rifle user's course and qualification score with a certified patrol rifle instructor. Deputies shall thereafter be required to



## *Patrol Rifles*

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successfully complete bi-annually training and qualification conducted by a certified patrol rifle instructor.

Any deputy who fails to qualify or who fails to successfully complete two or more department sanctioned training/qualification sessions within a calendar year will no longer be authorized to carry the patrol rifle without successfully retaking the initial patrol deputies user's course and qualification.

### **432.6 DEPLOYMENT OF THE PATROL RIFLE**

Deputies may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the deputy can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the patrol rifle may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Situations where the deputy reasonably anticipates an armed encounter.
- (b) When a deputy is faced with a situation that may require the delivery of accurate and effective fire at long range.
- (c) Situations where a deputy reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower.
- (d) When a deputy reasonably believes that there may be a need to deliver fire on a barricaded suspect or a suspect with a hostage.
- (e) When a deputy reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor.
- (f) When authorized or requested by a supervisor.
- (g) When needed to euthanize an animal.

### **432.7 DISCHARGE OF THE PATROL RIFLE**

The discharge of the patrol rifle shall be governed by the Department's Deadly Force Policy, Policy Manual § 300.

### **432.8 PATROL READY**

Any qualified deputy carrying a patrol rifle in the field shall maintain the weapon in a patrol ready condition until deployed. A rifle is considered in a patrol ready condition when it has been inspected by the assigned deputy, the fire selector switch is in the safe position, the chamber is empty and a fully loaded magazine is inserted into the magazine well.

### **432.9 RIFLE STORAGE**

- (a) When not in use, patrol rifles will be stored in the department armory in rifle racks.
- (b) At the start of each assigned shift, any qualified, on-duty deputy may contact the Shift Sergeant or a patrol supervisor for access to the department armory.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Patrol Rifles*

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- (c) The last three digits of the assigned patrol rifle serial number will be recorded on the Daily Activity Log.
- (d) When not deployed, in-service patrol rifles should be secured in the vehicle in a locked gun rack or locked in the trunk.
- (e) At the end of the assigned deputy's shift, the patrol rifle will be returned and secured in the department armory.

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## Aircraft Accidents

### 434.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes situations involving aircraft accidents including responsibilities of personnel, making proper notification, and documentation.

### 434.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

In the event of an aircraft crash the employee responsibilities are as follows:

#### 434.2.1 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITY

Deputies should treat an aircraft crash site as a crime scene until it is determined that such is not the case. If a military aircraft is involved, additional dangers, such as live ordnance or hazardous materials, may be present. The scene may require additional security due to the potential presence of confidential equipment or information.

The duties of the field deputy at the scene of an aircraft accident include the following:

- (a) Determine the nature and extent of the accident.
- (b) Request additional personnel and other resources to respond as needed.
- (c) Provide assistance for the injured parties until the arrival of Fire Department personnel and/or other emergency personnel.
- (d) Cordon off and contain the area to exclude unauthorized individuals as soon as practicable.
- (e) Provide crowd control and other assistance until directed otherwise by a supervisor.
- (f) Ensure the coroner's office is notified if a death occurs.

Entering an aircraft or tampering with parts or debris is only permissible for the purpose of removing injured or trapped occupants, protecting the wreckage from further damage or protecting the public from danger. If possible, the investigating authority should first be consulted before entering or moving any aircraft or any crash debris. Photographs or sketches of the original positions should be made whenever feasible.

The Fire Department will be responsible for control of the accident scene until the injured parties are cared for and the accident scene has been rendered safe for containment. Thereafter, sheriff's personnel will be responsible for preserving the scene until relieved by the investigating authority.

Once the scene is relinquished to the investigating authority, personnel from this agency may assist in containment of the scene until the investigation is completed or assistance is no longer needed.

An airport service worker or the airport manager may respond to the scene to assist the on-scene commander with technical expertise, should it be needed during the operation.

## *Aircraft Accidents*

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### 434.2.2 NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has the primary responsibility for investigating accidents involving civil aircraft. In the case of a military aircraft incident, the appropriate branch of the military will be involved in the investigation. The NTSB is concerned with several aspects of a crash as described in this section.

Every effort should be made to preserve the scene to the extent possible in the condition in which it was found until such time as NTSB or other authorized personnel arrive to take charge of the scene.

Military personnel will respond to take charge of any military aircraft involved, whether or not injuries or deaths have occurred.

If the accident did not result in a death or injury and the NTSB elects not to respond, the pilot or owner may assume control of the aircraft.

Removal of the wreckage shall be done under the guidance of the NTSB or military authorities or, if the NTSB is not responding for an on-site investigation, at the discretion of the pilot or the owner.

### 434.2.3 DISPATCH RESPONSIBILITIES

Dispatchers are responsible to make notifications as directed 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. Generally, the dispatcher will need to notify the following agencies or individuals when an aircraft accident has occurred.

- (a) Fire Department.
- (b) The affected airport tower.
- (c) Closest military base if a military aircraft is involved.
- (d) Ambulances or other assistance as required.

When an aircraft accident is reported to the Sheriff's Department by the airport tower personnel the dispatcher receiving such information should verify that the tower personnel will contact the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Flight Standards District Office and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). In the event that airport personnel are not involved, the dispatcher should notify the FAA and the NTSB.

### 434.2.4 CHIEF CIVIL DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief Civil Deputy is responsible for the following:

- (a) Forward and maintain an approved copy of the accident report to the Washington State Department of Transportation - Aviation Division.
- (b) Forward a copy of the report to the Field Operations Lieutenant and the manager of the affected airport.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Aircraft Accidents*

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#### 434.2.5 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department Public Information Officer is responsible for the following:

- (a) Obtain information for a press release from the on-scene commander or his/her designee.
- (b) When practical, the Department Public Information Officer should coordinate with the FAA Press Information Officer to prepare a press release for distribution to the Media.

Information released to the press regarding any aircraft accident should be handled by the Department Public Information Officer or in accordance with existing policy.

#### **434.3 DOCUMENTATION**

Any aircraft accident (crash) within the County, regardless of whether injuries or deaths occur, shall be documented.

# Field Training Officer Program

## 436.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Field Training Officer Program is intended to provide a standardized program to facilitate the deputy's transition from the academic setting to the actual performance of general law enforcement duties of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

It is the policy of this department 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 possessing all skills needed to operate in a safe, productive and professional manner.

## 436.2 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER SELECTION AND TRAINING

The Field Training Officer (FTO) is an experienced deputy trained in the art of supervising, training and evaluating entry level and lateral sheriff's deputies in the application of their previously acquired knowledge and skills.

### 436.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS

FTOs will be selected based on the following requirements:

- (a) Desire to be an FTO.
- (b) Minimum of four years of patrol experience, two of which shall be with this department.
- (c) Demonstrated ability as a positive role model.
- (d) Participate and pass an internal oral interview selection process.
- (e) Evaluation by supervisors and current FTOs.
- (f) Holds a valid Peace Officer Certificate with CJTC.

### 436.2.2 TRAINING

A deputy selected as a Field Training Officer shall successfully complete a CJTC 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.

## 436.3 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

The Field Training Officer Program supervisor will be selected from the rank of sergeant or above by the Field Operations Lieutenant or his/her designee and shall possess a CJTC Supervisory Certificate.

The responsibilities of the FTO Program Supervisor include the following:

- (a) Assignment of trainees to FTOs.
- (b) Conduct FTO meetings.

*Field Training Officer Program*

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- (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.

**436.4 TRAINEE DEFINED**

Any entry level or lateral sheriff's deputy newly appointed to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office who has successfully completed a CJTC approved Basic Academy.

**436.5 REQUIRED TRAINING**

Entry level deputies shall be required to successfully complete the Field Training Program, consisting of a minimum of 10 weeks.

The training period for lateral deputies 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.

**436.5.1 FIELD TRAINING MANUAL**

Each new deputy will be issued a Field Training Manual at the beginning of his/her Primary Training Phase. This manual is an outline of the subject matter and/or skills necessary to properly function as a deputy with the Pacific 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 enacted by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

**436.6 EVALUATIONS**

Evaluations are an important component of the training process and shall be completed as outlined below.

**436.6.1 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER**

The FTO will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Complete and submit a written evaluation on the performance of his/her assigned trainee to the FTO program supervisor on a daily basis.
- (b) Review the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations with the trainee each day.

*Field Training Officer Program*

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- (c) Complete a detailed end-of-phase performance evaluation on his/her assigned trainee at the end of each phase of training.
- (d) Sign off all completed topics contained in the Field Training Manual, noting the method(s) of learning and evaluating the performance of his/her assigned trainee.

**436.6.2 IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR**

The immediate supervisor shall review and approve the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations and forward them to the Field Training Administrator.

**436.6.3 FIELD TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR**

The Field Training Administrator will review and approve the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations submitted by the FTO through his/her immediate supervisor.

**436.6.4 TRAINEE**

At the completion of the Field Training Program, the trainee shall submit a confidential performance evaluation on each of their FTO's and on the Field Training Program.

**436.7 DOCUMENTATION**

All documentation of the Field Training Program will be retained in the deputy's training files and will consist of the following:

- (a) Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations.
- (b) End of phase evaluations.
- (c) A Certificate of Completion certifying that the trainee has successfully completed the required number of hours of field training.



## Obtaining Air Support

### 438.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The use of a police helicopter can be invaluable in certain situations. This policy specifies potential situations where the use of a helicopter may be requested and the responsibilities for making a request.

### 438.2 REQUEST FOR HELICOPTER ASSISTANCE

If a supervisor or deputy in charge of an incident determines that the use of a helicopter would be beneficial, a request to obtain helicopter assistance may be made.

#### 438.2.1 REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM ANOTHER AGENCY

After consideration and approval of the request for a helicopter, the Shift Sergeant, or his/her designee, will call the closest agency having helicopter support available. The Shift Sergeant on duty will apprise that agency of the specific details of the incident prompting the request.

#### 438.2.2 CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH AID MAY BE REQUESTED

Police helicopters may be requested under any of the following conditions:

- (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.

## Detentions And Photographing Detainees

### 440.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for conducting field interviews (FI) and pat-down searches, and the taking and retention of photographs of persons detained in the field but not arrested. Due to a variety of situations confronting the deputy, the decision to FI or photograph a field detainee shall be left to the discretion of the involved deputy based on the totality of the circumstances available to them at the time of the detention.

### 440.2 DEFINITIONS

**Detention** - Occurs when a deputy intentionally, through words, actions or physical force causes an individual to reasonably believe he/she is being required to restrict his/her movement. Detentions also occur when a deputy actually restrains a person's freedom of movement.

**Consensual Encounter** - Occurs when a deputy contacts an individual but does not create a detention through words, actions or other means. In other words, a reasonable individual would believe that his/her contact with the deputy is voluntary.

**Field Interview (FI)** - The brief detainment of an individual, whether on foot or in a vehicle, based on reasonable suspicion for the purposes of determining the individual's identity and resolving the deputy's suspicions.

**Field Photographs** - Field photographs are defined as posed photographs taken of a person during a contact, detention, or arrest in the field. Undercover surveillance photographs of an individual and recordings captured by the normal operation of a Mobile Audio Video (MAV) system when persons are not posed for the purpose of photographing are not considered field photographs.

**Frisk or Pat-Down Search** - This type of search is used by deputies in the field to check an individual for weapons. It involves a thorough patting down of clothing to locate any weapons or dangerous items that could pose a danger to the deputy, the detainee, or others.

**Reasonable Suspicion** - Occurs when, under the totality of the circumstances, a deputy has articulable facts that criminal activity may be afoot and a particular person is connected with that possible criminal activity.

### 440.3 FIELD INTERVIEWS

Deputies may stop individuals for the purpose of conducting an FI where reasonable suspicion is present. In justifying the stop, the deputy should be able to point to specific facts which, when taken together with rational inferences, reasonably warrant the stop. Such facts include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) The appearance or demeanor of an individual suggests that he/she is part of a criminal enterprise or is engaged in a criminal act.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Detentions And Photographing Detainees*

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- (b) The actions of the suspect suggest that he/she is engaged in a criminal activity.
- (c) The hour of day or night is inappropriate for the suspect's presence in the area.
- (d) The suspect's presence in the particular area is suspicious.
- (e) The suspect is carrying a suspicious object.
- (f) The suspect's clothing bulges in a manner that suggests he/she is carrying a weapon.
- (g) The suspect is located in proximate time and place to an alleged crime.
- (h) The deputy has knowledge of the suspect's prior criminal record or involvement in criminal activity.

#### 440.3.1 INITIATING A FIELD INTERVIEW

A deputy may initiate the stop of a person when there is articulable, reasonable suspicion to do so. A person, however, should not be detained longer than is reasonably necessary to resolve the deputy's suspicions.

Nothing in this policy is intended to discourage consensual contacts. Frequent and random casual contacts with consenting individuals are encouraged by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to strengthen our community involvement, community awareness and problem identification.

#### 440.3.2 WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEWS

Because potential witnesses to an incident may be lost or the integrity of their statements compromised with the passage of time, deputies should, when warranted by the seriousness of the case, take reasonable steps to promptly coordinate with an on-scene supervisor and/or criminal investigators to utilize available personnel for the following:

- (a) Identify all persons present at the scene and in the immediate area.
  - 1. When feasible, a statement should be obtained from those persons who claim not to have witnessed the incident but who were present at the time it occurred. Deputies should seek consent to record such statements whenever possible.
  - 2. Any potential witness who is unwilling or unable to remain available for a formal interview should not be detained absent reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, deputies should attempt to identify the witness prior to his/her departure.
- (b) Witnesses who are willing to provide a formal interview should be asked to meet at a suitable location where criminal investigators may obtain a statement. Such witnesses, if willing, may be transported by department personnel.
  - 1. A written, verbal or recorded statement of consent should be obtained prior to transporting a witness in a department vehicle. When the witness is a minor, consent should be obtained from the parent or guardian, if available, prior to transportation.

*Detentions And Photographing Detainees*

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**440.4 PAT-DOWN SEARCHES**

A pat-down search of a detained subject may be conducted whenever a deputy reasonably believes that the person may possess an object that can be utilized as an offensive weapon or whenever the deputy has a reasonable fear for his/her own safety or the safety of others. Circumstances that may establish justification for performing a pat-down search include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) The type of crime suspected, particularly in crimes of violence where the use or threat of deadly weapons is involved.
- (b) Where more than one suspect must be handled by a single deputy.
- (c) The hour of the day and the location or neighborhood where the stop takes place.
- (d) Prior knowledge of the suspect's use of force and/or propensity to carry deadly weapons.
- (e) The appearance and demeanor of the suspect.
- (f) Visual indications which suggest that the suspect is carrying a firearm or other weapon.
- (g) The age and gender of the suspect.

Whenever possible, pat-down searches should be performed by deputies of the same gender.

**440.5 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS**

Before photographing any field detainee, the deputy shall carefully consider, among other things, the factors listed below.

**440.5.1 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITH CONSENT**

Field photographs may be taken when the subject of the photograph knowingly and voluntarily gives consent. When taking a consensual photograph, the deputy should have the individual read and sign the appropriate form accompanying the photograph.

**440.5.2 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITHOUT CONSENT**

Field photographs may be taken without consent only if they are taken during a detention that is based on reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, and the photograph serves a legitimate law enforcement purpose related to the detention. Mere knowledge or suspicion of gang membership or affiliation is not a sufficient justification for taking a photograph without consent. The deputy must be able to articulate facts that reasonably indicate that the subject was involved in or was about to become involved in criminal conduct.

If, prior to taking a photograph, the deputy's reasonable suspicion of criminal activity has been dispelled, the detention must cease and the photograph should not be taken.

All field photographs and related reports shall be submitted to a supervisor and retained in compliance with this policy.

### *Detentions And Photographing Detainees*

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#### **440.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

While it is recognized that field photographs often become valuable investigative tools, supervisors should monitor such practices in view of the above listed considerations. This is not to imply that supervisor approval is required before each photograph. Access to field photographs shall be strictly limited to law enforcement purposes.

#### **440.7 DISPOSITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

All detainee photographs must be adequately labeled and submitted to the Shift Sergeant with either an associated FI card or other memorandum explaining the nature of the contact. If an individual is photographed as a suspect in a particular crime, the photograph should be submitted as an evidence item in the related case, following standard evidence procedures.

If a photograph is not associated with an investigation where a case number has been issued, the Shift Sergeant should review and forward the photograph to one of the following locations:

- (a) If the photo and associated FI or memorandum is relevant to criminal street gang enforcement, the Shift Sergeant will forward the photo and documents to the Gang Unit Supervisor. The Gang Unit Supervisor will ensure the photograph and supporting documents are retained as proscribed by the Criminal Organizations Policy.
- (b) Photographs that do not qualify for Criminal Street Gang file retention or which are not evidence in an investigation with an assigned case number should be forwarded to the Civil Division. These photographs will be purged as described in PURGING THE FIELD PHOTO FILE.

When a photograph is taken in association with a particular case, the detective may use such photograph in a photo lineup. Thereafter, the individual photograph should be retained as a part of the case file. All other photographs will be kept in the Civil Division in a separate non-booking photograph file in alphabetical order.

##### **440.7.1 PURGING THE FIELD PHOTO FILE**

The Chief Civil Deputy will be responsible for periodically purging and destroying all photographs maintained by the Civil Division which are more than the current year plus one year old and in compliance with the current Records Management Guidelines and General Records Retention Schedules. The Local Government General Records Retention Schedule (LGGRRS) is the controlling schedule for records retention and management ([Records Management Guidelines and General Records Retention Schedules](#)) (RCW Chapter 40.14). Access to the FI photo file shall be strictly limited to law enforcement purposes.

A photograph need not be purged but may be retained as an updated photograph in a prior booking file if the person depicted in the photograph has been booked at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and the booking file remains in the Civil Division.

### *Detentions And Photographing Detainees*

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#### **440.8 PHOTO REVIEW POLICY**

Any person who has been the subject of a field photograph or an FI by this agency during any contact other than an arrest may file a written request within 30 days of the contact requesting a review of the status of the photograph/FI. The request shall be directed to the office of the Sheriff who will ensure that the status of the photograph or FI is properly reviewed according to this policy as described below. Upon a verbal request, the Department will send a request form to the requesting party along with a copy of this policy.

##### **440.8.1 REVIEW PROCESS**

Upon receipt of such a written request, the Sheriff or his/her designee will permit the individual to appear in person (any minor must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian) for a review of the status of the photograph/FI.

Such a meeting will generally be scheduled during regular business hours within 30 days of the receipt of the written request. An extension of the 30-day limit may be made either upon the mutual convenience of the parties or if, at the discretion of the Sheriff, there appears to be an ongoing legitimate law enforcement interest which warrants a delay. If the delay could jeopardize an ongoing investigation, nothing in this policy shall require the Sheriff to disclose the reason(s) for the delay.

A meeting for the review of the status of any non-arrest photograph/FI is not intended to be a formal hearing, but simply an informal opportunity for the individual to meet with the Sheriff or his/her designee to discuss the matter.

After carefully considering the information available, the Sheriff or designee will determine, generally within 30 days of the original meeting, whether the photograph/FI was obtained in accordance with existing law and Pacific County Sheriff's Office policy and, even if properly obtained, then whether there is any ongoing legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining the photograph/FI.

If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that the photograph/FI was obtained in accordance with existing law and department policy and that there is an ongoing legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining the non-arrest photograph, the photograph/FI shall be retained according to this policy and applicable law.

If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that the original legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining a non-arrest photograph no longer exists or that it was obtained in violation of existing law or Pacific County Sheriff's Office policy, the original photograph will be destroyed or returned to the person photographed, if requested. All other associated reports or documents, however, will be retained according to department policy and applicable law.

If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that the original legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining a non-arrest FI no longer exists or that the original F.I. was not obtained in accordance with established law or Pacific County Sheriff's Office policy, the original FI may only be destroyed upon the execution of a full and complete waiver of liability by the individual (and guardian if a minor) arising out of that field contact.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Detentions And Photographing Detainees*

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If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that any involved Pacific County Sheriff's Office personnel violated existing law or department policy, the Sheriff or designee shall initiate a separate internal investigation which may result in additional training, discipline or other appropriate action for the involved employees.

The person photographed/F.I.'d will be informed in writing within 30 days of the Sheriff's determination whether or not the photograph/F.I. will be retained. This does not entitle any person to any discovery or access to any law enforcement records not otherwise authorized by law.

# Criminal Organizations

## 442.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Pacific County Sheriff's Office appropriately utilizes criminal intelligence systems and temporary information files to support investigations of criminal organizations and enterprises.

### 442.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Criminal intelligence system** - Any record system that receives, stores, exchanges or disseminates information that has been evaluated and determined to be relevant to the identification of a criminal organization or enterprise, its members or affiliates. This does not include temporary information files.

## 442.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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 department to collect and share relevant information while respecting the privacy and legal rights of the public.

## 442.3 CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS

No department member may create, submit to or obtain information from a criminal intelligence system unless the Sheriff has approved the system for department use.

Any criminal intelligence system approved for department use should meet or exceed the standards of 28 CFR 23.20 and RCW 43.43.762.

A designated supervisor will be responsible for maintaining each criminal intelligence system that has been approved for department use. The supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure the following:

- (a) Members using any such system are appropriately selected and trained.
- (b) Use of every criminal intelligence system is appropriately reviewed and audited.
- (c) Any system security issues are reasonably addressed.

### 442.3.1 SYSTEM ENTRIES

It is the designated supervisor's responsibility to approve the entry of any information from a report, FI, photo or other relevant document into an authorized criminal intelligence system. If entries are made based upon information that is not on file with this department, 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 Civil Division. Any



### *Criminal Organizations*

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supporting documentation for an entry shall be retained by the Civil Division 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 Civil Division are appropriately marked as intelligence information. The Chief Civil Deputy may not purge such documents without the approval of the designated supervisor.

#### **442.3.2 SYSTEM ENTRIES**

It is the designated supervisor's responsibility to approve the entry of any information into a criminal intelligence system operated by the state patrol and authorized by RCW 43.43.762. Entries into such a database shall be based upon reasonable suspicion of criminal activity or actual criminal activity, and must be supported by documentation, where documentation is available (RCW 43.43.762(2)).

#### **442.4 TEMPORARY INFORMATION FILE**

No member may create or keep files on individuals that are separate from the approved criminal intelligence system. However, members may maintain temporary information that is necessary to actively investigate whether a person or group qualifies for entry into the department-approved CIS only as provided in this section. Once information qualifies for inclusion, it should be submitted to the supervisor responsible for consideration of CIS entries.

##### **442.4.1 FILE CONTENTS**

A temporary information file may only contain information and documents that, within one year, will have a reasonable likelihood to meet the criteria for entry into an authorized criminal intelligence system.

Information and documents contained in a temporary information file:

- (a) Must only be included upon documented authorization of the responsible department supervisor.
- (b) Should not be originals that would ordinarily be retained by the Civil Division or Evidence Room, but should be copies of, or references to, retained documents, such as copies of reports, field interview (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.

*Criminal Organizations*

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**442.4.2 FILE REVIEW AND PURGING**

The contents of a temporary information file shall not be retained longer than one year. At the end of one year, the contents must be purged in compliance with the department records retention schedule or entered in an authorized criminal intelligence system, as applicable.

The designated supervisor shall periodically review the temporary information files to verify that the contents meet the criteria for retention. Validation and purging of files is the responsibility of the supervisor.

**442.5 INFORMATION RECOGNITION**

Department members should document facts that suggest an individual, organization or enterprise is involved in criminal activity and should forward that information appropriately. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Gang indicia associated with a person or residence.
- (b) Information related to a drug-trafficking operation.
- (c) Vandalism indicating an animus for a particular group.
- (d) Information related to an illegal gambling operation.

Department supervisors who utilize an authorized criminal intelligence system should work with the Training Officer to train members to identify information that may be particularly relevant for inclusion.

**442.6 RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

Department members shall comply with the rules of an authorized criminal intelligence system regarding inquiries and release of information.

Information from a temporary information file may only be furnished to department members and other law enforcement agencies on a need-to-know basis and consistent with the Records Release and Security Policy.

When an inquiry is made by the parent or guardian of a juvenile as to whether that juvenile's name is in a temporary information file, such information should be provided by the supervisor responsible for the temporary information file, unless there is good cause to believe that the release of such information might jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation.

**442.7 CRIMINAL STREET GANGS**

The Investigation Unit supervisor should ensure that there are an appropriate number of department members who can:

- (a) Testify as experts on matters related to criminal street gangs, and maintain an above average familiarity with identification of criminal street gangs, criminal street gang members and patterns of criminal gang activity.

*Criminal Organizations*

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- (b) Train other members to identify gang indicia and investigate criminal street gang-related crimes.

**442.8 TRAINING**

The Training Officer 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 multi-agency criminal intelligence system.
- (c) Submission of information into a multi-agency 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.
- (f) All users of the Washington criminal street gang database shall receive training on its use prior to accessing the database (RCW 43.43.762).

## Sergeants

### **444.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Each patrol shift must be directed by supervisors who are capable of making decisions and communicating in a manner consistent with departmental policies, procedures, practices, functions and objectives.

### **444.2 DESIGNATION AS ACTING SERGEANT**

When a Shift Sergeant is unavailable for duty as Shift Sergeant, a supervisor of the rank of Shift Sergeant or above should be notified and made available for contact calls. This policy does not preclude designating a less senior senior deputy as an acting Shift Sergeant when operational needs require or training permits.

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## Mobile Digital Computer Use

### 448.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper access, use and application of the Mobile 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.

### 448.2 POLICY

Pacific 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.

### 448.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to messages accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

### 448.4 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 Sergeants.

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.

#### 448.4.1 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

### *Mobile Digital Computer Use*

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that are likely to contain information that is required for immediate enforcement, investigative or safety needs.

Short transmissions, such as a license plate check, are permitted if it reasonably appears that it can be done safely. In no case shall an operator attempt to send or review lengthy messages while the vehicle is in motion.

#### **448.5 DOCUMENTATION OF ACTIVITY**

Except as otherwise directed by the Shift Sergeant or other department-established protocol, all calls for service assigned by a [dispatcher] should be communicated by voice over the sheriff's radio and electronically via the 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 the activity or contact is not initiated by voice, the member shall document it via the MDC.

##### **448.5.1 STATUS CHANGES**

All changes in status (e.g., arrival at scene, meal periods, in service) will be transmitted over the sheriff's radio or through the MDC system.

Members responding to in-progress calls should advise changes in status over the radio to assist other members responding to the same incident. Other changes in status can be made on the MDC.

##### **448.5.2 EMERGENCY ACTIVATION**

If there is an emergency activation and the member does not respond to a request for confirmation of the need for emergency assistance or confirms the need, available resources will be sent to assist in locating the member. If the location is known, the nearest available deputy should respond in accordance with the Deputy Response to Calls Policy.

Members should ensure a field supervisor and the Shift Sergeant is notified of the incident without delay.

Deputies not responding to the emergency shall refrain from transmitting on the sheriff's radio until a no-further-assistance broadcast is made or if they are also handling an emergency.

#### **448.6 EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **448.6.1 MALFUNCTIONING 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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Mobile Digital Computer Use*

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be the responsibility of the [dispatcher] to document all information that will then be transmitted verbally over the sheriff's radio.

#### 448.6.2 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.

## Portable Audio/Video Recorders

### 450.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use of portable audio/video recording devices by members of this department while in the performance of their duties. 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 lawful surreptitious audio/video recording, interception of communications for authorized investigative purposes or to mobile audio/video recordings (see the Investigation and Prosecution and Mobile Audio/Video policies).

### 450.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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 Department by accurately capturing contacts between members of the Department and the public.

### 450.3 MEMBER PRIVACY EXPECTATION

All recordings made by members acting in their official capacity shall remain the property of the Department regardless of whether those recordings were made with department-issued or personally owned recorders. Members shall have no expectation of privacy or ownership interest in the content of these recordings.

### 450.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Prior to going into service, each uniformed member will be responsible for making sure that he/she is equipped with a portable recorder issued by the Department, and that the recorder is in good working order. If the recorder is not in working order or malfunctions at any time, the member shall promptly report the failure to his/her supervisor and obtain a functioning device as soon as practicable. Uniformed members should wear the recorder in a conspicuous manner or otherwise notify persons that they are being recorded, whenever possible.

Any member assigned to a non-uniformed position may carry an approved portable recorder at any time the member believes that such a device may be useful. Unless conducting a lawful recording in an authorized undercover capacity, non-uniformed members should wear the recorder in a conspicuous manner when in use or otherwise notify persons that they are being recorded, whenever possible.

When using a portable recorder, the assigned member shall record his/her name, PCSO identification number and the current date and time at the beginning and the end of the shift or other period of use, regardless of whether any activity was recorded. This procedure is not required when the recording device and related software captures the user's unique identification and the date and time of each recording.



### *Portable Audio/Video Recorders*

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Members should document the existence of a recording in any report or other official record of the contact, including any instance where the recorder malfunctioned or the member deactivated the recording. Members should include the reason for deactivation.

#### **450.5 ACTIVATION OF THE PORTABLE RECORDER**

This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which the portable recorder should be used, although there are many situations where its use is appropriate. Members should activate the recorder any time the member believes it would be appropriate or valuable to record an incident.

The portable recorder should be activated in any of the following situations:

- (a) All enforcement and investigative contacts including stops and field interview (FI) situations
- (b) Traffic stops including, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance and all crime interdiction stops
- (c) Self-initiated activity in which a member would normally notify 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 criterion. Recording should resume when privacy is no longer at issue unless the circumstances no longer fit the criteria for recording.

No member of this department may record a face-to-face conversation without first announcing to everyone present that the conversation is going to be recorded and said announcement is recorded except pursuant to a warrant, the communication is of an emergency nature, or relates to communications by a hostage holder or barricaded suspect (RCW 9.73.030).

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 practicable.

##### **450.5.1 SURREPTITIOUS USE OF THE PORTABLE RECORDER**

Washington law prohibits any individual from surreptitiously recording any conversation, except as provided in RCW 9.73.040, RCW 9.73.090 and RCW 9.73.210.

Members shall not surreptitiously record another department member without a court order unless lawfully authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

##### **450.5.2 CESSATION OF RECORDING**

Once activated, the portable recorder should remain on continuously until the member's direct participation in the incident is complete or the situation no longer fits the criteria for activation.

### *Portable Audio/Video Recorders*

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Recording may be stopped during significant periods of inactivity such as report writing or other breaks from direct participation in the incident.

#### **450.5.3 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.

#### **450.6 PROHIBITED USE OF PORTABLE RECORDERS**

Members are prohibited from using department-issued portable recorders and recording media for personal use and are prohibited from making personal copies of recordings created while on-duty or while acting in their official capacity.

Members are also prohibited from retaining recordings of activities or information obtained while on-duty, whether the recording was created with a department-issued or personally owned recorder. Members shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for authorized legitimate department business purposes. All such recordings shall be retained at the Department.

Members are prohibited from using personally owned recording devices while on-duty without the express consent of the Shift Sergeant. Any member who uses a personally owned recorder for department-related activities shall comply with the provisions of this policy, including retention and release requirements.

Recordings shall not be used by any member for the purpose of embarrassment, intimidation or ridicule.

#### **450.7 RETENTION OF RECORDINGS**

Any time a member records any portion of a contact that the member reasonably believes constitutes evidence in a criminal case, the member shall record the related case number and transfer the file in accordance with current procedure for storing digital files and document the existence of the recording in the related case report. Transfers should occur at the end of the member's shift, or any time the storage capacity is nearing its limit.

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.

##### **450.7.1 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.

#### **450.8 REVIEW OF RECORDINGS**

When preparing written reports, members should review their recordings as a resource. However, members shall not retain personal copies of recordings. Members should not use the fact that a recording was made as a reason to write a less detailed report.

### *Portable Audio/Video Recorders*

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Supervisors are authorized to review relevant recordings any time they are investigating alleged misconduct or reports of meritorious conduct or whenever such recordings would be beneficial in reviewing the member's performance.

Recorded files may also be reviewed:

- (a) Upon approval by a supervisor, by any member of the Department who is participating in an official investigation, such as a personnel complaint, administrative investigation or criminal investigation.
- (b) Pursuant to lawful process or by court personnel who are otherwise authorized to review evidence in a related case.
- (c) By media personnel with permission of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (d) In compliance with a public records request, if permitted, and in accordance with the Records Release and Security Policy.

All recordings should be reviewed by the Custodian of Records prior to public release (see the Records Release and Security 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.

# Medical Marijuana

## 452.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of this department with guidelines for handling and distinguishing between claims of medical marijuana use under Washington's Medical Use of Cannabis Act and criminal controlled substance violations (RCW 69.51A).

### 452.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (RCW 69.51A.010):

**Designated provider** - A person who is 18 years of age or older, who has been designated in writing by a patient to serve as a designated provider. An individual can act as a designated provider to no more than one patient at a time and is prohibited from consuming marijuana obtained for the use of the patient.

**Medical use of marijuana** - The production, possession, or administration of marijuana, as defined in RCW 69.50.101, for the exclusive benefit of a qualifying patient in the treatment of his/her terminal or debilitating medical condition.

**Qualifying patient** - Any person who meets all of the following criteria:

- Has been diagnosed by his/her health care professional as having a terminal or a debilitating medical condition.
- Is a resident of the state of Washington at the time of such diagnosis.
- Has been advised by his/her health care professional about the risks and benefits of the medical use of marijuana.
- Has been advised by the health care professional that he/she may benefit from the medical use of marijuana.

**Valid documentation** - Documentation that meets all of the following criteria:

- A statement signed and dated by a qualifying patient's health care professional, written on tamper-resistant paper, which states that in his/her professional opinion, the patient may benefit from the medical use of marijuana.
- Proof of identity, such as a Washington state driver's license or identi-card (RCW 46.20.035).

## 452.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to prioritize resources to avoid making arrests related to marijuana that the arresting deputy reasonably believes would not be prosecuted by state or federal authorities.

Washington medical marijuana laws are intended to provide protection from prosecution for those who use, possess, deliver or produce marijuana to mitigate the symptoms of certain debilitating or terminal medical conditions. However, Washington medical marijuana laws do not affect federal

## *Medical Marijuana*

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laws and there is no medical exception under federal law for the possession or distribution of marijuana.

Deputies should exercise discretion to ensure laws are appropriately enforced without unreasonably burdening both the individuals protected under Washington law and the resources of the Department.

### **452.3 INVESTIGATION**

Investigations involving the possession, delivery or production of marijuana generally fall into one of several categories:

- (a) No medicinal claim is made.
- (b) A medicinal claim is made by a qualifying patient or designated provider who is in possession of amounts within the limits (designated by RCW 69.51A.040).
- (c) A medicinal claim is made by a qualifying patient or designated provider who is in possession of amounts exceeding the limits designated by RCW 69.51A.040 or who presented no valid documentation when initially contacted.

#### **452.3.1 INVESTIGATIONS WITH NO MEDICINAL CLAIM**

In any investigation involving the possession, delivery or production of marijuana where there is no claim that the marijuana is for medicinal purposes, the deputy should proceed with reasonable enforcement action. 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 is possessed or produced for medicinal purposes.

#### **452.3.2 MEDICAL CLAIMS BY QUALIFYING PATIENTS OR DESIGNATED PROVIDERS**

A qualifying patient or designated provider with valid documentation should not be arrested if he/she possesses no more than 15 cannabis plants and (RCW 69.51A.040; RCW 69.51A.043):

- (a) 24 ounces of usable cannabis, or
- (b) No more cannabis product than what could reasonably be produced with no more than 24 ounces of usable cannabis, or
- (c) A combination of usable cannabis and cannabis product that does not exceed a combined total representing possession and processing of no more than 24 ounces of usable cannabis.

If a person is both a qualifying patient and a designated provider for another, he/she may possess no more than double the amounts described above (RCW 69.51A.040(1)(b)).

Deputies may take enforcement action against a designated caregiver even when the above thresholds are not exceeded if there is evidence that the provider has converted the marijuana for his/her personal use or benefit or has provided for more than one patient within a 15-day period (RCW 69.51A.040).

## *Medical Marijuana*

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Deputies may take enforcement action against a qualifying patient even when the above thresholds are not exceeded if there is evidence that the patient possesses or uses the marijuana for his/her personal, non-medical use or benefit (RCW 69.51A.040).

### 452.3.3 EXCESS AMOUNTS OR NO VALID DOCUMENTATION

A qualifying patient or designated provider may raise an affirmative defense to charges that the amount of marijuana in his/her possession exceeds the amount legally allowed by RCW 69.51A.040 or that he/she presented no valid documentation when initially contacted by law enforcement (RCW 69.51A.045; RCW 69.51A.047).

Deputies should conduct a thorough investigation in such cases, but in general, should not arrest a subject for possession, delivery or production of marijuana if an excess amount appears reasonable based upon the above policy considerations. Similarly, if a deputy can verify that valid documentation exists, even though it was not presented by a qualified patient or designated caregiver, an arrest generally should not be made.

All facts should be thoroughly documented and if evidence is not seized, it shall be photographed and detailed in the report.

### 452.3.4 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Prior to making a physical arrest or confiscating cannabis plants, usable cannabis or product, deputies should consider the following:

- (a) Whenever the initial investigation reveals an amount greater than specified by law, deputies should, in anticipation of an affirmative defense, consider and document:
  - 1. The medical condition itself.
  - 2. The quality of the marijuana (chemical content).
  - 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, and the climate.
- (b) Before proceeding with enforcement related to collective gardens, deputies should consider conferring with appropriate legal counsel.
- (c) Investigations regarding collective gardens should consider pertinent County ordinances and that (RCW 69.51A.140; RCW 69.51A.085):
  - 1. No more than 10 qualifying patients may participate in a single collective garden at any time.
  - 2. The collective garden may contain no more than 15 plants per patient and no more than a total of 45 plants.

## *Medical Marijuana*

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3. The garden may contain no more than 24 ounces of usable cannabis per patient or no more than a total of 72 ounces of usable cannabis.
  4. Each collective garden participant must have a copy of his/her valid documentation and proof of identification available for inspection on site at all times.
  5. No usable cannabis from the collective garden may be delivered to anyone other than one of the qualifying patients participating in the garden.
- (d) Medical use and possession of marijuana authorized under the Washington medical marijuana statute does not support the forfeiture of property as set forth in the Asset Forfeiture Policy (RCW 69.51A.050).

### **452.4 EXCEPTIONS**

This policy does not apply to the following offenses; deputies may take enforcement action if the person (RCW 69.51A.060):

- (a) Engages in the medical use of cannabis in a way that endangers the health or well-being of any person through the use of a motorized vehicle on a street, road, or highway, including violations of RCW 46.61.502 or RCW 46.61.504, or equivalent local ordinances.
- (b) Uses or displays medical cannabis in a manner or place open to the view of the public.
- (c) Produces fraudulent documentation.

### **452.5 FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Deputies may exchange information regarding a marijuana investigation with federal law enforcement authorities when information is requested by federal law enforcement authorities or whenever the deputy reasonably believes federal law enforcement authorities would request the information if the authorities were aware of the information.

### **452.6 PROPERTY SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Evidence Room Supervisor shall 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.

Upon a determination by the prosecuting attorney that the person from whom marijuana, drug paraphernalia or related property was seized is entitled to possession under the law, the Evidence Room Supervisor should return to that person any usable marijuana, plants, drug paraphernalia or other seized property. That determination is the result of a decision not to prosecute, by the dismissal of charges or an acquittal.

The Evidence Room Supervisor may destroy marijuana that was alleged to be for medical purposes upon receipt of a court order.

The Evidence Room Supervisor may release marijuana to federal law enforcement authorities upon presentation of a valid court order or by a written order of the Investigation Unit Supervisor.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Medical Marijuana*

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## Foot Pursuit Policy

### 456.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Foot pursuits are inherently dangerous and require common sense, sound tactics and heightened officer safety awareness. This policy sets forth guidelines to assist deputies in making the decision to initiate or continue the pursuit of suspects on foot by balancing the objective of apprehending the suspect with the risk of potential injury to the deputy, the suspect or the public.

#### 456.1.1 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 suspect or the public.

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.

### 456.2 DECISION TO PURSUE

Deputies may be justified in initiating a foot pursuit of any individual who 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 the sole justification for engaging in an extended foot pursuit without the development of reasonable suspicion of the individual's involvement in criminal activity.

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 pursuit based upon the circumstances and resources available, such as the following:

- Containment of the area
- Canine search
- Saturation of the area with patrol personnel
- Aerial support
- 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 pursuit.

## Policy Manual

### 456.3 GUIDELINES FOR FOOT PURSUIT

1 - RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative

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### *Foot Pursuit Policy*

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#### 456.4.1 INITIATING DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Unless relieved by another deputy or a supervisor, the initiating deputy shall be responsible for coordinating the progress of the pursuit. When acting alone and when practicable, the initiating deputy should not attempt to overtake and confront the suspect but should attempt to keep the suspect in sight until sufficient deputies are present to safely apprehend the suspect.

Early communication of available information from the involved deputies is essential so that adequate resources can be coordinated and deployed to bring a foot pursuit to a safe conclusion. Deputies initiating a foot pursuit should broadcast the following information as soon as it becomes practicable and available:

- (a) Unit identifier.
- (b) Location and direction of travel.
- (c) Reason for the foot pursuit.
- (d) Reason for the foot pursuit.
- (e) Whether the suspect is known or believed to be armed.

Deputies should be mindful that radio transmissions made while running may be difficult to understand and may need to be repeated.

Absent extenuating circumstances, any deputy unable to promptly and effectively broadcast this information should terminate the pursuit. If the foot pursuit is discontinued for any reason, immediate efforts for containment should be established and alternatives considered based upon the circumstances and available resources.

When a foot pursuit terminates, the deputy will notify Dispatch of his/her location and the status of the pursuit termination (e.g., suspect in custody, lost sight of suspect), and will direct further actions as reasonably appear necessary.

#### 456.4.2 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.

Any deputies who is in a position to intercept a fleeing suspect, or who can assist the primary deputy with the apprehension of the suspect, shall act reasonably and in accordance with department policy, based upon available information and his/her own observations.

#### 456.4.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Upon becoming aware of a foot pursuit, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to ascertain sufficient information necessary 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

## *Foot Pursuit Policy*

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over the pursuit. The supervisor shall continuously assess the situation in order to ensure the foot pursuit is conducted within established department guidelines.

The supervisor shall terminate the foot pursuit when the danger to pursuing deputies or the public unreasonably appears to 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-pursuit activity.

### **456.4.4 DISPATCH RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon being notified or becoming aware that a foot pursuit is in progress, communication personnel shall, as soon as practical, notify the field supervisor and provide available information. Communication personnel are also responsible for the following:

- (a) Clear the radio channel of non-emergency traffic.
- (b) Repeat the transmissions of the pursuing deputy as needed.
- (c) Ensure that a field supervisor is notified of the pursuit.
- (d) Relay all pertinent information to responding personnel.
- (e) Contact additional resources as directed by a supervisor.
- (f) Coordinate response of additional resources to assist with the foot pursuit.

### **456.5 REPORTING**

The initiating deputy shall complete the appropriate crime/arrest reports documenting, at minimum, the following:

- (a) The reason for initiating the foot pursuit.
- (b) The identity of involved personnel.
- (c) The course and approximate distance of the pursuit.
- (d) 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 Department Use of Force Policy.
- (e) Any injuries or property damage.

Assisting deputies taking an active role in the apprehension of the suspect shall complete supplemental reports as necessary or as directed.

In any case in which a suspect is not apprehended and there is insufficient information to warrant further investigation, a supervisor may authorize that the initiating deputy need not complete a formal report.

## Automated License Plate Readers

### 462.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology, also known as License Plate Recognition, provides automated detection of license plates. ALPR is used by the Pacific 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. ALPRs may also be used to gather information related to active warrants, homeland security, electronic surveillance, suspect interdiction and stolen property recovery.

### 462.2 ADMINISTRATION OF ALPR DATA

All installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Administration Division. The Patrol Division Lieutenant will assign personnel under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

### 462.3 ALPR OPERATION

Use of an ALPR is restricted to the purposes outlined below. Department personnel shall not use, or allow others to use, the equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose.

- (a) An ALPR shall only be used for official and legitimate law enforcement business.
- (b) An ALPR may be used in conjunction with any patrol operation or official department 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) If practicable, the deputy should verify an ALPR response through the Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS) before taking enforcement action that is based solely upon an ALPR alert.
- (f) No ALPR operator may retrieve ACCESS data unless otherwise authorized to do so.

### 462.4 ALPR DATA COLLECTION AND RETENTION

All data and images gathered by an ALPR are for the official use of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, and because such data may contain confidential ACCESS information, it is not open to public review. ALPR information gathered and retained by this department may be used and shared with prosecutors or others only as permitted by law.

## *Automated License Plate Readers*

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The Support Services Lieutenant is responsible to ensure proper collection and retention of ALPR data and for transferring ALPR data stored in department vehicles to the department server on a regular basis, not to exceed 30 days between transfers.

All ALPR data downloaded to the server shall be stored according to the [Washington State Law Enforcement Records Retention Schedule](#) and thereafter may 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 lawful action to produce records. In such circumstances the applicable data should be downloaded from the server onto portable media and booked into evidence.

### **462.5 ACCOUNTABILITY AND SAFEGUARDS**

All saved data will be closely safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data:

- (a) All non-law enforcement requests for access to stored ALPR data shall be referred to the Chief Civil Deputy and processed in accordance with applicable law.
- (b) All ALPR data downloaded to the mobile workstation and server shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time.
- (c) Persons approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action.
- (d) Such ALPR data may be released to other authorized and verified law enforcement officials and agencies at any time for legitimate law enforcement purposes.
- (e) ALPR system audits should be conducted annually.

# Homeless Persons

## 464.1 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office recognizes that members of the homeless community are often in need of special protection and services. The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will address these needs in balance with the overall missions of this department. Therefore, deputies will consider the following policy sections when serving the homeless community (see the Emergent Detentions Policy).

### 464.1.1 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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 department will not use homelessness solely as a basis for detention or law enforcement action.

## 464.2 HOMELESS COMMUNITY LIAISON

The Sheriff will designate a member of this department to act as the Homeless Liaison Deputy. The responsibilities of the Homeless Liaison Deputy include the following:

- (a) Maintain and make available to all department employees a list of assistance programs and other resources that are available to the homeless.
- (b) Meet with Social Services and representatives of other organizations that render assistance to the homeless.
- (c) Maintain a list of those areas within and near this jurisdiction that are used as frequent homeless encampments.
- (d) Remain abreast of laws dealing with the removal and/or destruction of the personal property of the homeless. This will include the following:
  - 1. Proper posting of notices of trespass and clean-up operations.
  - 2. Proper retention of property after clean-up, to include procedures for owners to reclaim their property in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy and other established procedures.
- (e) Be present during any clean-up operation conducted by this department involving the removal of personal property of the homeless to ensure the rights of the homeless are not violated.
- (f) Develop training to assist deputies in understanding current legal and social issues relating to the homeless.

### *Homeless Persons*

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#### **464.3 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 such services may be appropriate.

##### **464.3.1 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 a homeless victim is unavailable for a court appearance.
- (e) Consider whether the person may be a vulnerable adult and if so, proceed in accordance with the Adult Abuse Policy.
- (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 he/she does not desire prosecution.
- (h) Document any facts indicating that the offense was intentionally committed because the victim was homeless or perceived to be homeless (RCW 9.94A.535).

#### **464.4 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.



## *Homeless Persons*

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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 or the department Homeless Liaison Deputy. When practicable, requests by the public for clean-up operations of a homeless encampment should be referred to the Homeless Liaison Deputy.

