CHIEF'S PREFACE

In order to guide personnel through the extensive body of knowledge required to successfully perform their duties and responsibilities, police departments across the country have developed policy manuals to assure the safe, professional and legal procedures are in place within their department. The purpose of this manual, then, is to guide employees of the Westminster Police Department in carrying out their assigned responsibilities. Therefore, it is mandatory for every member of the Westminster Police Department to read and comply with the policies established herein. This manual serves as our collective commitment as a police department to do our jobs in the most professional, ethical and legal manner possible. In addition, this policy manual is also critically important to our overall success as a police department.

The contents of the manual reflect how the Department conducts business by documenting rules and establishing clear guidelines for consistent, efficient and best practices. These guidelines include the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics and the Westminster Police Department's Mission, Vision, Goals and Core Values. By closely following the directives herein, personnel are enabled to provide reliable, effective and unwavering service to our community.

Although our manual is considered to be a model policy, there is no policy manual that can cover each and every situation that one may encounter. Good judgment and training must also be exercised.

Chief of Police, Darin Lenyi

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LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Westminster Police Department to protect the lives and property of the people we serve, to reduce crime, and to enhance the quality of life in our community with commitment, compassion and integrity.

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Chapter 1 - Law Enforcement Role and Authority

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Law Enforcement Authority

100.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to affirm the authority of the members of the Westminster Police Department to perform their functions based on established legal authority.

100.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to limit its members to only exercise the authority granted to them by law.

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

100.3 PEACE OFFICER POWERS

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

100.3.1 DELIVERY TO NEAREST MAGISTRATE

When an officer makes an arrest pursuant to a warrant with bail set, and the warrant was issued in a county other than where the person was arrested, the officer shall inform the person in writing of the right to be taken before a magistrate in the county where the arrest occurred (Penal Code § 821; Penal Code § 822).

100.3.2 ARREST AUTHORITY OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

The arrest authority outside the jurisdiction of the Westminster Police Department includes (Penal Code § 830.1; Penal Code § 836):

(a) When the officer has probable cause to believe the person committed a felony.

(b) When the officer has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor in the presence of the officer and the officer reasonably believes there is immediate danger to person or property or of escape.

(c) When the officer has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor for which an arrest is authorized even if not committed in the presence of the officer such as certain domestic violence offenses and there is immediate danger to person or property or of escape or the arrest is mandated by statute.

(d) When authorized by a cross jurisdictional agreement with the jurisdiction in which the arrest is made.

(e) In compliance with an arrest warrant.

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

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

100.3.3 OREGON 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 from the California-Oregon border (ORS 133.405). Such authority shall only apply when officers are acting:

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

(b) In response to a reasonable belief that emergency law enforcement assistance is necessary to preserve life, and circumstances make it impractical for Oregon law enforcement officials to formally request assistance.

(c) For the purpose of assisting Oregon law enforcement officials with emergency assistance in response to criminal activity, traffic accidents, emergency incidents or other similar public safety situations, regardless of whether an Oregon law enforcement official is present at the scene of the incident.

Westminster Police Department officers have no authority to enforce Oregon traffic or motor vehicle laws.

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

100.3.4 TIME OF MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS

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

(a) The arrest is made without a warrant pursuant to Penal Code § 836 which includes:

1. A misdemeanor committed in the presence of the officer.
2. Misdemeanor domestic violence offenses (See the Domestic Violence Policy).

(b) The arrest is made in a public place.

(c) The arrest is made with the person in custody pursuant to another lawful arrest.

(d) The arrest is made pursuant to a warrant which, for good cause shown, directs that it may be served at any time of the day or night.

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100.3.5 ARREST AUTHORITY INSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

The arrest authority within the jurisdiction of the Westminster Police Department includes (Penal Code § 830.1; Penal Code § 836):

(a) When the officer has probable cause to believe the person has committed a felony, whether or not committed in the presence of the officer.

(b) When the officer has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor in this jurisdiction and in the presence of the officer.

(c) When the officer has probable cause to believe the person has committed a public offense outside this jurisdiction, in the presence of the officer and the officer reasonably believes there is an immediate danger to person or property, or of escape.

(d) When the officer has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor for which an arrest is authorized or required by statute even though the offense has not been committed in the presence of the officer such as certain domestic violence offenses.

(e) In compliance with an arrest warrant.

100.4 INTERSTATE PEACE OFFICER POWERS

Peace officer powers may be extended to other states:

(a) As applicable under interstate compacts, memorandums of understanding or mutual aid agreements in compliance with the laws of each state.

(b) When an officer enters an adjoining state in close or fresh pursuit of a person believed to have committed a felony (ARS § 13-3832; NRS 171.158; ORS 133.430).

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

100.5 CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

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

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Chief Executive Officer

102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

102.1.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REQUIREMENTS

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

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Oath of Office

104.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

104.2 POLICY

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

104.3 OATH OF OFFICE

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

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

104.4 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

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

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Policy Manual

106.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The manual of the Westminster Police Department 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 Westminster Police Department and shall not be construed to create a higher standard or duty of care for civil or criminal liability against the City, 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 Westminster Police Department reserves the right to revise any policy content, in whole or in part.

106.3 AUTHORITY

The Chief of Police 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 Chief of Police or the authorized designee is authorized to issue General Orders, which shall modify those provisions of the manual to which they pertain. General Orders 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.

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

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CHP- The California Highway Patrol.

CFR - Code of Federal Regulations.

City - The City of Westminster.

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

Department/WPD - The Westminster Police Department.

DMV - The Department of Motor Vehicles.

Employee - Any person employed by the Department.

Juvenile- Any person under the age of 18 years.

Manual - The Westminster Police Department Policy Manual.

May - Indicates a permissive, discretionary or conditional action.

Member - Any person employed or appointed by the Westminster Police Department, including:

- Full- and part-time employees
- Sworn peace officers
- Reserve, auxiliary officers
- Civilian employees
- Volunteers.

Officer - Those employees, regardless of rank, who are sworn peace officers of the Westminster Police Department.

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

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

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

Rank - The title of the classification held by an officer.

Shall or will - Indicates a mandatory action.

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

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

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

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

USC - United States Code.

106.5 ISSUING THE POLICY MANUAL

An electronic version of the Policy Manual will be made available to all members on the department network for viewing and printing. No changes shall be made to the manual without authorization from the Chief of Police 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 Indexed Briefingss. Members shall seek clarification as needed from an appropriate supervisor for any provisions that they do not fully understand.

106.6 PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE POLICY MANUAL

The Chief of Police 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 Commander will ensure that members under his/her command are aware of any Policy Manual revision.

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

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Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

107.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

107.2 POLICY

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

107.3 LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS

AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, my fundamental duty is to serve; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against abuse or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

I WILL keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

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

I RECOGNIZE the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before god to my chosen profession... law enforcement.

107.3.1 OBJECTION TO RELIGIOUS AFFIRMATION

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

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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 Chief of Police is responsible for administering and managing the Westminster Police Department. There are two divisions in the Police Department as follows:

- Operations Division
- Support Services Division

200.3 COMMAND PROTOCOL

200.3.1 SUCCESSION OF COMMAND

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

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

(a) Operations Commander

(b) Detective Commander

(c) Professional Standards Unit Commander

(d) Watch Commander

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.

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General Orders

204.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

General Orders establish an interdepartmental communication that may be used by the Chief of Police to make immediate changes topolicy and procedure consistent with the current Memorandum of Understanding and as permitted by Government Code § 3500 et seq.

204.1.1 GENERAL ORDERS PROTOCOL

General Orders will apply throughout the department and are issued for the purpose of establishing or revising operational policy, rules, and practices that govern the police department in its internal and external affairs.

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

204.1.2 RESCINDING GENERAL ORDERS

Whenever it is necessary to amend an operational procedure or directive, a new General Order will be issued which will automatically rescind the affected directive.

204.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

204.2.1 STAFF

The Professional Standards Unit will issue identifying numbers, and will maintain the master file of all department General Orders. Additionally, they shall review all General Orders for uniformity and suitability of content.

Lieutenants shall insure all members within their respective commands read and understand the contents of all General Orders.

Each member of the department is responsible for knowing the contents of all General Orders in effect.

204.2.2 CHIEF OF POLICE

The Chief of Police shall meet and confer with WPOA representatives on those General Orders affecting working conditions.

Notification will be made to the WPOA at the designated address of their representative, allowing a reasonable amount of time to respond.

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Physical Security of Police Facilities

205.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This regulation prescribes uniform physical security policies and access procedures for the police facility.

205.2 RESTRICTED AREAS

Non-public areas in the Police Department shall be identified with a sign at the entrance, "Restricted Area Visible Identification Required."

A. All areas of the police facility that require FOB/access card admittance

are restricted areas. This is to include the rear compound.

B. Unrestricted areas are the front lobby and restroom foyer.

205.3 IDENTIFICATION WITHIN RESTRICTED AREAS

A. All non uniformed full and part time Police Department employees shall exhibit their photo identification card at all times while in restricted areas of the Police Department.

B. All uniformed and non uniformed City of Westminster (non-police) employees shall exhibit their photo identification card at all times while in restricted areas of the Police Department.

C. Identification should be conspicuously visible at all times and displayed on an outer garment at or above the waist.

D. The Department will offer two types of identification card holders; employees may choose each of the following:

1. Alligator Clip Holder.

a. Used with the photo ID card for clipping it to an outside garment.

2. Neck Strap Holder.

a. A soft strap with a clip for those who prefer not to use the

alligator clip.

E. The Administrative Services Bureau should maintain a supply of each type of

ID card holder. No personal ID card holders are authorized and no inappropriate pins are permitted on the identification straps.

205.4 VISITORS

A. Visitors must articulate a specific need to enter a restricted area. Department employees are authorized to courteously inquire as to that need. If a Department employee grants access, the following should be adhered to by the employee responsible for the visitor:

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1. Collect the visitor's driver's license or other official identification to be held at the front counter until completion of the visit and retrieval of the visitor badge.

2. The visitor is required to complete the visitor log. The log shall include the visitor's name, reason for the visit, time of the visit, and the employee who escorted the visitor. The log will be kept in records and audited by the records supervisor.

3. The visitor must accompanied by a personal escort at all times.

4. The visitor must display a Department approved visitor's pass on their outer clothing.

B. Those divisions or individual employees that have meetings or training sessions with 3 or more people in restricted areas are responsible for the registration of the group and the adherence to this section.

C. Department visitor passes shall be collected at the conclusion of the visit by the department employee responsible for the visitor.

D. The employee responsible for the visitor should inquire if the visitor is in possession of any weapons. No weapons are allowed in the police facility except when carried by an authorized law enforcement officer as defined in California Penal Code §830, 830.1 and/or Title 18 USC §926b and 926c.

205.5 SERVICE AND DELIVERY PERSONNEL

A. Individuals doing business with the department, such as postal workers,

vendors, contracted service providers and other non-City personnel, shall display a visible visitor ID card. Those private individuals who regularly access the police facility may be issued temporary ID cards for the duration of the service contract after an assessment by the Administrative Services Bureau.

B. Delivery or service personnel who have limited access to the police facility

shall be escorted by the appropriate Department employee.

205.6 UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

A. Employees shall contact individuals in a restricted area who do not have

proper identification and make a determination as to the nature of their

business, or bring the matter to the attention of a supervisor or sworn member

of the Department.

B. Individuals not having any legitimate business in a restricted area shall be

courteously escorted to a public area of the facility.

C. If resistance or behavior of a threatening or suspicious nature is encountered,

sworn personnel shall be notified or a call to 911 shall be initiated.

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Emergency Operations Plan

206.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

206.2 ACTIVATING THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

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

206.2.1 RECALL OF PERSONNEL

In the event that the Emergency Operations Plan is activated, all identified essential employees of the Westminster Police Department are subject to immediate recall. Other employees may also be subject to recall during extraordinary circumstances as deemed necessary by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

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

206.3 LOCATION OF THE OPERATIONS PLAN

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

206.4 UPDATING OF MANUALS

The Chief of Police or designee shall review the Emergency Operations Plan Manual annually to ensure that the plan conforms to any revisions made by the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and should appropriately address any needed revisions.

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Mass Notification System

207.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

A mass notification system is designed to keep residents and businesses informed of emergencies and certain police related urgencies. The purpose of this policy is to establish notification responsibilities and to outline the process for maintenance and use of the Westminster mass notification messaging system. The messaging system shall be used:

a. with the authorization of the Chief of Police or his designee to notify and provide information to City of Westminster residents and businesses during an emergency or hazardous event affecting the City, and

b. by select management staff or designees to notify and provide information to City of Westminster staff during an emergency or hazardous event affecting Westminster.

The City of Westminster authorized staff as outlined above may utilize the mass notification system when necessary to inform the public and city staff about imminent or perceived threat to human life or property, disaster notifications, evacuation notices, public health or public safety emergencies, any notification to provide emergency information to a defined community and the City's emergency response activities.

207.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Police Chief or designee shall be responsible for approving the content of and the sending of messages to residents and businesses.

The City's Emergency Manager and his/her designees shall be responsible for coordination of system users, security, maintenance, tests and publicity.

Police Management and Supervision staff shall be responsible for use of the system concerning emergency messaging, but may delegate messaging responsibilities to other department/city employees when necessary.