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 and should inform the department Homeless Liaison Deputy if such property appears to involve a trespass, blight to the community or is the subject of a complaint. It will be the responsibility of the Homeless Liaison Deputy to address the matter in a timely fashion.

### **464.5 MENTAL ILLNESSES AND MENTAL IMPAIRMENTS**

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.

When a mental illness detention 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.

### **464.6 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.

## Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity

### 465.1 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.

### 465.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

### 465.3 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.
- (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.

### 465.4 OFFICER/DEPUTY RESPONSE

Deputies should promptly request a supervisor respond to the scene whenever it appears that anyone recording activities may be interfering with an investigation or it is believed that the recording may be evidence. If practicable, deputies should wait for the supervisor to arrive before taking enforcement action or seizing any cameras or recording media.

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 behavior to be unlawful. Accompanying the warnings should be clear directions on what an

*Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity*

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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.

**465.5 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.

**465.6 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.

Recording devices and media that are seized will be submitted within the guidelines of the Property and Evidence Policy.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity*

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# First Amendment Assemblies

## 465.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for responding to public assemblies or demonstrations.

## 465.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office respects the rights of people to peaceably assemble. It is the policy of this department 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.

## 465.3 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 department members under their commands to ensure that members' interaction with participants and their response to crowd dynamics is appropriate.

### *First Amendment Assemblies*

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#### **465.3.1 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 department 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.

#### **465.4 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.

#### **465.5 PLANNED EVENT PREPARATION**

For planned events, comprehensive, incident-specific operational plans should be developed. The ICS should be considered for such events.

##### **465.5.1 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.
- The potential time, duration, scope and type of planned activities.

## *First Amendment Assemblies*

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- 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 the race, ethnicity, national origin or religion of the participants (or any other characteristic that is unrelated to criminal conduct or the identification of a criminal subject).

### 465.5.2 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 the following:

- (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

### *First Amendment Assemblies*

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#### **465.5.3 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).

#### **465.6 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.

#### **465.7 USE OF FORCE**

Use of force is governed by current department 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).



## *First Amendment Assemblies*

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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 department shall be documented promptly, completely and accurately in an appropriate report. The type of report required may depend on the nature of the incident.

### **465.8 ARRESTS**

The Pacific 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 Citation Releases Policy).

### **465.9 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 News Media Relations Policy).

### **465.10 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.

*First Amendment Assemblies*

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**465.11 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)

**465.11.1 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.

**465.12 TRAINING**

Department members should receive periodic training regarding this policy, as well as the dynamics of crowd control and incident management. The Department should, when practicable, train with its external and mutual aid partners.

## Civil Disputes

### 466.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides members of the Pacific 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 Washington law.

### 466.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

### 466.3 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.

### 466.4 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

## *Civil Disputes*

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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.

### **466.4.1 STANDBY REQUESTS**

Deputies 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 (RCW 26.50.080). 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.

### **466.5 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.

### **466.6 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.

# Crisis Intervention Incidents

## 467.1 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.

### 467.1.1 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.

## 467.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

## 467.3 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

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.

*Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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**467.4 COORDINATION WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

The Sheriff should designate an appropriate Lieutenant to collaborate with mental health professionals to develop an education and response protocol. It should include a list of community resources, to guide department interaction with those who may be suffering from mental illness or who appear to be in a mental health crisis.

**467.5 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.
- (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.

**467.6 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.

### **467.7 INCIDENT ORIENTATION**

When responding to an incident that may involve mental illness or a mental health crisis, the deputy should request that the [dispatcher] 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.

### **467.8 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 Lieutenant.
- (f) Evaluate whether a critical incident stress management debriefing for involved members is warranted.

#### **467.9 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.

##### **467.9.1 DIVERSION**

Individuals who are not being arrested should be processed in accordance with the Emergent Detentions Policy.

#### **467.10 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.

#### **467.11 EVALUATION**

The Lieutenant designated to coordinate the crisis intervention strategy for this department should ensure that a thorough review and analysis of the department response to these incidents is conducted annually. The report will not include identifying information pertaining to any involved



### *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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individuals, deputies or incidents and will be submitted to the Sheriff through the chain of command.

#### **467.12 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.

## Medical Aid and Response

### 468.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy recognizes that members often encounter persons who appear to be in need of medical aid and establishes a law enforcement response to such situations.

### 468.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 468.3 FIRST RESPONDING MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever practicable, members should take appropriate steps to provide initial medical aid (e.g., first aid, CPR and 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.

*Medical Aid and Response*

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**468.4 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.

**468.5 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 an emergent detention in accordance with the Emergent Detentions 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 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.

**468.5.1 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.

*Medical Aid and Response*

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**468.6 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.

**468.7 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 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.

The Field Operations Lieutenant should develop guidelines for air ambulance landings or enter into local operating agreements for the use of air ambulances, as applicable. In creating those guidelines, the Department should identify:

- Responsibility and authority for designating a landing zone and determining the size of the landing zone.
- Responsibility for securing the area and maintaining that security once the landing zone is identified.
- Consideration of the air ambulance provider's minimum standards for proximity to vertical obstructions and surface composition (e.g., dirt, gravel, pavement, concrete, grass).
- Consideration of the air ambulance provider's minimum standards for horizontal clearance from structures, fences, power poles, antennas or roadways.
- Responsibility for notifying the appropriate highway or transportation agencies if a roadway is selected as a landing zone.
- Procedures for ground personnel to communicate with flight personnel during the operation.

One department member at the scene should be designated as the air ambulance communications contact. Headlights, spotlights and flashlights should not be aimed upward at the air ambulance. Members should direct vehicle and pedestrian traffic away from the landing zone.

Members should follow these cautions when near an air ambulance:

- Never approach the aircraft until signaled by the flight crew.
- Always approach the aircraft from the front.
- Avoid the aircraft's tail rotor area.
- Wear eye protection during landing and take-off.
- Do not carry or hold items, such as IV bags, above the head.
- Ensure that no one smokes near the aircraft.

*Medical Aid and Response*

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**468.8 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) USE**

A semi-automatic external defibrillator or AED should only be used by members who have completed a course approved by the Washington State Department of Health that includes instruction in CPR and the use of an AED (RCW 70.54.310).

**468.8.1 AED USER RESPONSIBILITY**

Members who are issued AEDs for use in department vehicles should check the AED at the beginning of the shift to ensure it is properly charged and functioning. Any AED that is not functioning properly will be taken out of service and given to the Training Officer who is responsible for ensuring appropriate maintenance.

Following use of an AED, the device shall be cleaned and/or decontaminated as required. The electrodes and/or pads will be replaced as recommended by the AED manufacturer.

Any member who uses an AED shall contact Dispatch as soon as possible and request response by EMS (RCW 70.54.310).

**468.8.2 AED REPORTING**

Any member using an AED will complete an incident report detailing its use. Any data from usage shall be made available, upon request, to EMS or other health care providers (RCW 70.54.310).

**468.8.3 AED TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE**

The Training Officer should ensure appropriate training is provided to members authorized to use an AED.

The Training Officer is responsible for ensuring AED devices are appropriately maintained and tested consistent with the manufacturer's operational guidelines, and will retain records of all maintenance in accordance with the established records retention schedule (RCW 70.54.310).

**468.9 ADMINISTRATION OF OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION**

Members may administer opioid overdose medication in accordance with protocol specified by the physician who prescribed the overdose medication for use by the member (RCW 69.50.315).

**468.9.1 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION USER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Members who are qualified to administer opioid overdose medication, such as naloxone, should handle, store and administer the medication consistent with their training. Members should check the medication and associated administration equipment at the beginning of their shift to ensure they are serviceable and not expired. Any expired medication or unserviceable administration equipment should be removed from service and given to the Training Officer.

Any member who administers an opioid overdose medication should contact Dispatch as soon as possible and request response by EMS.

**468.9.2 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION REPORTING**

Any member administering opioid overdose medication should detail its use in an appropriate report.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Medical Aid and Response*

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The Training Officer will ensure that the Chief Civil Deputy is provided enough information to meet applicable state reporting requirements.

#### 468.9.3 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION TRAINING

The Training Officer should ensure training is provided to members authorized to administer opioid overdose medication.

# Suspicious Activity Reporting

## 469.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for reporting and investigating suspicious and criminal activity.

### 469.1.1 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. Race, ethnicity, national origin or religious affiliation 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 ciphred literature or correspondence.

**Suspicious Activity Report (SAR)** - An incident report used to document suspicious activity.

## 469.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

## 469.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Investigation Lieutenant and authorized designees will manage SAR activities. Authorized designees should include supervisors who are responsible for department participation in criminal intelligence systems as outlined in the Criminal Organizations Policy.

The responsibilities of the Investigation Lieutenant include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Remaining familiar with those databases available to the Department that would facilitate the purpose of this policy.

### *Suspicious Activity Reporting*

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- (b) Maintaining adequate training in the area of intelligence gathering to ensure no information is being maintained that would violate the law or civil rights of any individual.
- (c) Ensuring a process is available that would allow members to report relevant information. The process should be designed to promote efficient and quick reporting, and should not be cumbersome, duplicative or complicated.
- (d) Ensuring that members are made aware of the purpose and value of documenting information regarding suspicious activity, as well as the databases and other information resources that are available to the Department.
- (e) Ensuring that SAR information is appropriately disseminated to members in accordance with their job responsibilities.
- (f) Coordinating investigative follow-up, if appropriate.
- (g) Coordinating with any appropriate agency or fusion center.
- (h) Ensuring that, as resources are available, the Department conducts outreach that is designed to encourage members of the community to report suspicious activity and that outlines what they should look for and how they should report it (e.g., website, public service announcements).

#### **469.4 REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION**

Any department 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 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.

#### **469.5 HANDLING INFORMATION**

The Civil Division will forward copies of SARs, in a timely manner, to the following:

- Investigation Unit supervisor
- Crime Analysis Unit
- Other authorized designees



## **Chapter 5 - Traffic Operations**

# Traffic Function and Responsibility

## 500.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The ultimate goal of traffic law enforcement is to reduce traffic collisions. This may be achieved through the application of such techniques as geographic/temporal assignment of personnel and equipment and the establishment of preventive patrols to deal with specific categories of unlawful driving behavior. Traffic enforcement techniques are based on accident data, enforcement activity records, traffic volume, and traffic conditions. This department provides enforcement efforts toward violations, not only in proportion to the frequency of their occurrence in accident situations, but also in terms of traffic-related needs.

## 500.2 TRAFFIC DEPUTY DEPLOYMENT

Several factors are considered in the development of deployment schedules for deputies of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Information provided by the Electronic Traffic Information Processing (eTRIP) data retrieval system is a valuable resource for traffic accident occurrences and deputy deployment. Some of the factors for analysis include:

- Location
- Time
- Day
- Violation factors

All deputies assigned to patrol or traffic enforcement functions will emphasize enforcement of accident causing violations during high accident hours and at locations of occurrence. All deputies will take directed enforcement action on request, and random enforcement action when appropriate against violators as a matter of routine. All deputies shall maintain high visibility while working general enforcement, especially at high accident locations.

Other factors to be considered for deployment are citizen requests, construction zones or special events.

## 500.3 ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement actions are commensurate with applicable laws and take into account the degree and severity of the violation committed. This department does not establish ticket quotas and the number of arrests or citations issued by any deputy shall not be used as the sole criterion for evaluating deputy overall performance. 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:

## *Traffic Function and Responsibility*

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### 500.3.1 WARNINGS

Warnings or other non-punitive enforcement actions should be considered in each situation and substituted for arrests or citations when circumstances warrant, especially in the case of inadvertent violations.

### 500.3.2 CITATIONS

Citations may be issued when a deputy believes it is appropriate. It is essential that deputies fully explain the rights and requirements imposed on motorists upon issuance of a citation for a traffic violation. Deputies should provide the following information at a minimum:

- (a) Explanation of the violation or charge.
- (b) Court appearance procedure including the optional or mandatory appearance by the motorist.
- (c) Notice of whether the motorist can enter a plea and pay the fine by mail or at the court.

### 500.3.3 ARRESTS FOR TRAFFIC OFFENSES

Deputies may issue a traffic citation for any criminal traffic offense or infraction when such violations are committed in a deputy's presence or as allowed pursuant to RCW 10.31.100. With limited exceptions, the detention in such cases may not be for a period of time longer than is reasonably necessary to issue and serve a citation to the violator.

A traffic-related detention may expand to a physical arrest under the following circumstances:

- (a) When the deputy has probable cause to believe that a felony has been committed, whether or not it was in the deputy's presence
- (b) When the offense is one or more of the violations listed in RCW 10.31.100(3)
- (c) When a driver has been detained for a traffic offense listed in RCW 46.63.020 and fails to provide adequate identification or when the deputy has reasonable grounds to believe that the person to be cited will not respond to a written citation. In such cases, deputies should, when practicable, obtain the approval of a supervisor before making an arrest.

## **500.4 SUSPENDED OR REVOKED DRIVERS LICENSES**

If a deputy contacts a traffic violator who is also driving on a suspended or revoked license, the deputy should issue a traffic citation or make an arrest as appropriate.

### 500.4.1 SUSPENDED, REVOKED OR CANCELED COMMERCIAL LICENSE PLATES

If a deputy contacts a traffic violator who is operating a commercial truck, truck tractor or tractor with registration that a computer check confirms to be revoked, suspended or canceled, the deputy shall confiscate the license plates. The Department may either recycle or destroy the plates (RCW 46.32.100).

*Traffic Function and Responsibility*

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**500.5 HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS**

The Department has provided American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Class II high-visibility vests to increase the visibility of department members who may be exposed to hazards presented by passing traffic, maneuvering or operating vehicles, machinery and equipment (23 CFR 655.601).

Although intended primarily for use while performing traffic related assignments, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time increased visibility would improve the safety or efficiency of the member.

**500.5.1 REQUIRED USE**

Except when working in a potentially adversarial or confrontational role, such as during vehicle stops, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time it is anticipated that an employee will be exposed to the hazards of approaching traffic or construction and recovery equipment. Examples of when high-visibility vests should be worn include traffic control duties, accident investigations, lane closures and while at disaster scenes, or anytime high visibility is desirable. When emergency conditions preclude the immediate donning of the vest, deputies should retrieve and wear the vest as soon as conditions reasonably permit. Use of the vests shall also be mandatory when directed by a supervisor.

Vests maintained in the investigation units may be used any time a plainclothes deputy might benefit from being readily identified as a member of law enforcement.

**500.5.2 CARE AND STORAGE OF HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS**

High-visibility vests shall be maintained in the trunk of each patrol and investigation unit, in the side box of each sheriff's motorcycle and in the saddlebag or gear bag of each sheriff's bicycle. Each vest should be stored inside the resealable plastic bag provided to protect and maintain the vest in a serviceable condition. Before going into service each employee shall ensure a serviceable high-visibility vest is properly stored.

A supply of high-visibility vests will be maintained in the equipment room for replacement of damaged or unserviceable vests. The Training Officer should be promptly notified whenever the supply of vests in the equipment room needs replenishing.

**500.6 HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS**

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will make all reasonable efforts to address all reported hazardous road conditions in a timely manner as circumstances and resources permit.

**500.7 TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS BY CROSSING GUARDS**

Crossing guards have the authority to submit reports to this department for certain violations occurring in and around crosswalks (RCW 46.61.275). Generally these reports may be for offenses involving a driver's failure to stop at a crosswalk or to exercise due care for pedestrians. Reports must be received no later than 72 hours after the violation occurred.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Traffic Function and Responsibility*

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This department will give due consideration and will investigate, to a reasonable degree, reports of violations submitted by crossing guards, in an effort to identify the alleged violator. If the driver is identified and there is reasonable cause to believe a violation of RCW 46.61.235(5), RCW 46.61.245(2) or RCW 46.61.261(2) has occurred, a notice of traffic infraction should be issued.

The Sergeant shall ensure that appropriate forms for reporting violations are available to crossing guards and that a procedure for investigating the reports received by this department is in place.

#### **500.7.1 NOTIFICATION OF INFRACTION**

The Sergeant or a designee may initiate an investigation of the reported violation after receiving a report from a crossing guard. The investigator shall contact the last known owner of the violator vehicle and request the owner to supply information identifying the driver. If the driver is identified and there is reasonable cause to believe that a traffic violation has occurred, a notice of infraction may be served upon the driver of the vehicle (RCW 46.61.275(2)).

#### **500.8 SCHOOL BUS SAFETY CAMERAS**

Any school district with buses properly equipped with cameras that capture stop-arm violations may report such violations to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office whenever they occur within the department's jurisdiction.

The Sergeant should establish a report form and procedure for school districts to report school bus stop-arm violations (RCW 46.63.180).

#### **500.8.1 NOTIFICATION OF INFRACTION**

The Sergeant or the authorized designee should initiate an investigation of the reported violation after receiving a stop-arm violation report from a school district.

Issuance of a citation shall conform to state requirements (RCW 46.63.180). The notice of infraction shall be mailed to the registered owner or renter, if applicable, of the vehicle within 14 days of the violation.

# Traffic Collision Reporting

## 502.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office prepares traffic collision reports and as a public service makes traffic collision reports available to the community with some exceptions.

## 502.2 TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORTS

All traffic collision reports taken by members of this department shall be forwarded to the Sergeant for approval and data entry into the Records Management System. The Sergeant will be responsible for monthly and quarterly reports on traffic collision statistics to be forwarded to the Patrol Division Supervisor, or other persons as required.

### 502.2.1 STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC COLLISION AND TICKET ONLINE RECORDS (SECTOR)

This department utilizes SECTOR software to complete traffic citations and traffic collision reports. SECTOR shall only be used by those authorized employees who have completed department-approved training in the use of SECTOR software. All traffic collision reports completed with SECTOR software shall comply with established report approval requirements.

The department recognizes that not all deputies have access to the SECTOR traffic citations. When possible deputies should familiarize themselves with the SECTOR traffic collision reporting. The training Officer is responsible to insure that all deputies are trained in the use of the SECTOR collision reports.

All reports completed using SECTOR software should be downloaded to the designated server as soon as practicable or in any case prior to the end of the employee's shift.

## 502.3 REPORTING SITUATIONS

### 502.3.1 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS INVOLVING COUNTY VEHICLES

Traffic collision investigation reports shall be taken when a County-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision upon a roadway or highway wherein any damage or injury results. A general information report may be taken in lieu of a traffic collision report at the direction of a supervisor when the collision occurs on private property or does not involve another vehicle. Whenever there is damage to a County vehicle, a Vehicle Damage Report shall be completed and forwarded to the appropriate Lieutenant.

Photographs of the collision scene and vehicle damage shall be taken at the discretion of the traffic investigator or any supervisor.

### 502.3.2 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

When an employee of this department, either on-duty or off-duty, is involved in a traffic collision within the jurisdiction of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office resulting in a serious injury or fatality, the Sergeant, may notify the Washington State Patrol for assistance.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Traffic Collision Reporting*

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The term serious injury is defined as any injury that may result in a fatality.

#### **502.3.3 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH OTHER COUNTY EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIALS**

The Lieutenant or on-duty Sergeant may request assistance from the Washington State Patrol for the investigation of any traffic collision involving any County official or employee where a serious injury or fatality has occurred.

#### **502.3.4 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

Traffic collision reports shall not be taken for traffic collisions occurring on private property, unless there is a death or injury to any person involved, a hit-and-run violation, or RCW violation. An Incident Report may be taken at the discretion of any supervisor.

#### **502.3.5 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON ROADWAYS OR HIGHWAYS**

Traffic collision reports shall be taken when they occur on a roadway or highway within the jurisdiction of this department under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) When there is a death or injury to any persons involved in the collision.
- (b) When there is an identifiable violation of the Revised Code of Washington.
- (c) Property damage exceeding the dollar amount currently established by WSP.
- (d) When a report is requested by any involved driver.

In all cases where a traffic collision report is required by policy, the current state authorized form will be used to document the collision (RCW 46.52.070).

### **502.4 NOTIFICATION OF SUPERVISOR**

In the event of a serious injury or death related traffic collision, the Lieutenant shall notify the Shift Sergeant to relate the circumstances of the traffic collision and seek assistance from the Washington State Field Operations. If the Lieutenant is unavailable the Chief Criminal Deputy, Chief Deputy of Sheriff will make this determination.

#### **502.4.1 CRITERIA FOR WSP NOTIFICATION/REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE**

Request for WSP Technical assistance should be made on the following instances.

- (a) Serious injury w/likelihood of death.
- (b) Vehicular assault.
- (c) Hit & Run with serious injury.
- (d) Vehicular Homicide.
- (e) Any collision involving a county vehicle.

All collisions upon county roads or right of ways shall be reported upon the State Field Operations Traffic Collision Report (PTCR). WSP may be requested to assist through advanced, technical or reconstruction assistance that may include scene measurements, photos, vehicle data, statements, interviews, Total Station or other assistance as deemed necessary.

## Vehicle Towing Policy

### 510.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides the procedures for towing a vehicle by or at the direction of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

### 510.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of those employees storing or impounding a vehicle are as follows.

#### 510.2.1 REMOVAL OF VEHICLE DISABLED IN A TRAFFIC COLLISION

When a vehicle has been involved in a traffic collision and must be removed from the scene, if the driver/responsible has not already called for a tow, the deputy shall have the driver/responsible 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 firms in Dispatch.

If a Deputy has dispatch call a tow firm at owner request or from a rotational list, the deputy shall complete a Washington Uniform Inventory Impound form. If the owner or responsible is on the scene, a line can be drawn through the inventory portion of the form, if possible have the owner/responsible sign the line waiving the inventory.

If the owner is incapacitated, or for any reason it is necessary for the Department to assume responsibility for a vehicle involved in a collision, the deputy shall request the dispatcher to call a towing firm from the rotational list for the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. The deputy will then store the vehicle using the Washington Uniform Inventory Impound form.

All Washington Uniform Tow and Inventory Impound forms, upon completion, and no later than 5 days of the impound/tow shall be placed in the Sergeant box for review.

#### 510.2.2 DRIVING A NON-COUNTY VEHICLE

Vehicles which have been towed by or at the direction of the Department 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.

An exception to this is if the vehicle is being seized under RCW 69.50.505. In this case a supervisor should be notified. See §606.3.3.

#### 510.2.3 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.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Vehicle Towing Policy*

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#### 510.2.4 COMMUNICATION DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever a stolen vehicle is impounded by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office Communications Division personnel will promptly attempt to notify the legal owner of the recovery. (RCW 7.69.030(7))

#### 510.3 TOWING SERVICES

The County of Pacific County selects a towing firm a rotational list of towing firms. These firms 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.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the towing firms to request to be added or deleted from the towing rotation. The Sheriff's Office will not be liable for any perceived loss for a firm called out of the rotation order.

Nothing in this policy shall require the Department to tow a vehicle.

#### 510.4 STORAGE AT ARREST SCENES

Whenever a person in charge or in control of a vehicle is arrested, it is the policy of this department to provide reasonable safekeeping for the arrestee's vehicle. The vehicle shall be stored whenever it is mandated by law, needed for the furtherance of an investigation or prosecution of the case or when the Community Caretaker Doctrine would reasonably suggest it. For example, the vehicle would present a traffic hazard if not removed, or due to a high crime area the vehicle would be in jeopardy of theft or damage if left at the scene.

No impound should occur if other alternatives are available that would ensure the vehicle's protection. Factors that should be considered by deputies in determining whether to impound a vehicle pursuant to this policy include:

- (a) Whether the offense for which the subject was arrested mandates vehicle impound (i.e. DUI, commercial sexual abuse of a minor, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9A.88.140(2); RCW 46.55.360).
- (b) Whether someone is available at the scene of the arrest to whom the vehicle could be released.
- (c) Whether the vehicle is impeding the flow of traffic or is a danger to public safety.
- (d) Whether the vehicle can be secured.

*Vehicle Towing Policy*

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- (e) Whether the detention of the arrestee will likely be of such duration as to require protection of the vehicle.
- (f) Whether there is some reasonable connection between the crime/arrest and the vehicle, or the vehicle is related to the commission of another crime (i.e., the vehicle itself has evidentiary value).
- (g) Whether the owner/operator requests that the vehicle be stored.
- (h) Whether the vehicle would be in jeopardy of theft or damage if left at the scene in a high-crime area.

In cases where a vehicle is not stored, the handling employee shall note in the report that the owner was informed that the Department will not be responsible for theft or damages to the vehicle.

**510.5 VEHICLE INVENTORY**

All property in a stored or impounded vehicle shall be inventoried and listed on the vehicle storage form. A locked vehicle trunk shall not be opened, even if it may be opened without a key from an accessible area of the passenger compartment. Locked or closed containers located within the passenger compartment should be inventoried as a sealed unit, absent exigent circumstances.

Members conducting inventory searches should be as thorough and accurate as practical in preparing an itemized inventory. These inventory procedures are for the purpose of protecting an owner's property while in sheriff's custody, to provide for the safety of deputies, and to protect the Department against fraudulent claims of lost, stolen, or damaged property.

**510.6 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) which are not considered evidence or contraband.

If a search of a vehicle leaves the vehicle or any property contained therein vulnerable to unauthorized entry, theft or damage, search personnel shall take such steps as are reasonably necessary to secure and/or preserve the vehicle or property from such hazards.

## Vehicle Impound Hearings

### 512.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a procedure for the requirement to provide vehicle storage or impound validity hearings.

### 512.2 IMPOUND HEARING

When a vehicle is impounded by any member of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, a hearing will be conducted upon the request of the registered or legal owner of the vehicle or their agent (RCW 46.55.240).

#### 512.2.1 HEARING PROCEDURES

When requested, a hearing will be held at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office within five days of the receipt of the request. The Department will appoint a Hearing Officer who will conduct the hearing and render a judgment. The employee who caused the removal of the vehicle does not need to be present for this hearing.

All requests for a hearing on an impounded vehicle shall be submitted in person, writing, or by telephone within ten days of the date appearing on the notice. The person requesting the hearing may record the hearing at his/her own expense.

The vehicle impound hearing officer shall consider all information provided and determine whether the vehicle was impounded consistent with law and department policy. The Department will have the burden of proving by preponderance of the evidence that the vehicle was impounded lawfully and within policy.

If a decision is made that the vehicle was impounded within the law and department policy, the hearing officer shall advise the inquiring party that they may appeal the decision with the district court for a final judgment (RCW 46.55.240(1)(d)).

A decision that the vehicle was not impounded in a lawful manner or within department policy will require that the vehicle in impound be released immediately. Towing and storage fees will be paid at the Department's expense (RCW 46.55.120(3)(e)).

If a decision is made that the vehicle was not impounded in a lawful manner or within department policy, 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 Lieutenant. The hearing officer will recommend to the appropriate Lieutenant that the fees paid by the registered or legal owner of the vehicle in question or their agent be reimbursed by the Department.

## Impaired Driving

### 514.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to those department members who play a role in the detection and investigation of driving under the influence (DUI).

### 514.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office is committed to the safety of the roadways and the community and will pursue fair but aggressive enforcement of Washington's impaired driving laws.

### 514.3 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.

### 514.4 FIELD TESTS

The Sergeant should identify the primary field sobriety tests (FSTs) and any approved alternate tests for deputies to use when investigating violations of DUI laws.

### 514.5 CHEMICAL TESTS

A person is deemed to have consented to a chemical test or tests under any of the following (RCW 46.20.308):

- (a) The arresting deputy has reasonable grounds to believe the person was driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug.
- (b) The arresting deputy has reasonable grounds to believe a person under the age of 21 was driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while having a blood alcohol concentration of at least 0.02 or a THC concentration above 0.00 (RCW 46.61.503).
- (c) The deputy has stopped a person operating a commercial motor vehicle license and has probable cause to believe that the person was driving while having alcohol in the person's system or while under the influence of any drug (RCW 46.25.120).

#### 514.5.1 BREATH TESTS

The Sergeant 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 Sergeant.

Generally, chemical tests to determine alcohol concentration shall be of the breath only (RCW 46.20.308).

## *Impaired Driving*

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### 514.5.2 BLOOD TESTS

Only persons authorized by law to withdraw blood shall collect blood samples (RCW 46.61.506). The withdrawal of the blood sample should be witnessed by the assigned deputy. No deputy, even if properly certified, should conduct the blood withdrawal.

Deputies should inform an arrestee that if he/she chooses to provide a blood sample, a separate sample can be drawn for alternate testing. Unless medical personnel object, two samples should be drawn and retained as evidence, so long as only one puncture is required.

If an arrestee cannot submit to a blood test because he/she is a hemophiliac or is using an anticoagulant, he/she shall not be required to take a blood test. Such inability to take a blood test should not be treated as a refusal. However, the person may be required to complete another available and viable test.

A blood sample may be obtained only with the consent of the individual or as otherwise provided in this policy (RCW 46.20.308).

### 514.6 REFUSALS

When a person refuses to provide a chemical sample, deputies should:

- (a) Advise the person of the requirement to provide a sample (RCW 46.20.308).
- (b) Audio-record the admonishment and the response when it is practicable.
- (c) Document the refusal in the appropriate report.

#### 514.6.1 BLOOD SAMPLE WITHOUT CONSENT

A blood sample may be obtained from a person who is unconscious or who has been arrested and refuses a chemical test when any of the following conditions exist (RCW 46.20.308):

- (a) A search warrant has been obtained.
- (b) Exigent circumstances exist and the person has been arrested for one of the following offenses:
  - 1. Felony DUI (RCW 46.61.502(6)).
  - 2. Felony physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (RCW 46.61.504(6)).
  - 3. Vehicular homicide (RCW 46.61.520).
  - 4. Vehicular assault (RCW 46.61.522).
  - 5. DUI involving an accident in which there has been serious bodily injury to another person (RCW 46.20.308).
  - 6. Vessel accident in which there has been serious bodily injury to another person or death while under the influence of marijuana or any drug (RCW 79A.60.040).

*Impaired Driving*

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Exigency does not exist solely because of the short time period associated with the natural dissipation of alcohol in the person's bloodstream. Exigency can be established by the existence of special facts, such as a lengthy delay in obtaining a blood sample due to an accident investigation or medical treatment of the person.

**514.6.2 FORCED BLOOD SAMPLE**

If a person 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 person to submit to such a sample without physical resistance. This dialogue should be recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
- (d) Ensure that the withdrawal is taken in a medically approved manner.
- (e) Supervise any use of force and ensure the forced withdrawal is recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
  - 1. Unless otherwise provided in a warrant, force should generally be limited to handcuffing or similar restraint methods. In misdemeanor cases, if the suspect becomes violent or more resistant, no additional force will be used and a refusal should be noted in the report. In felony cases, force which reasonably appears necessary to overcome the resistance to the blood being withdrawn may be permitted.
- (f) Monitor and ensure that the type and level of force applied is 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 suspect 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 being withdrawn may be permitted.
- (g) Ensure the use of force and methods used to accomplish the blood sample draw are documented in the related report.

## *Impaired Driving*

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If a supervisor is unavailable, deputies are expected to use sound judgment and perform as a responding supervisor, as set forth above.

### **514.7 ARREST AND INVESTIGATION**

#### **514.7.1 WARRANTLESS ARREST**

A deputy having probable cause to believe that a person is DUI may make a warrantless arrest of the person whether or not the deputy observed the violation first hand (RCW 10.31.100(3)(d)).

Arrests supported by probable cause for DUI are mandatory if the person has been convicted of DUI in the past 10 years (RCW 10.31.100).

#### **514.7.2 OFFICER/DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

If a person refuses to submit to a chemical test, or the results from the test render a prohibited alcohol or THC concentration in the person's breath or blood, the deputy shall (RCW 46.20.308(5)):

- (a) Serve the notice of intention to suspend, revoke, or deny the person's license or permit to drive.
- (b) Provide the person with a written notice of their right to a hearing before the Department of Licensing (DOL).
- (c) Advise the person that his/her marked license or permit is a temporary license.
- (d) Immediately notify the DOL of the arrest and within 72 hours transmit to the DOL a sworn report that states:
  1. The deputy had reasonable grounds to believe the person was DUI.
  2. After having received the required statutory warnings, the person either refused to submit to a test of his/her blood or breath or submitted to a test that rendered a prohibited alcohol or THC concentration of the person's breath or blood.

#### **514.7.3 STATUTORY WARNING**

A deputy requesting that a person submit to a chemical test shall provide the person with the mandatory warnings pursuant to RCW 46.20.308(2).

#### **514.7.4 ADDITIONAL TESTING**

A person submitting to a chemical test pursuant to this policy may have a qualified person of his/her own choosing administer one or more tests in addition to any administered at the direction of a deputy (RCW 46.61.506).

### **514.8 CIVIL DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Chief Civil Deputy will ensure that all case-related records are transmitted according to current records procedures and as required by the prosecuting attorney's office.

## *Impaired Driving*

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### **514.9 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

The supervisor will ensure that all appropriate reports and documents related to administrative license suspensions are reviewed and forwarded to the DOL.

Any deputies who receive notice of required attendance to an administrative license suspension hearing should promptly notify the prosecuting attorney.

Deputies called to testify at an administrative hearing should document the hearing date and the DOL 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. The Civil Division should forward this to the prosecuting attorney as part of the case file.

### **514.10 TRAINING**

The Training Officer should ensure that deputies participating in the enforcement of DUI laws receive regular training. Training should include, at minimum, current laws on impaired driving, investigative techniques and rules of evidence pertaining to DUI investigations. The Training Officer should confer with the prosecuting attorney's office and update training topics as needed.



## Traffic Citations

### 516.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy outlines the responsibility for traffic citations, the procedure for dismissal, correction, and voiding of traffic citations.

### 516.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sergeant shall be responsible for the development and design of all Department traffic citations in compliance with state law and the Judicial Council.

The Sergeants shall be responsible for the supply and accounting of all traffic citations issued to employees of this department.

The Sergeants shall communicate with the Civil Division for ordering and tracking of citations.

The Civil Division is responsible for keeping records related to written and/or e-tickets (Sector).

### 516.3 DISMISSAL OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Employees of this department do not have the authority to dismiss a citation once it has been issued. Only the court has the authority to dismiss a citation that has been issued. Any request from a recipient to dismiss a citation shall be referred to the Sergeant. Upon a review of the circumstances involving the issuance of the traffic citation, the Sergeant may request the Field Operations Lieutenant to recommend dismissal of the traffic citation. If approved, the citation will be forwarded to the appropriate court with a request for dismissal. All recipients of traffic citations whose request for the dismissal of a traffic citation has been denied shall be referred to the appropriate court.

Should a deputy determine during a court proceeding that a traffic citation should be dismissed in the interest of justice or where prosecution is deemed inappropriate the deputy may request the court to dismiss the citation. Upon dismissal of the traffic citation by the court, the deputy shall notify his/her immediate supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the dismissal and shall complete any paperwork as directed or required. The citation dismissal shall then be forwarded to the Field Operations Lieutenant for review.

### 516.4 VOIDING TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Voiding a traffic citation may occur when a traffic citation has not been completed or where it is completed, but not issued. All copies of the citation shall be presented to a supervisor to approve the voiding of the citation. The citation and copies shall then be forwarded to the Traffic Bureau.

### 516.5 CORRECTION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

When a traffic citation is issued and in need of correction, the deputy issuing the citation shall submit the citation and a letter requesting a specific correction to his/her immediate supervisor.

### *Traffic Citations*

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The citation and letter shall then be forwarded to the Traffic Bureau. The Traffic Bureau shall prepare a letter of correction to the court having jurisdiction and to the recipient of the citation.

#### **516.6 DISPOSITION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

The court and file copies of all traffic citations issued by members of this department shall be forwarded to the employee's immediate supervisor for review. The citation copies shall then be filed with the Civil Division.

Upon separation from employment with this department, all employees issued traffic citations books shall return any unused citations to the Civil Division.

#### **516.7 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

### **520.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This department has adopted the following policy on assisting motorists in disabled vehicles within this jurisdiction.

### **520.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITY**

When an on-duty deputy observes a disabled vehicle on the roadway, the deputy should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If that deputy is assigned to a call of higher priority, the dispatcher should be advised of the location of the disabled vehicle and the need for assistance. The dispatcher should then assign another available deputy to respond for assistance as soon as practical.

### **520.3 EXTENT OF ASSISTANCE**

In most cases, a disabled motorist will require assistance. After arrangements for assistance are made, continued involvement by department personnel will be contingent on the time of day, the location, the availability of departmental resources, and the vulnerability of the disabled motorist.

#### **520.3.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS**

Department personnel 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.

## Unauthorized 24 Hour Vehicle Violations

### 524.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides procedures for the marking, recording, and storage of unauthorized vehicles parked in violation of 24 hour time limitations.

### 524.2 MARKING VEHICLES

Vehicles suspected of being subject to removal from a highway after being left unattended for 24 hours shall be marked and noted on the Pacific County Sheriff's Office Marked Vehicle Card. No case number is required at this time (RCW 46.55.010(14)).

A notification sticker shall be applied in a visible location and a visible chalk mark should be placed on the left rear tire tread at the fender level unless missing tires or other vehicle conditions prevent marking. Any deviation in markings shall be noted on the Marked Vehicle Card (RCW 46.55.085(1)).

All Marked Vehicle Cards shall be submitted to the Traffic Bureau for computer data entry.

If a marked vehicle has been moved or the markings have been removed during a 24-hour investigation period, the vehicle shall be re-marked for another 24-hour period and a Marked Vehicle Card completed and forwarded to the Traffic Bureau.

#### 524.2.1 MARKED VEHICLE FILE

The Traffic Bureau shall be responsible for maintaining a file for all Marked Vehicle Cards.

Parking Control Officers assigned to the Traffic Bureau shall be responsible for the follow up investigation of all 24-hour unauthorized vehicle violations noted on the Marked Vehicle Cards. If a marked vehicle has current Washington registration plates, the Parking Control Officers shall check the records to learn the identity of the last owner of record. The Parking Control Officers shall make a reasonable effort to contact the owner by telephone and provide notice that if the vehicle is not removed within twenty-four hours from the time the sticker was attached, the vehicle may be taken into custody and stored at the owner's expense (RCW 46.55.085(2)).

#### 524.2.2 VEHICLE STORAGE

A deputy may store any vehicle not removed 24 hours after marking (RCW 46.55.085(3)).

The deputy authorizing the storage of the vehicle shall complete a uniform impound authorization and inventory form. The completed form shall be submitted to the Civil Division immediately following the storage of the vehicle (RCW 46.55.075(2)).

## Vehicle Seizure and Forfeiture

### 526.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes the authority and procedure for the seizure and forfeiture of vehicles associated with the arrest of subjects for driving under the influence (RCW 46.61.502) or physical control of a vehicle while under the influence (RCW 46.61.504).

### 526.2 SUSPENSION OF WASHINGTON DRIVER LICENSES

RCW 46.61.5058 provides for the forfeiture of any vehicle when the driver of such vehicle has been arrested for driving under the influence or physical control of a vehicle while under the influence, if such person has a prior offense within seven years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055.

#### 526.2.1 ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

All procedures and administrative responsibilities associated with this policy are handled by the Traffic Division.

### 526.3 VEHICLE SEIZURE PROCEDURES

When a deputy arrests a subject for driving under the influence (RCW 46.61.502) or physical control of a vehicle while under the influence (RCW 46.61.504), the deputy may initiate steps to seize the arrestee's vehicle under the following circumstances:

- (a) The arrestee has a prior offense within seven years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055,
- (b) The arrestee must be provided with a department form to notify the arrestee, in writing, that it is unlawful to transfer, sell or encumber in any way the subject's interest in the vehicle in which they were driving or had physical control when the violation occurred, and
- (c) The vehicle is not a rental (RCW 46.61.5058(1)(b)).

The vehicle should be impounded as provided under the authority of RCW 46.55.113(1).

#### 526.3.1 PHYSICAL SEIZURE OF VEHICLE

Physical seizure of the vehicle shall occur only upon the following circumstances:

- (a) Upon conviction of either driving under the influence or physical control of a vehicle while driving under the influence where the person convicted has a prior offense within seven years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055 and the person driving has a financial interest in the vehicle.
- (b) Upon a court order.
- (c) If there is reasonable cause to believe that the vehicle subject to seizure has been the subject of a prior judgment in favor of the state in a forfeiture proceeding, the deputy may seize the vehicle immediately.

Any vehicle that is seized pursuant to any of the above subsections should immediately be impounded and held pending further court action (RCW 46.61.5058(3)).

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Vehicle Seizure and Forfeiture*

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#### **526.4 VEHICLE FORFEITURE**

It is the policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to initiate forfeiture proceedings on all vehicles seized pursuant to RCW 46.61.5058.

Within fifteen days after vehicle seizure, the legal owner of the seized vehicle shall be notified of the seizure and intended forfeiture. Such notification shall be accomplished in writing to the last known address of the legal owner by certified mail with a return of service requested, or any other form of notification required by court order (RCW 46.61.5058(4)).

##### **526.4.1 FORFEITURE HEARING**

Persons notified of seizure have forty-five days to respond. Upon written response, such persons shall have the opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right (RCW 46.61.5058(6)).

- (a) The following procedure shall apply in such cases:
  - 1. Persons requesting a forfeiture hearing must complete and sign an Pacific County Sheriff's Office Forfeiture Request Form;
  - 2. All hearings shall be scheduled and conducted in a timely fashion.
  - 3. The hearing officer(s) shall be designated by the Sheriff.
  - 4. The decision of the hearing officer shall be considered final.
- (b) The owner of the seized vehicle may, through his/her initiation and legal process, choose to remove the hearing to court.
- (c) The vehicle shall be considered forfeited under the following circumstances:
  - 1. If, forty-five days after the seizure, no person has notified the Pacific County Sheriff's Office of a claim of ownership or right to the vehicle.
  - 2. After a hearing officer has determined that the vehicle was lawfully seized and is subject to forfeit.
  - 3. A court of local jurisdiction has determined that the vehicle was lawfully seized and is subject to forfeit.
- (d) In any case where it is determined that the vehicle is not subject to forfeit, it shall be immediately returned to the legal owner.

#### **526.5 PROCEDURES FOLLOWING FORFEITURE**

Vehicles that have been lawfully seized and through forfeit the ownership is transferred to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office may be sold or retained for official use provided that all bona fide security interests to the vehicle are first satisfied (RCW 46.61.5058(7)). The following procedure shall apply after vehicles are legally forfeited to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office:

- (a) The Sergeant or his/her designee shall determine the disposition of all vehicles legally forfeited to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Such disposition shall be determined based on vehicle value, existing security interest, and the needs of the Department.

*Vehicle Seizure and Forfeiture*

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- (b) The value of the vehicle is the sale price, or if retained, the fair market value of the vehicle at the time of the seizure (RCW 46.61.5058(14)).
- (c) A record of the forfeited vehicle shall be maintained. The record shall indicate the prior owner's information, if known, a description of the vehicle, the disposition of the vehicle, its value at time of seizure and the amount of proceeds realized from disposition of the vehicle (RCW 46.61.5058(8)).
  - 1. Such records shall be maintained for at least seven years (RCW 46.61.5058(9)).
- (d) A copy of the records of all forfeited vehicles shall be filed with the state treasurer each calendar quarter (RCW 46.61.5058(10)).
- (e) By January 31st of each year, ten percent of the net proceeds of vehicles forfeited during the preceding calendar year shall be remitted to the state treasurer (RCW 46.61.5058(12)(13)).

## **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 Pacific 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 INITIAL INVESTIGATION

### 600.3.1 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 Sergeant.
  - 4. Make reasonable attempts to locate, identify and interview all available victims, complainants, witnesses and suspects.
  - 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.

### 600.3.2 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

*Investigation and Prosecution*

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any enforcement action. Should an initial investigation indicate that those steps are required, the assistance of a deputy shall be requested.

**600.3.3 ARRESTS BY PRIVATE PERSONS**

Private persons may make a common law arrest for crimes constituting a breach of the peace or may detain a person under the authority of RCW 9A.16.020 (felonies, retail theft, etc.) Any deputy presented with a private person wishing to make an arrest must determine whether there is probable cause to believe that such an arrest would be lawful.

- (a) Should any deputy determine that there is no probable 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. The deputy must include the basis of such a determination in a related report.
  - 2. Absent probable 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 probable cause to believe that a private person's arrest is lawful, the deputy shall take a written statement from the person who has made the arrest. In addition, the deputy may exercise one of the following options:
  - 1. Take the individual into physical custody for booking.
  - 2. Release the individual subsequent to the issuance of a citation for the individual to appear in the appropriate court.

**600.4 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.

**600.4.1 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 Investigation Unit supervisor. Copies of

## *Investigation and Prosecution*

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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.

### **600.5 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 Adult Abuse policies may also require an arrest or submittal of a case to a prosecutor.

### **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.

*Investigation and Prosecution*

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**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 department. If a member encounters information relevant to a criminal investigation while off-duty or while using his/her own equipment, the member should note the dates, times and locations of the information and report the discovery to his/her supervisor as soon as practicable. The member, or others who have been assigned to do so, should attempt to replicate the finding when on-duty and using department equipment.

Information obtained via the Internet should not be archived or stored in any manner other than department-established record keeping systems (see the Records Maintenance and Release and Criminal Organizations policies).

**600.7.1 ACCESS RESTRICTIONS**

Information that can be accessed from any department 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.

**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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Investigation and Prosecution*

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the Lieutenant , Sheriff or his designee. Any authorized request to modify the charges or to recommend dismissal of charges shall be made to the prosecutor.

## Case Status Reporting Procedures

### 601.1 PURPOSE

To conform to Uniform Crime Reporting standards of the United States Department of Justice for the clearing of cases assigned for investigation. Also, to establish Department procedures for closing and inactivating cases that have been assigned for investigation.

### 601.2 PROCEDURE

Cases assigned for investigation shall be concluded in one of the following three manners:

#### 601.2.1 CASE CLOSED AS "INACTIVE"

After an investigation has been conducted, cases may be declared as "inactive" for any of the following reasons:

- (a) No further leads can be developed.
- (b) No suspects have been developed.
- (c) The victim or witnesses cannot identify the suspect.
- (d) The victim is unable to identify his property.

A case that has been declared as "inactive" may eventually be reclassified as being "closed," when the Statute of Limitations for the criminal act no longer allows for the case to be adjudicated in a court of law.

NOTE: All major cases should remain active until a thorough investigation has been conducted and all possible leads have been exhausted.

#### 601.2.2 CASE CLOSED AS "CLOSED"

After an investigation has been conducted, cases may be declared "closed" for any of the following reasons:

- (a) Victim has made the criminal report mainly for insurance purposes and desires no prosecution. However, if the case fulfills requirements listed under § 601.2.3 - Case Closed as "Clear," it should be cleared.
- (b) The District Attorney or the City Attorney refuses to prosecute on the merits of completed investigation.
- (c) The Statute of Limitations has expired.
- (d) A complaint has been filed, a warrant obtained and no service is effected within 30 days. If service is thereafter made, the case shall be removed from the "closed" list and marked as being "cleared."

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Case Status Reporting Procedures*

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#### 601.2.3 CASE CLOSED AS "CLEARED"

After an investigation has been conducted, a case may be "cleared" for any of the following reasons:

- (a) **Unfounded** - Investigation discovers the offense to be false or baseless. If the investigation shows that no offense occurred nor was attempted, the reported offense can be "unfounded." The recovery of stolen property, the small value of stolen property, the refusal of the victim to cooperate with prosecution or the failure to make an arrest does not "unfound" a legitimate crime. Also, the findings of a coroner, court, jury or prosecutor do not unfound offenses or attempts that investigations establish to be legitimate.
- (b) **Arrest** - An offense is cleared by arrest when at least one person is: Arrested, Although no physical arrest is made, a case may be cleared by arrest when the offender is a person under 18 years of age and is cited to appear in Juvenile Court or before other juvenile authorities. Charged with the commission of the offense. Turned-over to the court for prosecution (whether following arrest, court summons or police notice).
- (c) **Exceptional** – In certain situations, an investigator is not able to follow the three steps listed above under "clearance by arrest." Many times all leads have been exhausted and everything possible has been done in order to clear a case. If the following questions can all be answered "yes" the offense can be cleared as "exceptional."

- 1. Has the investigation definitely established the identity of the offender?
- 2. Is there enough information to support an arrest, charge and turning the case over to the court for prosecution?
- 3. Is the exact location of the offender known, so the subject could be taken into custody now?
- 4. Is there some reason outside law enforcements' control that precludes arresting, charging and/or prosecuting the offender?

Generally, an offense can be cleared as "exceptional" when it falls within one of the following categories:

- 1. Suicide by the offender.
- 2. Double murder (two persons kill each other).
- 3. Deathbed confession (the person responsible dies after making a confession).
- 4. The offender is killed by police or citizen.
- 5. There is a confession by offender already in your custody or serving sentence.
- 6. An offender is prosecuted by state or local authorities in another city for a different offense or prosecuted in another city or state by the federal government for an offense which may be the same (you attempt to return the offender for prosecution, but the other jurisdiction will not allow the release).

*Case Status Reporting Procedures*

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7. Extradition is denied.
8. The victim refuses to cooperate in the prosecution (this action does not “unfound” the offense, and the answer must be “yes” to the first three questions listed previously to clear the case as “exceptional”).
9. A warrant is outstanding for the offender, but before being arrested the offender dies.
10. The handling of a juvenile offender either orally or by written notice to parents in instances involving minor offenses such as petty larceny. No referral is made to juvenile court as a matter of publicly accepted law enforcement policy (informal handling).

**601.3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSIGNED CASE AGENT**

- (a) The ultimate responsibility for the proper investigation and management of assigned criminal offense(s) lies with the case agent.
- (b) The case agent is responsible for the timely and thorough investigation for all assigned cases.
- (c) The case agent must notify their immediate supervisor or his/her designee when a significant issue, complication and/or unnecessary delay impacts the thorough and timely completion of an assigned case.
- (d) All case closures must be submitted to the case agent's immediate supervisor or their designee for approval in a timely manner.

**601.4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CASE AGENT'S SUPERVISOR**

- (a) Supervisors of case agents are responsible for ensuring that all criminal cases are investigated in a thorough and timely manner.
- (b) Supervisors should audit all assigned investigations on a monthly basis and at a minimum no less than every three months.
- (c) Assigned cases that are particularly significant or sensitive to public scrutiny should be monitored on a continual basis. Significant criminal cases would include, but not be limited to the following:
  1. Homicides.
  2. Traffic accidents with fatalities or critical injuries.
  3. Officer-involved shooting on or off-duty.
  4. Significant injury or death to any County of Pacific employee, public official or prominent person while on-duty or off-duty.
  5. Serious injury.
  6. Significant property loss.
  7. Arrest of any Sheriff's Office, County of Pacific employee, public official or prominent Pacific County official.



*Case Status Reporting Procedures*

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- 8. Call-out of the SWAT Team.
- 9. In-custody injuries or deaths.
- 10. Crimes that are part of a significant crime pattern.
- 11. Sexual assaults, particularly those involving minors.

(d) Supervisors are responsible for keeping the Support Services Division Chief apprised of any significant issues involving an investigation and/or that may negatively impact the agency or its reputation. The Support Services Division Chief is responsible for keeping the Sheriff apprised of the above listed investigations in a timely manner.

**601.5 LIMITATION OF ACTION (SOL)**

**RCW 9A.04.080**

**No limit**

- Murder
- Arson with Death
- Homicide by Abuse
- Vehicle Homicide
- Vehicle Assault if a death results
- Hit & Run if death results

**Ten years**

- [Arson with no deaths](#)
- Felony by a public officer in the performance of his duties or in connection with his duties
- If the victim of a rape is under age 14, and the rape was reported within one year of its commission, it may be prosecuted up to 3 years after the victim's 18th birthday or up to 10 years after the commission which ever is longer.

**Seven years**

- If the victim is under age 14, and the rape was not reported within 1 year of its commission, it may not be prosecuted more than 3 years after the victim's 18th birthday or more than 7 years after the commission which ever is longer.
- Violations of the following statutes shall not be prosecuted more than 3 years after the victim's 18th birthday or more than 7 years after the commission whichever is longer:
  - Rape of a Child 1st and 2nd degree
  - Child molestation 1st and 2nd degree

## *Case Status Reporting Procedures*

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- Indecent Liberties (1)(b) - persons incapable of consent by reason of being mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless.
- Incest

### **Six years**

- Leading Organized Crime
- Use of proceeds of Criminal Profiteering

### **Three years**

- Most other felonies
- If the victim is 14 or older, and the reape was not reported within 1 year of its commission, it may not be prosecuted more than 3 years after its commission.

### **Two years**

- Gross Misdemeanors
- Exception: Voyerism (even though it's a felony
- If the person who was viewed, photographed, or filmed did not realized at the time that he or she was being viewed, photographed, or filmed, the prosecution must be commenced within two years of the time the person who was viewed or in the photograph or film first learns that he or she was viewed, photographed or filmed.

### **One year**

- Misdemeanors

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## Asset Forfeiture

### 606.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes the authority and procedure for the seizure, forfeiture and liquidation of property associated with designated offenses.

#### 606.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Fiscal agent** - The person designated by the Sheriff to be responsible for securing and maintaining seized assets and distributing any proceeds realized from any forfeiture proceedings. This includes any time the Pacific County Sheriff's Office seizes property for forfeiture or when the Pacific 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** - Generally includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Firearms that were carried, possessed or sold illegally (RCW 9A.10.098).
- (b) Devices, profits, proceeds, associated equipment and conveyances related to illegal gambling (RCW 9A.46.231).
- (c) Interests, proceeds, etc. related to organized crime (RCW 9A.82.060), criminal profiteering (RCW 9A.82.080), human trafficking (RCW 9A.40.100), commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.100) or promoting prostitution (RCW 9A.88.070) (RCW 9A.82.100).
- (d) Proceeds traceable to or derived from money laundering (RCW 9A.83.020; RCW 9A.83.030).
- (e) Property acquired or maintained in relation to commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.100), promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.101) or promoting prostitution in the first degree (RCW 9A.88.070), and conveyances used to facilitate these offenses (RCW 9A.88.150).
- (f) Personal property, money, a vehicle, etc. that was used to commit a felony or was acquired through the commission of a felony not covered under another forfeiture statute (RCW 10.105.010).
- (g) Personal property, money, a vehicle, etc. that was acquired through the commission of a crime involving theft, trafficking or unlawful possession of commercial metal property, or facilitating such crimes (RCW 19.290.230).

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Asset Forfeiture

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- (h) Conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles or vessels, used for the violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and proceeds from these violations (money, real property, etc.) (RCW 69.50.505).
- (i) Boats, vehicles, gear, etc. used for poaching/wildlife crimes (RCW 77.15.070).

**Seizure** - The act of law enforcement officials taking property, cash or assets that have been used in connection with or acquired by specified illegal activities.

#### 606.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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 Pacific 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.

#### 606.3 ASSET SEIZURE

Property may be seized for forfeiture as provided in this policy.

##### 606.3.1 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO SEIZURE

The following may be seized upon review and approval of a supervisor and in coordination with the forfeiture reviewer:

- (a) Real or personal property subject to forfeiture identified in a court order authorizing seizure.
- (b) Property subject to forfeiture without a court order when the property is lawfully seized incident to an arrest, the service of a search warrant or the service of an administrative inspection warrant.
- (c) Property subject to forfeiture can also be seized without a court order when:
  - 1. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used for illegal gambling (RCW 9A.46.231).
  - 2. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used for the commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9A.68A.100; RCW 9A.68A.101) or promoting prostitution in the first degree (RCW 9A.88.070) (RCW 9A.88.150).
  - 3. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in the commission of any felony (RCW 10.105.010). See also separate statutes regarding seizures for felonies involving commercial metal, "bootlegging," criminal profiteering or money laundering (RCW 19.290.00095; RCW 66.32.020; RCW 9A.82.100; RCW 9A.83.030).

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Asset Forfeiture*

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4. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (RCW 69.50.505).
5. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used for poaching/wildlife crimes (RCW 77.15.070).

A large amount of money standing alone is insufficient to establish the probable cause required to make a seizure.

Whenever practicable, a court order for seizure prior to making a seizure is the preferred method.

#### **606.3.2 PROPERTY NOT SUBJECT TO SEIZURE**

The following property should not be seized for forfeiture:

- (a) Cash and property that does not meet the forfeiture counsel's current minimum forfeiture thresholds should not be seized.
- (b) Property from an "innocent owner," or a person who had no knowledge of the offense or who did not consent to the property's use.
- (c) No vehicle or other conveyance based on a misdemeanor involving marijuana (RCW 69.50.505).
- (d) Vehicles/conveyances that would be subject to forfeiture if more than 10 days have elapsed since the owner's arrest and no court order has been issued (RCW 9A.46.231; RCW 9A.88.150; RCW 69.50.505).

#### **606.4 PROCESSING SEIZED PROPERTY FOR FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS**

When property or cash subject to this policy is seized, the deputy making the seizure should ensure compliance with the following:

- (a) Complete applicable seizure forms and present the appropriate copy to the person from whom the property is seized. If cash or property is seized from more than one person, a separate copy must be provided to each person, specifying the items seized. When property is seized and no one claims an interest in the property, the deputy must leave the copy in the place where the property was found, if it is reasonable to do so.
- (b) Complete and submit a report and original seizure forms within 24 hours of the seizure, if practicable.
- (c) Forward the original seizure forms and related reports to the forfeiture reviewer within two days of seizure.

The deputy will book seized property as evidence with the notation in the comment section of the property form, "Seized Subject to Forfeiture." Property seized subject to forfeiture should be booked on a separate property form. No other evidence from the case should be booked on this form.

Photographs should be taken of items seized, particularly cash, jewelry and other valuable items.

## *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.

### **606.5 MAINTAINING SEIZED PROPERTY**

The Evidence Room Supervisor is responsible for ensuring compliance with the following:

- (a) All property received for forfeiture is reasonably secured and properly stored to prevent waste and preserve its condition.
- (b) All property received for forfeiture is checked to determine if the property has been stolen.
- (c) All property received for forfeiture is retained in the same manner as evidence until forfeiture is finalized or the property is returned to the claimant or the person with an ownership interest.
- (d) Property received for forfeiture is not used unless the forfeiture action has been completed.

### **606.6 FORFEITURE REVIEWER**

The Sheriff will appoint a forfeiture reviewer. Prior to assuming duties, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the forfeiture reviewer should attend a course approved by the Department on asset forfeiture.

The responsibilities of the forfeiture reviewer include:

- (a) Remaining familiar with forfeiture laws, particularly those cited in this policy 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) Reviewing each seizure-related case and deciding whether the seizure is more appropriately made under state or federal seizure laws. The forfeiture reviewer should contact federal authorities when appropriate.
- (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 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Asset Forfeiture*

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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 Departmental 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.
    - (a) Generally, 15 days' notice. (Gambling RCW 9A.46.231; Money laundering RCW 9A.83.030; Child prostitution RCW 9A.88.150; Felonies RCW 10.105.010; Commercial metal RCW 19.290.230; Controlled substances RCW 69.50.505; Fish and wildlife enforcement RCW 77.15.070).
    - (b) Generally, 10 days' notice for conveyances. (Gambling RCW 9A.46.231; Child prostitution RCW 9A.88.150; Controlled substances RCW 69.50.505).
  4. Property is promptly released to those entitled to its return.
  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.

## *Asset Forfeiture*

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- (i) Ensuring that a written plan is available 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) Upon completion of any forfeiture process, ensuring that no property is retained by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office unless the Sheriff authorizes in writing the retention of the property for official use.
- (l) Addressing any landlord claims for reimbursement through forfeited assets or damage to property (RCW 9.46.231; RCW 69.50.505).
- (m) Compensating victims of commercial metal crimes within 120 days (RCW 19.290.230).

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.

### **606.7 DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY**

No member of this department may use property that has been seized for forfeiture until the forfeiture action has been completed and the Sheriff has given written authorization to retain the property for official use. No department member involved in the decision to seize property should be involved in any decision regarding the disposition of the property.



## Confidential Informants

### 608.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In many instances, a successful investigation cannot be conducted without the use of confidential informants. To protect the integrity of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and the deputies using informants, it shall be the policy of this department to take appropriate precautions by developing sound informant policies.

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# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Confidential Informants

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## Policy Manual

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# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Confidential Informants

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## Eyewitness Identification

### 610.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy sets forth guidelines to be used when members of this department employ eyewitness identification techniques.

#### 610.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to the policy include:

**Eyewitness identification process** - Any field identification, live lineup or photographic identification.

**Field identification** - A live presentation of a single individual to a witness following the commission of a criminal offense for the purpose of identifying or eliminating the person as the suspect.

**Live lineup** - A live presentation of individuals to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

**Photographic lineup** - Presentation of photographs to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

### 610.2 POLICY

This department will strive to use eyewitness identification techniques, when appropriate, to enhance the investigative process and will emphasize identifying persons responsible for crime and exonerating the innocent.

### 610.3 INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Deputies 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 deputy should explain the identification process to the interpreter. Once it is determined that the interpreter comprehends the process and can explain it to the witness, the eyewitness identification may proceed as provided for within this policy.

### 610.4 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION FORM

The Investigation Unit 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 and any related forms or reports should provide:

- (a) The date, time and location of the eyewitness identification procedure.
- (b) The name and identifying information of the witness.

## *Eyewitness Identification*

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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 admonishment that the suspect may or may not be among those presented and that the witness is not obligated to make an identification.
- (f) An admonishment to the witness that the investigation will continue regardless of whether an identification is made by the witness.
- (g) A signature line where the witness acknowledges that he/she understands the identification procedures and instructions.

### **610.5 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION**

Deputies are cautioned not to, in any way influence a witness as to whether any subject or photo presented in a lineup is in any way connected to the case. Deputies 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/or video recorded and the recording should be retained according to current evidence procedures.

#### **610.5.1 PHOTOGRAPHIC AND LIVE LINEUP CONSIDERATIONS**

When practicable, the person composing the lineup and the person presenting the lineup should not be directly involved in the investigation of the case. When this is not possible, the member presenting the lineup must take the utmost care not to communicate the identity of the suspect in any way.

When practicable, the employee presenting a lineup to a witness should not know which photograph or person is the suspect.

Other persons or photos used in any lineup should bear similar characteristics to the suspect to avoid causing him/her 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.

The employee presenting the lineup to a witness should do so sequentially and not simultaneously (i.e., show the witness one person at a time). The witness should view all persons in the lineup.

The order of the suspect or the photos and the fillers should be randomized before being presented to each witness.

## *Eyewitness Identification*

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A live lineup should only be used before criminal proceedings have been initiated against the suspect. If there is any question as to whether any criminal proceedings have begun, the investigating deputy should contact the appropriate prosecuting attorney before proceeding.

### 610.5.2 FIELD IDENTIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS

Field identifications, also known as field elimination show-ups or one-on-one identifications, may be helpful in certain cases, where exigent circumstances make it impracticable to conduct a photo or live lineup identifications. A field elimination or show-up identification should not be used when independent probable cause exists to arrest a suspect. In such cases a live or photo lineup is the preferred course of action if eyewitness identification is contemplated.

When initiating a field identification, the deputy should observe the following guidelines:

- (a) Obtain a complete description of the suspect from the witness.
- (b) Assess whether a witness should be included in a field identification process by considering:
  - 1. The length of time the witness observed the suspect.
  - 2. The distance between the witness and the suspect.
  - 3. Whether the witness could view the suspect's face.
  - 4. The quality of the lighting when the suspect was observed by the witness.
  - 5. Whether there were distracting noises or activity during the observation.
  - 6. Any other circumstances affecting the witness's opportunity to observe the suspect.
  - 7. The length of time that has elapsed since the witness observed the suspect.
- (c) If safe and practicable, the person who is the subject of the show-up should not be handcuffed or in a patrol vehicle.
- (d) When feasible, deputies should bring the witness to the location of the suspect, rather than bring the suspect to the witness.
- (e) A person should not be shown to the same witness more than once.
- (f) In cases involving multiple suspects, witnesses should only be permitted to view the suspects one at a time.
- (g) A person in a field identification should not be required to put on clothing worn by the suspect, to speak words uttered by the suspect or to perform other actions mimicking those of the suspect.
- (h) If a witness positively identifies an individual as the perpetrator, deputies should not conduct any further field identifications with other witnesses for that suspect. In such instances deputies should document the contact information for any additional witnesses for follow up, if necessary.

## *Eyewitness Identification*

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### **610.6 DOCUMENTATION**

A thorough description of the eyewitness process and the results of any eyewitness identification should be documented in the case report. Witness comments of how certain he/she is of the identification or non-identification should be quoted in the report.

If a photographic lineup is utilized, a copy of the photographic lineup presented to the witness should be included in the case report. In addition, the order in which the photographs were presented to the witness should be documented in the case report.



# Brady Material Disclosure

## 612.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for identifying and releasing potentially exculpatory or impeachment information (so-called "*Brady* information") to a prosecuting attorney.

### 612.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

***Brady* information** - Information known or possessed by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office that is both favorable and material to the current prosecution or defense of a criminal defendant.

## 612.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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 Pacific 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 Department will identify and disclose to the prosecution potentially exculpatory information, as provided in this policy.

## 612.3 DISCLOSURE OF INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION

Deputies must include in their investigative reports adequate investigative information and reference to all material evidence and facts that are reasonably believed to be either incriminating or exculpatory to any individual in the case. If a deputy learns of potentially incriminating or exculpatory information any time after submission of a case, the deputy or the handling investigator must prepare and submit a supplemental report documenting such information as soon as practicable. Supplemental reports shall be promptly processed and transmitted to the prosecutor's office.

If information is believed to be privileged or confidential (e.g., confidential informant or protected personnel files); the deputy should discuss the matter with a supervisor and/or prosecutor to determine the appropriate manner in which to proceed.

Evidence or facts are considered material if there is a reasonable probability that they would affect the outcome of a criminal proceeding or trial. Determining whether evidence or facts are material often requires legal or even judicial review. If a deputy is unsure whether evidence or facts are material, the deputy should address the issue with a supervisor.

Supervisors who are uncertain about whether evidence or facts are material should address the issue in a written memo to an appropriate prosecutor. A copy of the memo should be retained in the Department case file.

*Brady Material Disclosure*

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**612.4 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONNEL INFORMATION**

If a member of this department is a material witness in a criminal case, a person or persons designated by the Sheriff shall examine the personnel file and/or internal affairs file of the deputy to determine whether they contain *Brady* information. If *Brady* information is located, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) In the event that a motion has not already been filed by the criminal defendant or other party, the prosecuting attorney and department member shall be notified of the potential presence of *Brady* material in the member's personnel file.
- (b) The prosecuting attorney or department counsel should be requested to file a motion in order to initiate an in camera review by the court.
  - 1. If no motion is filed, the supervisor should work with counsel to determine whether the records should be disclosed to the prosecutor.
- (c) The Custodian of Records shall accompany all relevant personnel files during any in camera inspection to address any issues or questions raised by the court.
- (d) If the court determines that there is relevant *Brady* material contained in the files, only that material ordered released will be copied and released to the parties filing the motion.
  - 1. Prior to the release of any materials pursuant to this process, the Custodian of Records should request a protective order from the court limiting the use of such materials to the involved case and requiring the return of all copies upon completion of the case.
- (e) If a court has determined that relevant *Brady* information is contained in the member's file in any case, the prosecutor should be notified of that fact in all future cases involving that member.

The person or persons designated by the Sheriff should periodically examine the personnel files and/or internal affairs files of all deputies who may be material witnesses in criminal cases to determine whether they contain *Brady* information. The obligation to provide *Brady* information is ongoing. If any new *Brady* information is identified, the prosecuting attorney should be notified.

**612.5 INVESTIGATING BRADY ISSUES**

If the Department receives information from any source that a member may have issues of credibility, dishonesty or has been engaged in an act of moral turpitude or criminal conduct, the information shall be investigated and processed in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

**612.6 TRAINING**

Department personnel should receive periodic training on the requirements of this policy.

## Sexual Assault Investigations

### 613.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the investigation of sexual assaults. These guidelines will address some of the unique aspects of such cases and the effects that these crimes have on the victims.

Mandatory notifications requirements are addressed in the Child Abuse and Adult Abuse policies.

#### 613.1.1 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 RCW 9A.44.010 et seq. and RCW 9A.64.020.

**Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)** - A multidisciplinary team generally comprised of advocates, law enforcement officers, forensic medical examiners, including 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.

### 613.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 613.3 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 or other multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable.

*Sexual Assault Investigations*

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**613.4 INVESTIGATION AND 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.

**613.4.1 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.

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.

Victims are often reluctant or embarrassed to discuss details. Recanting or changing one or more aspects of a prior statement is not necessarily an indication of false reporting or that the case is unfounded. If the responding deputy has reason to believe the incident may be without merit, he/she should document the evidence and inconsistencies. Due to physical and emotional trauma, and the myths and stereotypes associated with sexual assault, inconsistencies in the victim's report are not uncommon. No opinions of whether the case is unfounded shall be included in the report.

**613.4.2 POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION OF VICTIM**

Victims of alleged sex offenses shall not be asked or required to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of the offense. The refusal of a victim to submit to a polygraph or other truth telling device shall not by itself prevent the investigation, charging or prosecution of the offense (RCW 10.58.038; 42 USC § 3796gg-8).

**613.4.3 VICTIM CONFIDENTIALITY**

A victim who seeks to have his/her address remain confidential should be referred to the Office of the Secretary of State to submit an application to participate in the address confidentiality program (RCW 40.24.030).

Information identifying a child victim under the age of 18 is confidential and not subject to release to the press or public without the permission of the child or the child's legal guardian unless allowed by law and as provided in RCW 10.97.130. Identifying information includes the child's name, address, location, photographs and the relationship of the child victim in cases where the alleged perpetrator is a relative or stepparent (RCW 10.97.130).

*Sexual Assault Investigations*

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**613.4.4 VICTIM RIGHTS**

Victims should be apprised of applicable victim's rights provisions, as outlined in the Victim Witness Assistance Policy.

Victims have the right to immediate medical assistance and not to be detained for an unreasonable length of time before having such assistance administered. The deputy may accompany the victim to a medical facility to question the victim about the sexual assault if the questioning does not hinder the administration of medical assistance (RCW 7.69.030(9)). A victim may choose a personal representative to accompany him/her to the hospital or other health care facility and to any proceeding concerning the alleged assault, including interviews. A personal representative includes a friend, relative, attorney, employee or volunteer from a community sexual assault program or specialized treatment service provider (RCW 70.125.030; RCW 70.125.060).

**613.4.5 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, it is critical to the investigation that a urine sample from the victim be collected by a medical professional.

If resources allow, kits or biological evidence from all rape cases, including cases where the suspect is known by the victim, should be submitted for biological testing. The result and the case information should be entered into state and national registries in a timely manner.

All evidence from cases where the suspect is a stranger to the victim shall be transmitted in a timely manner to the proper forensics lab for processing all relevant biological evidence.

**613.4.6 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 Investigation Unit supervisor.

Classification of a rape case as unfounded requires the Investigation Unit 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 to support the recanted information before the case should be determined as unfounded.

**613.4.7 AUDITING CASE DISPOSITIONS**

The Investigation Unit supervisor will ensure case dispositions are reviewed on a periodic basis using an identified group that is independent of the investigation process. The SART and/or victim advocates should be considered for involvement in this audit.

*Sexual Assault Investigations*

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**613.5 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 Investigation Unit 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.

**613.6 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, periodic training will be provided to:

- (a) Members who are first responders. This includes, but is not limited to, the following topics:
  - 1. Initial response to sexual assaults
  - 2. Legal issues
  - 3. Victim advocacy
  - 4. Victim's response to trauma
- (b) Qualified investigators who should receive advanced training on additional topics. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - 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)

## Warrant Service

### 614.1 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.

### 614.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 614.3 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.

### 614.4 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).

### 614.5 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.

### **614.6 WARRANT PREPARATION**

A deputy who prepares a warrant should ensure the documentation in support of the warrant contains as applicable:

- (a) Probable cause to support the search or arrest, including relevant dates and times to demonstrate timeliness and facts to support any request for nighttime execution.
- (b) A clear explanation of the affiant's training, experience and relevant education.
- (c) Adequately supported opinions, when relevant, that are not left to unsubstantiated conclusions.
- (d) A nexus between the place to be searched and the persons or items central to the investigation. The facts supporting this nexus should be clear and current. For example, the affidavit shall explain why there is probable cause to believe that a particular person is currently residing at a particular location or that the items sought are present at a particular location.
- (e) Full disclosure of known or suspected residents at the involved location and any indication of separate living spaces at the involved location. For example, it should be disclosed that several people may be renting bedrooms at a single location, even if the exact location of the rooms is not known.
- (f) A specific description of the location to be searched, including photographs of the location, if reasonably available.
- (g) A sufficient description of the items to be seized.
- (h) Full disclosure of any known exculpatory information relevant to the warrant application (refer to the Brady Material Disclosure Policy).

### **614.7 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 video-recorded when practicable and reasonable to do so. The warrant service may be audio-recorded when announcing to everyone present that the conversation is going to be recorded and said announcement is recorded except if allowed by the warrant (RCW 9.73.030).



## *Warrant Service*

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- (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.

### **614.8 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.

### **614.9 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.

### **614.10 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

### *Warrant Service*

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- 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office are utilized appropriately. Any concerns regarding the requested use of Pacific 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 Sergeant should assume this role.

If deputies intend to serve a warrant outside Pacific County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction, the operations director should provide reasonable advance notice to the applicable agency, request assistance 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office when assisting outside agencies or serving a warrant outside Pacific County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction.

#### **614.11 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.

#### **614.12 TRAINING**

The Training Officer should ensure deputies receive periodic training on this policy and associated topics, such as legal issues, warrant preparation, warrant service and reporting requirements.

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## Operations Planning and Deconfliction

### 615.1 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.

#### 615.1.1 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.

### 615.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

### 615.3 OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

The Sheriff will designate a member of this department 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.

### 615.4 RISK ASSESSMENT

#### 615.4.1 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:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *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).

#### 615.4.2 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.

#### 615.4.3 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. [Crisis Response Unit] ([CRU])
  - 2. Additional personnel
  - 3. Outside agency assistance
  - 4. Special equipment
  - 5. Medical personnel
  - 6. Persons trained in negotiation
  - 7. Additional surveillance

*Operations Planning and Deconfliction*

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8. Canines
  9. Evidence Room or analytical personnel to assist with cataloguing seizures
  10. Forensic specialists
  11. Specialized mapping for larger or complex locations
- (b) Contact the appropriate department 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.

**615.5 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.

**615.6 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, availability of keys/door

*Operations Planning and Deconfliction*

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- 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, Adult Abuse, Child and Dependent Adult Safety and Animal Control Procedures policies.
- (k) Communications plan
- (l) Responsibilities for writing, collecting, reviewing and approving reports.

**615.6.1 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.

**615.7 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Operations Planning and Deconfliction*

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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.

#### **615.8 [CRU] PARTICIPATION**

If the operations director determines that [CRU] participation is appropriate, the director and the [CRU] supervisor shall work together to develop a written plan. The [CRU] 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 [CRU] supervisor shall transfer control of the scene to the handling supervisor. This transfer should be communicated to the deputies present.

#### **615.9 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 News Media Relations Policy.

#### **615.10 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 [CRU] debriefing.

### *Operations Planning and Deconfliction*

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#### **615.11 TRAINING**

The Training Officer should ensure deputies and [CRU] 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.



## **Chapter 7 - Equipment**

## Department Owned and Personal Property

### 700.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Department employees are expected to properly care for department property assigned or entrusted to them. Employees may also suffer occasional loss or damage to personal or department property while performing their assigned duty. Certain procedures are required depending on the loss and ownership of the item.

### 700.2 CARE OF DEPARTMENTAL PROPERTY

Employees shall be responsible for the safekeeping, serviceable condition, proper care, use and replacement of department property assigned or entrusted to them. An employee's intentional or negligent abuse or misuse of department property may lead to discipline including, but not limited to the cost of repair or replacement.

- (a) Employees shall promptly report through their chain of command, any loss, damage to, or unserviceable condition of any department issued property or equipment assigned for their use.
- (b) The use of damaged or unserviceable department property should be discontinued as soon as practical and replaced with comparable Department property as soon as available and following notice to a supervisor.
- (c) Except when otherwise directed by competent authority or required by exigent circumstances, department property shall only be used by those to whom it was assigned. Use should be limited to official purposes and in the capacity for which it was designed.
- (d) Department property shall not be thrown away, sold, traded, donated, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of without proper authority.
- (e) In the event that any Department property becomes damaged or unserviceable, no employee shall attempt to repair the property without prior approval of a supervisor.

### 700.3 FILING CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY

Claims for reimbursement for damage or loss of personal property must be made on the proper form. This form is submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. The supervisor may require a separate written report of the loss or damage.

The supervisor shall direct a memo to the appropriate Lieutenant, 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.

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.

*Department Owned and Personal Property*

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The Department will not replace or repair luxurious or overly expensive items (jewelry, exotic equipment, etc.) that are not reasonably required as a part of work.

**700.3.1 REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

A verbal report shall be made to the employee's immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit.

A written report shall be submitted before the employee goes off duty or within the time frame directed by the supervisor to whom the verbal report is made.

**700.4 LOSS OR DAMAGE OF PROPERTY OF ANOTHER**

Deputies and other employees intentionally or unintentionally may cause damage to the real or personal property of another while performing their duties. Any employee who damages or causes to be damaged any real or personal property of another while performing any law enforcement functions, regardless of jurisdiction, shall report it as provided below.

- (a) A verbal report shall be made to the employee's immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit.
- (b) A written report shall be submitted before the employee goes off duty or within the time frame directed by the supervisor to whom the verbal report is made.

**700.4.1 DAMAGE BY PERSON OF ANOTHER AGENCY**

If employees of another jurisdiction cause damage to real or personal property belonging to the County, it shall be the responsibility of the employee present or the employee responsible for the property to make a verbal report to his/her immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit. The employee shall submit a written report before going off duty or as otherwise directed by the supervisor.

These written reports, accompanied by the supervisor's written report, shall promptly be forwarded to the appropriate Lieutenant.

## 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 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 (PCD) but is intended to include all mobile telephones, personal digital assistants (PDA) 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, e-mailing, using video or camera features, playing games and accessing sites or services on the Internet.

### 702.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office allows employees to utilize department-issued 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, employees 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 employee and the employee's PCD records to civil or criminal discovery or disclosure under applicable public records laws.

Employees 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 POLICY

Employees shall have no expectation of privacy with regard to any communication made with or stored in or through PCDs issued by the Department and shall have no expectation of privacy in their location should the device be equipped with location detection capabilities. The use of any department-provided or -funded PCD, computer, Internet service, telephone service or other wireless service while on-duty is without any expectation of privacy that the employee might otherwise have in any communication, including the content of any such communication. Communications or data reception on personal, password-protected, web-based e-mail accounts and any other services are subject to monitoring if department equipment is used.

In accordance with this policy, supervisors are authorized to conduct a limited administrative search of electronic files without prior notice, consent or a search warrant, on department-issued or personally owned PCDs that have been used to conduct department-related business. Administrative searches can take place for work-related purposes that may be unrelated to investigations of employee misconduct and, as practicable, will be done in the presence of the

### *Personal Communication Devices*

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affected employee. Prior to conducting any search of personally owned devices, supervisors shall consult with the Sheriff. All such searches shall be fully documented in a written report.

#### **702.4 DEPARTMENT-ISSUED PCD**

Depending on an employee's assignment and the needs of the position, the Department may, at its discretion, issue a PCD. Department-issued 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 an employee 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.

#### **702.5 PERSONALLY OWNED PCD**

Employees may carry a personally owned PCD while on-duty, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- (a) Carrying a personally owned PCD is a privilege, not a right.
- (b) The Department accepts no responsibility for loss of or damage to a personally owned PCD.
- (c) Employees shall promptly notify the Department in the event the PCD is lost or stolen.
- (d) The PCD and any associated services shall be purchased, used and maintained solely at the employee's expense.
- (e) The device should not be used for work-related purposes except in exigent circumstances (e.g., unavailability of radio communications). Employees 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.
- (f) 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.
- (g) Use of a personally owned PCD 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, employees will provide the Department with all telephone access numbers of the device.

Except with prior express authorization from their supervisor employees are not obligated or required to carry, access, monitor or respond to electronic communications using a personally owned PCD while off-duty. If an employee is in an authorized status that allows for appropriate compensation consistent with policy or existing collective bargaining agreements, or if the

*Personal Communication Devices*

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employee has prior express authorization from his/her supervisor, the employee may engage in business-related communications. Should employees engage in such approved off-duty communications or work, employees entitled to compensation shall promptly document the time worked and communicate the information to their supervisors to ensure appropriate compensation. Employees 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 PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

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). Employees shall endeavor to limit their use of PCDs to authorized break times, unless an emergency exists.
- (d) Employees may use a PCD to communicate with other personnel in situations where the use of the radio 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.
- (e) Deputies are prohibited from taking pictures, video or making audio recording 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) Employees 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 employee having knowledge of such conduct shall promptly notify a supervisor.

**702.7 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors should ensure that members under their command are provided appropriate training on the use of PCDs consistent with this policy. Supervisors should monitor, to the extent practicable, PCD use in the workplace and take prompt corrective action if an employee is observed or reported to be improperly using a PCD. An investigation into improper conduct should be promptly initiated when circumstances warrant.

### *Personal Communication Devices*

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If, when carrying out any provision of this policy, the need to contact an employee who is off-duty arises, supervisors should consider delaying the contact, if practicable, until the employee is on-duty as such contact may be compensable.

#### **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.

Except in an emergency, employees who are operating non-emergency vehicles shall not use a PCD while driving unless the device is specifically designed and configured to allow hands-free use (RCW 46.61.668). Hands-free use should be restricted to business-related calls or calls of an urgent nature.

#### **702.9 OFFICIAL USE**

Employees 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, employees shall conduct sensitive or private communications on a land-based or other department communications network.

The following situations are examples of when the use of a PCD may be appropriate:

- (a) Barricaded suspects
- (b) Hostage situations
- (c) Mobile Command Post
- (d) Catastrophic disasters, such as plane crashes, earthquakes, floods, etc.
- (e) Major political or community events
- (f) Investigative stakeouts
- (g) Emergency contact with an allied agency or allied agency field unit
- (h) When immediate communication is needed and the use of the radio is not available or appropriate and other means are not readily available

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## Vehicle Maintenance

### 704.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Employees are responsible for assisting in maintaining Department vehicles so that they are properly equipped, properly maintained, properly refueled and present a clean appearance.

### 704.2 DEFECTIVE VEHICLES

When a department vehicle becomes inoperative or in need of repair that affects the safety of the vehicle, that vehicle shall be removed from service for repair. Proper documentation shall be promptly completed by the employee who first becomes aware of the defective condition, describing the correction needed. The paperwork shall be promptly forwarded to vehicle maintenance for repair.

### 704.3 VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

Certain items shall be maintained in all department vehicles for emergency purposes and to perform routine duties.

#### 704.3.1 PATROL VEHICLES

Deputies shall inspect the patrol vehicle at the beginning of the shift and ensure that the following equipment, at a minimum, is present in the vehicle:

- 20 Emergency road flares
- 2 Sticks yellow crayon or chalk
- 1 Roll barricade tape
- 1 First aid kit
- 1 Fingerprint kit
- 1 Fire extinguisher
- Personal Protective Equipment per the Communicable Diseases and Body Armor policies

#### 704.3.2 UNMARKED VEHICLES

An employee driving unmarked department vehicles shall ensure that the minimum following equipment is present in the vehicle:

- 20 Emergency road flares
- 2 Sticks yellow crayon or chalk
- 1 Roll barricade tape
- 1 First aid kit
- 1 Fingerprint kit
- 1 Fire extinguisher



## *Vehicle Maintenance*

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- Personal Protective Equipment per the Communicable Diseases and Body Armor policies

### **704.4 VEHICLE REFUELING**

Absent emergency conditions or supervisor approval, deputies driving patrol vehicles shall not place a vehicle in service that has less than one-quarter tank of fuel. Whenever practicable, vehicles should be fully fueled when placed into service and refueled before the level falls below one-quarter tank.

Vehicles shall only be refueled at an authorized location.

#### **704.4.1 REFUELING LOCATIONS**

When refueling County owned vehicles, employees should try to fuel up at the North or South County Shops, utilizing County issued fuel card (Green). The Department recognizes that this is not always feasible, and does not expect officers to risk running out of fuel to get to the County Shops. Most vehicles have alternate gas cards in them. Normally all county vehicles have the Green card, a Red card (WASDOT), a Texaco/Chevron card and or a Shell Gas Card. All of these cards are assigned to the vehicle and therefore should not be removed and used on any other vehicle.

If an assigned vehicle does not have the above cards, notify your supervisor who will obtain replacement cards.

### **704.5 WASHING OF VEHICLES**

All units shall be kept clean at all times and weather conditions permitting, shall be washed as necessary to enhance their appearance.

Employees using a vehicle shall remove any trash or debris at the end of their shift. Confidential material should be placed in a designated receptacle provided for the shredding of this matter.

### **704.6 CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE USE**

Civilian employees using marked vehicles shall ensure all weapons are removed from vehicles before going into service. Civilian employees shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

## Vehicle Use

### 706.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a system of accountability to ensure County-owned vehicles are used appropriately. For the purposes of this policy, "County-owned" includes any vehicle owned, leased or rented by the County.

### 706.2 POLICY

The Department provides vehicles for official business use and may assign take-home vehicles based on its determination of operational efficiency, economic impact to the Department, tactical deployments and other considerations.

### 706.3 USE OF VEHICLES

County-owned vehicles shall only be used for official business and, when approved, for commuting to allow members to respond to department-related business outside their regular work hours.

Members shall not operate County-owned vehicles 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.

#### 706.3.1 SHIFT ASSIGNED VEHICLES

Members who use a fleet vehicle as part of their work assignment shall ensure that the vehicle is properly checked out and logged on the daily shift roster, according to current procedures, prior to taking it into service. If for any reason during the shift the vehicle is exchanged, the member shall ensure that the exchanged vehicle is likewise properly noted on the daily shift roster.

Members shall be responsible for inspecting the interior and exterior of any assigned vehicle before taking the vehicle into service and at the conclusion of the shift. Any previously unreported damage, mechanical problems, unauthorized contents or other problems with the vehicle shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented as appropriate.

#### 706.3.2 UNSCHEDULED USE OF VEHICLES

Members utilizing County-owned vehicles for any purpose other than their regularly assigned duties shall first notify the Shift Sergeant of the reason for use and a notation will be made on the shift roster indicating the operator's name and vehicle number. This section does not apply to members permanently assigned an individual vehicle (e.g., command staff, detectives), who regularly use the vehicle on an unscheduled basis as part of their normal assignment.

#### 706.3.3 UNMARKED VEHICLES

Except for use by the assigned member, unmarked units shall not be used without first obtaining approval from the supervisor of the unit to which the vehicle is assigned.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Vehicle Use*

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#### 706.3.4 AUTHORIZED PASSENGERS

Members operating County-owned vehicles shall not permit persons other than County members or persons required to be conveyed in the performance of duty, or as otherwise authorized, to ride as a passenger in their vehicle.

#### 706.3.5 PARKING

Except when responding to an emergency or other urgent official business requires otherwise, members driving County-owned vehicles should obey all parking regulations at all times.

County-owned vehicles should be parked in their assigned stalls. Members shall not park privately owned vehicles in any stall assigned to County-owned vehicles or in any other areas of the parking lot that are not designated as a parking space, unless authorized by a supervisor. Privately owned motorcycles shall be parked in designated areas.

#### 706.3.6 INSPECTIONS

The interior of any vehicle that has been used to transport any person other than a member 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 deputy shall search all areas of the vehicle that are accessible by the person before and after the person is transported.

#### 706.3.7 PRIVACY

All County-owned vehicles are subject to inspection and/or search at any time by a supervisor without notice and without cause. No member assigned to or operating such vehicle shall be entitled to any expectation of privacy with respect to the vehicle or its contents.

### **706.4 ASSIGNED VEHICLE AGREEMENT**

Members who have been assigned a take-home vehicle may use the vehicle to commute to the workplace and for department-related business. The member must be approved for an assigned vehicle by his/her Lieutenant and shall sign an agreement that includes the following criteria:

- (a) The member must live within a 30-minute commute of his/her regularly assigned work location (based on average traffic flow). A longer response time may be permitted subject to Lieutenant approval. Members who reside outside the permissible response time may be required to secure or garage the vehicle at a designated location or the central office at the discretion of the Lieutenant.
- (b) Except as may be provided by a employee bargaining agreement time spent during normal commuting is not compensable.
- (c) County-owned vehicles shall not be used for personal errands or other personal business unless approved by a supervisor for exceptional circumstances. The member may be required to maintain insurance covering any commuting or personal use.
- (d) The member may be responsible for the care and maintenance of the vehicle. The Department should provide necessary care and maintenance supplies.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Vehicle Use*

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- (e) The vehicle shall be parked in secure off-street parking when parked at the member's residence.
- (f) Vehicles shall be locked when not attended.
- (g) If the vehicle is not secured inside a locked garage, all firearms and kinetic impact weapons shall be removed from the interior of the vehicle and properly secured in the residence (see the Firearms Policy regarding safe storage of firearms at home). If the weapon is secured with a Office issued firearms lock, it may remain in the vehicle.
- (h) When the member will be away (e.g., on vacation) for periods exceeding one week the vehicle shall be stored in a secure garage at the member's residence or at the appropriate department facility.
- (i) All department identification, portable radios and equipment should be secured.

Members are cautioned that under federal and local tax rules, personal use of a County-owned vehicle may create an income tax liability to the member. Members should address questions regarding tax consequences to their tax adviser.

The assignment of vehicles is at the discretion of the Sheriff. Assigned vehicles may be changed at any time and/or permission to take home a vehicle may be withdrawn at any time.

#### **706.5 KEYS AND SECURITY**

All uniformed field members approved to operate marked patrol vehicles should be issued a copy of the unit key as part of their initial equipment distribution upon hiring. Deputies shall not duplicate keys.

Members assigned a permanent vehicle should be issued keys for their assigned vehicle.

The loss of any key shall be promptly reported in writing through the member's chain of command.

#### **706.6 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

When driving an assigned vehicle to and from work outside of the jurisdiction of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, a deputy should avoid becoming directly involved in enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists (see the Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions Policy and the Law Enforcement Authority Policy).

Deputies may render public assistance (e.g., to a stranded motorist) when deemed prudent.

Deputies shall, at all times while driving a marked County-owned vehicle, be armed, appropriately attired and carry their department-issued identification. Deputies should also ensure that department radio communication capabilities are maintained to the extent feasible.

#### **706.7 MAINTENANCE**

Members are responsible for the cleanliness (exterior and interior) and overall maintenance of their assigned vehicles.

### *Vehicle Use*

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Members shall make daily inspections of their assigned vehicles for service/maintenance requirements and damage. It is the assigned member's responsibility to ensure that his/her assigned vehicle is maintained according to the established service and maintenance schedule.

Supervisors shall make, at a minimum, monthly inspections of vehicles assigned to members under their command to ensure the vehicles are being maintained in accordance with policy.

#### **706.7.1 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS**

No modifications, additions or removal of any equipment or accessories shall be made to the vehicle without written permission from the Lieutenant.

#### **706.8 VEHICLE DAMAGE, ABUSE AND MISUSE**

When a County-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision or otherwise incurs damage, the involved member shall promptly notify a supervisor. Any traffic collision report shall be filed with the agency having jurisdiction (see also the Traffic Collision Reporting Policy).

When a collision involves a County vehicle or when a member of this department is an involved driver in a collision that occurs in this jurisdiction, and the collision results in serious injury or death, the supervisor should request that an outside law enforcement agency be summoned to investigate the collision.

The member involved in the collision shall complete the County's vehicle collision form. If the member is unable to complete the form, the supervisor shall complete the form.

Any damage to a vehicle that was not caused by a traffic collision shall be immediately reported during the shift in which the damage was discovered, documented in memorandum format and forwarded to the Shift Sergeant. An administrative investigation should be initiated to determine if there is any vehicle abuse or misuse.

#### **706.9 TOLL ROAD USAGE**

Law enforcement vehicles are not routinely exempted from incurring toll road charges.

To avoid unnecessary toll road charges, all members operating a County-owned vehicle upon the toll road shall adhere to the following:

- (a) All members operating a County-owned vehicle 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) All members passing through a toll plaza or booth during a response to an emergency shall notify, in writing, the appropriate Lieutenant within five working days explaining the circumstances.

## **Chapter 8 - Support Services**

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# Communication Operations

## 802.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The basic function of the communications system is to satisfy the immediate information needs of the law enforcement agency in the course of its normal daily activities and during emergencies. The latter situation places the greatest demands upon the communications system and tests the capability of the system to fulfill its functions. Measures and standards of performance are necessary to assess the effectiveness with which any department, large or small, uses available information technology in fulfillment of its missions.

### 802.1.1 FCC COMPLIANCE

Pacific County Sheriff's Office radio operations shall be conducted in accordance with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) procedures and guidelines.

## 802.2 COMMUNICATION OPERATIONS

This department provides 24-hour telephone service to the public for information or assistance that may be needed in emergencies. This informational number is published and the line is staffed by trained personnel during regular business hours.

The ability of citizens to telephone quickly and easily for emergency service is critical. This department provides access to the 9-1-1 system for a single emergency telephone number. This department has two-way radio capability providing continuous communication between Dispatch and deputies.

### 802.2.1 COMMUNICATIONS LOG

It shall be the responsibility of Dispatch to record all relevant information on calls for criminal and non-criminal service or self-initiated activity. Employees shall attempt to elicit as much information as possible to enhance the safety of the deputy and assist in anticipating conditions to be encountered at the scene. Desirable information would include, at a minimum, the following:

- Control number
- Date and time of request
- Name and address of complainant, if possible
- Type of incident reported
- Location of incident reported
- Identification of deputy(s) assigned as primary and backup
- Time of dispatch
- Time of the deputy's arrival
- Time of deputy's return to service
- Disposition or status of reported incident

## *Communication Operations*

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### **802.3 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

Operations are more efficient and officer safety is enhanced when dispatchers, supervisors, and fellow deputies know the status of deputies, their locations and the nature of cases.

#### **802.3.1 DEPUTY IDENTIFICATION**

Identification systems are based on factors such as beat assignment and deputy identification numbers. Employees should use the entire call sign when initiating communication with the dispatcher. The use of the call sign allows for a brief pause so that the dispatcher can acknowledge the appropriate unit. Employees initiating communication with other agencies shall use their entire call sign. This requirement does not apply to continuing conversation between the mobile unit and dispatcher once the mobile unit has been properly identified.



## Property and Evidence

### 804.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides for the proper collection, storage, and security of evidence and other property. Additionally, this policy provides for the protection of the chain of evidence and those persons authorized to remove and/or destroy property.

### 804.2 DEFINITIONS

**Property** - Includes all items of evidence, items taken for safekeeping and found property.

**Evidence** - Includes items taken or recovered in the course of an investigation that may be used in the prosecution of a case. This includes photographs and latent fingerprints.

**Safekeeping** - Includes the following types of property:

- Property obtained by the Department for safekeeping such as a firearm.
- Personal property of an arrestee not taken as evidence.
- Property taken for safekeeping under authority of a law.

**Found Property** - Includes property found by an employee or citizen that has no apparent evidentiary value and where the owner cannot be readily identified or contacted.