The Dispatch Supervisor shall be responsible for managing user data and pre-set "departments" and "groups." The Dispatch Supervisor will be primarily responsible for the technical aspects of the system.

In the event of city EOC activation, the Director of Emergency Professional Standards Unit (City Manager) or designee is responsible for approving content of messages.

In the event of city EOC activation, the EOC Information Officer (PIO) is responsible for drafting messages and obtaining the Director of Emergency Professional Standards Unit or his/her designee's approval prior to message releases.

207.3 PROCEDURE FOR EMERGENCY MESSAGING

Staff specified under RESPONSIBILITIES, are authorized to activate and use the mass notification messaging system by following these steps:

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Write the message to be sent in the "Script" portion of the system. Specify the groups it is to be sent to on the document. Alerts to non-city staff must be authorized by the Chief of Police, designee or Director of Emergency Professional Standards Unit if the EOC has been activated. Follow the provided guidelines and steps within the system to ultimately send the desired message.

207.4 SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

The Dispatch Supervisor or her designee is authorized to maintain and make changes to the data in the mass notification messaging system.

207.5 REGULATION

All mass notifications through the mass notification messaging system must adhere to provisions contained within the California Public Records Act, and information entered into the system concerning notifications (except personal subscriber information) falls within the provisions of Government Code Sections 6250-6270 respectively.

Mass notifications generally should not include personal information of involved parties (names, addresses, etc.), and no personal subscriber information should be accessed within the system for release to the public. All subscriber information contained within the system is deemed confidential.

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Training

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 POLICY

The Department shall administer a training program that will meet the standards of federal, state, local, and POST training requirements. It is a priority of this department to provide continuing education and training for the professional growth and development of its members.

208.3 PHILOSOPHY

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

208.4 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.

(d) Ensure compliance with POST rules and regulations concerning law enforcement training.

208.5 TRAINING SERGEANT

The Chief of Police shall designate a Training Sergeant who is responsible for developing, reviewing, updating, and maintaining the department training plan so that required training is completed. The Training Sergeant should review the training plan annually.

208.5.1 TRAINING RESTRICTION

The Training Sergeant is responsible for establishing a process to identify officers who are restricted from training other officers for the time period specified by law because of a sustained use of force complaint (Government Code § 7286(b)).

208.6 TRAINING PLAN

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

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Per Diem and lodging reimbursements will be evaluated annually after review of the US General Services Administration (GSA) guidelines. The plan will address the following areas:

- Legislative Changes
- State Mandated Training
- Critical Issues Training

208.7 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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

208.8 TRAINING COMMITTEE

The Professional Standards Unit Sergeant 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 Professional Standards Unit Sergeant 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 Professional Standards Unit Sergeant 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 Professional Standards Unit Sergeant. 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 Professional Standards Unit Sergeant 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.

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208.9 ONGOING TRAINING

All employees will receive continuous training in changes of policy and/or statute that affect their specific assignment.

208.10 TRAINING PROCEDURES

(a) All employees assigned to attend training shall attend as scheduled unless previously excused by their immediate supervisor. Excused absences from mandatory training should be limited to the following:

1. Court appearances
2. First choice vacation
3. Sick leave
4. Physical limitations preventing the employee's participation.
5. Emergency situations

(b) When an employee is unable to attend mandatory training, that employee shall:

1. Notify his/her supervisor as soon as possible but no later than one hour prior to the start of training.
2. Document his/her absence in a memorandum to his/her supervisor.
3. Make arrangements through his/her supervisor and the Training Sergeant to attend the required training on an alternate date.

208.11 DAILY TRAINING BULLETINS

The Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) is a web-accessed system that provides training on the Westminster Police Department 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 PSU.

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

Employees who are assigned to participate in the DTB program should complete each DTB at the beginning of their shift or as otherwise directed by their supervisor or PSU. 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.

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

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Electronic Mail

212.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

212.2 EMAIL RIGHT OF PRIVACY

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

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

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

212.3 PROHIBITED USE OF EMAIL

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

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

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

212.4 EMAIL RECORD MANAGEMENT

Email may, depending upon the individual content, be a public record under the California Public Records Act and must be managed in accordance with the established records retention schedule and in compliance with state law.

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The Custodian of Records shall ensure that email messages are retained and recoverable as outlined in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

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Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL)

213.1 DEFINITION

The Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) is the tracking of speed, direction, location, and other vehicle parameters utilizing the public access Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) more commonly referred to as the Global Positioning System or GPS.

213.1.1 ACCESS TO AVL SYSTEMS

The security of Departmental operations is paramount, and access to the AVL system shall be limited to authorized personnel only. Accessing or monitoring AVL information in real-time and/or delayed-time is strictly confidential. Onlthe the Chief of Police or his/her designee can authorize access to AVL information.

The monitoring of AVL information shall be on a "need to know" basis; consequently, only the following classifications of Westminster Police Department personnel are authorized to access and/or monitor AVL information:

- Sworn law enforcement officers
- On-Duty police dispatchers
- Information Services Manager

Any disclosure of AVL security information such as passwords or other information that would aid in the accessing or monitoring of such AVL information to non-authorized personnel is prohibited and subject to discipline under this policy.

213.1.2 AUTOMATIC VEHICLE LOCATOR (AVL) OPERATIONAL USES

A. OFFICER SAFETY - AVL is a safety net. Should an officer need immediate assistance, AVL information provides police dispatchers and other police personnel precise information about the location of an officer's vehicle in need of assistance.

B. EFFICIENT RESPONSE TO EMERGENCIES - AVL provides emergency dispatchers, police officers and supervisors, with real-time location information for efficient deployment.

C. INCIDENT MANAGEMENT - AVL allows Watch Commanders and supervisors to direct resources in a manner that is both flexible and responsive to the dynamic nature of public safety operations.

D. CRITICAL INCIDENTS - Critical incidents require the coordination of numerous emergency response resources over large distances and substantial lengths of time. It is necessary to keep documentation that will assist with incident management and which will provide a record for subsequent debriefing, training, and court purposes. Time-critical GIS applications for critical incident management represent an effective way to manage and document incidents, especially when coupled with real time (GPS) AVL data.

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E. GEO-SPATIAL POLICING - AVL allows Patrol Commanders and managers to evaluate and control patrol patterns of officers. Along with community policing techniques, AVL data may be used to facilitate and enhance the symbiotic relationship between crime trend locations and deployment of resources.

213.2 ADMINISTRATIVE USES OF AVL DATA

A. FLEET MANAGEMENT - Historical AVL data allows the fleet manager to examine vehicle usage and performance to better plan maintenance and diagnose mechanical and efficiency problems.

B. INCIDENT REVIEW/DEBRIEFING - After an incident, valuable information can be obtained from the AVL system to visually plot responses to emergencies and routine calls for service for debriefing. AVL information may be used to aid in the education and training of police officers, non-sworn employees and supervisors. C. PATROL ACCOUNTABILITY Efficient deployment of resources and officer accountability are key components to providing Service with Integrity. AVL provides another diagnostic tool to aid the police manger in maintaining public trust and responding appropriately to community requests.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS AVL data may be used to aid administrative investigations.

213.3 RETENTION OF AVL DATA

AVL historical data is generally retained for a period not exceed 90 days.

213.4 SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

System Administration of GPS/AVL systems is the responsibility of the Information Systems Commander or his/her designee.

213.5 TAMPERING WITH GPS/AVL SYSTEMS

At no time shall any employee tamper with, manipulate, interrupt the signal or disconnect any vehicle GPS/AVL system without written authorization from the Chief of Police.

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Administrative Communications

214.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

214.2 INDEXED BRIEFINGS

Indexed Briefings may be issued periodically by the Chief of Police 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 Chief of Police. 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 Chief of Police or a Division Commander.

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Staffing Levels

216.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

216.2 MINIMUM STAFFING LEVELS

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

216.2.1 SUPERVISION DEPLOYMENTS

In order to accommodate training and other unforeseen circumstances, an officer may be used as field supervisors in place of a field sergeant.

With prior authorization from the Operations Division Commander, an officer may act as the Watch Commanderfor a limited period of time.

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License to Carry a Firearm

218.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

218.1.1 APPLICATION OF POLICY

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

218.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will fairly and impartially consider all applications to carry firearms in accordance with applicable law and this policy. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the Chief of Police from entering into an agreement with the Sheriff to process all applications and licenses for the carrying of concealed weapons (Penal Code Section 12050(g)).

218.3 QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

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

(a) Be a resident of the City of Westminster (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).

(b) Be at least 21 years of age (Penal Code § 29610).

(c) Fully complete an application that will include substantial personal information. Much of the information in the application may be subject to public access under the Public Records Act.

(d) Be free from criminal convictions that would disqualify the applicant from carrying a firearm. Fingerprints will be required and a complete criminal background check will be conducted.

(e) Be of good moral character (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).

(f) Show good cause for the issuance of the license (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).

(g) Pay all associated application fees. These fees are set by statute and may not be refunded if the application is denied.

(h) Provide proof of ownership or registration of any firearm to be licensed.

(i) Be free from any psychological conditions that might make the applicant unsuitable for carrying a firearm (Penal Code § 26190).

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(j) Complete required training (Penal Code § 26165).

218.4 APPLICATION PROCESS

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

218.4.1 PHASE ONE (TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS)

(a) Any individual applying for a license to carry a firearm shall first fully complete a California Department of Justice (DOJ) application to be signed under penalty of perjury. Any applicant who provides false information or statements on the application will be removed from further consideration and may be prosecuted for a criminal offense (Penal Code § 26180).

1. In the event of any discrepancies in the application or background investigation, the applicant may be required to undergo a polygraph examination, at no cost to the applicant.

2. If an incomplete application package is received, the Chief of Police or authorized designee may do any of the following:

(a) Require the applicant to complete the package before any further processing.

(b) Advance the incomplete package to phase two for conditional processing pending completion of all mandatory conditions.

(c) Issue a denial if the materials submitted at the time demonstrate that the applicant would not qualify for a license to carry a firearm even if the package was completed (e.g., not a resident, disqualifying criminal conviction, absence of good cause).

(b) At the time the completed application is submitted, the applicant shall submit a check made payable to the California Department of Justice for the required California DOJ application fee, along with a separate check made payable to the City of Westminster for a nonrefundable 20 percent of the application fee to cover the cost of processing the application (Penal Code § 26190).

1. Additional fees may be required for fingerprinting, training or psychological testing, in addition to the application fee.

2. Full payment of the remainder of the application fee will be required upon issuance of a license.

3. Payment of related fees may be waived if the applicant is a duly appointed reserve peace officer as defined in Penal Code § 830.6 (a) or (b) (Penal Code § 26170).

(c) The applicant shall be required to submit to fingerprinting and a complete criminal background check by the California DOJ. A second set of fingerprints may be required for retention in department files. Two recent passport-size photos (2 inches by 2 inches) of the applicant shall be submitted for department use. No person determined

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to fall within a prohibited class described in Penal Code § 29800, Penal Code § 29900, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100 or Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103 will be issued a license to carry a firearm. A license shall not be issued if the California DOJ determines that the applicant is prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning or purchasing a firearm (Penal Code § 26195).

(d) The applicant should submit at least three signed letters of character reference from individuals other than relatives.

(e) The applicant shall submit proof of ownership or registration of each firearm to be licensed.

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

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

218.4.2 PHASE TWO

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

(a) Upon successful completion of phase one, the applicant shall be scheduled for a personal interview with the Chief of Police or authorized designee. During this stage, there will be further discussion of the applicant's statement of good cause and any potential restrictions or conditions that might be placed on the license.

1. The determination of good cause should consider the totality of circumstances in each individual case.
2. Any denial for lack of good cause should be rational, articulable and not arbitrary in nature.
3. The Department will provide written notice to the applicant as to the determination of good cause (Penal Code § 26202).

(b) The Chief of Police may, based upon criteria established by the Chief of Police, require that the applicant be referred to an authorized psychologist used by the Department for psychological testing. The cost of such psychological testing (not to exceed $150) shall be paid by the applicant. The purpose of any such psychological testing is intended only to identify any outward indications or history of psychological problems that might render the applicant unfit to carry a firearm. This testing is not intended to certify in any other respect that the applicant is psychologically fit. If it is determined that the applicant is not a suitable candidate for carrying a firearm, the applicant shall be removed from further consideration (Penal Code § 26190).

(c) The applicant shall complete a course of training approved by the department, which complies with Penal Code § 26165. The applicant will not be required to complete and pay for any training courses prior to any determination of good cause (Penal Code § 26165; Penal Code § 26202).

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(d) The applicant shall submit any firearm to be considered for a license to the Rangemaster or other department authorized gunsmith, at no cost to the applicant, for a full safety inspection. The Chief of Police reserves the right to deny a license for any firearm that has been altered from the manufacturer's specifications or that is unsafe (Penal Code § 31910).

(e) The applicant shall successfully complete a firearms safety and proficiency examination with the firearm to be licensed, to be administered by the department Rangemaster, or provide proof of successful completion of another department-approved firearms safety and proficiency examination, including completion of all releases and other forms. The cost of any outside inspection/ examination shall be the responsibility of the applicant.

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

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

218.5 LIMITED BUSINESS LICENSE TO CARRY A CONCEALED FIREARM

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

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

(a) The applicant physically spends a substantial period of working hours in the applicant's principal place of employment or business within the City of Westminster (Penal Code § 26150).

(b) Such a license will be valid for a period not to exceed 90 days from the date of issuance (Penal Code § 26220).

(c) The applicant shall provide a copy of the license to the licensing authority of the city or county in which the applicant resides (Penal Code § 26220).

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

218.6 ISSUED FIREARMS PERMITS

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

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(a) The license will be subject to any and all reasonable restrictions or conditions the Chief of Police has deemed warranted, including restrictions as to the time, place, manner and circumstances under which the person may carry the firearm.

1. All such restrictions or conditions shall be conspicuously noted on any license issued (Penal Code § 26200).

2. The licensee will be required to sign a Restrictions and Conditions Agreement. Any violation of any of the restrictions and conditions may result in the immediate revocation of the license.

(b) The license shall be laminated, bearing a photograph of the licensee with the expiration date, type of firearm, restrictions and other pertinent information clearly visible.

1. Each license shall be numbered and clearly identify the licensee.

2. All licenses shall be subjected to inspection by the Chief of Police or any law enforcement officer.

(c) The license will be valid for a period not to exceed two years from the date of issuance (Penal Code § 26220).

1. A license issued to a state or federal magistrate, commissioner or judge will be valid for a period not to exceed three years.

2. A license issued to any reserve peace officer as defined in Penal Code § 830.6(a) or (b), or a custodial officer employed by the Sheriff as provided in Penal Code § 831.5 will be valid for a period not to exceed four years, except that such license shall be invalid upon the individual's conclusion of service as a reserve officer.

(d) If the licensee's place of residence was the basis for issuance of a license and the licensee moves out of the county of issuance, the license shall expire 90 days after the licensee has moved (Penal Code § 26210).

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

218.6.1 LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

(a) The Chief of Police may place special restrictions limiting time, place, manner and circumstances under which any license shall be valid. In general, these restrictions will prohibit the licensee from:

1. Consuming any alcoholic beverage while armed.

2. Falsely representing him/herself as a peace officer.

3. Unjustified or unreasonable displaying of a firearm.

4. Committing any crime.

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5. Being under the influence of any medication or drug while armed.
6. Interfering with any law enforcement officer's duties.
7. Refusing to display his/her license or firearm for inspection upon demand of any peace officer.
8. Loading the permitted firearm with illegal ammunition.

(b) The Chief of Police reserves the right to inspect any license or licensed firearm at any time.

(c) The alteration of any previously approved firearm including, but not limited to adjusting the trigger pull, adding laser sights or modifications shall void any license and serve as grounds for revocation.

218.6.2 AMENDMENTS TO LICENSES

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

(a) Add or delete authority to carry a firearm listed on the license.

(b) Change restrictions or conditions previously placed on the license.

(c) Change the address or other personal information of the licensee (Penal Code § 26210).

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

218.6.3 REVOCATION OF LICENSES

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

(a) The licensee has violated any of the restrictions or conditions placed upon the license.

(b) The licensee becomes psychologically unsuitable to carry a firearm.

(c) The licensee is determined to be within a prohibited class described in Penal Code § 29800, Penal Code § 29900, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103 or any state or federal law.

(d) The licensee engages in any conduct which involves a lack of good moral character or that might otherwise remove the good cause for the original issuance of the license.

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

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

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

218.6.4 LICENSE RENEWAL

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

(a) Verifying all information submitted in the original application under penalty of perjury.

(b) Completing a department-approved training course pursuant to Penal Code § 26165. The applicant shall not be required to pay for a training course prior to the determination of good cause (Penal Code § 26165).

(c) Submitting any firearm to be considered for a license renewal to the Rangemaster for a full safety inspection. The Chief of Police reserves the right to deny a license for any firearm that has been altered from the manufacturer's specifications or that is unsafe (Penal Code § 31910).

(d) Paying a non-refundable renewal application fee.

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

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

218.7 DEPARTMENT REPORTING AND RECORDS

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

(a) The denial of a license

(b) The denial of an amendment to a license

(c) The issuance of a license

(d) The amendment of a license

(e) The revocation of a license

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

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218.8 CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

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

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

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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 Westminster Police Department identification cards under the Law Enforcement Officers' Safety Act (LEOSA) and California law (18 USC § 926C; Penal Code § 25455).

220.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to provide identification cards to qualified former or retired officers as provided in this policy.

220.3 LEOSA

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

(a) Separated from service in good standing from this department as an officer.

(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 officer 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 officer and identify him/her as having been employed as an officer.

If the Westminster Police Department qualifies the former officer, the LEOSA identification card or separate certification should indicate the date the former officer 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 officer of this department, may carry a concealed firearm under 18 USC § 926C when he/she is:

(a) In possession of photographic identification that identifies him/her as having been employed as a law enforcement officer, and one of the following:

1. An indication from the person's former law enforcement agency that he/she has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found by the law enforcement

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agency to meet agency-established active duty standards for qualification in firearms training to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm.

2. A certification, issued by either the state in which the person resides or by a certified firearms instructor who is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active duty law enforcement officers within that state, indicating that the person has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found to meet the standards established by the state or, if not applicable, the standards of any agency in that state.

(b) Not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance.

(c) Not prohibited by federal law from receiving a firearm.

(d) Not in a location prohibited by California law or by a private person or entity on his/her property if such prohibition is permitted by California law.

220.4 CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUANCE

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

(a) For the purpose of this policy, honorably retired includes all peace officers who have qualified for, and accepted, a service or disability retirement. It shall not include any officer who retires in lieu of termination.

(b) No CCW Approved endorsement shall be issued to any officer retiring because of a psychological disability (Penal Code § 26305).

220.4.1 CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD FORMAT

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

(a) A photograph of the retiree.

(b) The retiree’s name and date of birth.

(c) The date of retirement.

(d) The name and address of this department.

(e) A stamped CCW Approved endorsement along with the date by which the endorsement must be renewed (not more than one year). If a CCW endorsement has been denied or revoked, the identification card shall be stamped “No CCW Privilege.”

220.4.2 QUALIFIED RETIRED RESERVES

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

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220.5 FORMER OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

A former officer with a card issued under this policy shall immediately notify the Watch Commander 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 officer 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.

220.5.2 MAINTAINING A CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD CCW ENDORSEMENT

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

(a) Qualify once every five years with the authorized firearm at a course approved by this department at the retired officer's expense.

(b) Remain subject to all applicable department policies and federal, state and local laws.

(c) Not engage in conduct that compromises public safety.

(d) Only be authorized to carry a concealed firearm inspected and approved by the Department.

220.6 DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION OF A LEOSA IDENTIFICATION CARD

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

220.7 DENIAL, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION OF A CALIFORNIA CCW ENDORSEMENT CARD

A CCW endorsement for any officer retired from this department may be denied or revoked only upon a showing of good cause. The CCW endorsement may be immediately and temporarily revoked by the Watch Commander when the conduct of a retired peace officer compromises public safety (Penal Code § 25470).

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(a) In the event that a CCW endorsement is initially denied, the retired officer shall have 15 days from the date of denial to request a formal hearing. The failure to submit a timely written request for a hearing shall be deemed a waiver of such right. The hearing, absent written agreement between the parties, shall be held no later than 120 days after the request is received.

(b) Prior to revocation of any CCW endorsement, the Department shall provide the affected retiree with written notice of a hearing by either personal service or first class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the retiree's last known address (Penal Code § 26315).

1. The retiree shall have 15 days from the date of service to file a written request for a hearing.
2. The hearing, absent written agreement between the parties, shall be held no later than 120 days after the request is received (Penal Code § 26315).
3. The failure to submit a timely written request for a hearing shall be deemed a waiver of such right.

(c) A hearing for the denial or revocation of any CCW endorsement shall be conducted before a hearing board composed of three members, one selected by the Department, one selected by the retiree or his/her employee organization, and one selected jointly (Penal Code § 26320).

1. The decision of such hearing board shall be binding on the Department and the retiree.
2. Any retiree who waives the right to a hearing or whose CCW endorsement has been revoked at a hearing shall immediately surrender his/her identification card. The Department will then reissue a new identification card which shall be stamped "No CCW Privilege."

(d) Members who have reason to suspect the conduct of a retiree has compromised public safety shall notify the Watch Commander as soon as practicable. The Watch Commander should promptly take appropriate steps to look into the matter and, if warranted, contact the retiree in person and advise him/her of the temporary suspension and hearing information listed below.

1. Notification of the temporary suspension should also be promptly mailed to the retiree via first class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested (Penal Code § 26312).
2. The Watch Commander should document the investigation, the actions taken and, if applicable, any notification made to the retiree. The memo should be forwarded to the Chief of Police.
3. The personal and written notification should be as follows:
   (a) The retiree's CCW endorsement is immediately and temporarily suspended.
   (b) The retiree has 15 days to request a hearing to determine whether the temporary suspension should become permanent revocation.

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(c) The retiree will forfeit his/her right to a hearing and the CCW endorsement will be permanently revoked if the retiree fails to respond to the notice of hearing within the 15-day period.

4. In the event that personal contact with the retiree cannot be reasonably achieved in a timely manner, the Watch Commander should attempt to make the above notice of temporary suspension through another law enforcement officer. For example, if a retiree was arrested or detained by a distant agency, the Watch Commander may request that a law enforcement officer from that agency act as the agent of the Department to deliver the written notification.

220.8 FIREARM QUALIFICATIONS

The Rangemaster may provide former officers 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.

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RETIREE PURCHASE OF FIREARM

221.1 POLICY AND PROCEDURE

All sworn Westminster Police Department Personnel retiring in good standing will have the option of purchasing their department issued duty firearm (handgun only) at the employee's expense. The Chief of Police and City Manager must provide written approval for such purchases. The PSU Sergeant will determine the fair market value of the firearm to be purchased. This fair market value will be determined by contacting any State of California licensed/certified firearms dealer who will be requested to provide fair market price documentation for the applicable firearm.

The following procedures will be followed concerning a retiree wishing to purchase his/her duty firearm:

Contact The Professional Standards Unit Sergeant to obtain and complete purchase authorization form. Return the purchase authorization form to the PSU Sergeant. PSU Sergeant will provide the form to the PSU Lieutenant who will forward to the Chief of Police via the Chain of Command. Chief of Police will forward the form to the City Manager for approval/denial. Approved/denied form will be returned to the PSU Sergeant by the Chief of Police. PSU Sergeant will contact the requesting retiree and complete the purchase/denial process. This will include the completion of all transfer of ownership documents. PSU Sergeant will obtain and confirm firearm transfer of ownership document from Retiree. PSU Sergeant will obtain PSU Lieutenant's signature on the purchase authorization form. PSU Sergeant will adjust department inventory documents to reflect the purchase, and provide applicable City Hall personnel with completed documents. It will be the responsibility of the retiree to present proof of transfer of ownership to the PSU Sergeant before the purchase is ultimately finalized.

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Chapter 3 - General Operations

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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 (Government Code § 7286).

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

Retaliation prohibitions for reporting suspected violations are addressed in the Anti-Retaliation Policy.

300.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

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

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

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

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

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

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. Officers are involved on a daily basis in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

Officers 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.

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The Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting officers 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 FAIR AND UNBIASED USE OF FORCE
Officers are expected to carry out their duties, including the use of force, in a manner that is fair and unbiased (Government Code § 7286(b)). See the Bias-Based Policing Policy for additional guidance.

300.2.2 DUTY TO INTERCEDE
Any officer present and observing another law enforcement officer or an employee using force that is clearly beyond that which is necessary, as determined by an objectively reasonable officer under the circumstances, shall, when in a position to do so, intercede (as defined by Government Code § 7286) to prevent the use of unreasonable force.

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

300.2.3 FAILURE TO INTERCEDE
An officer who has received the required training on the duty to intercede and then fails to act to intercede when required by law, may be disciplined in the same manner as the officer who used force beyond that which is necessary (Government Code § 7286(b)).

300.2.4 DUTY TO REPORT EXCESSIVE FORCE
Any officer who observes a law enforcement officer or an employee use force that potentially exceeds what the officer reasonably believes to be necessary shall immediately report these observations to a supervisor (Government Code § 7286(b)).

As used in this subsection, "immediately" means as soon as it is safe and feasible to do so.

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

The reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene at the time of the incident. Any evaluation of reasonableness must allow for the fact that officers are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force that reasonably appears necessary in a particular situation, with limited information and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation an officer might encounter, officers are entrusted to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force in each incident. Officers may only use a level of force that they reasonably believe is proportional to

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the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance (Government Code § 7286(b)).

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

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

300.3.1 ALTERNATIVE TACTICS - DE-ESCALATION

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

(a) Summoning additional resources that are able to respond in a reasonably timely manner.

(b) Formulating a plan with responding officers before entering an unstable situation that does not reasonably appear to require immediate intervention.

(c) Employing other tactics that do not unreasonably increase officer jeopardy.

In addition, when reasonable, officers should evaluate the totality of circumstances presented at the time in each situation and, when feasible, consider and utilize reasonably available alternative tactics and techniques that may persuade an individual to voluntarily comply or may mitigate the need to use a higher level of force to resolve the situation before applying force (Government Code § 7286(b)). Such alternatives may include but are not limited to:

(a) Attempts to de-escalate a situation.