### 804.3 PROPERTY HANDLING

Any employee who first comes into possession of any property, shall retain such property in his/her possession until it is properly tagged and placed in the designated property locker or storage room. The property report should be left on the evidence room door or a notation by e-mail to the evidence custodian referring to the status of new property/evidence to be logged in. 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 should sign the form acknowledging receipt of the item(s). The property form and/or property receipt should be placed in the case file.

#### 804.3.1 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 report form describing each item of property separately, listing all serial numbers, owner's name, finder's name, and other identifying information or markings.
- (b) Complete an evidence/property tag and attach it to each package or envelope in which the property is stored. Mark each evidence/property tag with the booking employee's

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Property and Evidence*

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- name, case number, property number and the date booked using the appropriate method so as not to deface or damage the value of the property stored.
- (c) The ERO will place the case number (in red) in the upper right hand corner of the bag/tag and the property number (in red) in the upper left hand corner of the bag/tag. The red markings indicate the items have been checked into evidence.
  - (d) The original property form (white) shall be submitted with the case report. The pink copy & white copy shall be placed in the property officer's box.
  - (e) When the property is too large to be placed in a locker, the item may be retained in the Evidence Storage room, south or in the evidence lab, north.
  - (f) After all the property on the property report is logged into the computer system (Spillman), the record is locked by the evidence room officer and changes can only be made by either asking the ERO to unlock the record, or asking the ERO to make the pertinent changes need, via e-mail or written request. If any records need to be deleted due to duplication or any other prudent reason, such as an entry error, it can be done so only by email or written request.
  - (g) In the event an item needs correction before it can be accepted into the evidence room, the submitting deputy and his/her Sergeant will receive a correction notice. If uncorrected by the completion date, a second courtesy notification will be sent. If still uncorrected after the second notice, the correction notice will be forwarded to the Lieutenant for follow up. Once the correction has been made, the ERO will notify the deputy and the deputy's supervisor of the completion of the correction.

#### 804.3.2 NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

All narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be booked separately using a separate property record.

The deputy seizing the narcotics and dangerous drugs shall place them in the designated locker accompanied by the Pink and Yellow copy of the Property form. The original will be detached and submitted with the case report.

#### 804.3.3 EXPLOSIVES

Deputies who encounter a suspected explosive device shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor or the Shift Sergeant. The Bomb Squad will be called to handle explosive-related incidents and will be responsible for the handling, storage, sampling and disposal of all suspected explosives.

Explosives will not be retained in the sheriff's facility. Only fireworks that are considered stable and safe and road flares or similar signaling devices may be booked into property. All such items shall be stored in proper containers and in an area designated for the storage of flammable materials. The property officer is responsible for transporting to the Fire Department, on a regular basis, any fireworks or signaling devices that are not retained as evidence.

### *Property and Evidence*

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#### 804.3.4 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. Other biological specimens shall be packaged and labeled as biohazardous material. Refer to the Biological Specimen Preservation Worksheet for verification of the storage temperatures.
- (b) License plates found not to be stolen or connected with a known crime, should be released directly to the property officer, 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 property officer, or placed in the bicycle storage area until a property officer can log the property. Found property bicycles, worth less than \$25.00 and not suspected as part of a crime, are not to be entered into property. These bicycles are to be left with the finder, the deputy should advise the finder that they may contact the ERO for instructions to comply with RCW 63.21.050.
- (d) All cash shall be counted in the presence of a supervisor and the envelope initialed by the booking deputy and the supervisor. The Sergeant shall be contacted for cash in excess of \$1,000 for special handling procedures.
- (e) Alcohol dumping at the scene procedure. Empty opened cans and bottles submitted into evidence.

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.

#### 804.3.5 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE

Whenever property seized by the Department is subject to forfeiture, specific notification procedures must be followed. It shall be the responsibility of the assigned deputy, detective or the property officer to ensure that the following notifications are completed.

The owner of the property will be notified of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized property within 15 days following the seizure. Notification includes any person having any known right or legal interest in the seized property, including any community property interest. The notice of the seizure may be made by any method authorized by law (RCW 10.105.010).

The notification will include the legal reason for the seizure and information regarding how to appeal the pending forfeiture.

Notification procedures for property seized under Asset Forfeiture (RCW 69.50.505) are detailed in the Asset Forfeiture Policy.

## *Property and Evidence*

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### **804.3.6 STORAGE OF SURRENDERED FIREARMS**

Deputies shall accept and store a firearm from any individual who has been ordered by a court under RCW 9.41.800 to surrender the firearm. The deputy receiving the firearm shall:

- (a) Record the individual's name, address and telephone number.
- (b) Record the firearm's serial number.
- (c) Record the date that the firearm was accepted for storage.
- (d) Prepare a property receipt form and provide a copy to the individual who surrendered the firearm.

The property officer shall store a firearm accepted pursuant to this policy. The firearm shall be returned to the owner as provided by the court order or any additional court order.

### **804.4 PACKAGING OF PROPERTY**

Certain items require special consideration and shall be booked separately as follows:

- (a) Narcotics and dangerous drugs.
- (b) Firearms (ensure they are unloaded and booked separately from ammunition, see 804.4.3 for further instructions).
- (c) Property with more than one known owner.
- (d) Fireworks.
- (e) Contraband.
- (f) Jewelry.
- (g) Alcohol.
- (h) Cash.

All items of value should be placed into the property room safe, storage room permitting.

The following items are also packaged separately: Jewelry, Alcohol, cash, valuables of any kind which should be placed into the safe

#### **804.4.1 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 syringe tubes should be used to package syringes and needles. Syringes and needles are not normally allowed in our courts. Check with the Prosecutor about disposing of such.

Syringes and needles should be placed into a biohazard (medical waste) container and later disposed of at one of the local hospitals.

A property tag shall be securely attached to the outside of all items or group of items packaged together. A Biohazard (orange) warning label should be attached to any package containing syringes, needles or any biohazardous material.

## *Property and Evidence*

---

Syringes will only be accepted into evidence with prior approval by the Lieutenant unless extenuating circumstances require emergency submission.

### **804.4.2 PACKAGING NARCOTICS**

The deputy seizing narcotics and dangerous drugs shall retain such property in his/her possession until it is properly weighed, packaged, tagged, and placed in the designated narcotics locker, accompanied by two copies of the property record. Prior to packaging and if the quantity allows, a presumptive test should be made on all suspected narcotics. If conducted, the results of this test shall be included in the deputy's report.

Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be packaged in an envelope of appropriate size available in the report room. The booking deputy shall initial the sealed envelope and the initials covered with cellophane tape. Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall not be packaged with other property.

A completed property tag shall be attached to the outside of the container. The chain of evidence shall be recorded on the back of this tag.

### **804.4.3 PACKING FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION**

Firearms will be cleared for safety and then zip tied in an unloadable position and packaged in a pistol or rifle box. Any magazines or accessories shall be packaged with the firearm. Any ammunition shall be packaged under a single property number and in a single container with the various types and calibers listed in the notes field and on the property report.

## **804.5 RECORDING OF PROPERTY**

The signature of the receiving party is logged into the property table along with the time received, sent to lab, or any other changes of locations. The location of the property is put on the property file as well as in the property table. For audit purposes the auditor should be able to find the property by either looking on the property file or in the property table. Or, going to the property itself and checking the property file and computer record. Also we do not have a property logbook as in other times - property is logged directly into the computer program.

## **804.6 PROPERTY CONTROL**

Each time the property officer receives property or releases property to another person, he/she shall enter this information on an evidence receipt. Prosecutor's Office requests for trial evidence require notice of at least 7 business days and a written request which can be submitted using the Evidence for Trial Request. Deputies requiring property for court shall make arrangements with the property officer at least one business day prior to the court day to pick up the evidence.

### **804.6.1 RESPONSIBILITY OF OTHER PERSONNEL**

Every time property is released or received, an appropriate entry in the property record shall be completed to maintain the chain of possession. The evidence officer will print a receipt which will be signed, dated and time for chain of custody purpose. No property or evidence is to be released without first receiving written authorization from a supervisor or deputy, or prosecutor.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Property and Evidence*

---

Request for analysis for items other than narcotics or drugs shall be completed on the appropriate forms and submitted to the property officer. This request may be filled out any time after booking of the property or evidence.

#### 804.6.2 TRANSFER OF EVIDENCE TO CRIME LABORATORY

Deputies should fill out a lab for (RFLE) on-line and submit the form to the the ERO The RFLE form will be presented to the lab personnel to be placed with the evidence. When the evidence does not need to be physically transported, by a deputy or the ERO, the evidence room officer will send the evidence along with the WSP Crime Lab Request form via the following methods: FedEx (for firearms), USPS Priority Mail w/Signature Confirmation , or UPS. When the evidence requires physical transport, 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 property officer releasing the evidence must complete the required information in the property record and the release receipt. The lab forms will be transported with the property to the examining laboratory. Upon delivering the item involved, the crime lab personnel will record the delivery time on both copies, and the employee to whom it was delivered.

Upon return of evidence from the crime lab, the finished crime lab report will be given to the deputy. The deputy will then turn in all documents to the records clerks for filing with the case.

#### 804.6.3 STATUS OF PROPERTY

Temporary release of property to deputies for investigative purposes, or for court, shall be signed for by the requesting deputy. The evidence room officer will print out a receipt, which once signed will be kept in the evidence room.

The chain of custody will be tracked by the ERO within the property record in Spillman for permanent retention, supplemented/supported by the physical original paperwork. The property officer 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 within the property record, indicating date, time, and the person who returned the property.

#### 804.6.4 AUTHORITY TO RELEASE PROPERTY

The Lieutenant, in conjunction with the Pacific County Prosecutor's Office or any valid court order, shall authorize the disposition or release of all evidence and property coming into the care and custody of the Office.

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will not release any type of marijuana, personal or medical, to any individual unless directed to do so by a valid court order. The court order will be verified with the issuing court.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Property and Evidence*

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#### 804.6.5 RELEASE OF PROPERTY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall make every effort to return personal property that is in the possession of this department when such property is not considered evidence of a crime or is no longer needed as evidence. In such cases, the property officer shall make a reasonable attempt to identify the lawful owner and provide written notice via US Mail within 15 days after the property is authorized to be released.

If the property remains unclaimed beyond sixty days after the initial written notice to the property owner, or, in the case of property held as evidence, sixty days from the date when the case has been finally adjudicated and the property has been released as evidence by order of the court, the Department may (RCW 63.32.010; RCW 63.40.010):

- (a) At any time thereafter sell the property at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash in the manner provided by RCW 63.32 or RCW 63.40. The disposition of all proceeds from such auctions shall be accounted for and recorded according to law. (RCW 63.32.030).
- (b) Retain the property for the use of the Department subject to giving notice in the manner prescribed in RCW 63.32.020 (or RCW 63.40.020) and the right of the owner, or the owner's legal representative, to reclaim the property within one year after receipt of notice, without compensation for ordinary wear and tear if, in the opinion of the Sheriff, the property consists of firearms or other items specifically usable in law enforcement work, provided that at the end of each calendar year during which there has been such a retention, the Department shall provide the County's elected body and retain for public inspection a list of such retained items and an estimation of each item's replacement value. At the end of the one-year period any unclaimed firearm shall be disposed of pursuant to RCW 9.41.098(2).
- (c) Destroy an item of personal property at the discretion of the Sheriff if he/she determines that the following circumstances have occurred:
  - 1. The property has no substantial commercial value, or the probable cost of sale exceeds the value of the property; and
  - 2. The item has been unclaimed by any person after notice procedures have been met, as prescribed in this section; and
  - 3. The Chief of Police has determined that the item is unsafe and unable to be made safe for use by any member of the general public.

If the item is not unsafe or illegal to possess or sell, it may, after satisfying the notice requirements as prescribed in RCW 63.32.020, be offered by the Sheriff to bona fide dealers, in trade for law enforcement equipment. Such equipment shall be treated as retained property for purpose of annual listing requirements of the RCW. Such items may be destroyed at the discretion of the Sheriff if he/she believes that it has been, or may be used in a manner that is illegal (RCW 63.32.010).

The property officer 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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Property and Evidence*

---

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 Civil Division for filing with the case. If some items of property have not been released the property card will remain with the Evidence Room. Upon release, the proper entry shall be documented in the Property Log.

#### 804.6.6 DISPUTED CLAIMS TO PROPERTY

Occasionally more than one party may claim an interest in property being held by the Department, and the legal rights of the parties cannot be clearly established. Such property shall not be released until one party has obtained a valid court order or other undisputed right to the involved property.

All parties should be advised that their claims are civil and in extreme situations, legal counsel for the Department may wish to file an interpleader to resolve the disputed claim.

#### 804.6.7 CONTROL OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

The Lieutenant will be responsible for the storage, control, and destruction of all narcotics and dangerous drugs coming into the custody of this department.

#### 804.6.8 CONTROL OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

The ERO will conduct a thorough criminal and mental health history background check for the person who will reclaim the firearm(s). These background checks will include:

- (a) Driver's Query & Wants through Spillman
- (b) Criminal History Query/Record through Spillman
- (c) Mental Health Firearms Check through WA State DSHS

The ERO will use the Firearms Release Checklist form to track the results of each query. As ACCESS regulations prevent the long-term filing of criminal history documents obtained through ACCESS, the Firearms Release Checklist will serve as proof of due diligence for auditing purposes.

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will destroy all ammunition entered into evidence once release authorization is granted. Ammunition will only be released to the public by direction of a valid court order. Within 15 days of the entry of ammunition into evidence, the ERO will send the listed owner a notification letter explaining the department's destruction of ammunition policy.

#### 804.6.9 PROPERTY DEPICTING A MINOR ENGAGED IN SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONDUCT

No property or material that depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct shall be copied, photographed or duplicated. Such material shall remain under the control of this department or the court and shall be made reasonably available for inspection by the parties to a criminal proceeding involving the material. The defendant may only view these materials while in the presence of his/her attorney or an individual appointed by the court either at this department or a neutral facility as approved by the court (RCW 9.68A.001). Any request for inspecting such material should be brought to the attention of the assigned investigator or an investigation supervisor.



*Property and Evidence*

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The sole exception of the prohibition of duplication will apply to WSP High Tech Crimes Unit cd containing the lab report and digital evidence of which a single investigative copy will be made. The original WSP High Tech Crimes Unit cd will be held securely as evidence while the investigative copy will be available directly to the investigating officer and the prosecuting attorney. This investigative copy will be tracked with a chain of custody form and will be returned to the evidence room for destruction as soon as possible. Any additional copies created or unauthorized viewings will lead to disciplinary action and criminal charges.

**804.7 DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY**

All personal property, other than vehicles governed by Chapter 46.52 RCW, not held for evidence in a pending criminal investigation or proceeding, and held for 60 days or longer where the owner has not been located or fails to claim the property, may be disposed of in compliance with existing laws upon receipt of proper authorization for disposal. The property officer should request a disposition or status on all property which has been held in excess of 60 days, and for which no disposition has been received from a supervisor or detective (RCW 63.32.010; RCW 63.40.010).

**804.7.1 PRESERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

The Evidence Room supervisor shall ensure that no biological evidence held by the Department is destroyed without adequate notification to the following persons, when applicable:

- (a) The defendant
- (b) The defendant's attorney
- (c) The appropriate prosecutor
- (d) Any sexual assault victim
- (e) The Investigation Unit supervisor

Biological evidence shall be retained for a minimum period established by law, the Evidence Room supervisor, or the expiration of any sentence imposed related to the evidence, whichever time period is greater. Following the retention period, notifications should be made by certified mail and should inform the recipient that the evidence will be destroyed after a date specified in the notice unless a motion seeking an order to retain the sample is filed and served on the Department within 90 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 Investigation Unit 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.

**804.8 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Property and Evidence*

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- (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 department shall be conducted by a Lieutenant (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(s) not associated to the property room or function to ensure that records are correct and all evidence property is accounted for.

#### 804.8.1 EVIDENCE ROOM SECURITY

Access to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office Evidence Room is restricted to authorized department personnel only. It shall be the responsibility of the property officer to control all access to the Evidence Room.

The property officer shall maintain a log of all persons entering the secured area of the Evidence Room. Personnel, other than those assigned to the Evidence Room, who have legitimate business in the secured area will be required to record their name, the date, time and purpose for entry.

## Records

### 806.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Chief Civil Deputy shall maintain the Department Civil Division Procedures Manual on a current basis to reflect the procedures being followed within the Civil Division. Policies and procedures that apply to all employees of this department are contained in this chapter.

#### 806.1.1 NUMERICAL FILING SYSTEM

Case reports are filed numerically within the Civil Division by Civil Division personnel.

Reports are numbered commencing with the last two digits of the current year followed by a sequential number beginning with 00001 starting at midnight on the first day of January of each year. As an example, case number 09-00001 would be the first new case beginning January 1, 2009.

#### 806.1.2 UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office participates in Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) and/or the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The Chief Civil Deputy is responsible for ensuring that UCR/NIBRS reports are provided to WASPC on a regular basis.

### 806.2 FILE ACCESS AND SECURITY

All reports including, but not limited to, initial, supplemental, follow-up, evidence, and all reports critical to a case shall be maintained in a secure area within the Civil Division accessible only to authorized Civil Division personnel. Access to report files after hours or when records personnel are otherwise not available may be obtained through the Shift Sergeant.

Pacific County Sheriff's Office employees shall not access, view or distribute, or allow anyone else to access, view or distribute any record, file or report, whether hard copy or electronic file format, except in accordance with department policy and with a legitimate law enforcement or business purpose or as otherwise permissible by law.

#### 806.2.1 REQUESTING ORIGINAL REPORTS

Generally, original reports shall not be removed from the Civil Division. Should an original report be needed for any reason the requesting employee shall first obtain authorization from the Chief Civil Deputy. All original reports removed from the Civil Division shall be recorded on the Report Check-Out Log which shall constitute the only authorized manner by which an original report may be removed from the Civil Division.

#### 806.2.2 RECORDS CONCERNING JUVENILES

The Chief Civil Deputy shall be responsible for ensuring that the following files, when involving juveniles, are distinguishable from adult files:

- Photos
- Fingerprints

### Records

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- Booking information
- Any report in which a juvenile is named as a suspect in a crime.

Upon receiving notification from the Office of the Governor that a specific juvenile has received a full and unconditional pardon, the Chief Civil Deputy shall ensure that all records pertaining to that juvenile are destroyed within 30 days (RCW 13.50.270).

#### **806.3 REQUISITION OF SUPPLIES**

All personnel who are in need of supplies shall complete a Requisition of Supplies form available in the Civil Division. The form shall be approved by a supervisor and submitted to the Supply Clerk in the Civil Division.

Only Civil Division personnel shall issue supplies from the supply room, and no supplies will be provided without a Requisition of Supplies form.

#### **806.4 USE OF A CENTRAL COMPUTERIZED ENFORCEMENT SERVICE SYSTEM (ACCESS)**

A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS) is a computer controlled communications system located at the WSP Information Technology Division. ACCESS provides service to all the state and national information systems. The Chief of the WSP is vested with the authority to administer all operating phases of ACCESS and WACIC. There are specific requirements for agencies accessing the information in the group of computers systems in ACCESS.

##### **806.4.1 ACCESS USE REQUIREMENTS**

No member of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office shall operate any of the ACCESS systems without first complying with the training requirements as they are listed in the [ACCESS Manual, Chapter 1, Section 5, Item D](#).

##### **806.4.2 ACCESS REQUIREMENTS**

As an authorized ACCESS user, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office complies with all of the following ACCESS requirements ([ACCESS Manual, Chapter 4](#)):

- Warrant Entry
- Receiving information from outside agencies
- Recording information
- Verifying information
- Cancelling information
- Providing 24 hour access to agency warrants

It is the responsibility of the Chief Civil Deputy to ensure that all ACCESS computer and network security requirements are in place and operational ([ACCESS Manual, Chapter 1, Section 2, Item A](#)).

### *Records*

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#### **806.4.3 TRANSPORTATION OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

It is required that any protected information that is being transported be secure and only transported by authorized personnel. The transporting personnel will either be ACCESS certified or have completed the ACCESS security awareness training. The following steps shall be followed for transporting protected information.

Support Services personnel will secure the protected information inside the secure carrying device ensuring the device is locked with a combination lock is used. The combination shall only be known by Support Services personnel. The combination will change annually and/or when a Support Services employee separates from employment.

The items are to be transported directly from the north or south offices to the north or south offices, no other locations are authorized.

#### **806.5 OFFICER SAFETY ADVISORIES**

A Violent Person File (VPF) database is maintained by the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and is intended to provide protection to police, corrections or other criminal justice officers. Individuals who represent a potential threat to deputies may be entered into the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC) when they have previously exhibited assaultive or threatening behavior during contacts by law enforcement.

To qualify for entry, one or more of the following conditions must be met (WACIC Manual Chapter 29.01 II,A):

- (a) The offender has been convicted for assault or murder/homicide of a law enforcement officer, fleeing, resisting arrest or any such statute which involves violence against law enforcement.
- (b) The offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person to include homicide and attempted homicide.
- (c) The offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person where a firearm or weapon was used.
- (d) A law enforcement agency, based on its official investigatory duties, reasonably believes that the individual has seriously expressed his/her intent to commit an act of unlawful violence against a member of the law enforcement or criminal justice community.

Deputies who encounter a person who he/she believes is a threat to officer safety should submit a report detailing the circumstances of the contact and nature of the threat for entry as an Officer Safety Advisory.

All Officer Safety Advisories are subject to approval by the Sheriff or his/her designee.

Once approved, the Civil Division is responsible for making the appropriate entry into WACIC.

Whenever an Officer Safety Advisory is initiated by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, it is the responsibility of the Chief Civil Deputy to ensure that a copy of the supporting documentation and the authorized statement signed by the Sheriff are maintained in a separate file. Supporting

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### Records

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documentation may include the crime report, officer's supplemental report, mental health report or other similar documentation.

#### **806.6 DISPOSAL OF MEDIA POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

##### Purpose and Scope

- (a) The purpose of this policy is to outline the proper disposal of media (physical or electronic) at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. These rules are in place to protect sensitive and classified information, employees and the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Inappropriate disposal of Pacific County Sheriff's Office and FBI Criminal Justice Information (CJI) and media may put employees, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and the FBI at risk.
- (b) This policy applies to all Pacific County Sheriff's Office employees, contractors, temporary staff, and other workers at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, with access to FBI CJIS systems and/or data, sensitive and classified data, and media. This policy applies to all equipment that processes, stores, and/or transmits FBI CJI and classified and sensitive data that is owned or leased by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

##### 806.6.1 POLICY

When no longer usable, hard drives, diskettes, tape cartridges, CDs, ribbons, hard copies, print-outs, and other similar items used to process, store and/or transmit FBI CJI and classified and sensitive data shall be properly disposed of in accordance with measures established by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Physical media (print-outs and other physical media) shall be disposed of by one of the following methods:

1. Placed in locked shredding bins for Recall to come on-site and shred, witnessed by Pacific County Sheriff's Office personnel throughout the entire process.

Electronic media (hard-drives, tape cartridge, CDs, printer ribbons, flash drives, printer and copier hard-drives, etc.) shall be disposed of by one of the following methods:

- (a) Overwriting (at least 3 times) - an effective method of clearing data from magnetic media. As the name implies, overwriting uses a program to write (1s, 0s, or a combination of both) onto the location of the media where the file to be sanitized is located.
- (b) Degaussing - a method to magnetically erase data from magnetic media. Two types of degaussing exist: strong magnets and electric degausses. Note that common magnets (e.g., those used to hang a picture on a wall) are fairly weak and cannot effectively degauss magnetic media.
- (c) Destruction - a method of destroying magnetic media. As the name implies, destruction of magnetic media is to physically dismantle by methods of crushing, disassembling, etc., ensuring that the platters have been physically destroyed so that no data can be pulled.

IT systems that have been used to process, store, or transmit FBI CJI and/or sensitive and classified information shall not be released from the control of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Records*

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until the equipment has been sanitized and all stored information has been cleared using one of the above methods.

Any employee found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

## Restoration of Firearm Serial Numbers

### 808.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The primary purpose for restoring firearm serial numbers is to determine the prior owners or origin of the item from which the number has been recovered. Thus, property can be returned to rightful owners or investigations can be initiated to curb illegal trade of contraband firearms. The purpose of this plan is to develop standards, methodologies, and safety protocols for the recovery of obliterated serial numbers from firearms and other objects using procedures that are accepted as industry standards in the forensic community. All personnel who are involved in the restoration of serial numbers will observe the following guidelines.

### 808.2 PROCEDURE

Any firearm coming into the possession of the Pacific 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:

#### 808.2.1 PRELIMINARY FIREARM EXAMINATION

- (a) Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Be sure the firearm is in an unloaded condition. This includes removal of the ammunition source (e.g., the detachable magazine, contents of the tubular magazine) as well as the chamber contents.
- (b) If the firearm is corroded shut or in a condition that would preclude inspection of the chamber contents, treat the firearm as if it is loaded. Make immediate arrangements for a firearms examiner or other qualified examiner to render the firearm safe.
- (c) Accurately record/document the condition of the gun when received. Note the positions of the various components such as the safeties, cylinder, magazine, slide, hammer, etc. Accurately record/document cylinder chamber and magazine contents. Package the ammunition separately.
- (d) If the firearm is to be processed for fingerprints or trace evidence, process before the serial number restoration is attempted. First record/document important aspects such as halos on the revolver cylinder face or other relevant evidence that might be obscured by the fingerprinting chemicals.

#### 808.2.2 PROPERTY BOOKING PROCEDURE

Any employee taking possession of a firearm with removed/obliterated serial numbers shall book the firearm into property following standard procedures. The employee booking the firearm shall indicate on the property form that serial numbers have been removed or obliterated.

#### 808.2.3 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITY

The property officer 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.



## *Restoration of Firearm Serial Numbers*

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### **808.2.4 DOCUMENTATION**

Case reports are prepared in order to document the chain of custody and the initial examination and handling of evidence from the time it is received/collected until it is released.

This report must include a record of the manner in which and/or from whom the firearm was received. This may appear on the request form or property form depending on the type of evidence.

### **808.2.5 FIREARM TRACE**

After the serial number has been restored (or partially restored) by the criminalistics laboratory, the property officer will complete a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) National Tracing Center (NTC) Obliterated Serial Number Trace Request Form (ATF 3312.1-OBL) and forward the form to the NTC in Falling Waters, West Virginia or enter the data into the ATF [eTrace](#) system.

### **808.3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

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 digitize and compare unique markings made by a firearm on bullets and cartridge casings recovered from crime scenes.

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## Records Release and Security

### 810.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this section is to establish a comprehensive reference and procedure for the maintenance and release of Office reports and records in accordance with the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56, et seq.).

### 810.2 DEFINITIONS

**Privacy Violation (right of privacy, right to privacy, personal privacy)** - An invasion or violation of privacy occurs only if disclosure of information about the person would be highly offensive to a reasonable person, and is not of legitimate concern to the public. The rights to privacy in certain public records do not create any right of privacy beyond those rights that are specified by law as express exemptions from the public's right to inspect, examine, or copy public records (RCW 42.56.050).

**Public Record** - Includes any writing containing information relating to the conduct of government or the performance of any governmental or proprietary function prepared, owned, used, or retained by any state or local agency regardless of physical form or characteristics (RCW 42.56.010(2)).

**Writing** - Means handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing, and every other means of recording any form of communication or representation, including, but not limited to, letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or combination thereof, and all papers, maps, magnetic or paper tapes, photographic films and prints, motion picture, film and video recordings, magnetic or punched cards, discs, drums, diskettes, sound recordings, and other documents including existing data compilations from which information may be obtained or translated (RCW 42.56.010(3)).

### 810.3 PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICER

The Chief Civil Deputy is designated as the Public Records Officer and will serve as the point of contact for members of the public when requesting disclosure of public records and will oversee the agency's compliance with the public records disclosure requirements.

The Chief Civil Deputy will post his/her name, role as the Public Records Officer, and contact information in the facility conspicuously visible to the public, and on the department Internet site, and upon appropriate publications so as to provide easy access to members of the public for directing requests for disclosure of public records (RCW 42.56.580).

The Public Records Officer shall complete a training program as required by RCW 42.56.152 within 90 days of assuming responsibilities for public records and complete refresher training as required (RCW 42.56.152).

*Records Release and Security*

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**810.4 PUBLIC REQUESTS FOR RECORDS**

The Public Records Act provides that public records created by a public agency shall be subject to inspection and copying pursuant to request, except pursuant to exemptions set forth in the Act or otherwise established by statute (RCW 42.56.070(1)).

The Chief Civil Deputy shall publish, maintain and make available to the public a current list containing every law that exempts or prohibits disclosure of specific information or records of the department (RCW 42.56.070(2)). The business hours for record inspection or copying shall be posted on the department's website and made known by other means designed to provide the public with notice (RCW 42.56.090).

The Civil Division shall also establish, maintain and make available for public inspection and copying a statement of the actual per page cost or other costs, if any, that it charges for providing photocopies of public records and a statement of the factors and manner used to determine the actual per page cost or other costs, if any (RCW 42.56.070(7) and (8)).

Public requests for records of this Department shall be processed as follows (RCW 42.56.070):

**810.4.1 PROCESSING OF REQUESTS**

Any member of the public, including the media and elected officials, may access unrestricted records of this department by submitting a request for each record sought and paying any associated fees. 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/or subject to any exemption from disclosure. Processing of such requests shall be in accordance with this policy and RCW 42.56.520.
- (b) The Department shall not be required to create records that do not otherwise exist in order to accommodate any request under the Public Records Act.

**810.4.2 PROMPT RESPONSE REQUIRED**

Responses to requests for public records shall be made promptly. Within five business days of receiving a public record request, the Department must respond by either (RCW 42.56.520):

- (a) Providing the record.
- (b) Acknowledging receipt of the request and providing a reasonable estimate of the time required to respond to the request.
- (c) Denying the public record request.
- (d) Providing an Internet address and link on the agency's web site to the specific records requested, except that if the requester notifies the agency that he/she cannot access the records through the Internet, then the agency must provide copies of the record or allow the requester to view copies using an agency computer.

Additional time required to respond to a request may be based upon the need to clarify the intent of the request, to locate and assemble the information requested, to notify third persons or agencies

*Records Release and Security*

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affected by the request, or to determine whether any of the information requested is exempt and that a denial should be made as to all or part of the request. In acknowledging receipt of a public record request that is unclear, a request to clarify what information the requestor is seeking may be made. If the requestor fails to clarify the request, the Department need not respond to it.

Denials of requests must be accompanied by a written statement of the specific reasons for denial. The Chief Civil Deputy will establish mechanisms for the most prompt possible review of decisions denying inspection.

Requests that are denied are subject to judicial review and the burden of proof is on the Department to show that the records requested are exempt or prohibited in whole or part by statute (RCW 42.56.550).

### **810.5 REPORT RELEASE RESTRICTIONS**

Absent a valid court order or other statutory authority, records and/or unrestricted portions of such records of this department shall be made public subject to the following restrictions:

#### **810.5.1 GENERAL CASE AND CRIME REPORTS**

Examples of release restrictions include (RCW 42.56.240):

- (a) **Intelligence and investigative records** - Specific intelligence information and specific investigative records, the nondisclosure of which is essential to effective law enforcement or for the protection of any person's right to privacy. 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 shall not be made public.
- (b) **Victim and witness information** - Information revealing the identity of persons who are witnesses to or victims of crime or who file complaints, if at the time a complaint is filed the complainant, victim or witness indicated a desire for disclosure or nondisclosure.
- (c) **Sex offenses** - Investigative reports pertaining to sex offenses under RCW 9A.44 et seq., or sexually violent offenses as defined in RCW 71.09.020, which have been transferred to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs for permanent electronic retention and retrieval, pursuant to RCW 40.14.070(2)(b).
- (d) **License applications** - Copies of license applications, including concealed pistol license applications or information on the applications may only be released to law enforcement or corrections agencies under RCW 9.41.070.
- (e) **Child sexual assault victims** - Information revealing the identity of child victims of sexual assault who are under age 18. Identifying information means the child victim's name, address, location, photograph, and in cases in which the child victim is a relative or stepchild of the alleged perpetrator, identification of the relationship between the child and the alleged perpetrator.

*Records Release and Security*

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- (f) **Personal information** - Personal information in files maintained for employees, to the extent that disclosure would violate their right to privacy. This includes credit card numbers, debit card numbers, electronic check numbers, card expiration dates, or bank or other financial account numbers, except when disclosure is expressly required by or governed by other law (RCW 42.56.230).
- (g) **Alarm System Program/Vacation Crime Watch Program Participants** - Personal identifying information collected by the Department for participation in an alarm system program and/or vacation crime watch program.

#### 810.5.2 ARREST REPORTS

Arrest reports shall not be disseminated pursuant to the Criminal Records Privacy Act except to those agencies and under those circumstances necessary for a purpose in the administration of criminal justice as governed by RCW 10.97 et seq.

A person who is the subject of the record who requests information must comply with requirements of RCW 10.97.080.

In addition to the restrictions stated above, all requests from criminal defendants and their authorized representatives (including attorneys) shall be referred to the County Prosecutor, Prosecuting Attorney or the courts.

Local criminal history information including, but not limited to, arrest history and disposition, fingerprints and booking photos shall only be subject to release to those agencies and individuals set forth in the Protected Information Policy.

#### 810.5.3 TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORTS

Traffic collision reports (and related supplemental reports) are for official use only and may only be released without redaction pursuant to (RCW 46.52.080) to the following:

- The Washington State Patrol
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Other Law Enforcement Agencies
- As authorized by law or valid court order

Upon request, parties having proper interest or involvement in the specific reported collision shall receive all of the factual data submitted in the report with the exception of the reports signed by the drivers involved in the accident. Such parties include the following (RCW 46.52.083):

- Involved Drivers
- Legal guardians of the drivers
- Parent of a minor driver
- Injured parties
- Owners of damaged property

## *Records Release and Security*

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- Authorized attorney or insurance carrier

Requests for traffic collision reports from individuals or entities other than those listed above are entitled to receive reports in redacted format.

### 810.5.4 PERSONNEL RECORDS

The following employment and licensing information is exempt from public inspection and copying (RCW 42.56.250):

- (a) Test questions, scoring keys and other examination data used to administer a license, employment or academic examination.
- (b) All applications for public employment, including the names of applicants, resumes, and other related materials submitted with respect to an applicant.
- (c) The residential addresses, residential telephone numbers, personal wireless telephone numbers, personal electronic mail addresses, Social Security numbers, driver license numbers, identicard numbers and emergency contact information of employees or volunteers of a public agency, and the names, dates of birth, residential addresses, residential telephone numbers, personal wireless telephone numbers, personal electronic mail addresses, Social Security numbers and emergency contact information of dependents of employees or volunteers of a public agency that are held in personnel records, public employment related records, or volunteer rosters, or are included in any mailing list of employees or volunteers of any public agency.
- (d) Information that identifies a person who, while a Department employee:
  - 1. Seeks advice, under an informal process established by the employing agency, in order to ascertain his/her rights in connection with a possible unfair practice under RCW 49.60 et seq. against the person.
  - 2. Requests his/her identity or any identifying information not be disclosed.
- (e) Investigative records compiled while conducting an active and ongoing investigation of a possible unfair practice under RCW 49.60 et seq. or of a possible violation of other federal, state or local laws prohibiting discrimination in employment.
- (f) Photographs and month and year of birth in the personnel files of employees and workers of criminal justice agencies. The news media, as defined in RCW 5.68.010(5), shall have access to the photographs and full date of birth.
  - 1. News media does not include any person or organization of persons in the custody of a criminal justice agency.
  - 2. Any such request by the media for the date of birth of an employee should be forwarded to the Support Services Supervisor and the affected employee should be promptly advised of the request.

*Records Release and Security*

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3. A court may issue an injunction, at the request of the Department or the employee, if it finds that such examination would clearly not be in the public interest and would substantially and irreparably damage the employee or would substantially and irreparably damage vital government functions.

**810.6 OTHER RECORDS**

This Department maintains the right to refuse to disclose or release any other record when it would appear that the public's interest in accessing such record is outweighed by the need for non-disclosure.

Any record which was created exclusively in anticipation of potential litigation involving this Department shall not be subject to public disclosure.

Any other record not addressed in this policy shall not be subject to release where such record is exempted or prohibited from disclosure pursuant to state or federal law, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Drafts, Notes Recommendations, Memorandums: Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, and intra-agency memorandums in which opinions are expressed or policies formulated or recommended are exempt under this chapter, except that a specific record is not exempt when publicly cited by an agency in connection with any agency action (RCW 42.56.280).
- (b) Department Party to Controversy: Records that are relevant to a controversy to which the Department is a party but which records would not be available to another party under the rules of pretrial discovery for causes pending in the superior courts (RCW 42.56.290).
- (c) Security: Those portions of records assembled, prepared, or maintained to prevent, mitigate, or respond to criminal terrorist acts, which are acts that significantly disrupt the conduct of government or of the general civilian population of the state or the United States and that manifest an extreme indifference to human life, the public disclosure of which would have a substantial likelihood of threatening public safety, consisting of (RCW 42.56.420):
  1. Specific and unique vulnerability assessments or specific and unique response or deployment plans, including compiled underlying data collected in preparation of or essential to the assessments, or to the response or deployment plans.
  2. Records not subject to public disclosure under federal law that are shared by federal or international agencies, and information prepared from national security briefings provided to state or local government officials related to domestic preparedness for acts of terrorism.
- (d) Those portions of records containing specific and unique vulnerability assessments or specific and unique emergency and escape response plans at a city, county, or state adult or juvenile correctional facility, the public disclosure of which would have a substantial

## *Records Release and Security*

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likelihood of threatening the security of a city, county, or state adult or juvenile correctional facility or any individual's safety, including:

1. Information compiled by school districts or schools in the development of their comprehensive safe school plans under RCW 28A.320.125, to the extent that they identify specific vulnerabilities of school districts and each individual school.
2. Information regarding the infrastructure and security of computer and telecommunications networks, consisting of security passwords, security access codes and programs, access codes for secure software applications, security and service recovery plans, security risk assessments, and security test results to the extent that they identify specific system vulnerabilities and other information that may increase the risk to the confidentiality, integrity or availability of department security, information technology infrastructure or assets.
3. The system security and emergency preparedness plan required under RCW 35.21.228, 35A.21.300, 36.01.210, 36.57.120, 36.57A.170, and 81.112.180.

### **810.6.1 PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION**

Employees shall not access, use or disclose personal identifying information, including an individual's photograph, social security number, driver identification number, name, address, telephone number and the individual's medical or disability information, which is contained in any driver license record, motor vehicle record or any department record except as authorized by the Department and only when such use or disclosure is permitted or required by law to carry out a legitimate law enforcement purpose (18 USC § 2721 and 18 USC § 2722).

### **810.7 SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM**

Any Subpoena Duces Tecum (SDT) should be promptly provided to a supervisor 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.

All questions regarding compliance with any Subpoena Duces Tecum should be promptly referred to legal counsel for the Department so that a timely response can be prepared.

### **810.8 RELEASED RECORDS TO BE STAMPED**

Each page of any record released pursuant to a Public Records Act request or Subpoena Duces Tecum shall be stamped in red ink with a departmental stamp identifying the individual to whom the record was released.



## **ACCESS Misuse**

### **811.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

#### Use of the ACCESS System

- (a) A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS) is a computer controlled communications system operated and maintained for all law enforcement and criminal justice agencies within the state. The Chief of the Washington State Patrol (WSP) administers all operating phases of the ACCESS System.
- (b) The ACCESS System shall only be used for official law enforcement business. The following rules and policies ensure proper and efficient use of the ACCESS system. All terminal operators, including mobile data terminal users, must be certified at their appropriate level every two years. All personnel will conform to these policies and rules. Any questions regarding these policies should be referred to the ACCESS Section.

#### 811.1.1 TERMINAL AGENCY COORDINATOR (TAC)

Responsibility for proper operator performance, strict adherence to regulations, prompt notification of CJIS violations to the ACCESS Section, and training rests with the TAC.

### **811.2 INFORMATION FROM ACCESS AND DISSEMINATION**

- (a) All personnel who use or work on the connection to ACCESS must observe all restrictions placed on the use or dissemination of information received through ACCESS. Policies contained within the ACCESS Operating Manual and other related manuals must be adhered to. Some records may be public information; however, if the information is obtained through ACCESS it must only be used for criminal justice purposes. Those records that may be considered public would have to be released through a formal public disclosure request.
- (b) Queries or messages not pertaining to law enforcement business (e.g., personal inquiries) are prohibited.
- (c) Persons shall not use or provide any information obtained through the ACCESS system, including all Department of Licensing (DOL) and Department of Corrections (DOC) information, for private business or personal reasons.

### **811.3 SYSTEM MISUSE**

- (a) Violations of the rules, regulations, policies, or procedures developed by NCIC and adopted by the WSP or any other misuse or abuse of the ACCESS system may result in agency disciplinary measures and/or criminal prosecution.
- (b) If an agency initiates an internal investigation for ACCESS misuse, an ACCESS Violation Incident Report must be filled out and sent to the ACCESS Manager. If the allegations are founded, the investigating agency will choose the level of discipline. The violation report can be found on the ACCESS website.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *ACCESS Misuse*

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- (c) Disciplinary measures imposed by the WSP may include revocation of individual certification, discontinuance of system access to the department, or purging the department's records.

# Protected Information

## 812.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the access, transmission, release and security of protected information by members of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. This policy addresses the protected information that is used in the day-to-day operation of the Department and not the public records information covered in the Records Release and Security Policy.

### 812.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Protected information** - Any information or data that is collected, stored or accessed by members of the Pacific 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.

## 812.2 POLICY

Members of the Pacific 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.

## 812.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sheriff shall select a member of the Department 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 Licensing (DOL) records and the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC).
- (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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#### **812.4 ACCESS TO PROTECTED INFORMATION**

Protected information shall not be accessed in violation of any law, order, regulation, user agreement, Pacific 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.

##### **812.4.1 PENALTIES FOR MISUSE OF RECORDS**

It is a misdemeanor to furnish, buy, receive or possess criminal history record information without authorization by Washington law (RCW 10.97.120).

Divulging the content of any criminal record to anyone other than authorized personnel is a violation of the Standards of Conduct Policy.

Employees who obtain, or attempt to obtain, information from the department files other than that to which they are entitled in accordance with their official duties is a violation of the Standards of Conduct Policy.

#### **812.5 RELEASE OR DISSEMINATION OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

Protected information may be released only to authorized recipients who have both a right to know and a need to know (RCW 10.97.050).

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 Chief Civil Deputy for information regarding a formal request.

Unless otherwise ordered or when an investigation would be jeopardized, protected information maintained by the Department 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 Civil Division to ensure proper documentation of the release (see the Records Release and Security Policy).

Protected information, such as Criminal Justice Information (CJI), which includes Criminal History Record Information (CHRI), should generally not be transmitted by radio, cellular telephone or any other type of wireless transmission to members in the field or in vehicles through any computer or electronic device, except in cases where there is an immediate need for the information to further an investigation or where circumstances reasonably indicate that the immediate safety of deputies, other department members or the public is at risk.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit broadcasting warrant information.

## *Protected Information*

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### **812.5.1 REVIEW OF CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD**

An individual may review his/her criminal history record information held by this department after complying with established department requirements as authorized by RCW 10.97.080.

### **812.6 SECURITY OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

The Sheriff will select a member of the Department to oversee the security of protected information.

The responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Developing and maintaining security practices, procedures and training.
- (b) Ensuring federal and state compliance with the CJIS Security Policy and the requirements of any state or local criminal history records systems.
- (c) Establishing procedures to provide for the preparation, prevention, detection, analysis and containment of security incidents including computer attacks.
- (d) Tracking, documenting and reporting all breach of security incidents to the Sheriff and appropriate authorities.

#### **812.6.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Members accessing or receiving protected information shall ensure the information is not accessed or received by persons who are not authorized to access or receive it. This includes leaving protected information, such as documents or computer databases, accessible to others when it is reasonably foreseeable that unauthorized access may occur (e.g., on an unattended table or desk; in or on an unattended vehicle; in an unlocked desk drawer or file cabinet; on an unattended computer terminal).

### **812.7 TRAINING**

All members authorized to access or release protected information shall complete a training program that complies with any protected information system requirements and identifies authorized access and use of protected information, as well as its proper handling and dissemination.

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## Sealing/Destroying Case Files

### 813.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for destroying or sealing of case files per court order.

### 813.2 AUTHORITY

Authority to destroy or seal records come from the court of record.

### 813.3 JUVENILE ORDERS TO SEAL

#### **If the law incident has only one offender (the subject of the order):**

- Check for evidence in the case. If there is evidence, make a copy of the order for Evidence and place in their box.
- Have the arrest removed. The arrest can be removed even if you are waiting to hear back from Evidence. If Evidence indicates they are unable to respond soon after they receive the order, move the case into the "EXPG" partition until you receive their paperwork.
- On the names screen in Spillman, put an alert code of "ORD." Do not turn on "Warn."
- Create an "MI" on the person's name screen. There is a template available for this called "Order to Seal."
- Once the Evidence paperwork has been received, retrieve the original case file from the vault and print out a copy of the report in Spillman. If there are files attached in Spillman that aren't in the case file, print the files and delete them from the system.
- Have the law incident removed from Spillman.
- Make a copy of the order.
- Put all documents (this represents the complete law incident record in case it would ever need to be unsealed) in an envelope with the order you received and seal the envelope.
- Write the name of the person (LAST NAME, FIRST NAME) across the envelope lengthwise and place the copy of the order on the front of the envelope. File in the Sealed Records file cabinet in the vault.

#### 813.3.1 JUVENILE ORDERS TO SEAL MULTIPLE PERSONS INVOLVED

##### **If the law incident has multiple offenders:**

- Check for evidence that mentions the subject of the order. If there is evidence, make a copy of the order for Evidence and place in their box.
- Have the arrest removed. The arrest can be removed even if you are waiting to hear back from Evidence. If Evidence indicates they are unable to respond soon after they receive the order, move the case into the "EXPG" partition until you receive their paperwork.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Sealing/Destroying Case Files*

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- On the names screen in Spillman, put an alert code of "ORD." Do not turn on "Warn."
- Create an "MI" on the person's name screen. There is a template for this called "Order to Seal."
- Once the Evidence paperwork has been received, go into the narrative and supplementals and replace the person's name with "XXX." Search thoroughly!
- Print any files from Spillman that have the person's name attached (unredacted).
- In Files, redact or remove any mention of the person's name. For instance, an arrest sheet could be printed and deleted from Files. A document with several arrestee names, however, would have to be redacted and left in Files.
- Print out a copy of the report with all of the names attached, then remove the name of the subject of the order from the law incident involvements.
- Retrieve the original file from the vault and remove or redact all paperwork that contains the name of the subject.
- Place a note in the case file that says, "One arrestee was subject of court order to seal records." (Or something to that effect!)
- Make a copy of the order.
- Place all documents in an envelope with the order you received and seal.
- Write the name of the person (LAST NAME, FIRST NAME) across the envelope lengthwise and place the copy of the order on the front of the envelope. File in the Sealed Records file cabinet in the vault.

#### **813.4 JUVENILE ORDERS TO DESTROY**

##### **If the law incident has only one offender (the subject of the order):**

- Follow same steps as Order to Seal, but do NOT retain a copy for filing. The incident will be removed and all paperwork destroyed.
- File a copy of the order in the "Destruction Orders" folder in the Sealed Records file cabinet.

##### **If the law incident has multiple offenders:**

- Follow same steps as Order to Seal, but do NOT retain a copy for filing. The incident will be retained, but all paperwork **THAT PERTAINS TO THE SUBJECT OF THE ORDER** will be destroyed.
- File a copy of the order in the "Destruction Orders" folder in the Sealed Records file cabinet.