(b) If reasonably available, the use of crisis intervention techniques by properly trained personnel.

300.3.2 USE OF FORCE TO EFFECT AN ARREST

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

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300.3.3 FACTORS USED TO DETERMINE THE REASONABLENESS OF FORCE

When determining whether to apply force and evaluating whether an officer has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration, as time and circumstances permit (Government Code § 7286(b)). These factors include but are not limited to:

(a) The apparent immediacy and severity of the threat to officers or others (Penal Code § 835a).

(b) The conduct of the individual being confronted, as reasonably perceived by the officer at the time (Penal Code § 835a).

(c) Officer/subject factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, the number of officers available vs. subjects).

(d) The conduct of the involved officer leading up to the use of force (Penal Code § 835a).

(e) The effects of suspected drugs or alcohol.

(f) The individual's apparent mental state or capacity (Penal Code § 835a).

(g) The individual’s apparent ability to understand and comply with officer commands (Penal Code § 835a).

(h) Proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.

(i) The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and his/her ability to resist despite being restrained.

(j) The availability of other reasonable and feasible options and their possible effectiveness (Penal Code § 835a).

(k) Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual prior to and at the time force is used.

(l) Training and experience of the officer.

(m) Potential for injury to officers, suspects, bystanders, and others.

(n) Whether the person appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the officer.

(o) The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape.

(p) The apparent need for immediate control of the subject or a prompt resolution of the situation.

(q) Whether the conduct of the individual being confronted no longer reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to the officer or others.

(r) Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence.

(s) Any other exigent circumstances.

300.3.4 PAIN COMPLIANCE TECHNIQUES

Pain compliance techniques may be effective in controlling a physically or actively resisting individual. Officers may only apply those pain compliance techniques for which they have

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successfully completed department-approved training. Officers 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 officer.

(c) Whether the person has been given sufficient opportunity to comply.

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

300.3.5 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CAROTID CONTROL HOLD

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

300.3.6 DISTRACTION BLOWS

A distraction blow is defined as an intentional strike by an officer to non-vital areas of a person's body solely for the purpose of momentarily diverting the person's attention to allow officers to gain physical control and restrain the person. The goal of a distraction blow is to avoid the need for greater force should the officer be unable to restrain the person. Kicks shall not be used for this purpose. Distraction blows shall never be used as punishment.

The need to immediately control a suspect must be weighed against the risk of causing serious injury. Vital areas include the head, neck, throat, spine, heart, kidneys and groin area and shall not be intentionally targeted for a distraction blow. Distraction blows should be limited to between one and three blows to non-vital body areas and limited to hand, elbow or knee strikes.

Any distraction blow is a use of force and must be objectively reasonable and reported to an on-duty sergeant or above in accordance with the department's use of force policies.

300.3.7 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF A CHOKE HOLD

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

300.3.8 ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

Terms such as "positional asphyxia," "restraint asphyxia," and "excited delirium" continue to remain the subject of debate among experts and medical professionals, are not universally recognized medical conditions, and frequently involve other collateral or controlling factors such as narcotics or alcohol influence, or pre-existing medical conditions. While it is impractical to restrict an officer's use of reasonable control methods when attempting to restrain a combative individual, officers are not authorized to use any restraint or transportation method which might unreasonably impair

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an individual's breathing or respiratory capacity for a period beyond the point when the individual has been adequately and safely controlled. Once controlled, the individual should be placed into a recovery position (e.g., supine or seated) and monitored for signs of medical distress (Government Code § 7286.5).

300.3.9 USE OF FORCE TO SEIZE EVIDENCE

In general, officers may use reasonable force to lawfully seize evidence and to prevent the destruction of evidence. However, officers are discouraged from using force solely to prevent a person from swallowing evidence or contraband. In the instance when force is used, officers should not intentionally use any technique that restricts blood flow to the head, restricts respiration or which creates a reasonable likelihood that blood flow to the head or respiration would be restricted. Officers are encouraged to use techniques and methods taught by the Westminster Police Department for this specific purpose.

300.4 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS

Where feasible, the officer shall, prior to the use of deadly force, make reasonable efforts to identify him/herself as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts (Penal Code 835a).

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

The use of deadly force is only justified when the officer reasonably believes it is necessary in the following circumstances (Penal Code § 835a):

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

(b) An officer may use deadly force to apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended.

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

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

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300.4.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES

Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective and may involve additional considerations and risks. When feasible, officers should take reasonable steps to move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants. An officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the imminent threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the officer or others (Government Code § 7286(b)).

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

300.4.2 DISPLAYING OF FIREARMS

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

(a) If the officer does not initially perceive a threat but reasonably believes that the potential for such threat exists, firearms should generally be kept in the low-ready or other position not directed toward an individual.

(b) If the officer reasonably believes that a threat exists based on the totality of circumstances presented at the time (e.g., high-risk stop, tactical entry, armed encounter), firearms may be directed toward such threat until the officer no longer perceives such threat.

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

300.5 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE

Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely, and accurately in an appropriate report, depending on the nature of the incident. The officer 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. See the Report Preparation Policy for additional circumstances that may require documentation.

300.5.1 NOTIFICATION TO SUPERVISORS

Supervisory notification shall be made by any officer who has used force or by any officer who has witnessed the use of force including force by other police agencies, as soon as practicable following the application of force in any of the following circumstances:

(a) Level 1:

1. The application caused a visible injury.
2. The application would lead a reasonable officer to conclude that the individual may have experienced more than momentary discomfort.
3. The individual subjected to the force complained of injury or continuing pain.

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4. The individual indicates intent to pursue litigation.
5. Any application of a TASER device or control device.
6. Any application of a restraint device other than handcuffs, shackles or belly chains.
7. The individual subjected to the force was rendered unconscious.
8. An individual was struck or kicked.
9. An individual alleges any of the above has occurred.

(b) Level 2:

1. Any resisted control hold technique (e.g., wrist lock, arm bar), leg sweep or takedown.

This does not include when a subject allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed or restrained.

300.5.2 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

300.6 MEDICAL CONSIDERATION

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

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

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

The on-scene supervisor or, if the on-scene supervisor is not available, the primary handling officer 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 officer reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the subject (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

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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 officers to be brought under control, may be at an increased risk of sudden death. Calls involving these persons should be considered medical emergencies. Officers who reasonably suspect a medical emergency should request medical assistance as soon as practicable and have medical personnel stage away if appropriate.

See the Medical Aid and Response Policy for additional guidelines.

300.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

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

(a) Obtain the basic facts from the involved officers. Absent an allegation of misconduct or excessive force, this will be considered a routine contact in the normal course of duties.

(b) Ensure that any injured parties are examined and treated.

(c) When possible, separately obtain a recorded interview with the subject upon whom force was applied. If this interview is conducted without the person having voluntarily waived his/her *Miranda* rights, the following shall apply:

1. The content of the interview should not be summarized or included in any related criminal charges.
2. The fact that a recorded interview was conducted should be documented in a property or other report.
3. The recording of the interview should be distinctly marked for retention until all potential for civil litigation has expired.

(d) Once any initial medical assessment has been completed or first aid has been rendered, ensure that photographs have been taken of any areas involving visible injury or complaint of pain, as well as overall photographs of uninjured areas. These photographs should be retained until all potential for civil litigation has expired.

(e) Identify any witnesses not already included in related reports.

(f) Review and approve all related reports.

(g) Determine if there is any indication that the subject may pursue civil litigation.

1. If there is an indication of potential civil litigation, the supervisor should 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.

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

300.7.1 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY
The Watch Commander shall review each use of force by any personnel within his/her command to ensure compliance with this policy.

300.8 USE OF FORCE COMPLAINTS

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

300.9 TRAINING

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

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

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

(a) Guidelines regarding vulnerable populations, including but not limited to children, elderly persons, pregnant individuals, and individuals with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities.

(b) Training courses required by and consistent with POST guidelines set forth in Penal Code § 13519.10.

See the Training Policy for restrictions relating to [officers/deputies] who are the subject of a sustained use of force complaint.

300.10 FORCE REVIEW BOARD/TACTICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Westminster Police Department is charged with the important responsibility of objectively evaluating the use of force. It is the policy of this department to convene a Use of Force Review Board when the use of force by an employee results in serious injury or death to a person.

The Use of Force Review Board will be comprised of the Deputy Chief, the Commander of PSU, a Patrol Commander, the PSU Sergeant, and one of the Department's Use of Force instructors.

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

The Chief of Police or his or her designee will convene the Use of Force Review Board/Tactical Review Committee to investigate the circumstances surrounding any use of force incident which results in very serious injury or death to another.

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The Use of Force Review Board may also be convened at the discretion of the Chief of Police in any case he or she deems necessary.

The Use of Force Review Board should consider if there were issues of policy, training, equipment, or supervision that should be addressed.

The conclusions of the Review Board and Command Staff should be discussed with the involved officers and on-scene supervisors to inform them about whether the force was in policy and make recommendations about the option of debriefing the incident to the Department as a whole.

300.11 POLICY REVIEW

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

300.12 POLICY AVAILABILITY

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

300.13 PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

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

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Early Identification System

301.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended to assist police supervisors and managers in identifying officers and other employees whose performance warrants review and, where appropriate, intervention in circumstances that may have negative consequences for the employee, fellow employees, this agency or the public.

301.2 DEFINITION

An Early Intervention (EI) system is a data-based management tool designed to identify officers whose performance exhibits problems, and then to provide interventions, usually counseling or training, to correct those performance problems. The goal of the system is to correct the performance of officers who appear to be having performance problems.

An Early Intervention system consists of five basic components: performance indicators, identification, selection, intervention, and post-intervention monitoring.

301.2.1 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance indicators: The performance indicators involve those aspects of officer performance that are the subject of official departmental reports and are entered into an EI system database (IA Pro). The department will assess the following performance indicators:

a. Complaints

b. Use of Force incidents

c. Pursuits

d. Vehicle collisions

e. Civil suits or claims for damages where the officer is named

f. Number of arrests for obstructing, resisting arrest, or hindering a law enforcement officer

g. Supervisory recommendation

301.2.2 IDENTIFICATION

Identification: The Professional Standards Unit (PSU) lieutenant shall be responsible for maintaining the data and identifying employees who have met a threshold of incidents for participation in the EI program. The PSU shall use the department's IA Pro database system to identify officers who have met the following thresholds.

a. Three or more complaints of misconduct during the prior year that have been sustained or not-sustained.

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b. Five or more complaints of misconduct during the last three years that have been sustained or not-sustained.

c. Two or more pursuits in the last year.

d. Five or more pursuits in the last three years.

e. Two or more at-fault vehicle collisions in the last year.

f. Five or more at-fault vehicle collisions in the last three years.

g. Two or more civil lawsuits or claims for damages in the last year.

h. Five or more civil lawsuits or claims for damages in the last three years.

i. Any combination of five or more of any of the performance indicators in the last year.

j. Any combination of seven or more of any of the performance indicators in the last three years.

301.2.3 SELECTION

Selection: The PSU lieutenant shall review the performance indicators for any officer that has been identified as meeting any of the above thresholds.

a. The lieutenant shall screen the employees for selection into the EI program. The following are the potential outcomes of the PSU lieutenant's review:

1. Conclusion that the employee's actions do not warrant immediate need for corrective action.

2. Requiring the employee to participate in department authorized training, targeting personal or professional problems that the officer may be facing (e.g., communications, cultural awareness, coping with stress, anger management).

3. In all cases, the employee and the employee's direct supervisor and manager shall be notified that the employee has met the department's thresholds for identification.

301.2.4 INTERVENTION

Intervention:

a. The EI system is non-disciplinary and the intervention strategies should be designed to improve the employee's performance.

b. The following items, or a combination of these items should be considered:

1. Supervisor counseling

2. Peer counseling

3. Training

4. Referral to an Employee Assistance Program

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301.2.5 POST-INTERVENTION MONITORING

Post-Intervention Monitoring

a. Following an official intervention, supervisors need to follow-up by monitoring the performance of an officer for a minimum of six months.

301.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) Professional Standards Supervisor:

a. Develop, implement, and administer the Early Intervention Program.

(a) Generate the following reports:

(a) Quarterly summary report to the Chief of Police identifying individual police personnel who exceed the established threshold of incidents including. This report will provide a brief summary of complaints, uses-of-force incidents and/or performance indicators and their respective dispositions during the previous three-year period.

(b) On-going notification to respective supervisors regarding specific employees who exceed established thresholds of incidents when findings are sustained, or not sustained. This report will provide a brief summary of complaints, use-of-force incidents, pursuit data, and/or performance indicators and their respective dispositions during the previous three-year period. The report is intended to assist supervisory personnel evaluate and guide personnel under their command. The report alone shall not form the basis for any action.

(c) Annual evaluation of the Early Intervention Program regarding its effectiveness in the identification of employees in need of intervention, the ability of the program to increase department accountability to the public, and the ability of the program to offer employees a better opportunity to meet the department's values and mission statement.

(a) The evaluation:

(a) Will include a review of established thresholds to ensure they are reasonable as compared to historical norms of agency personnel functioning in the same or similar assignments.

(b) Must contain a statement of the number of incidents or combination of types of incidents and activities considered to be the threshold indicating a need for intervention.

(c) Will be completed each January, and is based on the previous calendar year.

(d) Maintain appropriate documentation related to personnel identification through the Early Intervention Program and their response or progress toward recommended actions.

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(e) Other reports as directed by the Chief of Police.

2. Supervisors:

(a) Meet with the identified employee and discuss the threshold criteria and any other relevant circumstances, and

(a) Explain the purpose and process of an EIS review.

(b) Discuss the factors leading to the review.

(c) Attempt to identify any causes that may have led to the review.

(b) Meet with their (supervisors) commander to discuss the notification report and other relevant information and determine if corrective actions are warranted.

(c) Complete a memo within 30 days summarizing recommended action and justification for such recommendations. The memo shall be forwarded to the subject employee's Commander through the chain of command, for their review and approval. Copies will be forwarded to the Professional Standards Lieutenant and the Chief of Police.

(d) Upon the Commander's approval, implement the recommended action plan by notifying the subject employee.

(e) Monitor and formally report on the progress of the subject employee in complying with the recommended action plan. Required reporting intervals shall be established by the Commander.

(f) Include copies of documentation regarding an employee's involvement in the Early Intervention Program in the employee's personnel file.

3. Chief of Police

(a) Review and approve/disapprove recommended actions submitted by supervisory personnel.

(b) Review reports on employee progress toward compliance with recommended actions.

(c) Establish a reasonable program threshold prompting supervisory involvement.

4. Employee

(a) Once an employee has been identified by the Early Intervention Program and has been notified by their supervisor, the employee will cooperate with the supervisor and/or Professional Standards personnel in identifying reasons for and resolutions to departmental concerns regarding the employee's actions.

(b) Follow the agreed upon plan of action to completion.

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Audit, Controls, and Inspections

303.1 PURPOSE

To establish a formalized process by which the systems and units of the Department will conduct annual or other periodic inspections or audits to ensure compliance with established policies, procedures and orders.

303.2 DEPARTMENT-WIDE CONTROLS

a. Driver License – Status Checks (All Personnel): The City Human Resources Department receives automated driver license status reports from the California Department of Motor Vehicles on all city employees. Any noted deficiencies (i.e., suspensions, expirations etc.) will be forwarded to the Professional Standards Unit for correction.

b. Domestic Violence Firearm Restrictions/Criminal History (Police Officers): The automated Criminal History System (CHS) will notify the police department of any entry into an Officer's record, which may affect his/her ability to perform the duties of a police officer. Entries such as, but not limited to, a firearm restriction resulting from a domestic violence incident or criminal behavior will be forwarded to the Department for review. The information received will be sent to the employee's Commander and to the Professional Standards Unit. The automated reporting by the state does not absolve the employee from the requirement to notify the Department of the conduct or any court imposed restriction, immediately upon learning about it.

c. Computer Queries (CHS, DMV, Department Database (All Personnel): Criminal History and Department of Motor Vehicles inquiries are currently audited annually by the Department of Justice in conjunction with the Westminster Police Department. In the event a suspicion or concern should arise in the use of the Intra-Department database, specific inquiries are handled on a case-by-case basis. Unresolved audit issues, in any automated system, are referred to the Professional Standards Unit.

d. Workplace Inspections: The Professional Standards Unit will conduct workplace inspections at a minimum of twice yearly. The inspections are to be documented and this documentation is retained in the Professional Standards Unit. Managers and supervisors are expected to conduct workplace inspections routinely during the course of their duties.

e. Petty Cash Audits: The Professional Standards Unit shall audit the petty cash funds maintained by the petty cash custodians at least twice per year.

f. Cellular/Work Station Telephones: Managers/Supervisors shall monitor and review the telephone usage by those who have phones assigned to them. Telephone bills will be sent from finance directly to the Professional Standards Unit for distribution and review by Department personnel. Reimbursement to the City for personal phone calls, including text messaging, is the sole responsibility of the involved employee.

g. Payroll Sheets, Overtime, and Time-Off Requests: The audit and inspection of these operations is critical for the reduction of inaccurate payroll sheets (time sheets), overtime usage, and

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conflicting time-off requests. The audit and inspection of overtime, payroll sheets and time off requests by Department employees is conducted on a daily basis by their immediate supervisor.

The supervisor or his/her designee shall complete payroll sheets. Each employee shall review his/her electronic payroll sheet and then provide an electronic signature. The supervisor or his/her designee will then make a final review of the payroll sheets. The review shall be verified with the supervisor's electronic signature prior to submission to payroll. It is necessary to ensure that each payroll-related transaction is correct.

Overtime requests shall be granted only with the approval of the supervisor or his/her designee. While it is normally a sergeant's responsibility to monitor his or her assigned shift, the monthly analysis of leave usage and overtime expenditures is the responsibility of the employee's Commander.

Time-off requests shall be granted only with the approval of the supervisor or his/her designee.

Command staff members shall be apprised of any questions or inaccuracies regarding the time sheets, overtime compensation or concerns about time off requests.

h. Work Schedules: The audit and inspection of the work schedule for employees of this Department shall be the responsibility of their immediate supervisor. Only the supervisor or his/her designee shall make modifications or adjustments to the work schedule. The supervisor shall apprise the appropriate Commander of modifications to the normal work unit schedules.

i. Personnel Records: Annual audit of personnel background investigation and training records. The Professional Standards Unit shall be responsible to audit these files and are responsible to ensure that every officer is meeting or exceeding all training mandates. This audit may also be conducted by the California Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST).

j. Digital Recorders: Digital recorders shall be audited semi-annually by the Professional Standards Unit. The audit will include a review to ensure that recordings that are indicated as being booked on reports have been downloaded, that a random number of officers' field contacts (e.g., traffic stops) be audited to determine if recording were made and downloaded, and a random number of officers' recording devices will be audited to determine if the device is operable and being used in accordance with department policies.

k. Lexipol: The Professional Standards Unit will conduct an audit at least semi-annually to determine if officers have received and acknowledged new department policies through the Lexipol system. The audit will also review the officer's training log to ensure that they have completed department required Lexipol training.

l. Firearms: The Professional Standards Unit will conduct an annual audit of all department firearms. The audit will require inspection of all department firearms including: handguns; shotguns; and rifles. The audit will also include use of force devices including: Tasers; beanbag shotguns; and 40mm projectiles.

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303.3 PATROL

a. Uniforms and Personal Equipment: The Westminster Police Department prides itself on the professionalism of its employees. Uniform and equipment inspections are necessary to ensure the standards and professional image to the public are maintained. Supervisors shall:

(a) Conduct regular inspections of all field personnel uniforms and equipment.

(b) Conduct work area inspections.

b. Field Personnel Activities: The below listed audits and inspections are supervised by the Commanders and Sergeants to ensure the duties of field personnel are being conducted in accordance with Department policies.

1. Work productivity: Review work product using Department automated systems, such as CAD, RMS, etc.;

2. Arrest approval: Approval on a “case-by-case” basis of arrests made by probationary officers, both lateral and entry level.

3. Court filings: The Investigative Commander should review all court filings and forward all cases that have been rejected by the District Attorney’s Office for review by the arresting officer’s Commander.

4. MDC messages: Twice a year the Professional Standards Unit will review a random selection of Mobile Data Computer (MDC) messages for employee to ensure compliance with Department policy. The Professional Standards Unit will maintain a log documenting these audits.

5. Supervisor Follow-up Cards: To insure their employee's are providing quality customer service, patrol sergeants are required to complete one supervisor follow-up card each month for each of their assigned officers. The cards will be forwarded to the Area Commander, then to administration.

c. Patrol Vehicles: The below listed audits and inspections are the shared responsibility of the Commanders, and Sergeants. The purpose is to ensure that each vehicle in the patrol fleet, and its equipment, is being maintained to meet the needs of the Department.

1. Equipment logs: It is the employee’s responsibility to report all equipment problems or malfunctions.

2. Vehicle Equipment: Ensure that employees are conducting inventories of vehicle equipment. Field Personnel using expendable supplies will contact their supervisor, to arrange for replacement supplies. Vehicle equipment includes safety supplies, the Mobile Data Computer, Mobile Video System, GPS system, and any other Department-installed aftermarket device. Any employee who alters, disconnects or attempts to circumvent, damage or alter the MVS or AVL, or GPS to override, avoid, or alter these systems in any way may be subject to disciplinary action.

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3. Vehicle Damage Log: Closely monitor the entries and signature page of the Vehicle Damage Log.

303.4 TRAFFIC

a. Motorcycles: The Traffic Sergeant and motor officers are responsible to inspect the department motorcycles on an ongoing basis to ensure that all appropriate equipment is maintained on the motorcycle, that it is being maintained in a clean and operable manner and if there are any mechanical issues that the motorcycle be taken for service.

b. Traffic Equipment: The Traffic Sergeant is responsible for ongoing inspections of all equipment assigned to the Traffic Unit including: all measuring systems; call-out equipment for traffic collision investigations; and any other equipment that may be assigned to the Traffic Unit.

303.5 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

a. Buy Money, Flash Money, and Asset Seizures: The maintenance of the “buy money” and “flash money” fund is the immediate responsibility of the Specialized Investigations Sergeant. Any discrepancies in the “buy money” or “flash money” fund will be immediately reported to the Professional Standards Unit and the Investigation Division Commander. The audit and inspections of “buy money” and “flash money” fund shall be the primary responsibility of the Professional Standards Unit. The Professional Standards Unit shall audit the “buy money” and “flash money” on a semi-annual basis or whenever there is a transfer of the Investigations Commander or Specialized Investigations Sergeant.

The maintenance of the asset seizures logs shall be the primary responsibility of the Specialized Investigations Unit Sergeant. The Professional Standards Unit shall audit the asset seizure accounts on an annual basis.

b. Criminal Investigation Division Vehicles: The respective Sergeant or his or her designee will conduct monthly inspection of all vehicles assigned to the various sections of the Criminal Investigation Division. Reports of damage, excessive wear, or other unsafe conditions will be immediately reported to the Criminal Investigation Commander.

c. Confidential Informant Files: The Professional Standards Unit will conduct an annual audit of the Department’s confidential informant files to ensure that the files are complete and that any recommendation letter is consistent with the efforts expended by the informant.

d. Asset Forfeiture Files: The Professional Standards Unit will conduct an annual audit of the Department’s asset forfeiture files to ensure the file is complete, accurate and that the forfeited item has been secured appropriately.

e. Intelligence Files: The Professional Standards Unit will conduct an annual audit to ensure that any intelligence files are maintained in accordance with state and federal law.

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303.6 POLICE FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

Employees observing a problem in the building should immediately report it to the Building Maintenance Supervisor. Emergency conditions or repairs requiring immediate attention will be reported to the Commander/Sergeant, who will make the appropriate notifications. General cleaning and janitorial services are on a contractual basis with an outside company.

a. Public Areas: The janitorial service shall continue to clean these areas. The Professional Standards Unit sergeant shall conduct random inspections of these areas to ensure proper service levels are being met.

b. Briefing Room: The sergeant conducting briefing is responsible for ensuring that each shift keeps the briefing room clean and orderly. When the briefing room is used for purposes other than briefing, it is the responsibility of the person conducting the function to ensure the room is clean and orderly at the end of the function.

c. Report Writing Area: Patrol Sergeants are responsible for daily inspections of the report writing area. Each Sergeant shall check the area at the end of his or her watch to ensure the report writing area is left in a clean and orderly manner.

d. Locker Rooms: Patrol Sergeants shall check the locker room for cleanliness. Department personnel are expected to keep their lockers and overhead storage bins clean and orderly.

e. Department Refrigerators : The lieutenant in charge of each division shall have the responsibility to inspect the refrigerators monthly. All items without a date or that have been in the refrigerator for a period exceeding one month will be discarded.

f. Individual Work Areas: Individual employees are responsible for maintaining their work areas in a neat and clean condition. The janitorial service will perform general cleaning such as trash removal and vacuuming. The individual employees, using Department supplies, are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of their own desks. Supervisors who are assigned personnel with work areas in the police facility will inspect those common areas on a regular basis.

Department managers and supervisors have the responsibility and obligation to enforce a zero tolerance harassment and discrimination policy during the course of these regular inspections.

303.7 PROPERTY

A property audit is conducted on an annual basis by the Professional Standards Unit. At least fifty items of booked property will be selected at random for inspection. Verification will be made that the item selected is in fact the same item as described and/or of the same measure as when originally booked. The associated written paperwork will be checked, as will the computer/tracking/ accounting information, for completeness and accuracy. The selected items will emphasize items of high value and will include drugs/narcotics, money and firearms. A report of the findings will be forwarded to the Chief of Police for review and determination of any corrective measures.

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303.8 ANIMAL SERVICES

The Office of Professional Standards shall conduct an annual audit of the inventory, distribution and use of controlled substances provided by the Department-sanctioned veterinarian.

303.9 CANINE UNIT

The Professional Standards Unit shall conduct an annual audit of the inventory and use of controlled substances used for training of police canines. The canine supervisor shall conduct an annual inspection of the canines' kennel maintained at the home of the canine officer.

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Handcuffing and Restraints

306.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

306.2 POLICY

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

306.3 USE OF RESTRAINTS

Only members who have successfully completed Westminster Police Department-approved training on the use of restraint devices described in this policy are authorized to use these devices.