#### **813.5 ORDERS TO VACATE CONVICTION**

##### **If the law incident has only one offender (the subject of the order):**

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Sealing/Destroying Case Files*

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- Check for evidence in the case. If there is evidence, make a copy of the order for Evidence and place in their box.
- IF THE ARREST WAS A NON-CUSTODIAL ARREST, you may have it removed.
- Add an alert code of "ORD" and an MI to the person's name.
- Make a copy of the order.
- Once you receive the Evidence paperwork, print a copy of the report and all documentation (in Files as well as the case folder). Delete any files attached in Spillman.
- Remove the person's name from the involvements of the incident.
- Move the incident into the "EXPG" partition in Spillman. THE INCIDENT WILL NOT BE REMOVED €Š" JUST MOVED TO THE EXPG PARTITION.
- Put all paperwork into an envelope, seal, place the order on the front, label and file.

#### 813.5.1 ORDERS TO VACATE CONVICTION (MULITPLE OFFENDERS:

##### **If the law incident has multiple offenders:**

- Check for evidence that mentions the subject of the order. If there is evidence, make a copy of the order for Evidence and place in their box.
- If the arrest was a non-custodial arrest, you may have it removed.
- Add an alert code of "ORD" and an MI to the person's name.
- Go into the narrative and supplementals and replace the person's name with "XXX."
- Print any files from Spillman that have the person's name attached.
- In Files, redact or remove any mention of the person's name.
- Print a copy of the report with all names attached, then remove the name of the subject of the order from the law incident involvements.
- Retrieve the original file from the vault and remove or redact all paperwork that contains the subject's name.
- Place a note in the case file that explains why some of the documents were redacted.
- Make a copy of the order.
- Place all documents in an envelope with the order and seal.
- Write the name of the person on the envelope and place in the Sealed Records file cabinet

#### 813.5.2 OLDER CASES TO BE SEALED OR VACATED

##### **Case files on record prior to Spillman (Prior to 1992)**

##### **If the incident had only one offender:**



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Sealing/Destroying Case Files*

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- Add an alert code and an MI to the person's name in Spillman. (You may have to add their name to the system.)
- In Informix, make "DO NOT RELEASE" notations in the Alias section of "filmdeta," as well as in the booking and arrest history sections (if possible).
- Print the report, seal, attach the court order and file.

#### **If the incident had multiple offenders:**

- Add an alert code and an MI to the person's name in Spillman. (You may have to add their name to the system.)
- In Informix, make "DO NOT RELEASE" notations in the Alias section of "filmdeta," as well as in the booking and arrest history sections (if possible).
- Print the report, make a copy and redact the person's name from the copy.

# Animal Control Procedures

## 820.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for Department of Community Development (DCD) and the Pacific County Sheriff's Office personnel in dealing with animal control related calls for service and to set forth procedures regarding animal control services, the handling of injured animals, and the abatement of animal nuisances.

## 820.2 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY

The DCD Officer (DCDO) shall be responsible for enforcing local, state and federal laws relating to animals, and for appropriately resolving or referring animal problems as outlined in this policy. DCD business hours are 9 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday or normal business hours as set by their supervisor. Calls for service should be directed through their office. After normal business hours calls for service will be through Patrol assignment.

Should a DCCO request assistance from the Sheriff's Office, they shall be acknowledged. The deputy receiving the request should make contact with the requesting DCCO.

## 820.3 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITY

During hours when the DCDO is off duty, or if the DCDO is otherwise unavailable, the following animal related calls for service will be handled by the appropriate on-duty deputy.

Deputies may be dispatched to animal related calls and should take appropriate actions to control the situation until the arrival of an DCDO.

The following are examples of when a deputy may consider acting before the arrival of the DCDO.

- When there is a threat to the public safety.
- When an animal has bitten someone, deputies should take measures to confine the animal and prevent further injury. (**See SS 821**)
- When an animal is creating a traffic hazard.
- When the owner/handler has been arrested and there is no other alternative placement for the animal.
- When the animal is gravely injured.
- When the deputy is in the area of the complaint and has no other priority cases.

### 820.3.1 ANIMAL CRUELTY COMPLAINTS

Deputies shall conduct a preliminary investigation on all reports of animal cruelty and forward the information to the Prosecutors Office for a charging decision. Deputies shall not hesitate to take any immediate actions deemed necessary.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Animal Control Procedures*

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#### 820.3.2 STRAY DOGS

If the 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 an Animal Shelter, in the North County area to Vettors Animal Clinic. If in the South County area, to the humane society.

The animal pick-up form must be completely filled out, a copy left at the facility and a copy to the Sergeant. Release of impounded dogs requires a fee be paid. Releases will be handled by the accepting facility or, their absence, by a patrol deputy. The Civil Division will accept fees and issue receipts. Animals are to be placed on a three day hold. If the animal is not picked up in that time period, the holding facility will place or dispose of the animal.

#### 820.3.3 ANIMAL BITE REPORTS

Deputies shall obtain as much information as possible before requesting a Potentially Dangerous Dog (PDD) or Dangerous Dog (DD) be issued. Deputies shall instruct the owner of a biting animal, if contacted; to keep the animal confined on the property until the Health Department (County Health Nurse) determines where the animal will be placed. If a deputy believes the animal owner will not keep the dog confined they may seize the animal and take it to a proper holding facility for confinement. **See <sup>SS</sup>821.** If the animal is a stray, then every effort shall be made to capture and impound the animal immediately.

Deputies are responsible for determining if a PDD or DD notice is to be served. RCW 16.08.070 provides the following description of PDD and DD.

**Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 16.08.070 through 16.08.100.**

**(1) "Potentially dangerous dog" means any dog that when unprovoked: (a) Inflicts bites on a human or a domestic animal either on public or private property, or (b) chases or approaches a person upon the streets, sidewalks, or any public grounds in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, or any dog with a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack unprovoked, to cause injury, or to cause injury or otherwise to threaten the safety of humans or domestic animals.**

**(2) "Dangerous dog" means any dog that (a) inflicts severe injury on a human being without provocation on public or private property, (b) kills a domestic animal without provocation while the dog is off the owner's property, or (c) has been previously found to be potentially dangerous because of injury inflicted on a human, the owner having received notice of such and the dog again aggressively bites, attacks, or endangers the safety of humans.**

**(3) "Severe injury" means any physical injury that results in broken bones or disfiguring lacerations requiring multiple sutures or cosmetic surgery.**

**(4) "Proper enclosure of a dangerous dog" means, while on the owner's property, a dangerous dog shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure, suitable to prevent the entry of young children and designed to prevent**

*Animal Control Procedures*

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the animal from escaping. Such pen or structure shall have secure sides and a secure top, and shall also provide protection from the elements for the dog.

(5) "Animal control authority" means an entity acting alone or in concert with other local governmental units for enforcement of the animal control laws of the city, county, and state and the shelter and welfare of animals.

(6) "Animal control officer" means any individual employed, contracted with, or appointed by the animal control authority for the purpose of aiding in the enforcement of this chapter or any other law or ordinance relating to the licensure of animals, control of animals, or seizure and impoundment of animals, and includes any state or local law enforcement officer or other employee whose duties in whole or in part include assignments that involve the seizure and impoundment of any animal.

(7) "Owner" means any person, firm, corporation, organization, or department possessing, harboring, keeping, having an interest in, or having control or custody of an animal.

Once the determination has been made the deputy shall complete the proper documents to be served upon the dog owner. The document will be processed through the Sheriff's Office Civil Division and then served upon the owner. Should the deputy be unable to determine on their own they should consult with a supervisor. There is no need or requirement for the case to be completed and filed with the PDD or DD document. The case report should be completed as soon after as possible.

#### 820.3.4 PUBLIC NUISANCE CALLS RELATING TO ANIMALS

Dispatch shall obtain and forward to the DCDO as much information as possible regarding the nature of the complaint, complaining person, owner information (if possible), location of problem, etc. Deputies should also document any actions taken, citation(s) issued, related report numbers, etc. Deputies should forward this information to the DCDO.

In the event responding deputies cannot fulfill urgent requests for service because the animal is difficult or dangerous to handle, the patrol supervisor may request the assistance of an animal control officer from an allied agency.

#### 820.4 DECEASED ANIMALS

Deceased animals on public roadway should be removed from the roadway by the responding deputy. The Department of Public Works is responsible for the proper disposal of the animal.

#### 820.5 INJURED ANIMALS

When any injured domesticated animal is brought to the attention of a member of this agency, all reasonable attempts shall be made to contact the owner or responsible handler. When the owner or responsible handler cannot be located and the animal is not an immediate danger to the community, it may be taken to a humane society as described below (RCW 16.54.020).

- (a) During normal business hours, the animal should be taken to an authorized veterinary care clinic.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Animal Control Procedures*

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- (b) If after normal business hours, the animal should be taken to the department authorized veterinary emergency clinic.
- (c) The only exception to the above is 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.
  - 1. When the need to kill a seriously injured or dangerous animal is necessary, the department Firearms Policy shall be followed. Destruction of an animal shall be undertaken with reasonable prudence and, whenever possible, in consultation with a licensed veterinarian and the owner of the animal (RCW 16.52.210). The decision to dispose of a seriously injured animal will rest with the on-duty Sergeant.
- (d) Injured wildlife should be referred to the SPCA, Marine Mammal Center or Department of Fish and Game as applicable. The SPCA will not pick up common pigeons (red legs), starlings, bats or skunks.
- (e) When handling dead or injured animals department employees shall attempt to identify and notify the owner of the final disposition of the animal.
- (f) Each incident shall be documented and include, at minimum, the name of the reporting party and veterinary hospital and/or person to whom the animal is released.

#### **820.6 CITATIONS**

It should be at the discretion of the deputy or the Field Supervisor as to the need for, or advisability of, the issuance of a citation for a violation.

#### **820.7 POST-ARREST PROCEDURES**

The arresting deputy should make a reasonable effort to ensure that animals or pets under a person's care will be provided with adequate care when that person is arrested. This is only required when there is no person to provide care and the arrestee is expected to be in custody for a time period longer than would reasonably allow him/her to properly care for the animals.

Relatives or neighbors may be contacted, with the owner's consent, to care for the animals. If no persons can be found or the owner does not consent, the appropriate animal control authority should be notified.

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# HUMAN EXPOSURE TO BITE OF PET OR STRAY DOGS, CATS, OR FERRETS

## 821.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to assure the health and safety of the citizens and visitors of Pacific County with regard to the proper control and investigation of animal bites and to delineate the roles of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and the Pacific County Health Department.

Animal bites are reportable to the local health jurisdiction immediately by health providers, laboratories and/or veterinary clinics.

### 821.1.1 POLICY

The Sheriff's Office, under the authority of the Pacific County Health Officer, will pick up and arrange for the quarantine of any pet or stray (dogs) determined to have been involved in an unprovoked attack which resulted in a bite on a human. Per the direction of the Pacific County Health Department staff (PCHD), the quarantine may be at a veterinary clinic or at the home of the owner of the animal. The location of the quarantine will be determined by the PCHD staff relying on the information supplied by the officer at the time of the investigation. Owners may quarantine the animal if the owner will keep the animal restrained and isolated from other animals and humans for 10 (ten) days following the bite. Quarantine at a veterinary clinic will be at the expense of the owner of the animal. If an owner cannot be identified, PCHD will be responsible for paying the veterinary clinic, which will be determined on a case by case basis.

If an animal has bitten a person in an unprovoked attack, it needs to be quarantined for 10 (ten) days regardless of its vaccination status.

All domestic animals suspected or presumed to be sick at the time of the bite should be placed into quarantine and examined at the expense of the owner by an authorized veterinarian.

If a cat or ferret is involved in the bite, the Sheriff's Office will notify the health department per the procedure in 821.1.2. The animal will not be removed by the Sheriff's Office.

### 821.1.2 PROCEDURE

Procedure for animal bites:

- (a) The Sheriff's Office, upon investigating an animal bite, will attempt to determine if the bite was provoked or unprovoked.
- (b) If determined that the bite was unprovoked, the Sheriff's Office will notify PCHD. The PCHD staff will then determine if the animal should be quarantined at home or at the veterinary clinic as per procedure.
- (c) The Deputy will inform Central Dispatch of basic information.
- (d) Central Dispatch will then contact the Pacific County Health Department at 360 642 9349 or the Long Beach Office Monday-Thursday and 360 875 9343 for the South Bend Office

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *HUMAN EXPOSURE TO BITE OF PET OR STRAY DOGS, CATS, OR FERRETS*

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on Friday. During non-business hours deputies will utilize Central Dispatch to contact the on call person for PCHD.

- (e) If the PCHD staff determines the animal should be quarantined at the veterinary clinic, the animal will remain there for the full 10 (ten) days. The Deputy will make every effort to transport the animal to the Veterinary Clinic.
- (f) Follow up and reporting for the PCHD will follow the Rabies Protocol approved by the Health Officer.
- (g) This policy does not cover any "wolf" hybrid (cross). If it is determined the dog is a "wolf" hybrid" it should be euthanized and tested per "Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control, 2006, National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians".
- (h) If the PCHD staff is notified of an animal bite that has not been reported to the Sheriff's Office, they will notify the Sheriff's Office so that the bite can be recorded.
- (i) This policy covers animal bites to humans only.
- (j) If it is determined the animal is a stray, the veterinary Clinic will hold the animal for the 10 days and they will then determine if the dog should be euthanized or sent to the Humane Society for adoption, the clinic will notify the Humane Society that it was involved in a bite to a human. **All appropriate dangerous dog notifications per RCW will follow the animal and be served upon the Humane Society.**
- (k) The cost of quarantining the animal at a Veterinary Clinic is the responsibility of the owner. If there is an outstanding bill, any payment by the County will be determined on a case by case basis. **If no owner can be located, the cost will be assumed by the Pacific County Health Department.**
- (l) The Deputy will obtain basic information which will include the following:

Deputies will obtain the following information and provide it to PCHD. Owner information: Name, address, phone number, animal breed and description, animal name if known. Victim information: Name, DOB, Address, phone number and description of the injuries sustained.

# Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act

## 822.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to ensure this department fulfills its obligation in complying with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act).

## 822.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office encourages accurate and prompt reporting of all crimes and takes all such reports seriously (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(C)(iii)). Reports will be accepted in any manner, including in person or in writing, at any Pacific County Sheriff's Office facility. Reports will be accepted anonymously, by phone or via email or on the institution's website.

It is the policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to comply with the Clery Act. Compliance with the Clery Act requires a joint effort between the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and the administration of the institution.

Supervisors assigned areas of responsibility in the following policy sections are expected to be familiar with the subsections of 20 USC § 1092(f) and 34 CFR 668.46 that are relevant to their responsibilities.

## 822.3 POLICY, PROCEDURE AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Sheriff will:

- (a) Ensure that the Pacific County Sheriff's Office establishes procedures for immediate emergency response and evacuation, including the use of electronic and cellular communication and testing of these procedures (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(J)(i)(iii)).
- (b) Enter into agreements as appropriate with local law enforcement agencies to:
  1. Identify roles in the investigation of alleged criminal offenses on campus (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(C)(ii)),
  2. Assist in the monitoring and reporting of criminal activity at off-campus student organizations that are recognized by the institution and engaged in by students attending the institution, including student organizations with off-campus housing facilities (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(G)).
  3. Ensure coordination of emergency response and evacuation procedures, including procedures to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(J)).
  4. Notify the Pacific County Sheriff's Office of criminal offenses reported to local law enforcement agencies to assist the institution in meeting its reporting requirements under the Clery Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)).



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act*

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5. Notify the Pacific County Sheriff's Office of criminal offenses reported to local law enforcement agencies to assist in making information available to the campus community in a timely manner and to aid in the prevention of similar crimes. Such disseminated information shall withhold the names of victims as confidential (20 USC § 1092(f)(3)).
- (c) Appoint a designee to develop programs that are designed to inform students and employees about campus security procedures and practices, and to encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(D)).
- (d) Appoint a designee to develop programs to inform students and employees about the prevention of crime (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(E)).
- (e) Appoint a designee to develop educational programs to promote the awareness of rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, and what to do if an offense occurs, including who should be contacted, the importance of preserving evidence and to whom the alleged offense should be reported (20 USC § 1092(f)(8)(B)). The designee shall also develop written materials to be distributed to reporting persons that explains the rights and options provided for under 20 USC § 1092 (20 USC § 1092(f)(8)(C)).
- (f) Appoint a designee to make the appropriate notifications to institution staff regarding missing person investigations, in order to ensure that the institution complies with the requirements of 34 CFR 668.46(h).

#### **822.4 RECORDS COLLECTION AND RETENTION**

The Chief Civil Deputy is responsible for maintaining Pacific County Sheriff's Office statistics and making reasonable good-faith efforts to obtain statistics from other law enforcement agencies as necessary to allow the institution to comply with its reporting requirements under the Clery Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)). The statistics shall be compiled as follows:

- (a) Statistics concerning the occurrence of the following criminal offenses reported to this department or to local police agencies that occurred on campus, in or on non-campus buildings or property, and on public property including streets, sidewalks and parking facilities within the campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)(i)):
  1. Murder
  2. Sex offenses, forcible or non-forcible
  3. Robbery
  4. Aggravated assault
  5. Burglary

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act*

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6. Motor vehicle theft
  7. Manslaughter
  8. Arson
  9. Arrests or persons referred for campus disciplinary action for liquor law violations, drug-related violations and weapons possession
- (b) Statistics concerning the crimes described in the section above, theft, simple assault, intimidation, destruction, damage or vandalism of property, and other crimes involving bodily injury to any person where the victim was intentionally selected because of his/her actual or perceived race, sex, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity or disability. These statistics should be collected and reported according to the category of prejudice (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)(ii)).
- (c) The statistics shall be compiled using the definitions in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system and modifications made pursuant to the Hate Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(7); 34 CFR 668.46(c)(7)). For the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, such statistics shall be compiled in accordance with the definitions used in the Violence Against Women Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(7); 42 USC § 13925(a)). The statistics will be categorized separately as offenses that occur in the following places (20 USC § 1092(f)(12); 34 CFR 668.46(c)(4)):
1. On campus.
  2. In or on a non-campus building or property.
  3. On public property .
  4. In dormitories or other on-campus, residential or student facilities.
- (d) Statistics will be included by the calendar year in which the crime was reported to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office (34 CFR 668.46(c)(2)).
- (e) Statistics will include the three most recent calendar years (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F); 34 CFR 668.46(c)).
- (f) The statistics shall not identify victims of crimes or persons accused of crimes (20 USC § 1092(f)(7)).

#### 822.4.1 CRIME LOG

The Chief Civil Deputy is responsible for ensuring a daily crime log is created and maintained as follows (20 USC § 1092(f)(4); 34 CFR 668.46(f)):

- (a) The daily crime log will record all crimes reported to the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, including the nature, date, time and general location of each crime, and the disposition, if known.

*Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act*

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- (b) All log entries shall be made within two business days of the initial report being made to the Department.
- (c) If new information about an entry becomes available, then the new information shall be recorded in the log not later than two business days after the information becomes available to the police department or security department.
- (d) The daily crime log for the most recent 60-day period shall be open to the public for inspection at all times during normal business hours. Any portion of the log that is older than 60 days must be made available within two business days of a request for public inspection. Information in the log is not required to be disclosed when:
  - 1. Disclosure of the information is prohibited by law.
  - 2. Disclosure would jeopardize the confidentiality of the victim.
  - 3. There is clear and convincing evidence that the release of such information would jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation or the safety of an individual, may cause a suspect to flee or evade detection, or could result in the destruction of evidence. In any of these cases, the information may be withheld until that damage is no longer likely to occur from the release of such information.

**822.5 INFORMATION DISSEMINATION**

It is the responsibility of the Support Services Lieutenant to ensure that the required Clery Act disclosures are properly forwarded to campus administration and community members in accordance with the institution's procedures. This includes:

- (a) Procedures for providing emergency notification of crimes or other incidents and evacuations that might represent an imminent threat to the safety of students or employees (20 USC § 1092(f)(3); 34 CFR 668.46(e) and (g)).
- (b) Procedures for notifying the campus community about crimes considered to be a threat to other students and employees in order to aid in the prevention of similar crimes. Such disseminated information shall withhold the names of victims as confidential (20 USC § 1092(f)(3)).
- (c) Information necessary for the institution to prepare its annual security report (20 USC § 1092(f)(1); 34 CFR 668.46(b)). This report will include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Crime statistics
  - 2. Crime and emergency reporting procedures
  - 3. Policies concerning security of and access to campus facilities
  - 4. Crime and sexual assault prevention programs
  - 5. Enforcement policies related to alcohol and illegal drugs

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act*

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6. Locations where the campus community can obtain information about registered sex offenders
7. Emergency response and evacuation procedures
8. Missing student notification procedures

## **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 Pacific 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 are 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 Department.

**Safety checks** - Direct, visual observation by a member of this department 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office prior to being released or transported to a housing or other type of facility.

### 900.1.2 DETENTION OF PRISONERS IN THE TEMPORARY HOLDING FACILITY

It is the policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office that prisoners detained in the Temporary Holding Facility shall be released or transported to another facility, per the provisions of this manual, as soon as possible and practical.

## 900.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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 Department. 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office, but should be transported to a jail facility, a medical facility or other type of facility as appropriate. These include:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Temporary Custody of Adults*

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- (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, or who may require medical attention, supervision or medication while in temporary custody.
- (c) Any individual who is seriously injured.
- (d) Individuals who are a suspected suicide risk (see the Emergent Detentions 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.
- (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.
- (h) Any individual who has claimed, is known to be afflicted with, or displays symptoms of any communicable disease that poses an unreasonable exposure risk.
- (i) Any individual with a prosthetic or orthopedic device where removal of the device would be injurious to his/her health or safety.

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 Department 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 department 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.

At least one female department 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.

Absent exigent circumstances, such as a medical emergency or a violent subject, male department members should not enter the cell of a female unless a female department member is present.

No individual in custody shall be permitted to supervise, control or exert any authority over other individuals in custody.

## *Temporary Custody of Adults*

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### **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. 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 Sergeant of any conditions that may warrant immediate medical attention or other appropriate action. The Shift Sergeant 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 do the following:

- (a) Advise the Shift Sergeant of any significant risks presented by the individual (e.g., suicide risk, health risk, violence).
- (b) Avoid placing an adult in a cell with another adult unless no other cell is available. When such placement is necessary, members shall:
  - 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.
  - 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 Lieutenant will ensure that the U.S. Department of State's list of countries and jurisdictions that require mandatory notification is readily available to department members.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Temporary Custody of Adults*

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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.

Department 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:
- (c) Notify the country's nearest embassy or consulate of the arrest or detention by fax or telephone.
- (d) Tell the individual that this notification has been made and inform him/her without delay that he/she may communicate with consular officers.
- (e) Forward any communication from the individual to his/her consular officers without delay.
- (f) Document all notifications to the embassy or consulate and retain the faxed notification and any fax confirmation for the individual's file.
  - 1. 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 Pacific 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 Department.
- (c) Any charges for which the individual is in temporary custody and any case number.
- (d) Time of all safety checks.
- (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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Temporary Custody of Adults*

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(h) Date and time of release from the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

The Shift Sergeant 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 Sergeant 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.
- (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 department members. 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 aid will be summoned. 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Temporary Custody of Adults*

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Those who require medication while in temporary custody should not be at the Pacific 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 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 Sergeant shall be promptly apprised of the reason. It shall be promptly returned when it reasonably appears that any risk no longer exists.

#### 900.5.5 TELEPHONE CALLS

Every individual in temporary custody should be allowed to make a reasonable number of completed telephone calls as soon as possible after arrival.

- (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 Department 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).
- (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.
- (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.

#### 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. 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

## *Temporary Custody of Adults*

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that substantially cover the individual's head and face may be temporarily removed during the taking of any photographs.

### **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.

### **900.6 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office unless the person presents a heightened risk, and only in compliance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

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 PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The personal property of an individual in temporary custody should be removed, inventoried and processed as provided in the Custodial Searches Policy, unless the individual requests a different disposition. For example, an individual may request property (i.e., cash, car or house keys, medications) be released to another person. A request for the release of property to another person must be made in writing. Release of the property requires the recipient's signature on the appropriate form.

Upon release of an individual from temporary custody, his/her items of personal property shall be compared with the inventory, and he/she shall sign a receipt for the property's return. If the individual is transferred to another facility or court, the member transporting the individual is required to obtain the receiving person's signature as notice of receipt. The Department shall maintain a copy of the property receipt.

The Shift Sergeant shall be notified whenever an individual alleges that there is a shortage or discrepancy regarding his/her property. The Shift Sergeant shall attempt to prove or disprove the claim.

*Temporary Custody of Adults*

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**900.8 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 department members.
- (d) The individual's initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged.
- (e) Safety checks by department members shall occur no less than every 15 minutes.
  - 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.

**900.9 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY**

The Field Operations Lieutenant will ensure procedures are in place to address any suicide attempt, death or serious injury of any individual in temporary custody at the Pacific 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 Sergeant, Sheriff and Investigation Lieutenant
- (c) Notification of the spouse, next of kin or other appropriate person
- (d) Notification of the appropriate prosecutor
- (e) Notification of the Prosecuting Attorney
- (f) Notification of the [Medical Examiner]
- (g) Evidence preservation

**900.10 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.

*Temporary Custody of Adults*

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- (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).
- (f) The individual is not permitted in any nonpublic areas of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office unless escorted by a member of the Department.
- (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 department 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 required.

**900.11 ASSIGNED ADMINISTRATOR**

The Field Operations Lieutenant will ensure any reasonably necessary supplemental procedures are in place to address the following issues:

- (a) General security
- (b) Key control
- (c) Sanitation and maintenance
- (d) Emergency medical treatment
- (e) Escapes
- (f) Evacuation plans
- (g) Fire- and life-safety
- (h) Disaster plans
- (i) Building and safety code compliance

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Temporary Custody of Adults*

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#### **900.12 TRAINING**

Department members should be trained and familiar with this policy and any supplemental procedures.

# 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 Pacific 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 trace 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.



## *Custodial Searches*

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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 Pacific 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 Pacific 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 Pacific 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 that constitutes a threat to the facility. Probable cause is required for a strip search when there is a belief the individual is concealing on his/her body evidence not constituting a threat to the facility (RCW 10.79.130).

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Custodial Searches*

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Factors to be considered in determining reasonable suspicion or probable cause include, but are not limited to (RCW 10.79.140):

- (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).
- (f) The nature of the offense.

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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office facilities shall be conducted as follows (28 CFR 115.115):

- (a) Written authorization from the Shift Sergeant 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 (RCW 10.79.100).
- (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 (RCW 10.79.150):
  - 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.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Custodial Searches*

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3. The written authorization for the search, obtained from the Shift Sergeant.
  4. The name of the individual who was searched.
  5. The name, serial number of the deputy 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.
  11. Any health condition discovered.
- (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) Except at the request of the individual, no person, other than those who are participating in the search, shall be present or able to observe the search (RCW 10.79.150).
- (i) A copy of the written authorization shall be maintained in the file of the individual who was searched (RCW 10.79.150).

#### 902.5.2 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE FIELD STRIP SEARCHES

A strip search may be conducted in the field only with Shift Sergeant 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 Sergeant authorization does not need to be in writing.

*Custodial Searches*

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**902.5.3 RESTRICTIONS**

Strip searches should be limited to those situations where such searches are necessary. Reasonable efforts to use less intrusive methods, such as pat-downs, electronic metal detector or clothing searches shall be made prior to any strip search (RCW 10.79.060; RCW 10.79.140).

**902.6 PHYSICAL BODY CAVITY SEARCH**

Physical body cavity searches shall be subject to the following:

- (a) No individual shall be subjected to a physical body cavity search without written approval of the Shift Sergeant and only upon a search warrant. If authorization from the Shift Sergeant is received electronically, it shall be printed and signed by the Shift Sergeant as soon as possible (RCW 10.79.080). 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 qualified physician, registered nurse or physician's assistant may conduct a physical body cavity search (RCW 10.79.100).
- (c) Except for the qualified physician, registered nurse or physician's assistant 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 (RCW 10.79.080):
  - 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 Sergeant's approval.
  - 4. A copy of the search warrant.
  - 5. The time, date, location and description of the search.
  - 6. The medical personnel present.
  - 7. The names, sex and roles of any department members present.
  - 8. A statement of the results of the search and a list of any contraband or weapons discovered by the search.
- (f) A copy of the written authorization shall be retained and made available to the individual who was searched or other authorized representative upon request.

## *Custodial Searches*

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- (g) Before any physical body cavity search is authorized or conducted, a thorough pat-down search, a thorough electronic metal-detector search and a thorough clothing search, as appropriate, must be used. No physical body cavity search shall be authorized or conducted unless these other methods do not satisfy the safety, security or evidentiary concerns of the department (RCW 10.79.080).
- (h) The Shift Sergeant may allow the individual to have a readily available witness, of the individual's choosing, present at the time the search is conducted. The person chosen shall not be currently in custody or present an unreasonable security risk (RCW 10.79.100).

### **902.7 TRAINING**

The Training Officer shall ensure members have training that includes (28 CFR 115.115):

- (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. The search must be conducted by a physician, registered nurse, or physician's assistant.

## Biological Samples

### 904.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the collection of biological samples from those individuals required to provide samples upon conviction for certain offenses. This policy does not apply to biological samples collected at a crime scene or taken from an individual in conjunction with a criminal investigation. Nor does it apply to biological samples collected from those required to register, for example, as sex offenders.

### 904.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

### 904.3 OFFENDERS SUBJECT TO DNA COLLECTION

The following offenders must submit a biological sample (RCW 43.43.754):

- (a) An offender convicted of any felony offense.
- (b) An offender convicted of assault in the fourth degree with sexual motivation (RCW 9A.36.041; RCW 9.94A.835).
- (c) An offender convicted of communication with a minor for immoral purposes (RCW 9.68A.090).
- (d) An offender convicted of custodial sexual misconduct in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.170).
- (e) An offender required to register as a sex or kidnapper offender (RCW 9A.44.130).
- (f) An offender convicted of harassment (RCW 9A.46.020).
- (g) An offender convicted of patronizing a prostitute (RCW 9A.88.110).
- (h) An offender convicted of sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.096).
- (i) An offender convicted of stalking (RCW 9A.46.110).
- (j) An offender who violates a sexual assault protection order granted under RCW 7.90.005 et seq.

### 904.4 PROCEDURE

When an offender is required to provide a biological sample, a trained employee shall attempt to obtain the sample in accordance with this policy.

## *Biological Samples*

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### 904.4.1 COLLECTION

The following steps should be taken to collect a sample:

- (a) Verify that the offender is required to provide a sample pursuant to RCW 43.43.754.
- (b) Verify that a biological sample has not been previously collected from the offender by querying the person's Washington State criminal history records. There is no need to obtain a biological sample if one has been previously obtained (RCW 43.43.754).
- (c) Use the designated collection kit provided by the Washington State Patrol to perform the collection and take steps to avoid cross contamination.

### 904.5 USE OF FORCE TO OBTAIN SAMPLES

If an offender refuses to cooperate with the sample collection process, members 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 or approval of legal counsel, and only with the approval of a supervisor.

Methods to consider when seeking voluntary compliance include contacting:

- (a) The individual's parole or probation officer, when applicable.
- (b) The prosecuting attorney to seek additional charges against the individual for failure to comply or to otherwise bring the refusal before a judge.
- (c) The judge at the individual's next court appearance.
- (d) The individual's attorney.
- (e) A chaplain.
- (f) Another custody facility with additional resources, where the individual 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.

The supervisor shall review and approve any plan to use force and be present to document the process.

### 904.5.1 VIDEO RECORDING

A video recording should be made any time force is used to obtain a biological sample. The recording should document all persons 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 established records retention schedule.

### 904.6 LEGAL MANDATES AND RELEVANT LAWS

Washington law provides for the following:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Biological Samples*

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#### 904.6.1 AVAILABLE INFORMATION AND TRAINING

The patrol supervisor should maintain relevant informational material from the Washington State Patrol in the booking area of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office for training and guidance purposes. This should include the protocols for the collection, preservation and shipment of biological samples prepared by the Washington State Patrol (WAC 446-75-060).



# Prison Rape Elimination

## 906.1 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 prisoners in the Pacific County Sheriff's Office Temporary Holding Facilities (28 CFR 115.111).

### 906.1.1 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 prisoner does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence or is unable to consent or refuse:

- 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 (28 CFR 115.6)

Sexual abuse also includes abuse by a staff member, contractor or volunteer as follows, with or without consent of the 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

*Prison Rape Elimination*

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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 prisoner or resident
- Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor or volunteer (28 CFR 115.6)

**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 prisoner or resident that are directed toward another; repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a 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).

**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).

#### **906.2 POLICY**

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office has zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment (28 CFR 115.111). The Department 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office will take immediate action to protect prisoners who are reasonably believed to be subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.162).

#### **906.3 PREA COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff shall appoint an upper-level manager with sufficient time and authority to develop, implement and oversee department efforts to comply with PREA standards in the Pacific County Sheriff's Office Temporary Holding Facilities (28 CFR 115.111). The PREA Coordinator's responsibilities shall include:

- (a) Developing and maintaining procedures to comply with the PREA Rule.
- (b) Ensuring that any contract for the confinement of Pacific County Sheriff's Office prisoners includes the requirement to adopt and comply with applicable PREA 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 prisoners from sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.113). 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 prisoners (28 CFR 115.151).

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Prison Rape Elimination*

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- (e) Developing a written plan to coordinate response among staff first responders, medical and mental health practitioners, investigators and department leadership to an incident of sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.165).
- (f) Ensuring a protocol is developed for investigating allegations of sexual abuse in the Temporary Holding Facility. The protocol shall include (28 CFR 115.121; 28 CFR 115.122):
  - 1. Evidence collection practices that maximize the potential for obtaining usable physical evidence based on the most recent edition of the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women publication, "A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations, Adults/Adolescents" or a similarly comprehensive and authoritative protocol.
  - 2. A process to ensure a criminal or administrative investigation is completed on all allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment.
  - 3. A process to document all referrals to other law enforcement agencies.
  - 4. Access to forensic medical examinations, without financial cost, for all victims of sexual abuse where appropriate. Such examinations shall be performed by Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFEs) or Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) where possible. If SAFEs or SANEs cannot be made available, the examination can be performed by other qualified medical practitioners. The efforts to provide SAFEs or SANEs shall be documented.
  - 5. In accordance with security needs, provisions to permit, to the extent available, prisoner access to victim advocacy services if the prisoner is transported for a forensic examination to an outside hospital that offers such services.
- (g) Ensuring that 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 prisoners for assistance except in limited circumstances where an extended delay in obtaining an interpreter could compromise the prisoner's safety, the performance of first-response duties under this policy, or the investigation of a prisoner's allegations of sexual abuse, harassment or retaliation.
- (h) Publishing on the department's website:
  - 1. Information on how to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment on behalf of a prisoner (28 CFR 115.154).

*Prison Rape Elimination*

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2. A protocol describing the responsibilities of the Department 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 abuse at facilities under this agency's direct control (28 CFR 115.187).
  1. The data collected shall include, at a minimum, the data necessary to answer all questions from the most recent version of the Survey of Sexual Violence, conducted by DOJ, or any subsequent form developed by DOJ and designated for lockups.
  2. The data shall be aggregated at least annually.
- (j) Ensuring audits are conducted pursuant to 28 CFR 115.401 through 28 CFR 115.405 for all Temporary Holding Facilities used to house prisoners overnight (28 CFR 115.193).
- (k) Ensuring contractors or others who work in the Temporary Holding Facility are informed of the agency's zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment (28 CFR 115.132).

**906.4 REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT**

Prisoners may make reports verbally, in writing, privately or anonymously of any of the following (28 CFR 115.151):

- Sexual abuse
- Sexual harassment
- Retaliation by other prisoners or staff for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment
- Staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to sexual abuse or sexual harassment

During intake the Department shall notify all prisoners of the zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and of at least one way to report abuse or harassment to a public or private entity that is not part of the Department and that is able to receive and immediately forward prisoner reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency officials. This allows the prisoner to remain anonymous (28 CFR 115.132; 28 CFR 115.151).

**906.4.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Department members shall accept reports from prisoners and third parties and shall promptly document all reports (28 CFR 115.151).

All members shall report immediately to the Shift Sergeant any knowledge, suspicion or information regarding:

- (a) An incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that occurs in the Temporary Holding Facility.

*Prison Rape Elimination*

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- (b) Retaliation against prisoners or the member who reports any such incident.
- (c) Any neglect or violation of responsibilities on the part of any department 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.

**906.4.2 SHIFT SERGEANT RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Shift Sergeant shall report to the department'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 Sergeant shall also report the allegation as required under mandatory reporting laws and department policy.

Upon receiving an allegation that a prisoner was sexually abused while confined at another facility, the Shift Sergeant 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 Sergeant shall document such notification (28 CFR 115.163).

If an alleged prisoner victim is transferred from the Temporary Holding Facility to a jail, prison or medical facility, the Department 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).

**906.5 INVESTIGATIONS**

The Department shall promptly, thoroughly and objectively investigate all allegations, including third-party and anonymous reports, of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Only investigators who have received department-approved special training shall conduct sexual abuse investigations (28 CFR 115.171).

**906.5.1 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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Prison Rape Elimination*

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physical evidence, including, as appropriate, washing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, urinating, defecating, smoking, drinking or eating.

If the first responder is not a deputy the responder shall request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence and should then notify a law enforcement staff member (28 CFR 115.164).

#### 906.5.2 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 prisoner or a member of the Pacific 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 prosecuting attorney for possible prosecution, including any time there is probable cause to believe a prisoner sexually abused another prisoner in the Temporary Holding Facility (28 CFR 115.178).
- (h) Cooperate with outside investigators and remain informed about the progress of any outside investigation.

#### 906.5.3 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Administrative investigations shall include an effort to determine whether staff actions or failures to act contributed to the abuse. The departure of the alleged abuser or victim from the employment or control of this department shall not be used as a basis for terminating an investigation (28 CFR 115.171).

#### 906.5.4 SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS

No 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)).

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

*Prison Rape Elimination*

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of whether the victim names the abuser or cooperates with any investigation arising out of the incident (28 CFR 115.182).

**906.5.5 CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS**

All completed investigations shall be forwarded to the Sheriff, or if the allegations may reasonably involve the Sheriff, to the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. The Sheriff or COUNTY COMMISSIONERS shall review the investigation and determine whether any allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment have been substantiated by a preponderance of the evidence (28 CFR 115.172).

All personnel shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination for violating this policy. Termination shall be the presumptive disciplinary sanction for department 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 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 prisoners by a contractor or volunteer.

**906.6 RETALIATION PROHIBITED**

All 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 Sergeant or the authorized designee shall employ multiple protection measures, such as housing changes or transfers for prisoner victims or abusers, removal of alleged abusers from contact with victims, and emotional support services for prisoners or members who fear retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment or for cooperating with investigations.

The Shift Sergeant or the authorized designee shall identify a staff member to monitor the conduct and treatment of prisoners or members who have reported sexual abuse and of prisoners who were reported to have suffered sexual abuse. The staff member shall act promptly to remedy any such retaliation. In the case of prisoners, such monitoring shall also include periodic status checks.

**906.7 REVIEWS AND AUDITS**

*Prison Rape Elimination*

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906.7.1 INCIDENT REVIEWS

An incident review shall be conducted at the conclusion of every sexual abuse investigation, unless the allegation has been determined to be unfounded. The review should occur within 30 days of the conclusion of the investigation. The review team shall include upper-level management officials and seek input from line supervisors and investigators (28 CFR 115.186).

The review shall (28 CFR 115.186):

- (a) Consider whether the allegation or investigation indicates a need to change policy or practice to better prevent, detect or respond to sexual abuse.
- (b) Consider whether the incident or allegation was motivated by race; ethnicity; gender identity; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex identification, status or perceived status; gang affiliation; or was motivated or otherwise caused by other group dynamics at the facility.
- (c) Examine the area in the facility where the incident allegedly occurred to assess whether physical barriers in the area may enable abuse.
- (d) Assess the adequacy of staffing levels in that area during different shifts.
- (e) Assess whether monitoring technology should be deployed or augmented to supplement supervision by staff.

The review team shall prepare a report of its findings, including any determinations made pursuant to this section and any recommendations for improvement. The report shall be submitted to the Sheriff and the PREA Coordinator. The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall implement the recommendations for improvement or shall document the reasons for not doing so (28 CFR 115.186).

906.7.2 DATA REVIEWS

The facility shall conduct an annual review of collected and aggregated incident-based sexual abuse data. The review should include, as needed, data from incident-based documents, including reports, investigation files and sexual abuse incident reviews (28 CFR 115.187).

The purpose of these reviews is to assess and improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training. An annual report shall be prepared that includes (28 CFR 115.188):

- (a) Identification of any potential problem areas.
- (b) Identification of any corrective actions taken.
- (c) Recommendations for any additional corrective actions.
- (d) A comparison of the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years.
- (e) An assessment of the department's progress in addressing sexual abuse.

The report shall be approved by the Sheriff and made readily available to the public through the department website or, if it does not have one, through other means. Material may be redacted



## *Prison Rape Elimination*

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from the reports when publication would present a clear and specific threat to the safety and security of the Temporary Holding Facility. However, the nature of the redacted material shall be indicated.

All aggregated sexual abuse data from Pacific 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 department 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).

### **906.8 RECORDS**

The Department shall retain all written reports from administrative and criminal investigations pursuant to this policy for as long as the alleged abuser is held or employed by the Department, 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).

### **906.9 TRAINING**

All employees, volunteers and contractors who may have contact with prisoners shall receive department-approved training on the prevention and detection of sexual abuse and sexual harassment within this facility. The Training Officer shall be responsible for developing and administering this training as appropriate, covering at a minimum (28 CFR 115.131):

- The Department's zero-tolerance policy and prisoners' right 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 prisoners are most vulnerable.
- The right of 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 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.

### *Prison Rape Elimination*

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- Criteria and evidence required to substantiate a case for administrative action or prosecution referral.

The Training Officer 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 prisoners shall be trained within one year of the effective date of the PREA standards. The agency shall provide annual refresher information to all such employees and volunteers to ensure that they understand the current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies and procedures.

## **Chapter 10 - Personnel**

## Recruitment and Selection

### 1000.1 POLICY

In accordance with applicable federal, state and local law, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office provides equal opportunities for applicants and employees, regardless of race, gender expression, age, pregnancy, religion, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental handicap, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, sex or any other protected class or status. The Department does not show partiality or grant any special status to any applicant, employee or group of employees unless otherwise required by law.

The Department will recruit and hire only those individuals who demonstrate a commitment to service and who possess the traits and characteristics that reflect personal integrity and high ethical standards.

### 1000.2 RECRUITMENT

The Support Services Lieutenant should employ a comprehensive recruitment and selection strategy to recruit and select employees from a qualified and diverse pool of candidates.

The strategy should include:

- (a) Identification of racially and culturally diverse target markets.
- (b) Use of marketing strategies to target diverse applicant pools.
- (c) Expanded use of technology and maintenance of a strong Internet presence. This may include an interactive department website and the use of department-managed social networking sites, if resources permit.
- (d) Expanded outreach through partnerships with media, community groups, citizen academies, local colleges, universities and the military.
- (e) Employee referral and recruitment incentive programs.
- (f) Consideration of shared or collaborative regional testing processes.

The Support Services Lieutenant shall avoid advertising, recruiting and screening practices that tend to stereotype, focus on homogeneous applicant pools or screen applicants in a discriminatory manner.

The Department should strive to facilitate and expedite the screening and testing process, and should periodically inform each candidate of his/her status in the recruiting process.

### 1000.3 SELECTION AND PROCESS

The Department shall actively strive to identify a diverse group of candidates that have in some manner distinguished themselves as being outstanding prospects. Minimally, the Department should employ a comprehensive screening, background investigation and selection process that assesses cognitive and physical abilities and includes review and verification of the following:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Recruitment and Selection*

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- (a) A comprehensive application for employment (including previous employment, references, current and prior addresses, education, military record)
- (b) Driving record
- (c) Reference checks
- (d) Citizenship verification, including U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 and acceptable identity and employment authorization documents
- (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) Polygraph or computer voice stress analyzer (CVSA) examination (when legally permissible) (RCW 43.101.095; WAC 139-07-040)
- (i) Medical and psychological examination (may only be given after a conditional offer of employment)
- (j) Review board or selection committee assessment

#### 1000.3.1 GAMBLING HABITS

##### a. Commercial Gambling.

- Applicants must not have a history of involvement in commercial gambling, bookmaking, loan sharking, or related activities.

##### b. Gambling Debts.

- Applicants must not have current debts owed to any agency, firm, organization, or person for gambling debts.

#### 1000.4 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office and that are promulgated and maintained by the Civil Division.

#### 1000.5 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

Every candidate shall undergo a thorough background investigation to verify his/her personal integrity and high ethical standards, and to identify any past behavior that may be indicative of the candidate's unsuitability to perform duties relevant to the operation of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office (RCW 43.101.095).

##### 1000.5.1 NOTICES

Background investigators shall ensure that investigations are conducted and notices provided in accordance with the requirements of the FCRA (15 USC § 1681d; 16 CFR 600 et seq.).

## *Recruitment and Selection*

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### 1000.5.2 REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Due to the potential for accessing unsubstantiated, private or protected information, the Support Services Lieutenant shall not require candidates to provide passwords, account information or access to password-protected social media accounts (RCW 49.44.200).

The Support Services Lieutenant should consider utilizing the services of an appropriately trained and experienced third party to conduct open source, Internet-based searches and/or review information from social media sites to ensure that:

- (a) The legal rights of candidates are protected.
- (b) Material and information to be considered are verified, accurate and validated.
- (c) The Department fully complies with applicable privacy protections and local, state and federal law.

Regardless of whether a third party is used, the Support Services Lieutenant should ensure that potentially impermissible information is not available to any person involved in the candidate selection process.

### 1000.5.3 DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING

The background investigator shall summarize the results of the background investigation in a 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.

### 1000.5.4 RECORDS RETENTION

The background report and all supporting documentation shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

## **1000.6 DISQUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

As a general rule, performance indicators and candidate information and records shall be evaluated by considering the candidate as a whole, and taking into consideration the following:

- Age at the time the behavior occurred
- Passage of time
- Patterns of past behavior
- Severity of behavior
- Probable consequences if past behavior is repeated or made public
- Likelihood of recurrence
- Relevance of past behavior to public safety employment
- Aggravating and mitigating factors
- Other relevant considerations

## *Recruitment and Selection*

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A candidate's qualifications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, using a totality-of-the-circumstances framework.

### **1000.7 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS**

All candidates shall meet the minimum standards required by state law (RCW 43.101.095; RCW 43.101.200). Candidates will be evaluated based on merit, ability, competence and experience, in accordance with the high standards of integrity and ethics valued by the Department and the community.

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 Civil Division should maintain validated standards for all positions.

#### **1000.7.1 STANDARDS FOR DEPUTIES**

Candidates shall meet the following minimum standards established by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) (RCW 43.101.095):

- (a) Be eligible for WSCJTC certification
- (b) Submit to a psychological evaluation
- (c) Submit to a polygraph examination
- (d) Submit to a criminal history check
- (e) Not been convicted of a felony offense

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## 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 Pacific 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.



## *Evaluation of Employees*

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### 1002.3.1 RESERVE DEPUTY EVALUATIONS

Reserve deputy evaluations are covered under the Reserve Deputies Policy.

### 1002.4 FULL TIME PROBATIONARY PERSONNEL

Civilian personnel are on probation for 12 months before being eligible for certification as permanent employees. An evaluation is completed monthly for all full-time civilian personnel during the probationary period.