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

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

306.3.1 RESTRAINT OF DETAINEES

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

306.3.2 RESTRAINT OF PREGNANT PERSONS

Upon confirmation of an inmate’s pregnancy, she shall be advised, orally or in writing, of the standards and policies governing pregnant inmates.

Persons who are known to be pregnant should be restrained in the least restrictive manner that is effective for officer safety. Leg irons, waist chains, or handcuffs behind the body should not be used unless the officer has a reasonable suspicion that the person may resist, attempt escape, injure self or others, or damage property.

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No person who is in labor, delivery, or recovery after delivery shall be handcuffed or restrained except in extraordinary circumstances and only when a supervisor makes an individualized determination that such restraints are necessary for the safety of the arrestee, officers, or others (Penal Code § 3407; Penal Code § 6030).

306.3.3 RESTRAINT OF JUVENILES

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

306.3.4 NOTIFICATIONS

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

306.4 APPLICATION OF HANDCUFFS OR PLASTIC CUFFS

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

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

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

In situations where one pair of handcuffs does not appear sufficient to restrain the person or may cause unreasonable discomfort due to the person's size, officers 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/protective helmets are temporary protective devices designed to prevent the wearer from biting and/or transferring or transmitting fluids (saliva and mucous) to others. Protective helmets are designed to aid in protecting the wearer from self inflicting injuries by impacting upper extremities into objects (such as unit screens, windows, doors, etc.).

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Spit hoods may be placed upon persons in custody when the officer 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.

Officers 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. Officers should provide assistance during the movement of restrained individuals due to the potential for impaired or distorted vision on the part of the individual. Officers should avoid comingling individuals wearing spit hoods with other detainees.

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

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

Protective helmets may be placed upon persons in custody when the officer reasonably believes the person has, will, or will attempt to inflict self injury, either on another person, fixed object, or in any other place such as the jail or other detention location where self injury may be or is suspected. They are generally used during application of a physical restraint, while the person is restrained, or during or after transport. Officers utilizing protective helmets should ensure that it is fastened properly to allow for adequate fit and that the restrained person can breathe normally. Officers should provide assistance during the movement of restrained individuals due to the potential for impaired or distorted vision on the part of the individual. Officers should avoid comingling individuals wearing protective helmets with other detainees.

Protective helmets should not be used in situations where the restrained person has a head or neck injury, 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. Persons who have been sprayed with oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray should be thoroughly decontaminated including hair, head and clothing prior to application of a protective helmet.

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.

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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, officers should consider:

(a) Whether the officer or others could be exposed to injury due to the assaultive or resistant behavior of a person.

(b) Whether it is reasonably necessary to protect the person from his/her own actions (e.g., hitting his/her head against the interior of the patrol vehicle, running away from the arresting officer while handcuffed, kicking at objects or officers).

(c) Whether it is reasonably necessary to avoid damage to property (e.g., kicking at windows of the patrol vehicle).

306.7.1 GUIDELINES FOR USE OF LEG RESTRAINTS

When applying leg restraints, the following guidelines should be followed:

(a) If practicable, officers 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 officer arrives at the jail or other facility or the person no longer reasonably appears to pose a threat.

(c) Once secured, the person should be placed in a seated or upright position, secured with a seat belt, and shall not be placed on his/her stomach for an extended period, as this could reduce the person’s ability to breathe.

(d) The restrained person should be continually monitored by an officer while in the leg restraint. The officer should ensure that the person does not roll onto and remain on his/her stomach.

(e) The officer should look for signs of labored breathing and take appropriate steps to relieve and minimize any obvious factors contributing to this condition.

(f) When transported by emergency medical services, the restrained person should be accompanied by an officer when requested by medical personnel. The transporting officer should describe to medical personnel any unusual behaviors or other circumstances the officer reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the person (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

306.8 REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

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

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

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

(a) The factors that led to the decision to use restraints.

(b) Supervisor notification and approval of restraint use.

(c) The types of restraint used.

(d) The amount of time the person was restrained.

(e) How the person was transported and the position of the person during transport.

(f) Observations of the person's behavior and any signs of physiological problems.

(g) Any known or suspected drug use or other medical problems.

306.9 TRAINING

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

(a) Proper placement and fit of handcuffs and other restraint devices approved for use by the Department.

(b) Response to complaints of pain by restrained persons.

(c) Options for restraining those who may be pregnant without the use of leg irons, waist chains, or handcuffs behind the body.

(d) Options for restraining amputees or those with medical conditions or other physical conditions that may be aggravated by being restrained.

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Control Devices and Techniques

307.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

307.2 POLICY

In order to control subjects who are violent or who demonstrate the intent to be violent, the Westminster Police Department authorizes officers to use control devices in accordance with the guidelines in this policy and the Use of Force Policy.

307.3 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 Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

Only officers 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, officers should carefully consider potential impact areas in order to minimize injuries and unintentional targets.

307.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

307.4.1 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Watch Commander shall monitor the use of control devices in the same manner as all other use of force incidents.

(a) Any supervisor may authorize the use of a control device by selected personnel or members of specialized units provided the person(s) authorized has/have the required training. The request for a control device should be made through the Watch Commander or Field Supervisor.

(b) Lieutenants shall review each use of control devices by any personnel within his or her command.

(c) The Training Sergeant shall ensure training on the use of control devices is provided as needed.

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307.4.2 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.

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

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. An administrative report shall also be prepared and forwarded through the chain of command, when appropriate, explaining the cause of damage.

307.5 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 officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer 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.

307.5.1 USE OF KINETIC ENERGY PROJECTILES BY SWAT
Officers assigned to the Crisis Response Unit, who have completed a departmental training course may carry and employ 12 gauge or 37/40 mm projectiles while on duty or while performing Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) missions.

307.6 TEAR GAS GUIDELINES
Tear gas may be used for crowd control, crowd dispersal or against barricaded suspects based on the circumstances. Only the Watch Commander, Incident Commander or West County SWAT 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.

307.7 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,

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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.

307.7.1 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.

307.7.2 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 officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.

Officers 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.

307.7.3 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.

307.8 POST-APPLICATION NOTICE

Whenever tear gas or OC has been introduced into a residence, building interior, vehicle or other enclosed area, officers 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.

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307.9 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.

307.9.1 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.

Officers are not required or compelled to use approved munitions in lieu of other reasonable tactics if the involved officer determines that deployment of these munitions cannot be done safely. The safety of hostages, innocent persons and officers 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.

(c) The suspect is engaged in riotous behavior or is throwing rocks, bottles or other dangerous projectiles at people and/or officers.

(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.

307.9.2 DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Before discharging projectiles, the officer 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 officers 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 officers and individuals that the device is being deployed.

Officers should keep in mind the manufacturer’s recommendations and their training regarding effective distances and target areas. However, officers are not restricted solely to use according to

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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 officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.

307.9.3 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.

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

Absent compelling circumstances, officers 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 officer watches the unloading and loading process to ensure that the weapon is completely emptied of conventional ammunition.

307.10 TRAINING FOR CONTROL DEVICES

The Training Sergeant 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 officer's training file.

(c) Officers 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 an officer cannot demonstrate proficiency with a control device or knowledge of this agency's Use of Force Policy after remedial training, the officer will be restricted from carrying the control device and may be subject to discipline.

307.11 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.

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Conducted Energy Device

308.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

308.2 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 officers and suspects.

308.3 ISSUANCE AND CARRYING TASER DEVICES

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

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

Officers shall only use the TASER device and cartridges that have been issued by the Department. Uniformed officers who have been issued the TASER device shall wear the device in an approved holster on their person. Non-uniformed officers 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 officers 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, officers should carry two or more cartridges on their person when carrying the TASER device.

(c) Officers shall be responsible for ensuring that their issued TASER device is properly maintained and in good working order.

(d) Officers should not hold both a firearm and the TASER device at the same time.

308.4 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 officers 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 officers and individuals with a warning that the TASER device may be deployed.

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If, after a verbal warning, an individual is unwilling to voluntarily comply with an officer's lawful orders and it appears both reasonable and feasible under the circumstances, the officer 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 officer deploying the TASER device in the related report.

308.5 USE OF THE TASER DEVICE

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

308.5.1 APPLICATION OF THE TASER DEVICE

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

(a) The subject is violent or is physically resisting.

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

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

308.5.2 SPECIAL DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS

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

(a) Individuals who are known to be pregnant.

(b) Elderly individuals or obvious juveniles.

(c) Individuals with obviously low body mass.

(d) Individuals who are handcuffed or otherwise restrained.

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(e) Individuals who have been recently sprayed with a flammable chemical agent or who are otherwise in close proximity to any known combustible vapor or flammable material, including alcohol-based oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray.

(f) Individuals whose position or activity may result in collateral injury (e.g., falls from height, operating vehicles).

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

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

308.5.3 TARGETING CONSIDERATIONS

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

308.5.4 MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE TASER DEVICE

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

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

(a) Whether the probes are making proper contact.

(b) Whether the individual has the ability and has been given a reasonable opportunity to comply.

(c) Whether verbal commands, other options or tactics may be more effective.

Officers should generally not intentionally apply more than one TASER device at a time against a single subject. Generally, officers are prohibited from delivering more than 3 Taser applications with darts or drive stuns to a subject. Officers are also strongly discouraged from prolonged Taser applications (those that extend past the standard five second deployment) unless extreme circumstances exist that justify such an extended application.

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308.5.5 ACTIONS FOLLOWING DEPLOYMENTS
Officers shall notify a supervisor of all TASER device discharges. Confetti tags should be collected and the expended cartridge, along with both probes and wire, should be submitted into evidence. The cartridge serial number should be noted and documented on the evidence paperwork. The evidence packaging should be marked "Biohazard" if the probes penetrated the subject's skin.

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

308.5.7 OFF-DUTY CONSIDERATIONS
Officers are not authorized to carry department TASER devices while off-duty.

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

308.6 DOCUMENTATION
Officers 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.

308.6.1 TASER DEVICE 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 officers sustained any injuries.

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The Training Sergeant should periodically analyze the report forms to identify trends, including deterrence and effectiveness. The Training Sergeant 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.

308.6.2 REPORTS

The officer 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

308.7 MEDICAL TREATMENT

Consistent with local medical personnel protocols and absent extenuating circumstances, only appropriate medical personnel should remove TASER device probes from a person's body. Used TASER device probes shall be treated as a sharps biohazard, similar to a used hypodermic needle, and handled appropriately. Universal precautions should be taken.

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

(a) The person is suspected of being under the influence of controlled substances and/or alcohol.

(b) The person may be pregnant.

(c) The person reasonably appears to be in need of medical attention.

(d) The TASER device probes are lodged in a sensitive area (e.g., groin, female breast, head, face, neck).

(e) The person requests medical treatment.

Any individual exhibiting signs of distress or who is exposed to multiple or prolonged applications (i.e., more than 15 seconds) shall be transported to a medical facility for examination or medically evaluated prior to booking. If any individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal should be witnessed by another officer 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.

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

308.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

308.9 TRAINING

Personnel who are authorized to carry the TASER device shall be permitted to do so only after successfully completing the initial department-approved training. 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 an officer's knowledge and/or practical skill may be required at any time if deemed appropriate by the Training Sergeant. All training and proficiency for TASER devices will be documented in the officer's training file.

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

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

The Training Sergeant 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 Sergeant 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.

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(e) Handcuffing a subject during the application of the TASER device and transitioning to other force options.

(f) De-escalation techniques.

(g) Restraint techniques that do not impair respiration following the application of the TASER device.

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Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths

309.1 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 an officer.

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

309.2 POLICY

The policy of the Westminster Police Department is to ensure that officer-involved shootings and deaths are investigated in a thorough, fair and impartial manner.

309.3 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 actions.
- An administrative investigation as to policy compliance by involved officers.
- A civil investigation to determine potential liability.

309.4 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.

309.4.1 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 Westminster Police Department would control the investigation if the suspect's crime occurred in Westminster.

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 Chief of Police and with concurrence from the other agency.

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309.4.2 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF OFFICER ACTIONS

The control of the criminal investigation into the involved officer's conduct during the incident will be determined by the employing agency's protocol. When an officer 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 Chief of Police or the authorized designee for approval.

309.4.3 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.

309.5 INVESTIGATION PROCESS

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

309.5.1 UNINVOLVED OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon arrival at the scene of an officer-involved shooting, the first uninvolved WPD officer will be the officer-in-charge and will assume the responsibilities of a supervisor until properly relieved. This officer 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.

309.5.2 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon learning of an officer-involved shooting or death, the Watch Commander shall be responsible for coordinating all aspects of the incident until he/she is relieved by the Chief of Police or a Commander.

All outside inquiries about the incident shall be directed to the Watch Commander.

309.5.3 NOTIFICATIONS

The following person(s) shall be notified as soon as practicable:

- Area Commander (first if practicable)
- Chief of Police
- Detective Commander
- Officer-Involved Shooting Protocol rollout team

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- Outside agency investigator (if appropriate)
- Professional Standards Unit supervisor
- Civil liability response team
- Psychological/peer support personnel
- Chaplain
- Coroner (if necessary)
- Involved officer's agency representative (if requested)
- Public Information Officer

309.5.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon arrival at the scene, the first uninvolved WPD 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 WPD officer 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.

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 Watch Commander and Dispatch. If feasible, sensitive information should be communicated over secure networks.

(d) Take command of and secure the incident scene with additional WPD 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 WPD officer should be given an administrative order not to discuss the incident with other involved officers or WPD 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 officers.

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309.5.5 NOTIFICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The California Department of Justice (DOJ) is required to investigate an officer-involved shooting resulting in the death of an unarmed civilian. The Watch Commander should promptly notify the DOJ in all incidents involving an officer-involved shooting resulting in the death of an unarmed civilian, including where it is undetermined if the civilian was unarmed.

For purposes of notification, “unarmed civilian” means anyone who is not in possession of a deadly weapon (Government Code § 12525.3).

309.5.6 INVOLVED OFFICERS

The following shall be considered for the involved officer:

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

  1. Involved WPD officers 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-WPD 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 (Government Code § 3303(i)).

(d) A licensed psychotherapist shall be provided by the Department to each involved WPD officer. A licensed psychotherapist may also be provided to any other affected WPD 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) Peer counselors are cautioned against discussing the facts of any incident with an involved or witness officer (Government Code § 8669.4).

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 WPD officer shall be given reasonable paid administrative leave following an officer-involved shooting or death. It shall be the responsibility of the Watch Commander to make schedule adjustments to accommodate such leave.

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309.6 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

The District Attorney'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 District Attorney'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) WPD supervisors and Professional Standards Unit personnel should not participate directly in any voluntary interview of WPD officers. This will not prohibit such personnel from monitoring interviews or providing the criminal investigators with topics for inquiry.

(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 (Government Code § 3303(i)). However, in order to maintain the integrity of each involved officer’s statement, involved officers 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.

309.6.1 REPORTS BY INVOLVED WPD OFFICERS

In the event that suspects remain outstanding or subject to prosecution for related offenses, this department shall retain the authority to require involved WPD officers to provide sufficient information for related criminal reports to facilitate the apprehension and prosecution of those individuals (Government Code § 3304(a)).

While the involved WPD officer 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 WPD officer of the right to consult with legal counsel prior to completing any such criminal report.

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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.

309.6.2 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 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 cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, officers should attempt to identify the witness prior to his/her departure.

(b) Witnesses who are willing to provide a formal interview should be asked to meet at a suitable location where criminal investigators may obtain a recorded statement. Such witnesses, if willing, may be transported by 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.

309.6.3 INVESTIGATIVE PERSONNEL

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

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

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309.7 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 WPD officers to determine conformance with department policy. The investigation will be conducted under the supervision of the Professional Standards Unit and will be considered a confidential officer personnel file.

Interviews of members shall be subject to department policies and applicable laws (see the Personnel Complaints Policy).

(a) Any officer 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 officer, such compelled samples and the results of any such testing shall not be disclosed to any criminal investigative agency.

(b) If any officer 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 officer.

1. If a further interview of the officer 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 shall be provided with a copy of his/her prior statement before proceeding with any subsequent interviews.

(c) In the event that an involved officer 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 officer’s physical and psychological needs have been addressed before commencing the interview.

2. If requested, the officer 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 officer's statement, involved officers shall not consult or meet with a representative or attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed (Government Code § 3303(i)).

3. Administrative interviews should be recorded by the investigator. The officer may also record the interview (Government Code § 3303(g)).

4. The officer shall be informed of the nature of the investigation. If an officer refuses to answer questions, he/she should be given his/her *Lybarger* or *Garrity* rights and ordered to provide full and truthful answers to all questions. The officer shall be informed that the interview will be for administrative purposes only and that the statement cannot be used criminally.

5. The Professional Standards Unit shall compile all relevant information and reports necessary for the Department to determine compliance with applicable policies.

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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.

309.8 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 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 City Attorney's Office, as appropriate.

309.9 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 Watch Commander, Detective Commander and Public Information Officer in the event of inquiries from the media.

The Department shall not subject any involved WPD officer to visits by the media (Government Code § 3303(e)). No involved WPD officer shall make any comment to the media unless he/she is authorized by the Chief of Police or a Commander. 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.

309.10 REPORTING

If the death of an individual occurs in the Westminster Police Department jurisdiction and qualifies to be reported to the state as a justifiable homicide or an in-custody death, the Operations Commander will ensure that the Records Supervisor is provided with enough information to complete the State of California Death in Custody reporting form requirements (BCIA 713) (Penal Code § 196; Penal Code § 13022; Government Code § 12525).

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309.11 DEBRIEFING

Following an officer-involved shooting or death, the Westminster Police Department should conduct both a critical incident/stress debriefing and a tactical debriefing.

309.11.1 CRITICAL INCIDENT/STRESS DEBRIEFING

A critical incident/stress debriefing should occur as soon as practicable. The Professional Standards Unit Commander 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., dispatchers, other civilian personnel). 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 Professional Standards Unit personnel.

309.11.2 TACTICAL DEBRIEFING

A tactical debriefing should take place to identify any training or areas of policy that need improvement. The Chief of Police 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.

309.12 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.

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Firearms

311.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

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

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

311.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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 and in good working order and that relevant training is provided as resources allow.

311.3 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 Commander. This exclusion does not apply to the carrying of a single folding pocketknife that is not otherwise prohibited by law.

311.3.1 HANDGUNS

(a) Sworn personnel, while working in uniform, shall carry the authorized department issued handgun or an approved personal handgun as their primary duty weapon. The department-issued handgun is the Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm.

(b) Newly appointed officers will be issued the department-issued handgun or may purchase their own handgun as outlined in section (c) and (d) for duty use. After completing probation, officers may switch to another approved duty handgun if they desire.

(c) Approved personal handguns for duty-use are the Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm, Sig Sauer P320 9mm, Glock 17 9mm, and Glock 34 9mm. Personal handguns must have a barrel length of at least four inches and a trigger pull of at least 5.5 pounds. Personal handguns shall be purchased and maintained at the officer's expense. Holsters and magazine pouches for personal handguns shall be purchased and maintained at the

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officer's expense and must meet department policy standards. Ammunition will be provided by the Department.

(d) Personal handguns and holsters must be inspected and approved by the Professional Standards Unit prior to duty-use. After being inspected by the Professional Standards Unit, no modifications may be made to personally-owned duty handguns without prior approval from the Professional Standards Unit. Officers must complete the Personal Duty Firearm Agreement Form and submit it to the Professional Standards Unit Sergeant prior to using the handgun on duty.

(e) Sworn personnel, while working in a non-uniform assignment, may carry the department-issued handgun, approved personal duty handgun, the Glock 19 or Glock 26 as their primary duty weapon. These weapons must be inspected and approved by the Professional Standards Unit prior to duty-use. These firearms are subject to the same requirements outlined in above in (c) and (d).

(f) Sworn personnel who were issued the Sig Sauer, P226.40 caliber prior to April 1, 2019 may continue to carry the handgun for duty use.

311.3.2 SHOTGUNS

The authorized department-issued shotgun is the Remington 870. When not deployed, the shotgun shall be properly secured in a locking weapons rack in the patrol vehicle with the magazine loaded, the action closed on an empty chamber, and the safety in the safe position.

311.3.3 PATROL RIFLES

The authorized department-issued patrol rifle is the Patriot Ordinance Factory AR-15. Officers may purchase and carry their own rifle in the AR-15,.223 caliber platform with approval from the Chief of Police.

Members may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the member can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the patrol rifle may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Situations where the member reasonably anticipates an armed encounter.

(b) When a member is faced with a situation that may require accurate and effective fire at long range.

(c) Situations where a member reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower.

(d) When a member reasonably believes that there may be a need to fire on a barricaded person or a person with a hostage.

(e) When a member reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor.

(f) When authorized or requested by a supervisor.

(g) When needed to euthanize an animal.

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

Prior to transporting and/or storing unloaded rifles, the handling officer shall visually and physically inspect the chamber and extract any ammunition or other items from the chamber; insert a chamber safety flag into the chamber; close the bolt into a forward position.

311.3.4 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 must be approved by the department Rangemaster.

(b) The purchase of the handgun and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member unless the handgun and ammunition are provided by the Department.

(c) The handgun shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.

(d) The handgun shall be inspected by the Rangemaster prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.

(e) Ammunition shall be the same as department issue. If the caliber of the handgun is other than department issue, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall approve the ammunition.

(f) Prior to carrying the secondary handgun, members shall qualify under range supervision and thereafter shall qualify in accordance with the department qualification schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency and safe handling, and that the handgun functions properly.

(g) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number and caliber of a secondary handgun to the Rangemaster, who will maintain a list of the information.

311.3.5 AUTHORIZED OFF-DUTY FIREARMS

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

(a) The member may use his/her duty firearm or may use a personally owned firearm that is carried and inspected in accordance with the Personally Owned Duty Firearms requirements in this policy. A member carrying his/her duty firearm will be deemed to have complied with (c), (d) and (e) of this section.

1. The purchase of the personally owned firearm and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member.

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(b) The firearm shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent accidental unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.

(c) It will be the responsibility of the member to submit the firearm to the Rangemaster 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.

(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, officers shall carry their Westminster Police Department identification cards under circumstances requiring possession of such identification.

311.3.6 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. 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.

311.4 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.

311.4.1 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.

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311.4.2 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.

311.4.3 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.

311.4.4 OPTICS SIGHTS

Optics sights may only be installed on a rifle carried on-duty after they have been examined and approved by the range staff. 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.

311.5 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 as instructed by the Rangemaster or other firearms training staff.

(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.

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(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.

311.5.1 INSPECTION AND STORAGE

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

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

311.5.2 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 and criminal liability (Penal Code § 25100).

311.5.3 STORAGE IN VEHICLES

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

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

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

311.5.4 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.

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311.6 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.

311.6.1 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

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

311.7 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 Commander or provide a recorded statement to investigators prior to the end of shift, unless otherwise directed.

(b) If off-duty at the time of the incident, the member shall file a written report or provide a recorded statement no later than the end of the next regularly scheduled shift, unless otherwise directed by a supervisor.

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311.7.1 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.

311.7.2 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.

Stray or abandoned injured animals that may be moved or taken to an available veterinarian should not be euthanized. With supervisor approval, abandoned injured animals (with the exception of dogs and cats) may only be euthanized after a reasonable search to locate the owner has been made. Injured dogs and cats found without their owners shall be taken to an appropriate veterinarian for determination of whether they should be treated or humanely destroyed (Penal Code § 597.1).

311.7.3 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.

311.8 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 Sergeant after each range date. Failure of any member to sign in and out with the Rangemaster may result in non-qualification.

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

The Rangemaster has the responsibility of making periodic inspection, at least once a year, of all duty firearms carried by members 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 and it will not be returned to service until inspected by the Rangemaster.

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

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The Rangemaster shall complete and submit to the Training Sergeant 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 Sergeant.

311.9 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 officers who intend to be armed while flying on a commercial air carrier or flights where screening is conducted (49 CFR 1544.219):

(a) Officers 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) Officers must carry their Westminster Police Department identification card, bearing the officer's name, a full-face photograph, identification number, the officer's signature and the signature of the Chief of Police or the official seal of the Department and must present this identification to airline officials when requested. The officer should also carry the standard photo identification needed for passenger screening by airline and TSA officials (e.g., driver license, passport).

(c) The Westminster Police Department must submit a National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) message prior to the officer's travel. If approved, TSA will send the Westminster Police Department an NLETS message containing a unique alphanumeric identifier. The officer 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 Chief of Police authorizing armed travel may also accompany the officer. The letter should outline the officer's need to fly armed, detail his/her itinerary, and include that the officer has completed the mandatory TSA training for a law enforcement officer flying while armed.

(e) Officers must have completed the mandated TSA security training covering officers flying while armed. The training shall be given by the department-appointed instructor.

(f) It is the officer'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 officer 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 officer 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.

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(i) Officers should try to resolve any problems associated with flying armed through the flight captain, ground security manager, TSA representative or other management representative of the air carrier.

(j) Officers shall not consume alcoholic beverages while aboard an aircraft, or within eight hours prior to boarding an aircraft.

311.10 CARRYING FIREARMS OUT OF STATE

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

(a) The officer shall carry his/her Westminster Police Department identification card whenever carrying such firearm.

(b) The officer is not the subject of any current disciplinary action.

(c) The officer may not be under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating or hallucinatory drug.

(d) The officer will remain subject to this and all other department policies (including qualifying and training).

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

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

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Westminster Police Range and Safety Training Center

312.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to ensure that officers receive the highest level of training, the City of Westminster has invested in a state of the art multi-use training center. The training center features a tactical shooting range, class room, MAT room and simunition room. The use of the facility comes with an extreme amount of responsibility with an emphasis on safety to ensure a safe and productive training environment for everyone. This policy establishes the procedures and guidelines for the use of firearms at the facility by members of the Westminster Police Department and other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

312.2 SITE LOCATION

The facility is located at 7351 Hazard Avenue in the City of Westminster.

312.3 PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

312.3.1 FACILITY MANAGER

The Professional Standards Unit Commander is designated as the Facility Manager.