Sworn employees are appointed by the Sheriff from a certification list provided by the Pacific County Civil Service Commission who has not yet completed twelve (12) consecutive months of employment. When applicable, time spent in the basic police academy is exclusive of an employee's twelve (12) month probationary period. (Per CBA <sup>ss</sup>5.2.1).

Probationary deputies are evaluated daily, weekly and monthly during the probationary period.

### 1002.5 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.

#### 1002.5.1 RATINGS CRITERIA

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.

**Meets Standards** - Is the performance of a fully competent employee. It means satisfactory performance that meets the standards required of the position.

## *Evaluation of Employees*

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**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.

### **1002.6 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. Permanent employees may also write comments in the Employee Comments section of the performance evaluation report.

### **1002.7 EVALUATION REVIEW**

After the supervisor finishes the discussion with the employee, the signed performance evaluation is forwarded to the rater's supervisor (Lieutenant). The Lieutenant shall review the evaluation for fairness, impartiality, uniformity, and consistency. The Lieutenant shall evaluate the supervisor on the quality of ratings given.

### **1002.8 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 Civil Division.

### **1002.9 REMEDIAL TRAINING**

When an employee fails to perform a job function at the level prescribed in this policy manual, remedial training may be necessary to ensure that employee has the knowledge and skills necessary to perform at an acceptable level.

Whenever an employee receives an evaluation rating of needs improvement or unacceptable, receives a Special Evaluation to document a performance deficiency or is receiving discipline

### *Evaluation of Employees*

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for a performance deficiency, the supervisor should consider whether remedial training would be appropriate to assist the employee in improving their performance.

- (a) If remedial training is deemed to be appropriate, the supervisor shall document the following items in a Personnel Improvement Plan (PIP):
  - 1. The remedial training being provided.
  - 2. The timeline for providing the training.
  - 3. The timeline for evaluating the employee's subsequent performance.
  - 4. The consequences if the employee fails to perform.
  - 5. The desired outcome if the remediation is successful.
- (b) Prior to implementing the remedial training, the supervisor shall present the PIP to the employee who shall then be provided with ten days to respond with any objections or other comments.
- (c) If the employee fails to provide a timely written response or expresses no desire to respond, the employee's date and signature shall be affixed to the PIP as agreement to its terms.
- (d) If the employee provides a timely written response, any objections shall be adjudicated in accordance with the department's grievance procedure.

The remedial training process is for use with all employees. It is not limited to use with probationary employees.

## Promotional and Transfer Policy

### 1004.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish required and desirable qualifications for promotion within the ranks of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.

#### 1004.1.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The following considerations will be used in evaluating employees for promotion or transfer to a specialty assignment:

- (a) Present a professional, neat appearance.
- (b) Maintain a physical condition which aids in their performance.
- (c) Demonstrate the following traits:
  - 1. Emotional stability and maturity
  - 2. Stress tolerance
  - 3. Sound judgment and decision making
  - 4. Personal integrity and ethical conduct
  - 5. Leadership
  - 6. Initiative
  - 7. Adaptability and flexibility
  - 8. Ability to conform to organizational goals and objectives in a positive manner.

### 1004.2 SWORN NON-SUPERVISORY SELECTION PROCESS

The following positions are considered transfers and are not considered promotions:

- (a) Special Enforcement Team member.
- (b) Detective.
- (c) Motor Deputy.
- (d) Accident Investigator.
- (e) Field Training Officer.
- (f) Community Relations/Training Officer.
- (g) Drug Task Force Detective.
- (h) Sex Offender Registration Deputy (SOR)

#### 1004.2.1 DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

The following qualifications apply to consideration for transfer:

*Promotional and Transfer Policy*

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- (a) Three years experience.
- (b) Off probation.
- (c) Has shown an expressed interest in the position applied for.
- (d) Education, training and demonstrated abilities in related areas; such as, enforcement activities, investigative techniques, report writing, public relations, etc.
- (e) Complete any training required by CJTC or law.

**1004.3 SELECTION PROCESS**

The following criteria apply to transfers.

- (a) Administrative evaluation as determined by the Sheriff. This shall include a review of supervisor recommendations. Each supervisor who has supervised or otherwise been involved with the candidate will submit these recommendations.
- (b) The supervisor recommendations will be submitted to the Lieutenant for whom the candidate will work. The Lieutenant will schedule interviews with each candidate.
- (c) Based on supervisor recommendations and those of the Lieutenant after the interview, the Lieutenant will submit his/her recommendation(s) to the Sheriff.
- (d) Appointment by the Sheriff

The policy and procedures for all positions may be waived for temporary assignments, emergency situations or for training.

**1004.4 PROMOTIONAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Specifications for promotional opportunities are on file with the Pacific County Civil Division.

# 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

**Grievance** - Is any 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 related to consist 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 Complaints Policy.

## 1006.2 PROCEDURE

Except as otherwise required under a collective bargaining agreement, if an employee believes that he/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 Lieutenant of the affected division or bureau.
- (c) If a successful resolution is not found with the Lieutenant, 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:
  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:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Grievance Procedure*

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- (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) Identification of the specific policies, rules or regulations or allegedly violated.
  - (d) What remedy you are seeking or goal you would like to accomplish from 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 COMMISSIONERS 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 COMMISSIONERS 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 Support Services for inclusion into a secure file for all written grievances. A second copy of the written grievance will be maintained by the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS's office to monitor the grievance process.

#### **1006.5 GRIEVANCE AUDITS**

The Training Officer 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 Officer 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 Officer should promptly notify the Sheriff.

## Anti-Retaliation

### 1008.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy prohibits retaliation against members who identify workplace issues, such as fraud, waste, abuse of authority, gross mismanagement or any inappropriate conduct or practices, including violations that may pose a threat to the health, safety or well-being of members.

This policy does not prohibit actions taken for nondiscriminatory or non-retaliatory reasons, such as discipline for cause.

These guidelines are intended to supplement and not limit members' access to other applicable remedies. Nothing in this policy shall diminish the rights or remedies of a member pursuant to any applicable federal law, provision of the U.S. Constitution, law, ordinance, or collective bargaining agreement or memorandum of understanding.

### 1008.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

### 1008.3 RETALIATION PROHIBITED

No member may retaliate against any person for engaging in lawful or otherwise permitted behavior; for opposing a practice believed to be unlawful, unethical, discriminatory or retaliatory; for reporting or making a complaint under this policy; or for participating in any investigation related to a complaint under this or any other policy.

Retaliation includes any adverse action or conduct, including but not limited to:

- Refusing to hire or denying a promotion.
- Extending the probationary period.
- Unjustified reassignment of duties or change of work schedule.
- Real or implied threats or other forms of intimidation to dissuade the reporting of wrongdoing or filing of a complaint, or as a consequence of having reported or participated in protected activity.
- Taking unwarranted disciplinary action.
- Spreading rumors about the person filing the complaint or about the alleged wrongdoing.
- Shunning unreasonably avoiding a person because he/she has engaged in protected activity.



*Anti-Retaliation*

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**1008.4 COMPLAINTS OF RETALIATION**

Any member who feels he/she has been retaliated against in violation of this policy should promptly report the matter to any supervisor, command staff member, Sheriff or the County Chief Civil Deputy.

Members shall act in good faith, not engage in unwarranted reporting of trivial or minor deviations or transgressions, and make reasonable efforts to verify facts before making any complaint in order to avoid baseless allegations. Members shall not report or state an intention to report information or an allegation knowing it to be false, with willful or reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the information or otherwise act in bad faith.

Investigations are generally more effective when the identity of the reporting member is known, thereby allowing investigators to obtain additional information from the reporting member. However, complaints may be made anonymously. All reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the reporting member's identity. However, confidential information may be disclosed to the extent required by law or to the degree necessary to conduct an adequate investigation and make a determination regarding a complaint. In some situations, the investigative process may not be complete unless the source of the information and a statement by the member is part of the investigative process.

**1008.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors are expected to remain familiar with this policy and ensure that members under their command are aware of its provisions.

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring complaints of retaliation are investigated as provided in the Personnel Complaints Policy.
- (b) Receiving all complaints in a fair and impartial manner.
- (c) Documenting the complaint and any steps taken to resolve the problem.
- (d) Acknowledging receipt of the complaint, notifying the Sheriff via the chain of command and explaining to the member how the complaint will be handled.
- (e) Taking appropriate and reasonable steps to mitigate any further violations of this policy.
- (f) Monitoring the work environment to ensure that any member making a complaint is not subjected to further retaliation.
- (g) Periodic follow-up with the complainant to ensure that retaliation is not continuing.
- (h) Not interfering with or denying the right of a member to make any complaint.
- (i) Taking reasonable steps to accommodate requests for assignment or schedule changes made by a member who may be the target of retaliation if it would likely mitigate the potential for further violations of this policy.

*Anti-Retaliation*

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**1008.6 COMMAND STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Sheriff should communicate to all supervisors the prohibition against retaliation.

Command staff shall treat all complaints as serious matters and shall ensure that prompt actions take place, including but not limited to:

- (a) Communicating to all members the prohibition against retaliation.
- (b) The timely review of complaint investigations.
- (c) Remediation of any inappropriate conduct or condition and instituting measures to eliminate or minimize the likelihood of recurrence.
- (d) The timely communication of the outcome to the complainant.

**1008.7 WHISTLE-BLOWING**

Washington law protects members who make good faith reports of improper government actions. Improper government actions include violations of Washington law, abuse of authority, gross waste of funds, and substantial and specific danger to the public health or safety (RCW 42.40.010 et seq.; RCW 49.60.210; RCW 42.41.010 et seq.).

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 Lieutenant for investigation pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy.

**1008.7.1 DISPLAY OF REPORTING PROCEDURES**

The Department shall display the County policy to members regarding their rights and the procedures for reporting information of an alleged improper government action. A copy of the policy shall be made available to members upon request (RCW 42.41.030).

**1008.8 RECORDS RETENTION AND RELEASE**

The Chief Civil Deputy shall ensure that documentation of investigations is maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedules.

**1008.9 TRAINING**

The policy should be reviewed with each new member.

All members should receive periodic refresher training on the requirements of this policy.

# Reporting of Employee Convictions

## 1010.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Convictions of certain offenses may restrict or prohibit an employee's ability to properly perform official duties; therefore, all employees shall be required to promptly notify the Department of any past and current criminal convictions.

## 1010.2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONVICTIONS AND RESTRAINING ORDERS

Washington and federal law prohibit individuals convicted of 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).

All members are responsible for ensuring that they have not been disqualified from possessing a firearm by any such conviction or court order and shall promptly report any such conviction or court order to a supervisor, as provided in this policy.

## 1010.3 REPORTING PROCEDURE

All members of this department and all retired deputies with an identification card issued by the Department shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor (or the Sheriff in the case of retired deputies) in writing of any past or current criminal arrest or conviction regardless of whether or not the matter is currently on appeal and regardless of the penalty or sentence, if any.

All members and all retired deputies with an identification card issued by the Department 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.

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 member failing to provide prompt written notice pursuant to this policy shall be subject to discipline.

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## Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace

### 1012.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear and uniform guidelines regarding drugs and alcohol in the workplace.

### 1012.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide a drug- and alcohol-free workplace for all members.

### 1012.3 GENERAL GUIDELINES

Alcohol and drug use in the workplace or on department time can endanger the health and safety of department 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 Sergeant 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).

#### 1012.3.1 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 Department while taking any medication that has the potential to impair his/her abilities, without a written release from his/her physician.

Possession of medical marijuana or being under the influence of marijuana on- or off-duty is prohibited and may lead to disciplinary action (RCW 69.51A.060(6)).

### 1012.4 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 department premises or on department 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.

### *Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace*

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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).

#### **1012.5 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 Civil Division, 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.

#### **1012.6 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 Department.

#### **1012.7 REQUESTING SCREENING TESTS**

A supervisor may request an employee to submit to a screening test under any of 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.

##### **1012.7.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

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.

*Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace*

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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.

**1012.7.2 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.

**1012.8 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 Department 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).

**1012.9 CONFIDENTIALITY**

The Department 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.

## Sick Leave Reporting

### 1014.1 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 is detailed in the employee's respective labor agreement. Employees may also be entitled to additional paid or unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons as provided for in the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (29 CFR 825).

### 1014.2 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Sick leave may be used for absences caused by illness, injury, temporary disability (including pregnancy/maternity), or for medical, dental or vision exams or medical treatment of the employee or the employee's immediate family when it is not possible to schedule such appointments during non-working hours.

Sick leave is not considered vacation, and abuse of sick leave may result in discipline and/or denial of sick-leave benefits. Employees on sick leave shall not engage in other employment or self-employment, or participate in any sport, hobby, recreational or other activity which may impede recovery from the injury or illness.

Upon return to work, employees shall complete and submit a leave request describing the type of leave used and the specific amount of time taken.

#### 1014.2.1 NOTIFICATION

Employees are encouraged to notify the Shift Sergeant or appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work. At a minimum, employees shall make such notification no less than one hour before the start of their scheduled shift. If an employee is unable to contact the supervisor in the case of an emergency, every effort should be made to have a representative contact the supervisor.

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.

### 1014.3 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.

### *Sick Leave Reporting*

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#### **1014.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

Supervisors should monitor sick leave usage and regularly review the attendance of employees under their command to ensure that the use of sick leave is consistent with this policy. Supervisors should address sick-leave use in the employee's performance evaluation when it has negatively affected the employee's performance or ability to complete assigned duties, and when unusual amounts of sick leave by the employee has had a negative impact on department operations. When appropriate, supervisors should counsel employees regarding the excessive use of sick leave and should consider referring the employee to the Employee Assistance Program.



# Communicable Diseases

## 1016.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines to assist in minimizing the risk of department members contracting and/or spreading communicable diseases.

### 1016.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Communicable disease** - A human disease caused by microorganisms that are present in and transmissible through human blood, bodily fluid, tissue, or by breathing or coughing. These diseases commonly include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV), HIV and tuberculosis.

**Exposure** - When an eye, mouth, mucous membrane or non-intact skin comes into contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, or when these substances are injected or infused under the skin; when an individual is exposed to a person who has a disease that can be passed through the air by talking, sneezing or coughing (e.g., tuberculosis), or the individual is in an area that was occupied by such a person. Exposure only includes those instances that occur due to a member's position at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. (See the exposure control plan for further details to assist in identifying whether an exposure has occurred.)

## 1016.2 POLICY

The Pacific 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.

## 1016.3 EXPOSURE CONTROL OFFICER

The Sheriff will assign a person as the Exposure Control Officer (ECO). The ECO shall develop an exposure control plan that includes (WAC 296-823.100 et seq.):

- (a) Exposure-prevention and decontamination procedures.
- (b) Procedures for when and how to obtain medical attention in the event of an exposure or suspected exposure.
- (c) The provision that department 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.
- (e) Compliance with all relevant laws or regulations related to communicable diseases, including:
  - 1. Bloodborne pathogen mandates including but not limited to (WAC 296-823-110 et seq.):
    - (a) The identification of positions with the potential for exposure.

## *Communicable Diseases*

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- (b) Measures to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure and how members will be informed of those measures.
  - (c) A plan for the distribution and use of personal protective equipment (PPE) related to communicable diseases.
  - (d) Directions for appropriate labeling of contaminated items.
  - (e) Rules regarding worksite maintenance.
  - (f) Rules regarding waste.
  - (g) Confidentiality requirements and medical protocols.
  - (h) Maintenance of training and medical records.
2. The Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (RCW 49.17.010 et seq.; WAC 296-800-110 et seq.).
  3. Responding to requests and notifications regarding exposures covered under the Ryan White law (42 USC § 300ff-133; 42 USC § 300ff-136).

The ECO should also act as the liaison with the Washington Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) and may request voluntary compliance inspections. The ECO should annually review and update the exposure control plan and review implementation of the plan (WAC 296-823-11010).

### **1016.4 EXPOSURE PREVENTION AND MITIGATION**

#### **1016.4.1 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS**

All members are expected to use good judgment and follow training and procedures related to mitigating the risks associated with communicable disease. This includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Stocking disposable gloves, antiseptic hand cleanser, CPR masks or other specialized equipment in the work area or department vehicles, as applicable.
- (b) Wearing department-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.
- (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.

*Communicable Diseases*

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- (h) Handling all sharps and items that cut or puncture (e.g., needles, broken glass, razors, knives) cautiously and using puncture-resistant containers for their storage and/or transportation.
- (i) Avoiding eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics or lip balm, or handling contact lenses where there is a reasonable likelihood of exposure.
- (j) Disposing of biohazardous waste appropriately or labeling biohazardous material properly when it is stored.

**1016.4.2 IMMUNIZATIONS**

Members who could be exposed to HBV due to their positions may receive the HBV vaccine and any routine booster at no cost (WAC 296-823-130).

**1016.5 POST EXPOSURE**

**1016.5.1 INITIAL POST-EXPOSURE STEPS**

Members who experience an exposure or suspected exposure shall:

- (a) Begin decontamination procedures immediately (e.g., wash hands and any other skin with soap and water, flush mucous membranes with water).
- (b) Obtain medical attention as appropriate.
- (c) Notify a supervisor as soon as practicable.

**1016.5.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

The supervisor on-duty shall investigate every exposure or suspected exposure that occurs as soon as possible following the incident. The supervisor shall ensure the following information is documented (WAC 296-823-16005):

- (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
- (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 On-Duty Injuries Policy).

*Communicable Diseases*

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**1016.5.3 MEDICAL CONSULTATION, EVALUATION AND TREATMENT**

Department members shall have the opportunity to have a confidential medical evaluation immediately after an exposure and follow-up evaluations as necessary (WAC 296-823-16005).

The ECO should request a written opinion/evaluation from the treating medical professional that contains only the following information:

- (a) Whether the member has been informed of the results of the evaluation.
- (b) Whether the member has been notified of any medical conditions resulting from exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials which require further evaluation or treatment.

No other information should be requested or accepted by the ECO.

**1016.5.4 COUNSELING**

The Department shall provide the member, and his/her family if necessary, the opportunity for counseling and consultation regarding the exposure (WAC 296-823-16005).

**1016.5.5 SOURCE TESTING**

Testing a person for communicable diseases when that person was the source of an exposure should be done when it is desired by the exposed member or when it is otherwise appropriate. Source testing is the responsibility of the ECO (WAC 296-823-16010). 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) In the event that consent cannot be obtained, by contacting the local health authority who may pursue testing of the source individual for HIV or other communicable diseases (RCW 70.24.340; WAC 246-100-205).

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 Prosecuting Attorney to discuss other options when no statute exists for compelling the source of an exposure to undergo testing if he/she refuses.

**1016.6 CONFIDENTIALITY OF REPORTS**

Medical information shall remain in confidential files and shall not be disclosed to anyone without the member's written consent (except as required by law). Test results from persons who may have been the source of an exposure are to be kept confidential as well.

## *Communicable Diseases*

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### **1016.7 TRAINING**

All members shall participate in training regarding communicable diseases commensurate with the requirements of their position. The training shall include the mandates provided in WAC 296-823-12005 et seq. and:

- (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) Shall 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.

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## Smoking and Tobacco Use

### 1018.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes limitations on the use of tobacco products by employees and others while on-duty or while in Pacific County Sheriff's Office facilities or vehicles.

### 1018.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office recognizes that tobacco use is a health risk and can be offensive to other employees and to the public. It is the policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office to prohibit the use of tobacco by employees while on-duty or at any time the employee is acting in an official capacity for the Department.

### 1018.3 EMPLOYEE USE

Tobacco use by employees is prohibited anytime employees are in public view representing the Department.

Smoking and other use of tobacco products is not permitted inside department facilities or any department vehicle.

It shall be the responsibility of all employees to ensure that no person smokes or uses any tobacco product inside department facilities and vehicles.

### 1018.4 ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS

No person shall smoke tobacco products within 25 feet of a main entrance, exit, or operable window of any building (RCW 70.160.075).

## Personnel Complaints

### 1020.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the reporting, investigation and disposition of complaints regarding the conduct of members of the Pacific 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.

### 1020.2 POLICY

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the Department and the conduct of its members.

The Department 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 memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreements.

It is also the policy of this department to ensure that the community can report misconduct without concern for reprisal or retaliation.

### 1020.3 PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS

Personnel complaints include any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance that, if true, would constitute a violation of department policy or of federal, state or local law, policy or rule. Personnel complaints may be generated internally or by the public.

Inquiries about conduct or performance that, if true, would not violate department policy or federal, state or local law, policy or rule may be handled informally by a supervisor and shall not be considered a personnel complaint. Such inquiries generally include clarification regarding policy, procedures or the response to specific incidents by the Department.

#### 1020.3.1 COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATIONS

Personnel complaints shall be classified in one of the following categories:

**Informal** - A matter in which the Shift Sergeant 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 Lieutenant, 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 Lieutenant, such matters may be further investigated depending on the seriousness of the complaint and the availability of sufficient information.

## *Personnel Complaints*

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### 1020.3.2 SOURCES OF COMPLAINTS

The following applies to the source of complaints:

- (a) Individuals from the public may make complaints in any form, including in writing, by email, in person or by telephone.
- (b) Any department member becoming aware of alleged misconduct shall immediately notify a supervisor.
- (c) 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.

### 1020.4 AVAILABILITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLAINTS

#### 1020.4.1 COMPLAINT FORMS

Personnel complaint forms will be maintained in a clearly visible location in the public area of the sheriff's facility and be accessible through the department website. Forms may also be available at other County facilities.

Personnel complaint forms in languages other than English may also be provided, as determined necessary or practicable.

#### 1020.4.2 ACCEPTANCE

All complaints will be courteously accepted by any department 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 and submit a complaint form as appropriate.

Although not required, complainants should be encouraged to file complaints in person so that proper identification, signatures, photographs or physical evidence may be obtained as necessary.

### 1020.5 DOCUMENTATION

Supervisors shall ensure that all formal and informal complaints are documented on a complaint form. 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 Department should audit the log and send an audit report to the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

### 1020.6 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Allegations of misconduct will be administratively investigated as follows.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Personnel Complaints*

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#### 1020.6.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

In general, the primary responsibility for the investigation of a personnel complaint shall rest with the member's immediate supervisor, unless the supervisor is the complainant, or the supervisor is the ultimate decision-maker regarding disciplinary action or has any personal involvement regarding the alleged misconduct. The Sheriff or the authorized designee may direct that another supervisor investigate any complaint.

A supervisor who becomes aware of alleged misconduct shall take reasonable steps to prevent aggravation of the situation.

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring that upon receiving or initiating any formal complaint, a complaint form is completed.
  - 1. The original complaint form will be directed to the Shift Sergeant 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 Lieutenant or the Sheriff, who will initiate appropriate action.
- (b) Responding to all complaints in a courteous and professional manner.
- (c) Resolving those personnel complaints that can be resolved immediately.
  - 1. Follow-up contact with the complainant should be made within 24 hours of the Department receiving the complaint.
  - 2. If the matter is resolved and no further action is required, the supervisor will note the resolution on a complaint form and forward the form to the Shift Sergeant.
- (d) Ensuring that upon receipt of a complaint involving allegations of a potentially serious nature, the Shift Sergeant and Sheriff are notified via the chain of command as soon as practicable.
- (e) Promptly contacting the Civil Division and the Shift Sergeant 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 Shift Sergeant, who will determine whether to contact the complainant or assign the complaint for investigation.
- (g) Informing the complainant of the investigator's name and the complaint number within three days after assignment.
- (h) Investigating a complaint as follows:
  - 1. Making reasonable efforts to obtain names, addresses and telephone numbers of witnesses.
  - 2. When appropriate, ensuring immediate medical attention is provided and photographs of alleged injuries and accessible uninjured areas are taken.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Personnel Complaints*

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- (i) Ensuring that the procedural rights of the accused member are followed.
- (j) Ensuring interviews of the complainant are generally conducted during reasonable hours.

#### 1020.6.2 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Whether conducted by a supervisor or a member of the Lieutenant, the following applies to employees:

- (a) Interviews of an accused employee shall be conducted during reasonable hours and preferably when the employee is on-duty. If the employee is off-duty, he/she shall be compensated.
- (b) Unless waived by the employee, interviews of an accused employee shall be at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office or other reasonable and appropriate place.
- (c) No more than two interviewers should ask questions of an accused employee.
- (d) Prior to any interview, an employee should be informed of the nature of the investigation.
- (e) All interviews should be for a reasonable period and the employee's personal needs should be accommodated.
- (f) No employee should be subjected to offensive or threatening language, nor shall any promises, rewards or other inducements be used to obtain answers. Any employee 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.
- (g) The interviewer should record all interviews of employees and witnesses. The employee may also record the interview. If the employee has been previously interviewed, a copy of that recorded interview shall be provided to the employee prior to any subsequent interview.
- (h) All employees 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 employees shall not consult or meet with a representative or attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed.
- (i) All employees shall provide complete and truthful responses to questions posed during interviews.
- (j) No employee may be compelled to submit to a polygraph examination, nor shall any refusal to submit to such examination be mentioned in any investigation.
- (k) An employee covered by civil service shall be provided a written statement of all accusations with a duplicate statement filed with the civil service commission (RCW 41.12.090; RCW 41.14.120).

#### 1020.6.3 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION FORMAT

Formal investigations of personnel complaints shall be thorough, complete and essentially follow this format:

**Introduction** - Include the identity of the members, the identity of the assigned investigators, the initial date and source of the complaint.

**Synopsis** - Provide a brief summary of the facts giving rise to the investigation.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Personnel Complaints*

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**Summary** - 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.

**Evidence** - Each allegation should be set forth with the details of the evidence applicable to each allegation provided, including comprehensive summaries of member and witness statements. Other evidence related to each allegation should also be detailed in this section.

**Conclusion** - A recommendation regarding further action or disposition should be provided.

**Exhibits** - A separate list of exhibits (e.g., recordings, photos, documents) should be attached to the report.

#### 1020.6.4 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 department members. Complaints that are determined to be frivolous will fall within the classification of unfounded.

**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** - When the investigation discloses sufficient evidence to establish that the act occurred and that it constituted misconduct.

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.

#### 1020.6.5 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.

#### 1020.7 ADMINISTRATIVE SEARCHES

Assigned lockers, storage spaces and other areas, including desks, offices and vehicles, may be searched as part of an administrative investigation upon a reasonable suspicion of misconduct.

Such areas may also be searched any time by a supervisor for non-investigative purposes, such as obtaining a needed report, radio or other document or equipment.

#### 1020.8 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

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Personnel Complaints*

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Department, 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 department badge, identification, assigned weapons and any other department 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.

#### **1020.9 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 provided with all rights afforded to a civilian. The member should not be administratively ordered to provide any information in the criminal investigation.

No information or evidence administratively coerced from a member may be provided to anyone involved in conducting the criminal investigation or to any prosecutor.

The Pacific 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.

#### **1020.10 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 and include their comments in writing before forwarding the report. The Sheriff may accept or modify any classification or recommendation for disciplinary action.

##### **1020.10.1 LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any completed personnel investigation, the Lieutenant of the involved member shall review the entire investigative file, the member's personnel file and any other relevant materials.

The Lieutenant 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 Lieutenant may return the entire investigation to the assigned investigator or supervisor for further investigation or action.

## *Personnel Complaints*

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When forwarding any written recommendation to the Sheriff, the Lieutenant shall include all relevant materials supporting the recommendation. Actual copies of a member's existing personnel file need not be provided and may be incorporated by reference.

### **1020.10.2 SHERIFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any written recommendation for disciplinary action, the Sheriff shall review the recommendation and all accompanying materials. The Sheriff may modify any recommendation and/or may return the file to the Lieutenant for further investigation or action.

Once the Sheriff is satisfied that no further investigation or action is required by staff, the Sheriff shall determine the amount of discipline, if any, that should be imposed. In the event disciplinary action is proposed, the Sheriff shall provide the member with a written notice and the following:

- (a) Access to all of the materials considered by the Sheriff in recommending the proposed discipline.
- (b) An opportunity to respond orally or in writing to the Sheriff within five days of receiving the notice.
  - 1. Upon a showing of good cause by the member, the Sheriff may grant a reasonable extension of time for the member to respond.
  - 2. If the member elects to respond orally, the presentation shall 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 shall consider all information received in regard to the recommended discipline. The Sheriff 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 has issued a written decision, the discipline shall become effective.

### **1020.11 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.

*Personnel Complaints*

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- (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.

**1020.12 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.

**1020.13 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 civil service, the appeal process shall be in compliance with RCW 41.12.090 and RCW 41.14.120.

**1020.14 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES AND OTHER MEMBERS**

At-will and probationary employees and members other than non-probationary employees may be disciplined and/or released from employment without adherence to any of the procedures set out in this policy, and without notice or cause at any time. These individuals are not entitled to any rights under this policy. However, any of these individuals released for misconduct should be afforded an opportunity solely to clear their names through a liberty interest hearing, which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

Any probationary period may be extended at the discretion of the Sheriff in cases where the individual has been absent for more than a week or when additional time to review the individual is considered to be appropriate.

**1020.15 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 Files Policy.

**1020.16 NOTIFICATION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION (CJTC) CERTIFICATION BOARD**

Upon termination of a peace officer for any reason, including resignation, the Department shall, within 15 days of the termination, notify the CJTC on a personnel action report form provided by the commission. The Department shall, upon request of the CJTC, provide such additional documentation or information as the commission deems necessary to determine whether the termination provides grounds for revocation of the peace officer's certification (RCW 43.101.135).

## Seat Belt Procedure

### 1022.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The use of seat belts and other safety restraints significantly reduces the chance of death or injury in case of a traffic collision. This policy establishes guidelines for seat belt and child safety seat use to assure maximum operator and passenger safety, thus minimizing the possibility of death or injury as a result of motor vehicle crashes. This policy will apply to all employees operating or riding in department vehicles (RCW 46.61.688, RCW 46.61.687).

### 1022.2 WEARING OF SAFETY RESTRAINTS

All members shall wear properly adjusted safety restraints when operating or riding in a seat equipped with restraints, in any vehicle owned, leased or rented by this department, while on- or off-duty, or in any privately owned vehicle while on-duty. The member driving such a vehicle shall ensure that all other occupants, including non-members, are also properly restrained.

Exceptions to the requirement to wear safety restraints may be made only in exceptional situations where, due to unusual circumstances, wearing a seat belt would endanger the member or the public. Members must be prepared to justify any deviation from this requirement.

#### 1022.2.1 TRANSPORTING CHILDREN

An approved child safety restraint system should be used for all children of age, size or weight for which such restraints are required by law. In the event an appropriate approved child safety restraint system is not available the child may be transported by sworn personnel however the child should be restrained in a seat belt (RCW 46.61.687(1)).

The rear seat passenger area in cage-equipped vehicles has reduced clearance which may interfere with the proper use of child safety restraint systems. Because of limited rear seat clearance in these vehicles, children and child restraint systems should be properly secured in the front seat according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Whenever a child is transported in the front seat of a vehicle, the passenger side air bag should be deactivated if possible. In the event this is not possible, alternative transportation should be considered.

### 1022.3 TRANSPORTING PRISONERS

Whenever possible, prisoners should be secured in the prisoner restraint system in the rear seat of the patrol vehicle or, when a prisoner restraint system is not available, by safety belts in a seating position for which safety belts are provided by the vehicle manufacturer. The prisoner restraint system is not intended to be a substitute for handcuffs or other appendage restraints.

### 1022.4 INOPERABLE SEAT BELTS

No person shall operate a department vehicle in which any safety belt in the driver's seating position is inoperable. No person shall be transported in a seating position in which the safety restraint is inoperable.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Seat Belt Procedure*

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No person shall modify, remove, deactivate or otherwise tamper with the vehicle safety belts except for vehicle maintenance and repair and not without the express authorization of the Sheriff.

Employees 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.



## Body Armor

### 1024.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide law enforcement officers with guidelines for the proper use of body armor.

### 1024.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Pacific 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.

#### 1024.2.1 USE OF BODY ARMOR

(a) Deputies shall only wear agency-approved body armor. (b) Deputies shall wear body armor anytime they are in a situation they could reasonably be expected to take an enforcement action. (c) Deputies may be excused from wearing body armor when they are functioning primarily in an administrative or support capacity and could not reasonably be expected to take enforcement action. (d) Body armor shall be worn when a Deputy is working in uniform or taking part in Department range training. (e) An deputy may be excused from wearing body armor when he/she is involved in undercover or plain clothes work that his/her supervisor determines could be compromised by wearing body armor; or when a supervisor determines that other circumstances make it inappropriate to mandate wearing body armor.

#### 1024.2.2 INSPECTIONS OF BODY ARMOR

Supervisors should ensure that body armor is worn and maintained as required by this policy through routine observation and periodic documented inspections. Annual inspections of body armor should be conducted for fit, cleanliness, signs of damage, abuse and wear.

#### 1024.2.3 CARE, MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT OF BODY ARMOR

Officers should routinely inspect personal body armor for signs of damage and for general cleanliness. Because dirt and perspiration may erode ballistic panels, each deputy shall be responsible for cleaning personal body armor in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Officers are responsible for the proper storage, maintenance and care of body armor in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Officers are responsible for reporting damage or excessive wear to the ballistic panels or cover to their supervisor and the individual responsible for the uniform supply function.

#### 1024.2.4 RANGER MASTER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Range Master 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.

## *Body Armor*

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(c) Provide training that educates officers about the safety benefits of wearing body armor.

### **1024.3 ISSUANCE OF BODY ARMOR**

The Support Services supervisor shall ensure that body armor is issued to all deputies when the deputy begins service at the Pacific County Sheriff's Office and that, when issued, the body armor meets or exceeds the standards of the National Institute of Justice.

The Support Services supervisor shall establish a body armor replacement schedule and ensure that replacement body armor is issued pursuant to the schedule or whenever the body armor becomes worn or damaged to the point that its effectiveness or functionality has been compromised.

#### **1024.3.1 USE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR**

Generally, the use of body armor is required subject to the following:

- (a) Deputies shall only wear agency-approved body armor.
- (b) Deputies shall wear body armor anytime they are in a situation where they could reasonably be expected to take enforcement action.
- (c) Deputies may be excused from wearing body armor when they are functioning primarily in an administrative or support capacity and could not reasonably be expected to take enforcement action.
- (d) Body armor shall be worn when a deputy is working in uniform or taking part in Department range training.
- (e) A deputy may be excused from wearing body armor when he/she is involved in undercover or plainclothes work that his/her supervisor determines could be compromised by wearing body armor, or when a supervisor determines that other circumstances make it inappropriate to mandate wearing body armor.

#### **1024.3.2 INSPECTIONS OF BODY ARMOR**

Supervisors should ensure that body armor is worn and maintained in accordance with this policy through routine observation and periodic documented inspections. Annual inspections of body armor should be conducted by an authorized designee for fit, cleanliness and signs of damage, abuse and wear.

#### **1024.3.3 CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR**

Soft body armor should never be stored for any period of time in an area where environmental conditions (e.g., temperature, light, humidity) are not reasonably controlled (e.g., normal ambient room temperature/humidity conditions), such as in automobiles or automobile trunks.

Soft body armor should be cared for and cleaned pursuant to the manufacturer's care instructions provided with the soft body armor. The instructions can be found on labels located on the external surface of each ballistic panel. The carrier should also have a label that contains care instructions. Failure to follow these instructions may damage the ballistic performance capabilities of the armor.

## *Body Armor*

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If care instructions for the soft body armor cannot be located, contact the manufacturer to request care instructions.

Soft body armor should not be exposed to any cleaning agents or methods not specifically recommended by the manufacturer, as noted on the armor panel label.

Soft body armor should be replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended replacement schedule.

### **1024.4 RANGEMASTER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Rangemaster should:

- (a) Monitor technological advances in the body armor industry for any appropriate changes to Department approved body armor.
- (b) Assess weapons and ammunition currently in use and the suitability of approved body armor to protect against those threats.
- (c) Provide training that educates deputies about the safety benefits of wearing body armor.

## Personnel Files

### 1026.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This section governs the maintenance, retention, and access to peace officer personnel files in accordance with established law. It is the policy of this Department to maintain the confidentiality of peace officer personnel records pursuant to the exemptions listed in subsections of RCW 42.56.

### 1026.2 PERSONNEL FILES DEFINED

Peace officer personnel records shall include any file maintained under an individual deputy's name relating to:

- (a) Personal data, including marital status, family members, educational and employment history, or similar information.
- (b) Medical history, including medical leave of absence forms, fitness for duty examinations, workers compensation records, medical releases and all other records which reveal an employee's past, current or anticipated future medical conditions.
- (c) Election of employee benefits.
- (d) Employee advancement, appraisal, or discipline.
- (e) Complaints, or investigations of complaints, concerning an event or transaction in which the deputy participated, or which the deputy perceived, and pertaining to the manner in which the deputy performed official duties.
- (f) Any other information the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

### 1026.3 EMPLOYEE RECORD LOCATIONS

Employee records will generally be maintained in any of the following:

**Department File** - That file which is maintained in the office of the Sheriff or his/her designee or by the Civil Division as a permanent record of a sworn deputy's employment with this department.

**Division File (working file)** - Any file which is separately maintained internally by an employee's supervisor(s) within an assigned division for the purpose of completing timely performance evaluations.

**Supervisor Log Entries** - Any written comment, excluding actual performance evaluations, made by a supervisor concerning the conduct of an employee of this department.

**Training File** - Any file which documents the training records of an employee.

**Internal Affairs Files** - Those files that contain complaints of employee misconduct and all materials relating to the investigation into such allegations, regardless of disposition.

*Personnel Files*

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**Medical File** - That file which is maintained separately that exclusively contains material relating to an employee's medical history.

Pre-employment personnel files, including background information psychological and polygraph results, will also be maintained in the office of the Sheriff or his/her designee or by the Civil Division. Such files shall be kept separately from other personnel files.

All employee records will be secured and available only to persons authorized to access such information.

**1026.4 CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALL PERSONNEL FILES**

In general, unless expressly stated by statutory exception, personnel files are subject to public disclosure. To the extent possible, all personnel records, whether or not subject to public disclosure, should be maintained as private records. Access to personnel files should be limited to only those local government employees who are needed to maintain the files and those who have a legitimate need for access or legal right to access. All of the personnel records listed in PERSONNEL FILES DEFINED shall be deemed private, and access to such files will be limited to only those Department or County employees who are needed to maintain the files and those who have a legitimate need for access. Nothing in this section is intended to preclude review of personnel files by the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, Prosecuting Attorney, or other attorneys or representatives of the County in connection with official business.

**1026.5 REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE**

All records kept by Washington State public agencies are considered public unless they are covered by specific disclosure statutes (RCW 42.56.070).

(a) Private personnel records that are exempted from public disclosure include:

1. Applications for public employment (RCW 42.56.250).
2. Residential addresses and telephone numbers (RCW 42.56.250).
3. Performance evaluations which do not discuss specific instances of misconduct.
4. Medical information (RCW 70.02).
5. Industrial insurance (workers' compensation) claim files and records (RCW 51.28.070).
6. Employee identification numbers.
7. Taxpayer information, such as tax withholding data (RCW 42.56.230(4)).

(b) Records that are not covered by other specific disclosure exemption statutes must be made available for inspection and copying. This includes the following private personnel records:

1. Employee advancement or discipline reports.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Personnel Files*

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2. Personnel complaint investigations after such investigations have been completed or are no longer under review or deliberation.
3. Department reports to CJTC regarding the separation from employment of a deputy.

When complaint investigations are complete and found to be unsubstantiated (not-sustained, exonerated or unfounded) the names and identifying information of the subject employee is protected from public disclosure. In such cases, the Chief Civil Deputy shall ensure that the name and other identifying information of the subject employee is redacted before the document or documents are released.

All requests for the disclosure of any information contained in any deputy's personnel record shall be documented in writing and promptly brought to the attention of the employee's Division Commander, 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 employee(s) as soon as practicable that such a request has been made.

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 will require assistance of approved and available legal counsel.

All requests for disclosure, which result in access to an employee's personnel file(s), shall be logged in the corresponding file.

#### 1026.5.1 RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Except as provided by this policy or pursuant to lawful process, no information contained in any confidential peace officer personnel file shall be disclosed to any unauthorized person(s) without the expressed prior consent of the involved deputy or written authorization of the Sheriff or his/her designee.

Any person who maliciously, and with the intent to obstruct justice or the due administration of the laws, publishes, disseminates, or otherwise discloses the residence address or telephone number of any member of this department may be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The disposition of any citizen's complaint shall be released to the complaining party within 30 days of the final disposition. This release shall be limited to the disposition and shall not include what discipline, if any was imposed.

The Department may also release any factual information concerning a disciplinary investigation if the deputy who is the subject of the investigation (or the deputy's representative) publicly makes a statement which is published in the media and which the deputy (or representative) knew to be false. The disclosure of such information, if any, shall be limited to facts that refute any such false statement.

*Personnel Files*

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**1026.6 EMPLOYEE ACCESS TO OWN FILE**

Employees may be restricted from accessing files containing any of the following information:

- (a) Background information, letters of recommendation, test results, and promotional assessments.
- (b) Ongoing Internal Affairs investigations to the extent that it could jeopardize or compromise the investigation pending final disposition or notice to the employee of the intent to discipline, consistent with applicable law.
- (c) Confidential portions of Internal Affairs files which have not been sustained against the employee.

Any employee may request access to his/her own personnel file(s) during the normal business hours of the individual(s) responsible for maintaining such file(s). Any employee seeking the removal of any item from his/her personnel file shall file a written request to the Sheriff through the chain of command. The Department shall thereafter remove any such item if appropriate or within 30 days provide the employee with a written explanation why the contested item will not be removed. If the contested item is not removed from the file, the employee's request and the department's written response shall be retained with the contested item in the employee's personnel file (RCW 49.12.250).

**1026.7 TYPES OF PERSONNEL FILES**

Peace officer personnel files can be located in any of the following places:

**1026.7.1 DEPARTMENT FILE**

The Department file should contain, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Performance evaluation reports regularly completed by appropriate supervisors and signed by the affected employee shall be permanently maintained.
- (b) Records of all training (original or photocopies of available certificates, transcripts, diplomas and other documentation) and education should be maintained.
  - 1. It shall be the responsibility of the involved employee to provide the Training Officer or immediate supervisor with evidence of completed training/education in a timely manner.
  - 2. The Training Officer or supervisor shall ensure that copies of such training records are placed in the employee's department file.
- (c) Disciplinary action;
  - 1. Disciplinary action resulting from sustained internally initiated complaints or observation of misconduct shall be maintained in the individual employee's department file at least two years.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Personnel Files*

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2. Disciplinary action resulting from a sustained citizen's complaint shall be maintained in the individual employee's department file at least five years.
  3. Investigations of complaints which result in a finding of not-sustained, unfounded or exonerated shall not be placed in the employee's department file, but will be separately maintained for the appropriate retention period in the internal affairs file.
- (d) Adverse comments such as supervisor log entries may be retained in the department file or division file after the employee has had the opportunity to read and initial the comment and for a period up to two years, CBA states an employee can request the document be removed after 18 months.
1. Once an employee has had an opportunity to read and initial any adverse comment prior to entry into a file, the employee shall be given the opportunity to respond in writing to such adverse comment within 30 days.
  2. Any such employee response shall be attached to and retained with the original adverse comment.
  3. If an employee refuses to initial or sign an adverse comment, at least one supervisor should note the date and time of such refusal on the original comment. Such a refusal, however, shall not be deemed insubordination nor shall it prohibit the entry of the adverse comment into the employee's file.
- (e) Commendations shall be retained in the employee's department file, with a copy provided to the involved employee(s).
- (f) Personnel Action Reports reflecting assignments, promotions and other changes in the employee's employment status.
- (g) A photograph of the employee.

#### 1026.7.2 DIVISION FILE

The Division File should contain, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Supervisor log entries, notices to correct and other materials intended to serve as a foundation for the completion of timely Performance Evaluations.
1. All materials intended for this interim file shall be provided to the employee prior to being placed in the file.
  2. Duplicate copies of items that will also be included in the employee's department file may be placed in this interim file in anticipation of completing any upcoming performance evaluation.
  3. Once the permanent performance evaluation form has been made final, the underlying foundational material(s) and/or duplicate copies may be purged in accordance with this policy.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Personnel Files*

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- (b) All rules of confidentiality and disclosure shall apply equally to the division file.

#### 1026.7.3 INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILE

The internal affairs file shall be maintained under the exclusive control of the Lieutenant in conjunction with the office of the Sheriff. Access to these files may only be approved by the Sheriff or the supervisor of the Lieutenant. These files shall contain:

- (a) The complete investigation of all formal complaints of employee misconduct regardless of disposition.
  - 1. Each investigation file shall be sequentially numbered within a calendar year (e.g., yy-001, yy-002) with an alphabetically arranged index cross-referenced for each involved employee.
  - 2. All investigative files, whether internally generated or arising out of a formal citizen's complaint, and which result in a sustained finding, shall be maintained no less than three years after the final case disposition.
- (b) Pursuant to the Washington State Local Government Common Records Retention Schedule (CORE), investigative files shall be maintained as follows:
  - 1. Employee misconduct reports (i.e. document(s) detailing the final disposition of allegations of employee misconduct and implementation of discipline where applicable) shall be maintained for a minimum of three years after the employee separates from employment with the Pacific County Sheriff's Office.
  - 2. After the case is closed, plus three years, an investigative summary report for all sustained investigations shall be placed in the employee's personnel file. The remainder of the documentation compiled during the investigation may be destroyed (Washington State Archives, Secretary of State, CORE Retention Schedule Ver. 2.1 July 2010).
  - 3. Investigations which result in other than a sustained finding shall be maintained for the minimum statutory period but may not be used by the Department to adversely affect an employee's career.

#### 1026.7.4 TRAINING FILES

An individual training file shall be maintained by the Training Services for each employee. Training files will contain records of all training and education mandated by law or the Department, including firearms qualifications and mandated annual proficiency requalification.

- (a) It shall be the responsibility of the involved employee to provide the Training Officer or immediate supervisor with evidence of completed training/education in a timely manner.
- (b) The Training Officer or supervisor shall ensure that copies of such training records are placed in the employee's training file.

## *Personnel Files*

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### 1026.7.5 MEDICAL FILE

The Medical file shall be maintained separately from all other files and shall contain all documents relating to the employee's medical condition and history, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Materials relating to medical leaves of absence.
- (b) Documents relating to workers compensation claims or receipt of short or long term disability benefits.
- (c) Fitness for duty examinations, psychological and physical examinations, follow- up inquires and related documents.
- (d) Medical release forms, doctor's slips and attendance records which reveal an employee's medical condition.
- (e) Any other documents or material which reveals the employee's medical history or medical condition, including past, present or future anticipated mental, psychological or physical limitations.

### 1026.8 PURGING OF FILES

Personnel records shall be maintained and destroyed as specified in the current [Records Management Guidelines and General Records Retention Schedules](#) (Schedule Number L02 and L03). The Local Government General Records Retention Schedule (LGGRRS) is the controlling schedule for records retention and management (RCW Chapter 40.14).

- (a) Each supervisor responsible for completing the employee's performance evaluation shall also determine whether any prior sustained disciplinary file should be retained beyond the statutory 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 applicable statutory period, approval for such retention shall be obtained through the chain of command from the Sheriff.
- (c) During the preparation of each employee's performance evaluation, all complaints and discipline should be reviewed to determine the relevancy, if any, to progressive discipline, training and career development. If, in the opinion of the Sheriff, a complaint or disciplinary action beyond the statutory retention period is no longer relevant, all records of such matter may be destroyed pursuant to resolution or other lawful records retention schedules.

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# Request for Change of Assignment

## **1028.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

It is the intent of the Department that all requests for change of assignment are considered equally. To facilitate the selection process, the following procedure is established whereby all such requests will be reviewed on an equal basis as assignments are made.

## **1028.2 REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT**

Personnel wishing a change of assignment are to complete a Request for Change of Assignment form. The form should then be forwarded through the chain of command to their Lieutenant.

### **1028.2.1 PURPOSE OF FORM**

The form is designed to aid employees in listing their qualifications for specific assignments. All relevant experience, education and training should be included when completing this form.

All assignments an employee is interested in should be listed on the form.

The Request for Change of Assignment form will remain in effect until the end of the calendar year in which it was submitted. Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, employees still interested in new positions will need to complete and submit a new Change of Assignment Request form.

## **1028.3 SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTARY**

The deputy's immediate supervisor shall make appropriate comments in the space provided on the form before forwarding it to the Lieutenant of the employee involved. In the case of patrol deputies, the Shift Sergeant must comment on the request with his/her recommendation before forwarding the request to the Lieutenant. If the Shift Sergeant does not receive the Change of Assignment Request Form, the Lieutenant will initial the form and return it to the employee without consideration.

# Employee Commendations

## 1030.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Special recognition may be in order whenever an employee performs his/her duties in an exemplary manner. This procedure provides general guidelines for the commending of exceptional employee performance.

## 1030.2 WHO MAY MAKE COMMENDATIONS

A written commendation may be made by any supervisor regarding any other employee of the Department, provided the reporting person is superior in rank or is the person-in-charge of the individual being commended. Additionally, investigating deputies may commend uniformed deputies for exceptional assistance in investigative functions, with approval from the investigator's supervisor. Any employee may recommend a commendation to the supervisor of the employee subject to commendation.

## 1030.3 COMMENDABLE ACTIONS

### 1. Medal of Honor:

Awarded to departmental members killed in the line of duty, or displaying exemplary meritorious conduct. The award is established as this states highest award for law enforcement per RCW41.72.020. All nominations shall be forwarded to the Washington State Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Committee and shall be in accordance with all policies and procedures set forth. This award will be presented at an annual ceremony, and presented in the form of a medal with ribbon bar, and a certificate as described in addendum A.

### 2. Medal of Valor:

Awarded to departmental members for conspicuous gallantry while acting in the line of duty, not falling within the guidelines for the Medal of Honor. Presented to officers for acts of exceptional bravery performed at very high risk to their own lives with full awareness of the danger involved. This award will be presented in the form of a medal, ribbon bar, and a certificate as described in addendum A.

### 3. Medal of Distinction:

Awarded to departmental members who distinguish themselves in the line of duty by acts of personal bravery, not falling within the guidelines for the Medal of Valor. This award will be presented in the form of a medal, a ribbon bar, and a certificate as described in addendum A.

### 4. Life-Saving Award:

To be conferred upon any member of the department whose actions directly contribute to saving or significantly prolonging human life. This award will be presented in the form of a ribbon bar and certificate as described in addendum A.

### 5. Award for Meritorious Service:

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Employee Commendations*

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Awarded to any member of the department for outstanding job accomplishment that has contributed to a more effective and efficient Sheriff's Office. This may involve improved administration, improved operations, substantial cost savings, or other benefits to this office that have materially facilitated the effective performance of the department's mission. This award is presented in the form of a ribbon bar and certificate as described in addendum A.

#### **6. Certificate of Commendation:**

Presented in recognition of a high degree of competence and professionalism in the performance of official duties. This includes exemplary conduct during a field incident or operation, outstanding administrative work, the effective handling of a criminal investigations, the organization of a new and beneficial departmental program, designing and conducting a course of training, and commendable participation in any other activity that improves the department's functioning or brings credit upon the department in any way. It may also be presented to any employee who has demonstrated long-term excellence in service to the agency. This award is presented to any employee who has demonstrated long-term excellence in service to the agency. This award is presented in the form of a certificate.

#### **7. Letter of Recognition:**

Presented to departmental members who perform their duties in a manner that demonstrates professionalism, devotion to duty, and dedication to the performance of the departmental mission. This award may also be presented for the submission of any suggestion subsequently adopted by the department that materially improves the efficiency of the department. This award is presented in the form of a letter to the employee signed by the Sheriff. Line supervisors may make presentations of these awards to officers under their command as approved by the Sheriff.

#### **8. Citizen Commendation:**

This award may be presented to any person who is not a member of the department but who has materially aided the department or its officers in some way. This includes assistance in the solution of crime or the apprehension of criminals, aiding an officer in the field in a critical situation, and cooperation with or assistance to the department as a whole in any aspect of the department's administration or operations. This award to be presented in the form of a letter signed by the Sheriff.

#### **9. Other Awards:**

The department may establish other awards as deemed desirable and as designated by the Sheriff. Any such additional awards shall be considered and presented in accordance with this policy.

#### **1030.3.1 COMMENDATION INCIDENT REPORT**

The Commendation Incident Report shall be used to document the commendation of the employee and shall contain the following:

- (a) Employee name, division, and assignment at the date and time of the commendation.

*Employee Commendations*

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(b) A brief account of the commendable action shall be documented on the form with report numbers, as appropriate.

(c) Signature of the commending supervisor.

Completed reports shall be forwarded to the appropriate Division Supervisor for his/her review. The Division Supervisor shall sign and forward the report to the Sheriff for his/her review.

The Sheriff will return the commendation to the employee for his/her signature. The report will then be returned to the Administrative Secretary for entry into the employee's personnel file.

#### **1030.4 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS**

##### **1. Who may make Recommendations:**

Any departmental member may recommend another departmental member for any award. More than one person may make recommendations jointly.

##### **2. Form of Recommendations:**

Award recommendations shall be neatly typed and shall set forth in detail the circumstances upon which the award is recommended. The recommendations must identify the person or persons making the recommendations and be signed by that person or those persons. (A recommendations form is included as an addendum to this policy.)

##### **3. Supporting Documentation:**

The recommendation form may be accompanied by such supporting documentation as is deemed desirable by the person or persons initiating the recommendation. This documentation may include such items as witness statements, photographs, pertinent departmental incident reports, medical reports, reports from other law enforcement agencies, statements from civilians familiar with the incident, newspaper articles, and any other evidence that will assist the Awards Board in determining the merits of the recommendation.

##### **4. Forwarding of Recommendation:**

The recommendation shall be forwarded to the Awards Board in the manner and through the channels established by the Sheriff.

##### **5. Nomination of Private Citizens for Awards:**

Any member of the department who is given significant assistance by a citizen, or any member of the department who is aware that such assistance has been given to another employee, may nominate that citizen for a Citizen Commendation. Such nominations shall be prepared and forwarded in the manner prescribed for recommendations of departmental personnel.

##### **6. Letters from Citizens Commending a Departmental Employee:**

Letters from citizens commending a departmental employee shall be forwarded to the employee's supervisor for review. If the supervisor concludes that an award to the employee may be justified,

## *Employee Commendations*

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he or she shall prepare and forward to the Awards Board a recommendation for award in accordance with the procedures set forth in this policy.

### **1030.5 DETERMINATION OF AWARDS**

1. All recommendations for departmental awards are to be kept on file pending the next meeting of the Awards Board.
2. The Awards Board shall meet as needed or at such other intervals as directed by the Sheriff. Special meetings may be held at the discretion of the Board Chair to consider recommendations requiring the Board's immediate attention. Where the recommendation is for an award to be presented posthumously, or for an award to a departmental member who has been seriously injured in the incident that is the subject of the recommendation, the Board shall convene to consider the award as soon as possible following receipt of the recommendation.
3. The Awards Board shall conduct a hearing to examine the circumstances of the recommendation and collect all of the facts pertinent to the case. This fact-finding process may include the hearing of witnesses, the examination of supporting documents submitted with the recommendation, the examination of any other reports prepared in connection with the incident, and, if necessary, field investigation to determine the accuracy of the testimony and documentation submitted.
4. Upon completion of the fact-finding process, the Board shall consider the case in closed session and vote upon the recommendation. A majority of the votes of the Board members present and voting shall be sufficient to determine the Board's recommendation.
5. The Board may make any one of the following findings:
  - (a) That the case meets the standards for the award that is the subject of the recommendation, and that the award is therefore approved, or
  - (b) That the circumstances justify recognition, but that it has been determined that the presentation should be for an award other than that specified in the initial recommendations, or
  - (c) That the facts as currently known do not justify an award at this time.
6. Following the Board's deliberations, a written report shall be forwarded to the Chief of Sheriff setting forth the Board's findings.
7. Upon receipt of the Board's report, the Sheriff may approve, disapprove, or modify the Board's findings.
8. Only one Award Shall be made to an individual for any one act, achievement, or period of meritorious service. However, there is no limit to the number of medals, certificates, or letters of recognition that may be awarded to an individual for separate acts.
9. The Awards Board shall maintain an Awards Case File. This file shall contain copies of each report of the Board's deliberations upon each recommendation received. This includes all

### *Employee Commendations*

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recommendations for awards to departmental members, together with copies of any supporting documents submitted with the recommendations. The Awards Case File shall be maintained alphabetically by employees' names, and shall be open for inspection to any member of the department. Recommendations for commendation of civilians for assistance to the department shall be maintained in a similar manner.

10. Prior to January 1 of each year, the Board shall prepare and forward to the Sheriff an annual report stating the number of award recommendations received during the prior year, the total number of awards presented during that year, and the number of each type of award presented.

#### **1030.6 NOTIFICATION OF AWARD**

1. Personnel who have been approved to receive the Washington State law Enforcement Medal of Honor will be notified verbally, followed up by written correspondence, only after their Sheriff has been notified in the same manner by the Secretary of the Washington State Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Committee.

2. Personnel for whom departmental awards have been approved shall be notified immediately of the award through the chain of command. In exceptional cases, the notifications may be made directly by the Sheriff or his designee.

3. Notices of all departmental awards shall be posted on departmental bulletin boards and noted in appropriate departmental documents and publications.

4. All departmental awards shall be made a matter of records in the employee's personnel file. A photocopy of the certificate of award shall be included in the file. All awards shall be considered in connection with future personnel decisions, such as promotion or assignment to a particular duty or location.

5. Where appropriate, press releases regarding departmental awards should be made available to local media representatives.

6. A copy of the citizen's letter of commendation shall be forwarded to the employee, another copy shall be placed in the employee's personnel file, and further copies shall be posted on departmental bulletin boards or otherwise disseminated within the department.

7. Citizens who have received departmental commendations for assistance to the department should be notified in a similar manner.

#### **1030.7 PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

1. All Medal of Honor recipients, or family designees (per RCW 41.72.020) shall receive their medal at a formal ceremony, held annually, at a site designated by the Washington State Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Committee.

2. Presentation of all other departmental awards other than Letters of Recognition may be made at a formal ceremony deemed appropriate by the agency Chief or Sheriff. Letters of Recognition may



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Employee Commendations*

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also be presented at a formal ceremony at the discretion of the Sheriff or by another command or supervisory officer as designated by the Sheriff.

3. During awards ceremonies, presentations of awards shall be made whenever possible by the Sheriff or another high-ranking departmental executive as designated by the Sheriff.

4. All personnel not otherwise engaged in duty assignments shall be encouraged to attend the presentation. The recipient's supervisors (Sergeant, Lieutenant, Chief Criminal Deputy etc.) should be present, and the ceremony should be scheduled to make this possible. All personnel attending such ceremonies should be properly attired under guidelines established by the department.

5. Members of the recipient's family may be invited to attend the ceremony and, upon arrival, should be escorted to a position that provides a full view of the proceedings.

6. Members of the local press may be invited to attend presentations of awards of the Medal of Honor, Medal of Valor, Medal of Distinction, and the Life Saving Medal.

7. normally the individual who has earned the award will accept the award in person at the presentation ceremony.

8. Posthumous awards shall be received by the next of kin "Next of kin" normally is construed to mean one of the following:

- (a) Widow or widower
- (b) Eldest son or daughter
- (c) Parent
- (d) Eldest brother or sister

9. This order of preference may be modified as circumstances dictate in individual cases.

10. Posthumous awards may be presented at the memorial or funeral service for that individual, or at such other time as is deemed appropriate by the next of kin.

11. Letters of recognition not presented at a formal ceremony shall be placed in the employee's personnel file and a copy posted on departmental bulletin boards or otherwise disseminated through the department.

12. Commendations to civilians may be presented at a formal ceremony at the discretion of the Sheriff, but only with the prior approval of the citizen concerned.

#### 1030.7.1 WEARING OF AWARDS

1. Medals are not intended for wear on the regular duty uniform.

2. Award ribbon bars may be worn on the duty uniform. If worn on the duty uniform, ribbon bars shall be placed on the uniform as directed by the departmental policy governing the wearing of the uniform.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Employee Commendations*

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3. When worn on the duty uniform, multiple ribbon bars shall be displayed in the order of preference of the award, with the highest award being displayed on the employee's right.
4. Ribbon bars worn on the duty uniform shall be maintained in good condition at all times.
5. No medals, ribbons, or pins of any type shall be worn on the uniform unless the department specifically authorizes such wear.

## **Fitness for Duty**

### **1032.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

All deputies are required to be free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition which might adversely affect the exercise of peace officer powers. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all deputies of this department remain fit for duty and able to perform their job functions.

### **1032.2 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) It shall be the responsibility of each member of this department to maintain good physical condition sufficient to safely and properly perform the essential duties of their job 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 their 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.

### **1032.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) A supervisor observing an employee or receiving a report of an employee who is perceived to be unable to safely perform his/her duties due to a physical or mental condition shall take prompt and appropriate action in an effort to address the situation.
- (b) Whenever feasible, the supervisor should make a preliminary determination of the level of inability of the employee to perform the essential duties required of the job.
- (c) In the event the employee appears to be in need of immediate medical or psychiatric treatment, all reasonable efforts should be made to obtain sufficient information regarding the nature of the concern to enable the Department to assess options and react responsibly to assure the safety of the employee, other members of the Department and the public, while complying with the employee's legal rights.
- (d) In conjunction with the Shift Sergeant or employee's available Lieutenant, a determination should be made whether or not the employee should be temporarily relieved from his/her duties.
- (e) The Sheriff shall be promptly notified in the event that any employee is relieved from duty.

### **1032.4 RELIEF FROM DUTY**

Any employee suffering from a work or non-work related condition which warrants a temporary relief from duty may be entitled to be placed on family medical leave under state and/or federal

*Fitness for Duty*

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law. Consult with Human Resources to assure proper notification and compliance with family medical leave rights. Employees who are relieved from duty for medical reasons may be eligible for workers compensation payments or may be required to use sick leave or other paid time off consistent with applicable policies.

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.

**1032.5 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 Civil Division 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 health care provider 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. The scope of the requested fitness for duty report shall be confined to the physical or psychological condition that prompted the need for the examination. 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.
- (c) In order to facilitate the examination of any employee, the Department will provide all appropriate documents and available information to assist in the evaluation and/or treatment.
- (d) All reports and evaluations submitted by the treating physician or therapist shall be part of the employee's confidential personnel file.
- (e) Any employee ordered to receive a fitness for duty examination shall comply with the terms of the order and cooperate fully with the examining physician or therapist regarding any clinical interview, tests administered or other procedures as directed. Any failure to comply with such an order and any failure to cooperate with the examining physician or therapist may be deemed insubordination and shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.
- (f) In the event an employee is required to submit to a "fitness for duty" examination as a condition of returning from medical leave required under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), contact Human Resources for direction regarding how to proceed.
- (g) Once an employee has been deemed fit for duty by the examining health care provider, the employee will be notified to resume his/her duties.

**1032.6 LIMITATION ON HOURS WORKED**

Absent emergency operations members should not work more than:

- 16 hours in one day (24 hour) period, or

### *Fitness for Duty*

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- 30 hours in any 2 day (48 hour) period, or
- 84 hours in any 7 day (168 hour) period.

Except in very limited circumstances members should have a minimum of 8 hours off between shifts. Supervisors should give consideration to reasonable rest periods and are authorized to deny overtime or relieve to off-duty status any member who has exceeded the above guidelines.

Limitations on the number of hours worked apply to shift changes, shift trades, rotation, holdover, training, general overtime and any other work assignments.

#### **1032.7 APPEALS**

An employee who is separated from paid employment or receives a reduction in salary resulting from a fitness for duty exam shall be entitled to an administrative appeal as outlined in the Personnel Complaints Policy.

## Meal Periods and Breaks

### 1034.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy regarding meals and breaks, insofar as possible shall conform to the Collective Bargaining Agreement as signed by the COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

#### 1034.1.1 MEAL PERIODS

Sworn employees and dispatchers shall remain on duty subject to call during meal breaks. All other employees are not on call during meal breaks unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

Uniformed deputies shall take their breaks within the County limits and within their assigned patrol area, unless on assignment outside of the County.

The time spent for the meal period shall not exceed the authorized time allowed.

In Accordance with the CBA <sup>SS</sup> 6.3.1 An employee shall be permitted, during the course of his or her eight (8) or more hour work shift, to take a thirty (30) minute meal break.

- Employees unable to take their thirty minute (30) meal break shall be compensated at their overtime rate of pay for such time or said time may be taken as compensatory time during the remainder of the work week in which it is earned.
- The Sheriff or his designee shall attempt to make reasonable accommodations to provide meal and rest breaks for each employee.
- An employee working beyond his or her eight (8) or more hour regular work shift three (3) or more hours shall be allowed an additional thirty (30) minute paid meal period.

Sworn deputies are allowed to take their meal breaks at their residence if the residence is in their assigned area of work. This is a practice that is allowed, however it is not guaranteed. Deputies may be instructed by their supervisors as when to take their meal break. The most common practice would be to take the meal break between the 3rd and 5th hour of work (on an 8 hour shift) or as directed by a supervisor.

#### 1034.1.2 15 MINUTE BREAKS

Each employee is entitled to a 15 minute break, near the mid point, for each four-hour work period. Only one 15 minute break shall be taken during each four hours of duty. No breaks shall be taken during the first or last hour of an employee's shift unless approved by a supervisor.

**Per CBA <sup>SS</sup> 6.3.1** Employees normally assigned to the sheriff's facility shall remain in the sheriff's facility for their breaks. This would not prohibit them from taking a break outside the facility if on official business.

**Per CBA <sup>SS</sup> 6.3.1** deputies will take their breaks in their assigned areas, subject to call and shall monitor their radios. When field deputies take their breaks away from their vehicles, they shall do so by notifying dispatch of their location and method of contact ie portable, cell phone or hard line.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Meal Periods and Breaks*

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**Per CBA<sup>SS</sup> 6.3.1** Failure to take the fifteen (15) minute rest breaks, for whatever reason, shall not result in additional compensation.

The Sheriff or his designee shall attempt to make reasonable accommodations to provide meal and rest breaks for each employee.

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## Lactation Break Policy

### 1035.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable accommodations to employees desiring to express breast milk for the employee's infant child.

### 1035.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide, in compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, reasonable break time and appropriate facilities to accommodate any employee desiring to express breast milk for her nursing child for up to one year after the child's birth (29 USC § 207).

### 1035.3 LACTATION BREAK TIME

A rest period should be permitted each time the employee has the need to express breast milk (29 USC § 207). 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. Lactation 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.

Employees desiring to take a lactation break shall notify Dispatch or a supervisor prior to taking such a break and such breaks may be reasonably delayed if they would seriously disrupt department operations.

Once a lactation break has been approved, the break should not be interrupted except for emergency or exigent circumstances.

### 1035.4 PRIVATE LOCATION

The Department 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 sanitary, shielded from view, and free from intrusion from co-workers and the public (29 USC § 207 and RCW 43.70.640).

Employees occupying such private areas shall either secure the door or otherwise make it clear 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.



## *Lactation Break Policy*

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### **1035.5 STORAGE OF EXPRESSED MILK**

Any employee storing expressed milk in any authorized refrigerated area within the Department shall clearly label it as such and shall remove it when the employee ends her shift.

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## Payroll Record Procedures

### 1036.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Payroll records are submitted to Support Services on a bi-weekly basis for the payment of wages.

#### 1036.1.1 RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLETION OF PAYROLL RECORDS

Non-exempt employees are responsible for the accurate and timely submission of payroll records for the payment of wages. Completed time cards shall be submitted to a supervisor for approval prior to submission to Support Services.

#### 1036.1.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS

**Per <sup>SS</sup> 8.2.1 the CBA,** An employee shall receive his or her regular monthly pay check on the last working day of the month and shall also be allowed a monthly draw on or about the fifteenth (15th) of each month in an amount as allowed by law. The Union recognizes that circumstances beyond the control of the Employer may delay the issuance of the employee's payroll check; however, in no case shall the employee's paychecks be issued later than the 20th for the draw and the 5th of the following month for the regular pay check.

Time cards and Overtime request shall be completed and submitted to Supervisor. Time cards and Overtime request should be submitted as soon as practical following the last day of the work week and the last day of the month.

## Overtime Compensation Requests

### 1038.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of the Department to compensate non-exempt (Bargaining Unit) salaried employees who work authorized overtime either by payment of wages as agreed and in effect through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), or by the allowance of accrual of compensatory time off. In order to qualify for either, the employee must complete and submit a Request for Overtime Payment with their weekly time card.

#### 1038.1.1 DEPARTMENT POLICY

Because of the nature of police work, and the specific needs of the Department, a degree of flexibility concerning overtime policies must be maintained.

Non-exempt (Union) 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, if there is no supervisor on duty, the employee will notify the supervisor by email or through County Dispatch.

**Per <sup>SS</sup>6.2.1 of the CBA**, Compensable time in excess of forty (40) hours in any calendar week Sunday through Saturday or more than eight (8) hours in any workday shall be paid at one and one-half times the regular rate of pay. During regular shift rotation, forty (40) hours per designated work week will be the determining factor on whether an overtime liability has been incurred by the Employer. "Regular rate", for the purpose of establishing an hourly rate of pay for the calculation of overtime, shall include Longevity and, when applicable, Working Out of Classification and Special Skills and/or Qualifications adjustments.

**Per <sup>SS</sup>6.2.2 of the CBA** Overtime work hours shall be made available based upon seniority within each Operations Division assignment area (See <sup>SS</sup>9.2.5 CBA.). It shall be the Sheriff's or his designee's responsibility to notify, track, and schedule employees for overtime seniority assignments, except in the following circumstances: a) Incidental Overtime: Overtime which falls into this category shall not require the assignment of work available on a seniority basis, provided, that such work is relative to an employee's on-duty assignment and such time is worked contiguous with his or her regular scheduled shift.. Incidental overtime may also be used for shift coverage until such time as an assignment is made on a seniority basis, but shall not apply to pre-scheduled vacancies. b) Emergency Overtime: Overtime which falls into this category shall not require the assignment of the work available on a seniority basis, provided, that an emergency assignment is a practical necessity and a subsequent delay may seriously impact the Employer's ability to deliver the services required in a timely fashion.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Overtime Compensation Requests*

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#### **1038.2 REQUEST FOR OVERTIME COMPENSATION**

Employees shall submit all overtime compensation requests to their immediate supervisors as soon as practicable for verification and forwarding to the Support Services Division. Failure to submit a request for overtime compensation in a timely manner may result in discipline.

##### **1038.2.1 EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBILITY**

Employees shall complete the requests and turn them in to their immediate supervisor or the Sergeant, with their Time Sheet.

##### **1038.2.2 SUPERVISORS RESPONSIBILITY**

The supervisor who verifies the overtime earned shall verify that the overtime was worked before approving the request.

After the entry has been made on the employee's time card, the overtime payment request form is forwarded to the employee's Lieutenant for final approval.

##### **1038.2.3 DIVISION SUPERVISORS RESPONSIBILITY**

Division Supervisors, after approving payment, will then forward the form to the Payroll Clerk.

#### **1038.3 ACCOUNTING FOR OVERTIME WORKED**

Employees are to record the actual time worked in an overtime status. In some cases, the Collective Bargaining Agreement provides that a minimum number of hours will be paid, (e.g., two hours for Call Out, three hours for Court, on day off). The supervisor will verify the actual time worked.

##### **1038.3.1 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>
8 to 22 minutes	1/4 hour
23 to 37 minutes	1/2 hour
38 to 52 minutes	3/4 hour
53 to 60 minutes	1 hour

##### **1038.3.2 VARIATION IN TIME REPORTED**

Where two or more employees are assigned to the same activity, case, or court trial and the amount of time for which payment is requested varies from that reported by the other deputy, the Shift Sergeant 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

### 1040.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest for departmental employees engaging in outside employment, all employees shall obtain written approval from the Sheriff prior to engaging in any outside employment. Approval of outside employment shall be at the discretion of the Sheriff in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

#### 1040.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Outside Employment** - Any member of this department who receives wages, compensation or other consideration of value from another employer, organization or individual not affiliated directly with this department for services, product(s) or benefits rendered. For purposes of this section, the definition of outside employment includes those employees who are self-employed and not affiliated directly with this department for services, product(s) or benefits rendered.

**Outside Overtime** - Any member of this department who performs duties or services on behalf of an outside organization, company, or individual within this jurisdiction. Such outside overtime shall be requested and scheduled directly through this department so that the Department may be reimbursed for the cost of wages and benefits.

### 1040.2 OBTAINING APPROVAL

No member of this department may engage in any outside employment without first obtaining prior written approval of the Sheriff. 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. Unless otherwise indicated in writing on the approved permit, a permit will be valid through the end of the calendar year in which the permit is approved. Any employee seeking to renew a permit shall submit a new Outside Employment Application in a timely manner.

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.

#### 1040.2.1 APPEAL OF DENIAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

If an employee's Outside Employment Application is denied or withdrawn by the Department, the employee may file a written notice of appeal to the Sheriff 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 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

#### 1040.2.2 REVOCATION/SUSPENSION OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT PERMITS

Any outside employment permit may be revoked or suspended under the following circumstances:

## *Outside Employment*

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- (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/her discretion, revoke any previously approved outside employment permit(s). That revocation will stand until the employee's performance has been reestablished at a satisfactory level and his/her supervisor recommends reinstatement of the outside employment permit.
- (b) Suspension or revocation of a previously approved outside employment permit may be included as a term or condition of sustained discipline.
- (c) If, at any time during the term of a valid outside employment permit, an employee's conduct or outside employment conflicts with the provisions of department policy, the permit may be suspended or revoked.
- (d) When an employee is unable to perform at a full duty capacity due to an injury or other condition, any previously approved outside employment permit may be subjected to similar restrictions as those applicable to the employee's regularly assigned duties until the employee has been cleared to return to full duty status.

### **1040.3 PROHIBITED OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT**

The Department expressly reserves the right to deny any Outside Employment Application submitted by an employee seeking to engage in any activity which, in its view, would:

- (a) Involve 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) Involve 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) Involve 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) Involve time demands that would render performance of the employee's duties for this department less efficient or render the employee unavailable for reasonably anticipated overtime assignments and other job-related demands that occur outside regular working hours.

#### **1040.3.1 OUTSIDE SECURITY AND PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT**

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

## *Outside Employment*

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the desired service. Such outside overtime will be assigned, monitored and paid through the Department.

- (a) The applicant will be required to enter into an indemnification agreement prior to approval.
- (b) The applicant will further be required to provide for the compensation and full benefits of all employees requested for such outside security services.
- (c) Should such a request be approved, any employees working outside overtime shall be subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. The deputy(s) shall wear the departmental uniform/identification.
  - 2. The deputy(s) shall be subject to the rules and regulations of this department.
  - 3. No deputy may engage in such outside employment during or at the site of a strike, lockout, picket, or other physical demonstration of a labor dispute.
  - 4. Compensation for such approved outside security services shall be pursuant to normal overtime procedures.
  - 5. Outside security services shall not be subject to the collective bargaining process.
  - 6. No deputy may engage in outside employment as a peace officer for any other public agency without prior written authorization of the Sheriff.

### 1040.3.2 OUTSIDE OVERTIME ARREST AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

Any employee making an arrest or taking other official police action while working in an approved outside overtime assignment shall be required to complete all related reports in a timely manner pursuant to department policy. Time spent on the completion of such reports shall be considered incidental to the outside overtime assignment and should be reported as time worked on employee time records.

### 1040.3.3 SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Except for emergency situations or with prior authorization from the Division Commander, undercover deputies or deputies assigned to covert operations shall not be eligible to work in a uniformed or other capacity which might reasonably disclose the deputy's status as a law enforcement officer.

## **1040.4 DEPARTMENT RESOURCES**

Employees are prohibited from using any department equipment or resources in the course of or for the benefit of any outside employment. This shall include the prohibition of access to official records or databases of this department or other agencies through the use of the employee's position with this department.

### 1040.4.1 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

Employees approved for outside employment expressly agree that their personal financial records may be requested and reviewed/audited for potential conflict of interest. Prior to providing written

## *Outside Employment*

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approval for an outside employment position, the Department may request that an employee provide his/her personal financial records for review/audit in order to determine whether a conflict of interest exists. Failure of the employee to provide the requested personal financial records could result in denial of the off-duty work permit. If, after approving a request for an outside employment position, the Department becomes concerned that a conflict of interest exists based on a financial reason, the Department may request that the employee provide his/her personal financial records for review/audit. If the employee elects not to provide the requested records, his/her off-duty work permit may be revoked pursuant to REVOCATION/SUSPENSION OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT PERMITS.

### **1040.5 MATERIAL CHANGES OR TERMINATION OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT**

If an employee terminates his/her outside employment during the period of a valid permit, the employee shall promptly submit written notification of such termination to the Sheriff through channels. Any subsequent request for renewal or continued outside employment must thereafter be processed and approved through normal procedures set forth in this policy.

Employees are also required to disclose material changes in outside employment that occur after approval of outside employment has been granted to the Sheriff in writing. For the purpose of this policy, such changes include any material change in the number of hours, type of duties or demands of outside employment. Employees who are uncertain whether a change in outside employment is material are advised to report the change.

### **1040.6 OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT WHILE ON DISABILITY**

Department members engaged in outside employment who are placed on disability leave or modified/light-duty shall inform their immediate supervisor in writing within five days whether or not they intend to continue to engage in such outside employment while on such leave or light-duty status. The immediate supervisor shall review the duties of the outside employment along with any related doctor's orders, and make a recommendation to the Sheriff 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.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Outside Employment*

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When the disabled member returns to full duty with the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, a request (in writing) may be made to the Sheriff to restore the permit.

## On-Duty Injuries

### 1042.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the reporting of on-duty injuries, occupational illnesses, or deaths to the Civil Division to ensure that proper medical attention is received, and that the circumstances of the incident are properly documented.

### 1042.2 WORKER'S COMPENSATION FUND REPORTS

#### 1042.2.1 INJURIES REQUIRING MEDICAL CARE

All work related injuries and work-related illnesses requiring medical care must be reported to the Risk Management Office and a claim form shall be provided to the injured employee within 24 hours from the time the injury was discovered, excluding weekends and holidays. Injured employees shall be provided a Self-Insurer Accident Report (SIF-2) form F207-002-000 (WAC 296-15-320(2)).

#### 1042.2.2 ACCIDENT DEFINED

**Accident** - Is defined as any occurrence from which bodily injury or property damage may result, regardless of whether any injury or damage actually does occur (e.g., exposure where no immediate injury is apparent).

#### 1042.2.3 EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Any employee sustaining any work-related injury or illness, as well as any employee who is involved in any accident while on duty shall report such injury, illness or accident as soon as practical to his/her supervisor.

Any employee observing or learning of a potentially hazardous condition is to promptly report the condition to his/her immediate supervisor.

Any employee sustaining a work-related injury or illness that requires relief from duty is required to be examined/treated by a doctor.

Any employee sustaining a work-related injury or illness that requires relief from duty is also required to comply with Departmental policies and directives relating to the duty to periodically call in during absences, as well as the duty to notify the Department of any change in condition or anticipated duration of the absence.

When appropriate, an employee being treated for an on-duty injury should inform the attending physician that a modified duty assignment may be available at the Department. Limited-service duty may be available for the employees whose injuries prevent resumption of regular duties.

An injured employee or employee who has suffered a work-related illness shall report as soon as practical to their immediate supervisor the medical findings concerning the injury and the extent and duration of any work restrictions if they are known. In addition, such employees are required to promptly submit all medical releases, whether partial or full releases, to their supervisor.

## *On-Duty Injuries*

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All employees are required to fully cooperate with accident investigations.

### **1042.2.4 SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITY**

A supervisor learning of any work-related injury, illness or accident shall promptly prepare the appropriate forms as outlined in this policy. Updated copies of forms with instructions for completion provided by Risk Management are kept in the Sergeant's office. Employees who request a Self-Insurer Accident Report (SIF-2) form F207-002-000 shall be provided the form (WAC 296-15-320(2)).

For work-related accidents, injuries, and illnesses not requiring professional medical care, a Supervisor's Report of Injury form shall be completed in triplicate. All copies of the completed form shall be forwarded to the supervisor's Lieutenant, through the chain of command.

When an accident, injury or illness is reported initially on the "Supervisor's Report of Injury" form and the employee subsequently requires professional medical care, the State of Washington "Employer's Report of Occupational Injury or Illness" form shall then be completed. The injured employee shall also sign the form in the appropriate location.

Copies of any reports documenting the accident or injury should be forwarded to the Lieutenant as soon as they are completed.

### **1042.2.5 LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITY**

The Lieutenant receiving a report of a work-related accident, injury or illness should review the report for accuracy and determine what additional action should be taken. The report shall then be forwarded to the Sheriff.

### **1042.2.6 SHERIFF RESPONSIBILITY**

The Sheriff shall review and forward copies of the report to the Civil Division. Any copies of the report and any related documents retained by the Department shall be filed in the employee's confidential medical file and not in the employee's personnel file (see the Personnel Files Policy).

### **1042.3 INJURY AND ILLNESS NOT REQUIRING MEDICAL ATTENTION**

Those injuries and illnesses not requiring medical attention shall be recorded on a Supervisor's Report of Injury form. This form shall be completed and signed by a supervisor.

This form shall be signed by the affected employee, indicating that he/she desired no medical attention at the time of the report. By signing this form, the employee will not preclude his/her ability to seek medical attention later.

### **1042.4 SETTLEMENT OF INJURY CLAIMS**

Occasionally, an employee's work-related injury results from the negligent or wrongful acts of another, for which the employee, the County, and/or other insurers are entitled to recover civilly. To ensure that the County's interests are protected and that the employee has the benefit of the County's experience in these matters, the following procedure is to be followed:

### *On-Duty Injuries*

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#### 1042.4.1 EMPLOYEE TO REPORT INITIAL CONTACTS

When an employee sustains work-related injuries caused by another person and is then approached by such person or an agent, insurance company, or attorney and offered a settlement of claims, that employee shall take no action other than to make a written report of this contact to his/her supervisor as soon as possible.

#### 1042.4.2 NO SETTLEMENT WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL

No less than ten (10) days prior to accepting and finalizing the settlement of any third party claim arising out of or related to an on duty injury, the employee shall provide the Sheriff with written notice of the proposed terms of such settlement. In no case shall the employee accept a settlement without first providing such written notice to the Sheriff. The purpose of such notice to permit the County to determine whether or not the offered settlement will affect any claim the County may have regarding payment for damage(s) to equipment or reimbursement for wages against the person who caused the accident or injury and to protect the County's right of subrogation, while ensuring that the employee's rights to receive compensation for injuries are not affected.

## Personal Appearance Standards

### 1044.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to project uniformity and neutrality toward the public and other members of the department, employees shall maintain their personal hygiene and appearance in a manner that projects a professional image appropriate for this department and for their assignment.

### 1044.2 GROOMING STANDARDS

Unless otherwise stated, and because deviations from these standards could present officer safety issues, the following appearance standards shall apply to all employees, except those whose current assignment would deem them not appropriate, and where the Sheriff has granted exception.

#### 1044.2.1 HAIR

Hairstyles of all members shall be neat in appearance. For male sworn members, hair must not extend below the top edge of the uniform collar while assuming a normal stance.

For female sworn members, hair must be no longer than the horizontal level of the bottom of the uniform patch when the employee is standing erect, worn up or in a tightly wrapped braid or ponytail.

#### 1044.2.2 MUSTACHES

A short and neatly trimmed mustache may be worn. Mustaches shall not extend below the corners of the mouth or beyond the natural hairline of the upper lip.

#### 1044.2.3 SIDEBURNS

Sideburns shall not extend below the bottom of the outer ear opening (the top of the earlobes) and shall be trimmed and neat.

#### 1044.2.4 FACIAL HAIR

Facial hair other than sideburns, mustaches and eyebrows shall not be worn, unless authorized by the Sheriff or his/her designee.

#### 1044.2.5 FINGERNAILS

Fingernails extending beyond the tip of the finger can pose a safety hazard to deputies or others. For this reason, fingernails shall be trimmed so that no point of the nail extends beyond the tip of the finger.

#### 1044.2.6 JEWELRY AND ACCESSORIES

No jewelry or personal ornaments shall be worn by deputies on any part of the uniform or equipment, except those authorized within this manual. Jewelry, if worn around the neck, shall not be visible above the shirt collar.

## *Personal Appearance Standards*

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Earrings shall not be worn by uniformed sworn members, detectives or special assignment personnel without permission of the Sheriff or his/her designee. Only one ring may be worn on each hand of the employee while on-duty.

### **1044.3 TATTOOS**

While on-duty or representing the Department in any official capacity, every reasonable effort should be made to conceal tattoos or other body art. At no time while on-duty or representing the Department in any official capacity, shall any offensive tattoo or body art be visible. Examples of offensive tattoos would include, but not be limited to, those which depict racial, sexual, discriminatory, gang related or obscene language.

### **1044.4 BODY PIERCING OR ALTERATION**

Body piercing or alteration to any area of the body visible in any authorized uniform or attire that is a deviation from normal anatomical features and which is not medically required is prohibited except with prior authorization of the Sheriff. Such body alteration includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Tongue splitting or piercing.
- (b) The complete or transdermal implantation of any material other than hair replacement.
- (c) Abnormal shaping of the ears, eyes, nose or teeth.
- (d) Branding or scarification.

# Uniform Regulations

## 1046.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The uniform policy of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office is established to ensure that uniformed deputies will be readily identifiable to the public through the proper use and wearing of department uniforms. Employees should also refer to the following associated policies:

- Department Owned and Personal Property
- Body Armor
- Grooming Standards

The Uniform and Equipment Specifications manual is maintained and periodically updated by the Sheriff or his/her designee. That manual should be consulted regarding authorized equipment and uniform specifications.

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will provide uniforms for all employees required to wear them in the manner, quantity and frequency agreed upon in the respective employee group's collective bargaining agreement.

## 1046.2 WEARING AND CONDITION OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

Sheriff's employees wear the uniform to be identified as the law enforcement authority in society. The uniform also serves an equally important purpose to identify the wearer as a source of assistance in an emergency, crisis or other time of need.

- (a) Uniform and equipment shall be maintained in a serviceable condition and shall be ready at all times for immediate use. Uniforms shall be neat, clean, and appear professionally pressed.
- (b) All peace officers of this department shall possess and maintain at all times, a serviceable uniform and the necessary equipment to perform uniformed field duty.
- (c) Personnel shall wear only the uniform specified for their rank and assignment.
- (d) The uniform is to be worn in compliance with the specifications set forth in the department's uniform specifications that are maintained separately from this policy.
- (e) All supervisors will perform periodic inspections of their personnel to ensure conformance to these regulations.
- (f) Civilian attire shall not be worn in combination with any distinguishable part of the uniform.
- (g) Uniforms are only to be worn while on duty, while in transit to or from work, for court, or at other official department functions or events.
- (h) If the uniform is worn while in transit, an outer garment shall be worn over the uniform shirt so as not to bring attention to the employee while he/she is off duty.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Uniform Regulations*

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- (i) Employees are not to purchase or drink alcoholic beverages while wearing any part of the department uniform, including the uniform pants.
- (j) Mirrored sunglasses will not be worn with any Department uniform.
- (k) Visible jewelry, other than those items listed below, shall not be worn with the uniform- unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff or his/her designee.
  - 1. Wrist watch.
  - 2. Wedding ring(s), class ring, or other ring of tasteful design. A maximum of one ring/set may be worn on each hand.
  - 3. Medical alert bracelet.

#### 1046.2.1 DEPARTMENT ISSUED IDENTIFICATION

The Department issues each employee an official department identification card bearing the employee's name, identifying information and photo likeness. All employees shall be in possession of their department issued identification card at all times while on duty or when carrying a concealed weapon.

- (a) Whenever on duty or acting in an official capacity representing the department, employees shall display their department issued identification in a courteous manner to any person upon request and as soon as practical.
- (b) Deputies working specialized assignments may be excused from the possession and display requirements when directed by their Lieutenant.

### **1046.3 UNIFORM CLASSES**

#### 1046.3.1 CLASS A UNIFORM

The Class A uniform is to be worn on special occasions such as funerals, graduations, ceremonies, court, or as directed. The Class A uniform is required for all sworn personnel. The Class A uniform includes the standard issue uniform with:

- (a) Long sleeve shirt with tie.
- (b) Polished shoes/boots.

Boots with pointed toes are not permitted.

#### **The following is the Bargaining Unit language as it reflects to uniforms.**

7.9.1. A uniform and equipment allowance of seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) dollars shall be made available to each Operations Deputy/Sergeant during the month of January of each year.

During the initial year of hire a newly hired employee's uniform allowance shall be prorated at 1/12th credit for each month of service.



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Uniform Regulations*

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7.9.2 In accordance with, and authorized by departmental policies, an employee may use the uniform allowance to purchase, maintain and replace uniforms and non-issued equipment.

However, the below listed requisition application and approval process is to insure that such purchases are authorized by the department policies and to insure that basic uniforms are adequately maintained.

7.9.3. An employee who desires to have the Employer pay the vendor directly shall be required to submit a purchase requisition form to the Employer for approval prior to the use of his or her allocated uniform allowance. An employee who incurs the initial purchase expense on his or her own line of credit or as a cash purchase shall submit a personal expense claim voucher for reimbursement. The use of the personal expense claim voucher is subject to the same basic review and approval process as required by the purchase requisition process.

7.9.4. Monies allocated and not utilized during a calendar year shall remain in the employee's bank for use in the subsequent year.

7.9.5. An employee on lay-off status shall be entitled to a pro-rated share of their uniform allowance upon being recalled to active employment based on one month equals 1/12th.

7.9.6. Weapons may be purchased subject to advance approval of the Sheriff. The Sheriff shall have the sole discretion to determine the type, model, caliber, and specifications for weapons.

7.9.7. The Employer agrees to replace or repair uniforms or equipment (inclusive of personal equipment) which are damaged, destroyed, or lost in the line of duty, normal wear and tear excepted, when the actions which cause the loss are beyond the employee's control. Items being replaced must be turned into the Sheriff's Office upon receipt of the replacement item(s).

Costs associated with the aforementioned shall not be debited from the employee's uniform and equipment allowance.

7.9.8. The Employer shall provide two (2) complete sets of uniforms, to each newly hired employee. The Employer shall provide, if needed, the service equipment listed below. If the employee fails to complete his or her probationary period, for whatever reason, said employee shall return to the Employer all issued uniforms and service equipment.

Gun belt

Capstun & holder- if applicable

Holster

Duty weapon

Magazine pouch - double

Shirt & wallet badges

(3) ammunition magazines

Applicable baton & holder

Handcuffs – two (2) sets

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Uniform Regulations*

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Soft body armor

Cuff case

7.9.9. All service equipment issued to employees is and shall remain the sole property of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. All issued service equipment shall be promptly returned in good condition upon separation of employment.

7.9.10. All employees shall be issued and wear a protective/ballistic vest while on duty.

The protective/ballistic vest shall meet or exceed the minimum requirements set forth in the National Institute of Justice standards in effect on the date of ratification of this Agreement.

Protective/ballistic vests shall be reconditioned and/or replaced based upon the manufacturer's recommendations.

#### 1046.3.2 CLASS B UNIFORM

All uniformed personnel will possess and maintain two sets of serviceable Class B uniform at all times.

There are two Class B style uniforms, one consist of the same garments and equipment as the Class A uniform with the following exceptions:

- (a) The traditional short sleeve shirt may be worn with the collar open. No tie is required.
- (b) A black crew neck t-shirt must be worn with the uniform.
- (c) All shirt buttons must remain buttoned except for the last button at the neck.
- (d) Shoes for the Class B uniform may be as described in the Class A uniform.
- (e) Approved all black unpolished shoes may be worn.
- (f) Boots with pointed toes are not permitted.
- (g) Communications staff shall wear a Class B uniform, the color are designated as Grey and Black. Communications staff is on a Quartermaster system. If wearing an undershirt and it is visible, it will be black.

The second class B style uniform is the authorized green utility style shirt (511 Taclite) long or short sleeve. The pants are, (511 Stryke), utility style pant are the only authorized utility pant.

#### 1046.3.3 CLASS C UNIFORM

The Class C uniform may be established to allow field personnel cooler clothing during the summer months or special duty. The Sheriff will establish the regulations and conditions for wearing the Class C Uniform and the specifications for the Class C Uniform.

#### 1046.3.4 SPECIALIZED UNIT UNIFORMS

The Sheriff may authorize special uniforms to be worn by deputies in specialized units such as Canine Team, SWAT, Bicycle Patrol, Motor Deputies and other specialized assignments.

## *Uniform Regulations*

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### 1046.3.5 FOUL WEATHER GEAR

The Uniform and Equipment Specifications lists the authorized uniform jacket and rain gear.

### 1046.3.6 JUMPSUITS

The Sheriff authorizes the OD Green jumpsuit as the department jumpsuit and authorizes the use of a jumpsuit for night time and inclement weather conditions.

The current Black Jump suits are acceptable until at such time they need to be replaced, they will be replaced with the OD Green Jumpsuit.

### 1046.3.7 PATROL OUTER VEST CARRIER

All personnel choosing to utilize an external vest carrier shall also maintain a "ready to use" internal vest (i.e. their ballistic vest must have an interchangeable inner and outer carrier so they can be used either way).

Office authorized Patrol Outer Vest Carriers may be worn to remove weight from the officer's duty belt while on patrol, or at an approved Office function, while wearing the class B Green 511 uniform. The only vest approved at this time is the Safariland Oregon City Armor Carrier. It must be Tactical Green. Safariland pouches are currently the only authorized pouches.

It shall be worn in a professional manner at all times. Outer Vest Carrier setup shall be approved by the deputies Patrol Lieutenant prior to purchase and prior to use.

(a) Minimum Requirement: Outer Vest Carrier must have a visible "gig-line" (alignment of the shirt, belt buckle, and trouser fly), buttons and right and left breast pockets. Standard cloth badge and cloth nametag shall be worn on the vest carrier as they are with the class B Green 511 uniform. Large cloth "Sheriff" patch shall be worn on the back of the vest carrier, it shall be in gold lettering with black background, the patch will be bordered in gold. The nametag shall be gold lettering with a black background.

(b) Approved Items/Attachments: Though there may be location and number of item/attachment setup variations, the authorized items on the vest are:

1. Radio Carrier
2. Magazine Pouch
3. Asp Holder
4. Utility Pocket
5. Handcuff Pouch
6. OC Pouch
7. Flashlight Pouch or Holder

(c) No additional pockets, pouches, carriers, or other items may be added to the vest without written approval from the Lieutenant.

*Uniform Regulations*

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(d) Setup Limitations: Pouches and pockets shall not be in a position as to impede the use of the firearm or taser. The "gig-line" shall always be visible and shall not be covered by any of the setup items.

(e) Duty Belt Requirement: The following items shall be worn on the duty belt:

1. Office issued firearm and holster
2. Taser and Holster

(f) Purchase/Maintenance: The optional outer vest carrier shall be purchased totally at the expense of the deputy. No part of the purchase cost shall be offset by the Office, but uniform allowance may be used to purchase. Maintenance shall be the financial responsibility of the purchasing deputy. For example, cleaning and repairs due to normal wear and tear. Replacement shall be done as follows:

1. When no longer functional due to normal wear and tear, the deputy bears the full cost of replacement. Uniform allowance may be used for replacing the vest.
2. When no longer functional due to damage in the course of the deputies duties, it may be replaced following the procedures for the replacement of damaged personal property.

**1046.4 INSIGNIA AND PATCHES**

- (a) Shoulder Patches - The authorized shoulder patch supplied by the Department 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 stripes, stars, etc. - Service stripes and other indicators for length of service may be worn on long sleeved shirts and jackets. They are to be machine stitched onto the uniform. The bottom of the service stripe shall be sewn the width of one and one-half inches above the cuff seam with the rear of the service stripes sewn on the dress of the sleeve. The stripes are to be worn on the left sleeve only.
- (c) The regulation nameplate, or an authorized sewn on cloth nameplate, shall be worn at all times while in uniform. The nameplate shall display the employee's first and last name. If an employee's first and last names are too long to fit on the nameplate, then the initial of the first name will accompany the last name. If the employee desires other than the legal first name, the employee must receive approval from the Sheriff. 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 - Assignment insignias, (SWAT, FTO, etc.) may be worn as designated by the Sheriff.
- (f) Flag Pin - A flag pin may be worn, centered above the nameplate.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Uniform Regulations*

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- (g) Badge - The department 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.

#### **1046.4.1 MOURNING BADGE**

Uniformed employees should 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 deputy of this department - From the time of death until midnight on the 14th day after the death.
- (b) A deputy from this or an adjacent county - 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 deputy.
- (d) National Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15th) - From 0001 hours until 2359 hours.
- (e) As directed by the Sheriff.

#### **1046.5 CIVILIAN ATTIRE**

There are assignments within the Department 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. Open toed sandals or thongs.
  - 3. Swimsuit, tube tops, or halter-tops.
  - 4. Spandex type pants or see-through clothing.
  - 5. 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.

## *Uniform Regulations*

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- (f) No item of civilian attire may be worn on duty that would adversely affect the reputation of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office or the morale of the employees.

### **1046.6 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, ENDORSEMENTS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

Unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff, Pacific County Sheriff's Office employees may not wear any part of the uniform, be photographed wearing any part of the uniform, utilize a department badge, patch or other official insignia, or cause to be posted, published, or displayed, the image of another employee, or identify himself/herself as an employee of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, to do any of the following:

- (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.

### **1046.7 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 Department for the cost of providing the Department issued item.
- (b) Maintenance of optional items shall be the financial responsibility of the purchasing employee. For example, repairs due to normal wear and tear.
- (c) Replacement of items listed in this order as optional shall be done as follows:
  - 1. When the item is no longer functional because of normal wear and tear, the employee bears the full cost of replacement.
  - 2. When the item is no longer functional because of damage in the course of the employee's duties, it shall be replaced following the procedures for the replacement of damaged personal property (See the Department Owned and Personal Property Policy).

### **1046.8 UNAUTHORIZED UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES**

Pacific 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.

Pacific 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.

# Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships

## 1050.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure equal opportunity and effective employment practices by avoiding actual or perceived favoritism, discrimination, or actual or potential conflicts of interest by or between members of this department. These employment practices include: recruiting, testing, hiring, compensation, assignment, use of facilities, access to training opportunities, supervision, performance appraisal, discipline and workplace safety and security.

### 1050.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Business relationship** - Serving as an employee, independent contractor, compensated consultant, owner, board member, shareholder or investor in an outside business, company, partnership, corporation, venture or other transaction where the Department employee's annual interest, compensation, investment or obligation is greater than \$250.

**Conflict of interest** - Any actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest in which it reasonably appears that a department employee's action, inaction or decisions are or may be influenced by the employee's personal or business relationship.

**Nepotism** - The practice of showing favoritism to relatives in appointment, employment, promotion or advancement by any public official in a position to influence these personnel decisions.

**Personal relationship** - Includes marriage, cohabitation, dating or any other intimate relationship beyond mere friendship.

**Public official** - A supervisor, officer or employee who is vested with authority by law, rule or regulation, or to whom authority has been delegated.

**Relative** - An employee's parent, stepparent, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, child (natural, adopted or step), sibling or grandparent.

**Subordinate** - An employee who is subject to the temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority of a supervisor.

**Supervisor** - An employee who has temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority over the actions, decisions, evaluation and/or performance of a subordinate employee.

## 1050.2 RESTRICTED DUTIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

The Department does not prohibit all personal or business relationships between employees. However, in order to avoid nepotism or other inappropriate conflicts, the following reasonable restrictions shall apply:

- (a) Employees are prohibited from directly supervising, occupying a position in the line of supervision or being directly supervised by any other employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships*

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1. If circumstances require that such a supervisor/subordinate relationship exist temporarily, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to defer matters pertaining to the involved employee to an uninvolved supervisor.
  2. When personnel and circumstances permit, the Department will attempt to make every reasonable effort to avoid placing employees in such supervisor/subordinate situations. The Department, however, reserves the right to transfer or reassign any employee to another position within the same classification in order to avoid conflicts with any provision of this policy.
- (b) Employees are prohibited from participating in, contributing to or recommending promotions, assignments, performance evaluations, transfers or other personnel decisions affecting an employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.
- (c) Whenever possible, FTOs and other trainers will not be assigned to train relatives. FTOs and other trainers are prohibited from entering into or maintaining personal or business relationships with any employee they are assigned to train until such time as the training has been successfully completed and the employee is off probation.
- (d) To avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest, members of this department shall refrain from developing or maintaining personal or financial relationships with victims, witnesses or other individuals during the course of or as a direct result of any official contact.
- (e) Except as required in the performance of official duties or, in the case of immediate relatives, employees shall not develop or maintain personal or financial relationships with any individual they know or reasonably should know is under criminal investigation, is a convicted felon, parolee, fugitive, or registered sex offender, or who engages in serious violations of state or federal laws.

#### 1050.2.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

Prior to entering into any personal or business relationship or other circumstance which the employee knows or reasonably should know could create a conflict of interest or other violation of this policy, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, next highest level of supervisor.

Whenever any employee is placed in circumstances that would require the employee to take enforcement action or provide official information or services to any relative or individual with whom the employee is involved in a personal or business relationship, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, immediate supervisor. In the event that no uninvolved supervisor is immediately available, the employee shall promptly notify dispatch to have another uninvolved employee either relieve the involved employee or minimally remain present to witness the action.

#### 1050.2.2 SUPERVISORS RESPONSIBILITY

Upon being notified of, or otherwise becoming aware of any circumstance that could result in or constitute an actual or potential violation of this policy, a supervisor shall take all reasonable steps



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships*

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to promptly mitigate or avoid such violations, whenever possible. Supervisors shall also promptly notify the Sheriff of such actual or potential violations through the chain of command.

# Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees

## 1052.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures, protocols and actions for investigating and reporting domestic violence involving employees of this and other law enforcement agencies. The intent of this policy is to ensure that law enforcement employees are held to the standards of the law regarding domestic violence (RCW 10.99.090).

### 1052.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Agency** - Means a general authority Washington law enforcement agency as defined in RCW 10.93.020.

**Employee** - Means any person currently employed with an agency.

**Sworn Employee** - Means a general authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020, any person appointed under RCW 35.21.333, and any person appointed or elected to carry out the duties of the sheriff under RCW Chapter 36.28.

## 1052.2 DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Pacific County Sheriff's Office has the following obligations (RCW 10.99.030 and 10.99.090):

- (a) Provide pre-hire screening procedures reasonably calculated to disclose whether an applicant for a sworn employee position has a history of domestic violence, child abuse allegations, or have been subject to protective order.
- (b) Maintain ongoing and meaningful relationships with victim advocacy groups and other domestic violence professionals in the community.
- (c) Provide education to Pacific County Sheriff's Office employees on the dynamics of interpersonal violence.
- (d) In response to observed behavior or at the request of the employee, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office may offer or recommend intervention services to employees. If domestic violence is suspected, the referral should be to a domestic violence specialist.
- (e) Any employee who becomes aware of domestic violence committed by a sworn employee must immediately report that allegation to their supervisor.
- (f) Recognize that employees who disclose that they have personally engaged in criminal acts of domestic violence are not entitled to confidentiality. Such acts shall be investigated administratively and criminally as appropriate.
- (g) Provide information to employing law enforcement agencies within 24 hours of a domestic violence or domestic dispute report involving a sworn deputy.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (h) Provide information on this domestic violence policy and programs under RCW 26.50.150 to employees and make it available to employee families and the public.
- (i) Provide victims of domestic violence by Pacific County Sheriff's Office employees a department point of contact to assist the victim through the investigative process. Consideration should be given to selecting a point of contact at least one rank higher than the perpetrator, and would ideally be someone other than the investigator.
- (j) Provide victims of domestic violence by Pacific County Sheriff's Office employees contact information about public and private nonprofit domestic violence services and information regarding relevant confidentiality policies related to the victim's information.
- (k) Respond to Pacific County Sheriff's Office employees who are alleged victims of violence at the hands of sworn employees of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office. Safety concerns and domestic violence services information will be reviewed with the victim employee.
- (l) Provide for an impartial administrative investigation and appropriate criminal investigation of all acts of domestic violence allegedly committed by a sworn employee and appropriate sanctions when it is found that an employee has committed an act of domestic violence. Administrative investigations may be conducted by the Pacific County Sheriff's Office or through agreements with other law enforcement agencies
- (m) Consider whether to relieve a sworn employee of Department-issued weapons and suspend law enforcement powers pending resolution of an investigation.

#### 1052.2.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors are required to:

- (a) Be aware of behaviors in their subordinates that could be indicative of domestic violence and properly process observations of such behavior.
- (b) Ensure that domestic violence incidents are properly recorded and processed according to this policy.

#### 1052.2.2 COMMAND DUTY OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

A command duty officer notified of an incident covered by this policy shall notify the Sheriff promptly of such incident and:

- (a) If an PCSO employee is involved they shall:
  - 1. Determine if the involved employee's law enforcement powers shall be suspended and if duty weapon, and other Department-owned equipment shall be removed pending investigation outcome and possible prosecutorial charging decision.
  - 2. Issue an administrative order prohibiting contact with the victim if appropriate.
  - 3. Forwarded information on the incident to the professional standards unit and/or the Sheriff for review and further action.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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4. Respond or designate a command officer to respond to a scene if the involved employee is a sergeant or above or if the situation dictates command presence.
- (b) If an employee of another law enforcement agency is involved they shall:
  1. Verify command notification of the employing agency.
  2. Verify the supervisor has offered assistance with removing weapons, police powers, etc.
  3. Ensure that the Pacific County Sheriff's Office provides appropriate reports and any other requested documentation to the employing agency.

#### **1052.2.3 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SPECIALIST RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) In all instances of law enforcement domestic violence the Domestic Violence Specialist or DV Unit Supervisor shall:
  1. Review the report and assign the criminal investigation or coordinate with the agency of jurisdiction.
  2. Coordinate with the appropriate prosecutor's office regarding charging and prosecution.
  3. Coordinate with the appropriate domestic violence advocacy organization to assist with victim safety concerns. Victim notification of each step of the administrative process is critical to victim safety.
- (b) All completed investigations of domestic violence that reveal probable cause of a crime committed by any agency sworn employees or the agency head shall be promptly forwarded to the appropriate prosecuting authority for a charging decision.
- (c) For all situations involving an employee of this department, the Domestic Violence Specialist or DV Unit Supervisor shall:
  1. Contact the victim.
  2. Introduce the point of contact.
  3. Provide an update regarding the administrative process.

#### **1052.3 EMPLOYEE ACTIONS**

Law enforcement employees have the following obligations or entitlements (RCW 10.99.090):

- (a) Employees are entitled to seek assistance through the employee assistance program, employee peer counselors, chaplains, or psychological professionals, however, in situations where family violence is indicated a referral to a domestic violence specialist is critical.
- (b) Employees with knowledge or information about any sworn employee in violation of this policy must report in writing to their supervisor or the Lieutenant as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours. Failure to report may subject the employee to disciplinary action.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (c) Employees who are victims of domestic violence are encouraged to request assistance, but are not subject to punitive measures for failing to report their abuse.
- (d) Employees should be alert to the likelihood of victim or witness intimidation and shall immediately take appropriate action. This action will include, but is not limited to the report to their supervisor or the Lieutenant within 24 hours.
- (e) Employees are expected to fully cooperate with the investigation of allegations under this Policy but only as requested by a supervisor, the Lieutenant or by court subpoena.
- (f) When a law enforcement agency responds to a call in which a sworn employee is alleged to have been involved in a domestic dispute or committed an act of domestic violence, the involved employee must immediately report that police response to their supervisor. A written report must follow within 24 hours, subject to the agency's internal investigatory process.
- (g) When an employee becomes the subject of an investigation for child abuse or neglect, or becomes subject to an order under RCW 26.44.063 or RCW 26.50 or any equivalent order issued by another state or tribal court, that employee must immediately report the fact to his/her supervisor. A written report must follow within 24 hours to include a copy of any order and any notices of court dates, appearances, and proceedings received by the employee.

#### **1052.4 INCIDENT RESPONSE**

Any notification of any incident of domestic violence involving any law enforcement officer requires a prompt response, full investigation and a complete written report by this department (RCW 10.99.030). These incidents additionally require:

- (a) On-scene supervisory presence.
- (b) Notification through the chain of command to the Sheriff of this department; and if the incident involves employees of another agency, notification of the agency head of the employing agency.
- (c) The Sheriff may delegate responsibility for receiving such reports to a specialized unit and/or specific person. Anyone so designated the Domestic Violence Specialist or Domestic Violence Unit should have specialized training regarding the dynamics of violent relationships, victim safety and the role of advocacy. The point of contact or unit supervisor should review each referral for any potential conflict of interest
- (d) In the event of a report of domestic violence alleged to have been committed by the Sheriff, prompt notification will be made to the employing entity's chief executive officer, or, in the case of an elected Sheriff, the County's Prosecutor.

##### **1052.4.1 RADIO RESPONSE**

Employees of Dispatch will ensure the following actions are taken:

- (a) Enter a call for service.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (b) Notify the Shift Sergeant or appropriate supervisor. If no supervisor is available to respond to the scene, communications will notify an on-call supervisor or supervisor from another agency.
- (c) Prepare and preserve documentation of the facts of the call, including the 9-1-1 tape.

#### 1052.4.2 PATROL RESPONSE

A patrol deputy responding to an incident described as domestic violence involving a law enforcement officer should, whenever possible, request a supervisory response.

- (a) The primary unit will conduct a thorough investigation, including, but not limited to:
  - 1. Photographs of the crime scene and any injuries identified.
  - 2. Statements from all witnesses, including children, if any.
  - 3. The Domestic Violence Supplemental Report Form.
  - 4. Seizure of any weapons used or referred to in the crime.
  - 5. Signed medical releases.
  - 6. Copies of dispatch (CAD) records.
  - 7. 9-1-1 call recording preserved.
  - 8. Statement of the victim; statement of the suspect.
  - 9. Determine if the victim requests any guns or specific weapons be removed for safekeeping and accommodate removal or explain the process for seeking a court order for removal.
  - 10. Complete the report as soon as possible, but prior to the completion of their shift.
- (b) Patrol units responding to suspicious circumstances, compelling third party accounts of incidents, unexplained property damage, etc. or other troubling event involving law enforcement officers will complete written reports of the incident.
- (c) A copy of all reports of the incident should be forwarded to the Domestic Violence Unit or Specialist. Access to the report should then be restricted to some form of "read only" version or physically secured.

#### 1052.4.3 PATROL SUPERVISOR RESPONSE

A patrol supervisor shall:

- (a) Respond whenever practical to the scene of any domestic violence incident involving sworn employees of this department regardless of jurisdiction. Supervisors will coordinate information and offer assistance to the agency of jurisdiction to provide a complete investigation.
- (b) Respond to the scene of all domestic violence incidents within the jurisdiction of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office involving any law enforcement officer.

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (c) Coordinate the investigation, applying appropriate resources and special units such as forensics, photography, domestic violence specialists, advocates and ensuring command notification.
- (d) Write a report on all incidents, whether deemed criminal or not and route it through the chain of command.
- (e) In the event of the arrest of a sworn employee of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, contact the Sheriff who will order the surrender of the deputy's Department-issued weapons and identification. Consideration should be given to other agency equipment and inquiries made about voluntary surrender of personal weapons that may be secured for safekeeping.
- (f) In the event of the arrest of a sworn employee of another agency, contact that agency prior to custody transport and request authorization to seize that employee's agency-issued weapons or arrange for the employing agency to obtain them.
- (g) Endeavor to make a good faith effort to locate the suspect if there is probable cause for an arrest.
- (h) Explain the process to the victim, including the opportunity for applicable emergency protection orders, administrative no-contact orders, and confidentiality statutes and policies.
- (i) Provide the victim with a copy of this policy and PCSO contact information, acting as the point of contact until another assignment is made.

#### **1052.5 VICTIM SAFETY ASSISTANCE AND NOTIFICATION**

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will work with community resources and domestic violence advocacy agencies and shall make available to the victim (RCW 10.99.090):

- (a) Information on how to obtain protective orders and/or removal of weapons from his/her home.
- (b) Assistance with obtaining such orders in coordination with domestic violence victim advocates.
- (c) A copy of this policy and any agency confidentiality policy.
- (d) Information about public and private domestic violence advocacy resources to include the Washington State Domestic Violence Hotline.
- (e) Information related to relevant confidentiality policies related to the victim's information and public disclosure as provide by law.
- (f) The Pacific County Sheriff's Office will coordinate victim notification regarding criminal and administrative investigative processes through the designated agency liaison in order to assist with victim safety.

## Department Badges

### 1054.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Pacific County Sheriff's Office badge and uniform patch as well as the likeness of these items and the name of the Pacific County Sheriff's Office are the property of the Department and their use shall be restricted as set forth in this policy.

### 1054.2 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.

#### 1054.2.1 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 Pacific 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.

#### 1054.2.2 CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

Badges and departmental identification cards issued to non-sworn personnel shall be clearly marked to reflect the position of the assigned employee (e.g. Parking Control, Dispatcher).

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.

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.

#### 1054.2.3 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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**1054.3 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.

**1054.4 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 Pacific 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 initials 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.

## Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments

### 1056.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for providing temporary modified-duty assignments. This policy is not intended to affect the rights or benefits of employees under federal or state law, County rules or current collective bargaining agreements or memorandums of understanding. 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.

### 1056.2 POLICY

Subject to operational considerations, the Pacific 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.

### 1056.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

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 Washington Law Against Discrimination shall be treated equally, without regard to any preference for a work-related injury.

No position in the Pacific 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.

Temporary modified-duty assignments shall generally not exceed a cumulative total of 1,040 hours in any one-year period.

### 1056.4 PROCEDURE

Employees may request a temporary modified-duty assignment for short-term injuries or illnesses.

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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Employees seeking a temporary modified-duty assignment should submit a written request to their Lieutenants or the authorized designees. The request should, as applicable, include a certification from the treating medical professional containing:

- (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 Lieutenant 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 Civil Division or the Prosecuting Attorney as appropriate.

Requests for a temporary modified-duty assignment of 20 hours or less per week may be approved and facilitated by the Shift Sergeant or Lieutenant, with notice to the Sheriff.

### **1056.5 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 Lieutenant. It is the policy of the Department to reassign employees who are pregnant upon request by the employee or when deemed necessary by the Department to temporary assignments that will not routinely expose the employee to potentially hazardous environments or activities.

#### **1056.5.1 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.

### *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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- (d) Submitting a written status report to the Lieutenant that contains a status update and anticipated date of return to full-duty when a temporary modified-duty assignment extends beyond 60 days.

#### **1056.5.2 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:

- (a) Periodically apprising the Lieutenant of the status and performance of employees assigned to temporary modified duty.
- (b) Notifying the Lieutenant 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.

#### **1056.6 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.

#### **1056.7 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.

##### **1056.7.1 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.

#### **1056.8 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.

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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### **1056.9 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.

## Performance History Audits

### 1058.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Performance History Audits are collections of data designed to assist supervisors evaluating the performance of their employees. Performance History Audits can help identify commendable performance as well as early recognition of training needs and other potential issues. While it is understood that the statistical compilation of data may be helpful to supervisors, it cannot account for, and must be carefully balanced with the many variables in law enforcement such as:

- A deputy's ability to detect crime.
- A deputy's work ethic.
- A deputy's work assignment and shift.
- A deputy's physical abilities, stature, etc.
- Randomness of events.

### 1058.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the authority of the Lieutenant, the Lieutenant is responsible for collecting performance indicators and other relevant data to generate and provide a quarterly Performance History Audit Report for each deputy to the appropriate Lieutenant. Though generated quarterly, each Performance History Audit will contain data from a one-year time period.

The Lieutenant will also forward a copy of each Performance History Audit Report to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for review and retention as attorney work product and confidential personnel information.

### 1058.3 COMPONENTS OF PERFORMANCE HISTORY AUDITS

Performance History Audits will include the following components:

- Performance indicators
- Data analysis
- Employee review
- Follow-up monitoring

### 1058.4 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance indicators represent the categories of employee performance activity that the Sheriff of Pacific County Sheriff's Office has determined may be relevant data for the generation and analysis of Performance History Audits. Performance indicators may include but are not limited to:

- (a) The frequency and findings of use of force incidents.
- (b) Frequency of involvement and conduct during vehicle pursuits.

*Performance History Audits*

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- (c) Frequency and findings of citizen complaints.
- (d) Number of commendations, compliments and awards (citizen and Department).
- (e) Claims and civil suits related to the employee's actions or alleged actions.
- (f) Canine bite incidents.
- (g) Internal Affairs investigations.
- (h) Frequency and reasons for prosecutor case rejections.
- (i) Intentional or accidental firearm discharges (regardless of injury).
- (j) Vehicle collisions.
- (k) Missed court appearances.
- (l) Documented counseling memos.

**1058.5 COMPILATION OF DATA**

The Lieutenant will utilize secure systems and other confidential methods to compile and track information regarding performance indicators for each deputy during each quarter in order to prepare Performance History Audit Reports.

**1058.6 EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION AND RESPONSE**

The Lieutenant will notify each deputy prior to retaining any performance indicator for entry into a Performance History Audit Report. The affected deputy may submit a written comment within 10 days regarding each performance indicator. Any such written comment will be attached to the related performance indicator in such a way as to be readily noticed by supervisors reviewing a Performance History Audit Report.

**1058.7 DATA ANALYSIS AND ACTION**

Upon receipt, the Lieutenant will review each Performance History Audit Report and determine whether it should be provided to a deputy's immediate supervisor for further consideration. The deputy's immediate supervisor will carefully review the Performance History Audit Report with the deputy to assess any potential trends or other issues which may warrant informal counseling, additional training or a recommendation for other action, including discipline. The deputy shall date and sign the Performance History Audit Report and may be provided a copy of the report upon request.

If a supervisor determines that a deputy's performance warrants action beyond informal counseling, the supervisor shall advise the Lieutenant of such recommendation. If the Lieutenant concurs with the recommendation of the supervisor, he/she shall take steps to initiate the appropriate action.

### *Performance History Audits*

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If discipline or other adverse action is initiated against a deputy as a result of a Performance History Audit, the deputy shall be entitled to all rights and processes set forth in the Personnel Complaints Policy.

#### **1058.8 CONFIDENTIALITY OF DATA**

Information, data and copies of material compiled to develop Performance History Audit Reports shall be considered confidential as part of the employee's personnel file and will not be subject to discovery or release except as provided by law. Access to the data in the system will be governed under the same process as access to a deputy's personnel file as outlined in the Department Peace Officer Personnel Files Policy 1026.

#### **1058.9 RETENTION AND PURGING**

Except as incorporated in separate training or disciplinary records, all performance indicators and Performance History Audit Reports shall be purged from the Lieutenant and all other locations within the Department one year from the date generated. The Prosecuting Attorney however, shall retain a copy of Performance History Audit Reports for an additional one year period as attorney work product.



# Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking

## 1060.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended to address issues associated with employee use of social networking sites and to provide guidelines for the regulation and balancing of employee speech and expression with the needs of the Department.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit or infringe upon any communication, speech or expression that is protected or privileged under law. This includes speech and expression protected under state or federal constitutions as well as labor or other applicable laws. For example, this policy does not limit an employee from speaking as a private citizen, including acting as an authorized member of a recognized bargaining unit or deputy associations, about matters of public concern, such as misconduct or corruption.

Employees are encouraged to consult with their supervisor regarding any questions arising from the application or potential application of this policy.

### 1060.1.1 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.

## 1060.2 POLICY

Public employees occupy a trusted position in the community, and thus, their statements have the potential to contravene the policies and performance of this department. Due to the nature of the work and influence associated with the law enforcement profession, it is necessary that employees of this department be subject to certain reasonable limitations on their speech and expression. To achieve its mission and efficiently provide service to the public, the Pacific County Sheriff's Office will carefully balance the individual employee's rights against the Department's needs and interests when exercising a reasonable degree of control over its employees' speech and expression.

## 1060.3 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 Pacific 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 expected to compromise the safety of any employee, an employee's family or associates.

## *Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking*

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Examples of the type of information that could reasonably be expected to compromise safety include:

- Disclosing a photograph and name or address of a deputy who is working undercover.
- Disclosing the address of a fellow deputy.
- Otherwise disclosing where another deputy can be located off-duty.

### **1060.4 PROHIBITED SPEECH, EXPRESSION AND CONDUCT**

To meet the department'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 Pacific 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office and tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Pacific 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 Department. For example, a statement on a blog that provides specific details as to how and when prisoner transportations are made could reasonably be foreseen as potentially jeopardizing employees by informing criminals of details that could facilitate an escape or attempted escape.
- (e) Speech or expression that is contrary to the canons of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics as adopted by the Pacific 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 Department for financial or personal gain, or any disclosure of such materials without the express authorization of the Sheriff or the authorized designee (RCW 9A.68.020).

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

### *Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking*

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- (g) Posting, transmitting or disseminating any photographs, video or audio recordings, likenesses or images of department logos, emblems, uniforms, badges, patches, marked vehicles, equipment or other material that specifically identifies the Pacific 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 department-owned, for personal purposes while on-duty, except in the following circumstances:
  - 1. When brief personal communication may be warranted by the circumstances (e.g., inform family of extended hours).
  - 2. During authorized breaks; such usage should be limited as much as practicable to areas out of sight and sound of the public and shall not be disruptive to the work environment.

Employees must take reasonable and prompt action to remove any content, including content posted by others, that is in violation of this policy from any web page or website maintained by the employee (e.g., social or personal website).

#### 1060.4.1 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 Pacific County Sheriff's Office or identify themselves in any way that could be reasonably perceived as representing the Pacific County Sheriff's Office in order to do any of the following, unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff:

- (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 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), is affiliated with this department, the employee shall give a specific disclaiming statement that any such speech or expression is not representative of the Pacific 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 indirectly using their official authority to coerce, command or advise another employee to pay, lend

## *Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking*

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or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes (5 USC § 1502).

### **1060.5 PRIVACY EXPECTATION**

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to emails, texts or anything published or maintained through file-sharing software or any Internet site (e.g., Facebook, MySpace) that is accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

### **1060.6 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 Department or the efficiency or morale of its members.
- (c) Whether the speech or conduct would reflect unfavorably upon the Department.
- (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 Department.

### **1060.7 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Department should provide training regarding employee speech and the use of social networking to all members of the Department.

## **Attachments**

# Pacific CO SO WA Policy Manual

## Policy Manual

## INDEX

.....	20
<b>A</b>	
ACCESS .....	452
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS .....	376
ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS	
OIS. ....	70
ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE .....	547
ADULT ABUSE .....	123
Investigations. ....	387
Sexual assault. ....	411
AIRCRAFT	
Ambulance. ....	356
Flying while armed. ....	81
AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS .....	299
ALCOHOL	
Intoxicants. ....	165
ALCOHOL .....	532
ALCOHOL USE .....	532
AMMUNITION .....	77
ANIMAL CONTROL PROCEDURES .....	474
ANIMALS	
Canines. ....	99
Dangerous. ....	80
Euthanize. ....	80
Injured. ....	80
ANTI-RETALIATION .....	528
APPOINTMENTS	
Canine Coordinator. ....	99
Exposure Control Officer. ....	537
Operations director .....	415, 419
ARRESTS	
Consular notifications. ....	488
First amendment assemblies. ....	345
Immigrants. ....	291
Sick or injured person. ....	355
AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING	
Body cameras. ....	320
Custodial interrogation. ....	386
Holding cells. ....	493
AUDITS	
Case dispositions. ....	413
Public safety video surveillance. ....	224
AUTHORITY .....	11
Canine handler .....	100, 100, 101
Canine handler .....	100, 101
Ethics. ....	161
AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS	
(AED) .....	357
AUXILIARY RESTRAINTS .....	54

## B

BACKGROUNDS .....	517
BADGE	
Mourning Badge. ....	597
BADGES, PATCHES AND IDENTIFICATION	
Conduct. ....	162
BARRICADED SUSPECTS .....	263
BATON .....	57
BIAS-BASED PROFILING .....	246
BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES	
Sexual assault. ....	413
BLOOD TESTS .....	373
BODY ARMOR	
Suspects. ....	75
BODY ARMOR .....	553
BODY-WORN CAMERA .....	320
BOMBS	
Canine detection. ....	103
Explosive training aids. ....	107
MDC/MDT. ....	319
MDT/MDC. ....	318
BREATH TESTS .....	372

## C

CANINES .....	99
CASH	
Custody. ....	492
CERTIFICATIONS .....	613
CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT .....	563
CHAPLAINS .....	215
CHILD	
Sexual assault. ....	411
CHILD ABUSE	
Definitions. ....	134
CHILD SAFETY .....	225
CHILD SAFETY SEAT .....	551
CHILDREN	
Firearms. ....	79
Safety. ....	491
CHRI .....	467
CITATIONS .....	363
CITE AND RELEASE .....	276
CIVIL	
Immigration hold. ....	292
Liability response. ....	71
Warrant. ....	290
CIVIL DISPUTES .....	347
CIVIL DIVISION .....	451
CIVILIAN/NON-SWORN	
Crisis intervention incidents. ....	352
CIVILIAN/NON-SWORN	
Investigation and Prosecution. ....	385

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

CODE-3 . . . . .	96
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	
Health orders. . . . .	250
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES	
Custody. . . . .	486
First responders. . . . .	354
COMMUNICATION OPERATIONS . . . . .	439
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER	
OIS. . . . .	66
Sexual assault. . . . .	412
COMMUNICATIONS WITH HEARING IMPAIRED OR DISABLED . . . . .	207
COMPUTERS	
Digital evidence. . . . .	387
CONCEALED PISTOL LICENSE . . . . .	33
CONDUCT	
OIS. . . . .	66
Standards of Conduct. . . . .	163
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS . . . . .	401
Payment Procedure. . . . .	403
CONFIDENTIALITY	
Communicable disease information. . . . .	540
Conduct. . . . .	162
Custodial telephone calls. . . . .	491
Radio broadcasts. . . . .	318
CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS . . . . .	12
CONTACTS AND TEMPORARY DETENTIONS	
Warrant service. . . . .	417
CONTROL DEVICES	
Custody. . . . .	492
Decontamination. . . . .	538
First amendment assemblies. . . . .	344
CONTROL DEVICES . . . . .	56
CORE . . . . .	561
CORRESPONDENCE . . . . .	31
COURT APPEARANCE . . . . .	179
COURT ORDERS	
Adult abuse. . . . .	125
Canine controlled substance. . . . .	106
Civil disputes. . . . .	347
Source testing. . . . .	540
COURT ORDERS . . . . .	111
COURTROOM ATTIRE . . . . .	181
COURTROOM PROTOCOL . . . . .	181
CPL . . . . .	33
CRIME AND DISASTER SCENE INTEGRITY . . . . .	249
CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION . . . . .	467
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE . . . . .	312
CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS . . . . .	312
CRIMINAL STREET GANGS . . . . .	312

CRISIS INTERVENTION INCIDENTS . . . . .	349
CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM . . . . .	251
CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT . . . . .	251
CUNDUCTED ENERGY DEVICE . . . . .	61
CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS . . . . .	386
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) . . . . .	291

## D

DAMAGE BY COUNTY PERSONNEL . . . . .	172
DEADLY FORCE REVIEW . . . . .	49
DEATH	
Chaplains. . . . .	218
Custody. . . . .	493
DEATH INVESTIGATION . . . . .	196
DEATH NOTIFICATION . . . . .	197
DEBRIEFING	
OIS. . . . .	72
Warrant service. . . . .	417
DECONFLICTION . . . . .	421
DEFECTIVE VEHICLES . . . . .	432
DEFINITIONS OF TERMS IN MANUAL . . . . .	15
DEPARTMENT OWNED PROPERTY . . . . .	426
DEPARTMENT PROPERTY	
Loss Or Damage. . . . .	427
DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTIVE . . . . .	22
DEPENDENT ADULTS	
Safety. . . . .	491
DEPLOYMENT . . . . .	287
DEPUTY IDENTIFICATION . . . . .	440
DISCIPLINE . . . . .	160
DISCLAIMER OF POLICIES . . . . .	15
DISCRIMINATION	
Conduct. . . . .	161
DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT . . . . .	129
Complaints. . . . .	131
Definitions. . . . .	129
Supervisor's Role. . . . .	131
DISPUTED CLAIMS . . . . .	448
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE . . . . .	108
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY LAW	
ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEES . . . . .	602
DRIVING	
MDT/MDC. . . . .	317
Safety. . . . .	164
DRIVING TACTICS . . . . .	87
DRUG USE . . . . .	532

## E

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

ELECTRICAL LINES . . . . .	294
ELECTRO-MUSCULAR DISRUPTION TECHNOLOGY DEVICE . . . . .	61
ELECTRONIC MAIL . . . . .	29
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN . . . . .	23
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN . . . . .	23
EMERGENCY UTILITY . . . . .	294
EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE . . . . .	533
EMPLOYEE COMMENDATIONS . . . . .	564
EMPLOYEE CONVICTIONS . . . . .	531
ENFORCEMENT . . . . .	362
ETHICS . . . . .	161
EVALUATION . . . . .	520
EVIDENCE	
Digital. . . . .	387
Seizing recordings. . . . .	339
EXPLOSIONS . . . . .	271
EXPOSURE CONTROL . . . . .	537
Officer. . . . .	537
EXPOSURE(S) . . . . .	261
EXTENDED ILLNESS . . . . .	535
EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION . . . . .	405

## F

FALSE REPORT . . . . .	170
FIELD DETAINEES . . . . .	306
FIELD IDENTIFICATION . . . . .	405
FIELD INTERVIEW . . . . .	306
FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS . . . . .	306
FIELD RELEASE . . . . .	276
FIELD SOBRIETY TESTS . . . . .	372
FIELD TRAINING OFFICER . . . . .	302
FIREARM SERIAL NUMBERS . . . . .	456
FIREARMS	
Conduct. . . . .	164
Custody. . . . .	492
Retiree carry. . . . .	38
FIRST AMENDMENT ASSEMBLIES . . . . .	341
FITNESS FOR DUTY . . . . .	571
FLYING WHILE ARMED . . . . .	81
FOOT PURSUITS . . . . .	329
FORCE . . . . .	42
FOREIGN	
Nationals. . . . .	488
FOREIGN COURT ORDERS . . . . .	111
FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES . . . . .	279

## G

GANGS	
Employee affiliation. . . . .	161
GANGS . . . . .	312
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE . . . . .	526
GROOMING STANDARDS . . . . .	589
GUIDE DOGS . . . . .	229

## H

HANDCUFFING . . . . .	53
HANDCUFFING AND RESTRAINTS	
Custody. . . . .	492
HATE CRIMES . . . . .	155
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL . . . . .	261
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL (HAZMAT) RESPONSE	
Precautions. . . . .	538
HEARING IMPAIRED . . . . .	207
HELICOPTER ASSISTANCE . . . . .	305
HOSTAGES . . . . .	263

## I

IDENTITY THEFT . . . . .	198
IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS	
ENFORCEMENT (ICE) . . . . .	291
IMMIGRATION VIOLATIONS . . . . .	290
IMMUNIZATIONS . . . . .	539
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY USE . . . . .	166
INITIATE A PURSUIT . . . . .	84
INJURY CLAIMS . . . . .	587
INSPECTIONS	
Exposure control. . . . .	537
Holding cells. . . . .	493
INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION . . . . .	385

## J

JAIL RELEASE . . . . .	277
JURISDICTION	
Consular notification. . . . .	488
OIS. . . . .	65
JUVENILE INFORMANTS . . . . .	402
JUVENILES	
Citations. . . . .	278
Use as Informants. . . . .	402

## K



# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

KINETIC PROJECTILES . . . . .	58	Adult abuse. . . . .	123
<b>L</b>		Custody suicide attempt, death or serious injury. . . . .	493
LEG IRONS . . . . .	54	Exposure control. . . . .	537
LEG RESTRAINT . . . . .	52	OIS. . . . .	67
LEG RESTRAINTS . . . . .	54	Sexual assault. . . . .	411
LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY		<b>NOTIFICATIONS</b>	
Immigration violations. . . . .	290	Pregnancy. . . . .	612
LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY . . .	199	<b>NUMERICAL FILING . . . . .</b>	<b>451</b>
LINEUPS . . . . .	405	<b>O</b>	
LIVE LINUP . . . . .	405	OATH . . . . .	14
<b>M</b>		OC SPRAY . . . . .	57
MANDATORY APPEARANCE . . . . .	179	OFFICER SAFETY	
MANUALS . . . . .	23	Canine deployment. . . . .	100
MEAL PERIODS AND BREAKS . . . . .	574	Crime and disaster scene integrity. . . . .	249
MEDIA		Firearm confiscation. . . . .	66
First amendment assemblies. . . . .	345	Immigration violations. . . . .	291
OIS. . . . .	72	LEOSA. . . . .	38
Operations plans. . . . .	423	Warrant service. . . . .	415
Warrant service. . . . .	418	OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS	
MEDIA REQUEST . . . . .	175	OIS. . . . .	65
MEDICAL		ON DUTY INJURIES . . . . .	586
Adult involuntary detention. . . . .	126	OPERATIONS PLANNING AND	
Canine bites. . . . .	102	DECONFLICTION . . . . .	419
Examinations - adult abuse. . . . .	126	ORDERS	
For canines. . . . .	105	Compliance with. . . . .	21
Opioid overdoses. . . . .	357	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE . . . .	20
Releases. . . . .	356	OUTSIDE AGENCY ASSISTANCE . . . .	188
Screening - custody adults. . . . .	490	OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT . . . . .	581
MEDICAL MARIJUANA . . . . .	324	Obtaining Approval. . . . .	581
MEMORANDUMS . . . . .	31	Prohibited Outside Employment. . . . .	582
MINIMUM STAFFING . . . . .	32	Security Employment. . . . .	582
MISSING PERSON		OVERTIME PAYMENT . . . . .	579
Definitions. . . . .	141	<b>P</b>	
MOBILE DIGITAL TERMINAL USE . . .	317	PAT-DOWN SEARCH . . . . .	306
MOURNING BADGE . . . . .	597	PATROL FUNCTION . . . . .	243
MUTUAL AID		PEACE OFFICER POWERS . . . . .	11
First amendment assemblies. . . . .	344	PEPPER PROJECTILES . . . . .	57
<b>N</b>		PEPPER SPRAY . . . . .	57
NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS . . . . .	175	PERFORMANCE HISTORY AUDITS . . .	614
NIBRS . . . . .	451	PERSONAL APPEARANCE . . . . .	589
NOTIFICATION		PERSONAL PROPERTY . . . . .	426
Consular. . . . .	488	Loss Or Damage. . . . .	427
NOTIFICATIONS		PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS . . . . .	543
		PERSONNEL FILES . . . . .	556
		Defined. . . . .	556
		Purging Of Files. . . . .	562

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

Requests For Disclosure. . . . .	557	RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION . . . . .	517
Types Of Personnel Files. . . . .	559	RELEASE OF RECORDS AND INFORMATION	
PERSONNEL RECORDS . . . . .	462	. . . . .	458
PHOTO LINEUPS . . . . .	405	Arrest Reports. . . . .	461
PHOTOGRAPHS		Personnel Records. . . . .	462
First amendment assemblies. . . . .	342	Processing Requests. . . . .	459
PHYSICAL AND MENTAL EXAMINATIONS		RELIGION	
. . . . .	572	Accommodations in custody. . . . .	491
POLICY MANUAL . . . . .	15	REPORT CORRECTIONS . . . . .	173
PREGNANCY		REPORT PREPARATION . . . . .	170
Custody . . . . .	486, 492	REPORTING CONVICTIONS . . . . .	531
PREGNANCY . . . . .	612	Domestic Violence . . . . .	531, 531
PRIVACY EXPECTATIONS		REPORTING POLICE ACTIVITY . . . . .	289
Audio/video recordings. . . . .	320	RESERVE	
MDT/MDC. . . . .	317	Duties. . . . .	184
Technology use. . . . .	166	RESERVE DEPUTIES . . . . .	183
PRIVATE PERSONS ARRESTS . . . . .	386	Coordinator. . . . .	184
PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES		RESPONSE TO CALLS . . . . .	96
Personnel complaints. . . . .	550	RESTRAINTS . . . . .	52
PROMOTIONAL PROCESS . . . . .	524	RESTRICTED INFORMATION . . . . .	177
PROPERTY PROCEDURES . . . . .	441	RETALIATION PROHIBITED . . . . .	528
Disputed Claims. . . . .	448	REVIEW BOARD	
Narcotics And Dangerous Drugs. . . . .	442	Force. . . . .	49
Packaging Of Property. . . . .	444	REVIEWS	
Property Booking. . . . .	441	Crisis intervention incidents. . . . .	352
Property Handling. . . . .	441	Exposure control plan. . . . .	537
Property Release. . . . .	446	Public records on social media. . . . .	241
PROTECTED INFORMATION		RIDE-ALONG	
Unauthorized release. . . . .	162	Eligibility. . . . .	258
PROTECTED INFORMATION . . . . .	467	RISK ASSESSMENT . . . . .	419
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY			
Dependent adults. . . . .	125	<b>S</b>	
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER . . . . .	301	SAFETY	
PUBLIC RECORDING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT		Conduct. . . . .	164
ACTIVITY . . . . .	338	Explosive training aids. . . . .	107
PUBLIC SAFETY VIDEO SURVEILLANCE	221	First responder. . . . .	249
PURSUIT INTERVENTION . . . . .	91	SART . . . . .	411
PURSUIT POLICY . . . . .	83	SEARCH & SEIZURE . . . . .	113
PURSUIT UNITS . . . . .	85	SEARCH WARRANTS . . . . .	415
		SEARCHES	
<b>R</b>		Crime scene. . . . .	250
RACIAL PROFILING . . . . .	246	SEARCHES . . . . .	435
RACIAL-BASED PROFILING . . . . .	246	SEAT BELT PROCEDURE . . . . .	551
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS . . . . .	440	SECURITY EMPLOYMENT . . . . .	582
RAPE KIT . . . . .	413	SERGEANTS . . . . .	316
RAPID DEPLOYMENT TEAM . . . . .	287	SERVICE ANIMALS . . . . .	229
REASONABLE SUSPICION . . . . .	306	SEXUAL ASSAULT . . . . .	411
RECORDS BUREAU		SEXUAL HARASSMENT . . . . .	130
Suspicious activity reports. . . . .	360	SICK LEAVE . . . . .	535
RECORDS RELEASE		SMOKING POLICY . . . . .	542
Public safety video surveillance. . . . .	223	SOCIAL MEDIA . . . . .	239

# Pacific County Sheriff's Office

## Policy Manual

Backgrounds . . . . .	518
SPIT HOOD . . . . .	53
SPIT MASK . . . . .	53
STAFFING LEVELS . . . . .	32
STANDARDS OF CONDUCT . . . . .	159
STANDBY . . . . .	179
SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM . . . . .	464
SUBPOENAS . . . . .	179
Acceptance. . . . .	180
Civil Subpoenas. . . . .	181
Failure To Appear. . . . .	181
Refusal. . . . .	180
SUCCESSION OF COMMAND . . . . .	20
SUPERVISION DEPLOYMENTS . . . . .	32
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING . . . . .	359

## T

TASER . . . . .	61
TATTOOS . . . . .	590
TEAR GAS . . . . .	57
TECHNOLOGY USE . . . . .	166
TEMPORARY CUSTODY	
Adults. . . . .	486
TEMPORARY MODIFIED-DUTY	
ASSIGNMENTS . . . . .	610
TERMINATE A PURSUIT . . . . .	84
TIME CARDS . . . . .	578
TRAFFIC DEPUTY . . . . .	362
TRAFFIC FUNCTION . . . . .	362
TRAFFIC SIGNAL . . . . .	294
TRAINING	
Adult abuse. . . . .	128
AED. . . . .	357
Canine. . . . .	105
Communicable disease. . . . .	541
Crisis intervention incidents. . . . .	353
Custody. . . . .	495
Firearms. . . . .	79
First amendment assemblies. . . . .	346
Immigration. . . . .	293
Operation planning and deconfliction. . . . .	424
Opioid medication. . . . .	358
Public safety video surveillance. . . . .	224
Sexual assault. . . . .	414
Social media. . . . .	241
Warrant service. . . . .	418
TRAINING	
Anti-Retaliation. . . . .	530
SWAT. . . . .	251
TRAINING PLAN . . . . .	25
TRAINING POLICY . . . . .	25

TRAINING, CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS	315
TRAINING, PROTECTED INFORMATION	469
TRANSFER PROCESS . . . . .	524
TRANSPORT BELTS . . . . .	54
TRANSPORTING CHILDREN . . . . .	551
TRANSPORTING PRISONERS . . . . .	551

## U

U VISA AND T VISA . . . . .	292
UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING PROGRAM	451
UNIFORM REGULATIONS . . . . .	591
UNITY OF COMMAND . . . . .	21
UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY . . . . .	344
USE OF FORCE	
First amendment assemblies. . . . .	344
USE OF FORCE . . . . .	42
USE OF FORCE . . . . .	42
USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA . . . . .	239
UTILITY SERVICE . . . . .	294

## V

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE . . . . .	432
VEHICLE SEIZURE	
Vehicle Forfeiture. . . . .	381
VIDEO RECORDING SEE AUDIO/VIDEO	
RECORDING . . . . .	221
VIDEO RECORDINGS	
First amendment assemblies. . . . .	342

## W

WARNINGS	
Canine. . . . .	101
WARRANT SERVICE . . . . .	415
WASHING OF VEHICLES . . . . .	433
WATER LINES . . . . .	294
WHISTLE-BLOWING . . . . .	530
WORKERS COMPENSATION . . . . .	586

Redaction Summary ( 11 redactions )

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1 Privilege / Exemption reason used:

1 -- "RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative" ( 11 instances )

Reason descriptions:

RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative

Specific intelligence information compiled by law enforcement which is essential to effective law enforcement, officer safety, and a person's right to privacy

Redacted pages:

- Page 87, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 88, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 263, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 264, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 265, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 266, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 330, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 401, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 402, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 403, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance
- Page 404, RCW 42.56.240(1)-investigative, 1 instance

**1-Applicable Exemption:**

RCW 42.56.240(1), RCW 42.56.050. Specific intelligence information and records compiled by investigative, law enforcement, penology agencies, and state agencies vested with the responsibility to discipline members of any profession, the nondisclosure of which is essential to effective law enforcement or the protection of any person s right to privacy

**The cited exemption applies because the redacted/withheld information includes the following:**

Specific intelligence information compiled by law enforcement which is essential to effective law enforcement, officer safety, and a person's right to privacy