The responsibilities of the Facility Manager or the authorized designee include, but are not limited to:

- Scheduling of the facility's range, class room and training room.
- Coordinating maintenance.
- Biannual inspection to identify safety issues and schedule the replacement or repair of equipment, including lead removal.
- Ensure the facility meets all OSHA health and safety requirements.
- Ensure that release forms, insurance requirements and use agreements are complete and up to date for all users not employed by the Westminster Police Department.
- Inspection of all basic first aid/CPR equipment and trauma kits.
- Ensure the facility is stocked with the proper equipment.

312.3.2 RANGEMASTER

The Rangemaster reports to the Facility Manager. The responsibilities of the Rangermaster are explained in the Rangemaster Duties section of the Firearms Policy.

312.3.3 RANGE STAFF

A member of the Westminster Police Department assigned to the Range Staff. Assignment to this position is established in the Special and Collateral Assignments Policy. Range Staff members report to the Rangemaster. A member of the Westminster Police Department Range Staff has

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the authority to immediately stop and revoke range privileges of an outside agency if he/she feels the training is unsafe and outside the scope of best practice. Range Staff members will assist in tactical training, firearms training and will perform other tasks as assigned by the Rangemaster.

312.3.4 FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR

A Firearms Instructor shall be defined as a member of the Westminster Police Department or an outside agency that has completed a POST certified firearms instructor course. A Firearms Instructor shall be present for any training relative to the use or handling of any firearm.

A designated Firearms Instructor is in charge of range safety at all times when training is being conducted on the shooting range and shall enforce range safety policies. Any outside agency utilizing the range will provide a Firearms Instructor during any live fire activity.

In situations where instructors from multiple agencies are present, a Westminster Police Department Firearms Instructor shall have the ultimate authority.

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

- The safety of all users in the facility.
- The safe and proper use of equipment in the ready room, armory and cleaning area.
- Understand and enforce safety procedures.
- Conduct range inspections and operational checks of all range equipment before a training event.
- Conduct post-use inspections of the range and report any maintenance or safety issues to the Facility Manager or the authorized designee.
- Ensure that all firearms and equipment are safe, functional and only the proper caliber ammunition is in use.
- Conduct a thorough safety briefing with any participant. The briefing will include range rules, the location of basic first aid and CPR equipment, and medical evacuation procedures fof an injured person.
- Ensure all firearms are unloaded in designated areas.
- Ensure the firing line is clear of all debris.
- Ensure all participants have proper protective equipment on at all times prior to entering the range (e.g., eye protection, ear protection, body armor).
- Ensure all participants clear, make safe, or holster all firearms prior to leaving the range.
- Ensure there are a sufficient number of firearms instructors or range safety officers to safely supervise the number of participants.
- Supervise range clean-up at the conclusion of training and ensure all casings are placed in the proper containers.

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312.4 SCHEDULING

The Rangemaster or designee is the scheduling point of contact for all uses of the Training Center.

- Outside agencies wishing to schedule use of any part of the Training Center must have a Hold Harmless agreement and all POST certified Firearms Instructor documentation on file with the Westminster Police Department prior to use.
- It is the agency's responsibility to use the range during their scheduled time periods. Should there be a requirement to modify range times or need to cancel the range reservations; the agency shall notify the Rangemaster or designee.
- The Westminster Police Department will have priority when scheduling their training followed by the West County SWAT Team then outside agencies on an as-available basis.
- All scheduling conflicts will be resolved by the Rangemaster or designee.

312.5 AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL

The following personnel are authorized to participate in firearms training at the facility:

- Any active and reserve police officers.
- Retired Westminster Police Department officers or retired officers from a department with an active agreement for maintaining their conceal carry permit.
- Tactical medics assigned to SWAT.
- POST-certified firearms instructors assigned to teach a course at the facility (e.g., third party vendor).
- Police academy recruits during authorized academy training.
- Other personnel or civilians not listed above as approved by the Westminster Police Department Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

All agencies participating in firearms training are required to complete the Hold Harmless Agreement.

312.6 FACILITY ORIENTATION

Any outside agency Firearms Instructor is required to participate in a facility orientation. The orientation will be conducted by a Westminster Police Department Firearms Instructor prior to the first use of the facility. The orientation will include:

- Facility tour to include ingress and egress procedures due to other uses of the facility.
- Safety personnel duties and responsibilities.
- Range capabilities (e.g., training props, storage, staging area, cleaning areas).
- Range inspection requirements.
- Range start-up and shut-down procedures.
- Range set-up and clean-up procedures.

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- Reporting procedures for damage to the facility or any equipment.

The Facility Manager will maintain a current list of outside agency Firearms Instructors that are authorized.

312.7 INJURY OR DEATH OF PERSONNEL

In the event of a serious injury or fatality, all training being conducted in the area where the injury occurred will be stopped and the care of the injured and the security of the incident site becomes priority. A Firearms Instructor or designee shall contact a Westminster Police Department Watch Commander as soon as practicable and advise him/her of the incident.

If there is an injury on the range involving a firearm, the Firearms Instructor or designee shall:

- Call a “Cease Fire” and the range staff will ensure all personnel make all firearms safe.
- Take charge of the scene, assign personnel to assist and immediately initiate care for the injured.
- Ensure the range is cleared of all personnel and secure the incident site.
- Westminster Police Department resources will be deployed to assist with an investigation based on the severity of the injury.

If any injury occurs in any area of the Westminster Police Range and Safety Training Center, the Firearms Instructor or training staff will contact the on-duty Westminster Police Department Watch Commander and complete the Injury Form/Unintended Discharge (PD-218). Depending on the severity of the injury, the field supervisor may respond.

312.8 AUTHORIZED FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

The Westminster Police Department Range staff reserves the right to inspect all firearms and ammunition to ensure they are safe to use and are the proper type of caliber authorized to fire on the facility range. Refusal to submit equipment for these inspections is grounds for immediate suspension of range privileges. It is the responsibility of the on-site Firearms Instructor to ensure all weapons and ammunition are within the facility guidelines for use. The following restrictions on ammunition apply to all users while training in the facility:

- Only factory loaded ammunition is permitted.
- Frangible ammunition is not authorized.
- Tracer ammunition is not authorized.
- Full metal jacketed ammunition with steel penetrator/steel core is not authorized.
- Armor piercing ammunition is not authorized.
- Incendiary ammunition, noise-flash diversionary devices, smoke and/or chemical dispersal canisters are not authorized.
- Any other ammunition that the Firearms Instructor deems unauthorized is not permitted.

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- Only agency approved and issued ammunition is allowed to be fired on the range. No .50 BMG is allowed.

312.9 GENERAL RANGE SAFETY RULES

Safety is the responsibility of every individual. Every person participating or observing training while on the range is a safety officer and can call “cease fire” or halt training at any time. Concerns for safety should never be limited to the training event itself, but should always include associated training activities that may take place in the facility. The following safety rules apply to all personnel observing and participating in firearms training in the facility:

- A POST-certified Firearms Instructor must be present anytime there is live fire training on the range.
- All personnel entering or leaving the facility will carry all firearms in a safe manner.
- All firearms brought into the facility shall be unloaded unless the firearm is worn directly on the person, in a holster or concealed in a safe and secure manner.
- Firearms that are not carried on the body will have the slide or bolt locked to the rear position, magazine removed, and weapon on safe (as applicable).
- Everyone will treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
- Never point the muzzle of any firearm at anything you don’t intend to engage.
- Firearms will only be chambered on the range or in a designated loading barrel.
- The Firearms Instructor or designee is responsible for ensuring that all weapons leaving the range line are unloaded.
- Caution should be used by any personnel on the firing line bending down to pick up equipment off the range floor. It is recommended that all shooting cease, weapons are in a safe position, and the line is clear before doing so.
- Personnel will ensure weapons are unloaded and safe before disassembling them in the cleaning room.
- No firearm is to be left unattended.
- No shooting will take place until directed by the Firearms Instructor.
- All attempts shall be made to ensure live ammunition is not placed into the brass collection containers.
- Brass collected and deposited into the collection containers on the range will not be removed from the facility without approval from the Facility Manager or the authorized designee. Outside agencies may recover their own brass as long as they provide their own collection containers.
- No malfunctioning weapon will be removed from the firing line without first being cleared of the malfunction, unloaded completely and made safe if possible.
- Handle ammunition with care.

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- All personnel will wear hearing protection, eye protection, and protective body armor while participating in firearms training.
- Appropriate clothing attire is required while shooting on the range. Tank tops or shorts are not allowed. No open toe shoes or sandals are permitted.
- No horseplay is allowed anywhere within the facility.
- No eating or drinking is allowed on the range or the cleaning room.
- Reactive steel targets are authorized. All manufacture recommendations for use shall be followed.
- At no time will any object be placed on or inside the bullet trap.
- Firearms Instructors on the shooting line will ensure that the expended rounds are impacting the appropriate area and not the ceiling baffles or another unintended areas.
- No training equipment, props, or range tools will be removed from the range without prior approval of a Westminster Police Department Firearms Instructor.
- All unintended discharges by an outside agency causing injury to a person or damage to the facility will be reported to the Westminster Police Department Watch Commander at (714) 548-3767 as soon as practicable. A Negligent Discharge/Injury form shall be completed. The form will identify the officer responsible for the discharge, any Firearms Instructor present and the situation that lead to the discharge.
- Any unintended disgarges by Westminster Police Department members causing injury to a person or damage to the facility will be reported to the Westminster Police Department Watch Commander at (714) 548-3767 as soon as practicable. This will require an administrative report by the Firearms Instructor to the Rangemaster for review. Upon Rangemaster recommendation, the report will be forwarded to the Professional Standards Unit Commander.
- No live-fire training is to be conducted if the ventilation system is not functioning properly.

312.10 FACILITY INSPECTIONS

An inspection of any areas to be used within the Training Center will occur prior to and promptly after training.

When agencies using the facility notice equipment that is not functioning properly, or notice damage likely caused from their training, they will notify Westminster Police Department Range Staff or a Westminster Police Department Firearms Instructor and document the damage on the inspection form.

If damages are found to be negligent and outside of normal wear and tear, the agency causing the damage will be responsible for the full cost of repair/replacement. The City of Westminster will provide the user agency with an invoice detailing cost for repair of damaged equipment, payable to the City within 120 days of receipt. If payment is not received within the specified time period, the agency will be suspended from use of the Training Center.

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312.10.1 RANGE INSPECTIONS

Range inspections will occur at the beginning and end of each training day to identify potential hazards, damage, or maintenance issues that would affect range operations.

- A member of the Westminster Police Department Range Staff or designee will be responsible for completing a range inspection before use to identify any potential hazards or damage.
- The inspections will be documented on the Range Damage Control form and forwarded to the Facility Manager.
- Negligent damages to range infrastructure and/or equipment will be investigated by the Westminster Police Department Range Staff. The Facility Manager will make the final determination if the damages will require repair or replacement.
- Upon completion of each training day, the user agency will provide a total count of rounds expended on the range on the Shooter Roster form. The total count will include the number of shooters, the type of weapon and caliber of ammunition expended. This ammunition count provides staff the information needed to conduct the range maintenance process and usage report of firearms fired into the trap.
- Westminster Police Department Range Staff or a Firearms Instructor has the authority to conduct an immediate range inspection at any time.

312.10.2 MAT ROOM INSPECTIONS

At the completion of a training session, the mats shall be cleaned with provided products. An inspection shall occur after the mats are cleaned.

312.11 RANGE CLEAN-UP

The Firearms Instructor or designee will be responsible for ensuring that the range is cleaned up after the completion of training.

- All expended ammunition casings will be picked up and placed in the proper receptacles.
- All targets will be removed from the target carriers and placed in the proper receptacles.

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Vehicle Pursuits

313.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

313.1.1 DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Trail - Following the path of the pursuit at a safe speed while obeying all traffic laws and without activating emergency equipment. If the pursuit is at a slow rate of speed, the trailing vehicle will maintain sufficient distance from the pursuit vehicles so as to clearly indicate an absence of participation in the pursuit

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

313.2 POLICY

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

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313.3 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Vehicle pursuits shall only be conducted using authorized police department emergency vehicles that are equipped with and displaying emergency lighting and sirens as required by Vehicle Code § 21055. Officers are responsible for continuously driving with due regard and caution for the safety of all persons and property (Vehicle Code § 21056).

313.3.1 WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT

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

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

(a) The seriousness of the known or reasonably suspected crime and its relationship to community safety.

(b) The importance of protecting the public and balancing the known or reasonably suspected offense and the apparent need for immediate capture against the risks to officers, innocent motorists, and others.

(c) The safety of the public in the area of the pursuit, including the type of area, time of day, the amount of vehicular and pedestrian traffic (e.g., school zones), and the speed of the pursuit relative to these factors.

(d) The pursuing officers' 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 officers under the conditions of the pursuit.

(e) Whether weather, traffic, and road conditions unreasonably increase the danger of the pursuit when weighed against the risk of the suspect's escape.

(f) Whether the identity of the suspect has been verified and whether there is comparatively minimal risk in allowing the suspect to be apprehended at a later time.

(g) The performance capabilities of the vehicles used in the pursuit in relation to the speeds and other conditions of the pursuit.

(h) Emergency lighting and siren limitations on unmarked police department vehicles that may reduce visibility of the vehicle, such as visor or dash-mounted lights, concealable or temporary emergency lighting equipment, and concealed or obstructed siren positioning.

(i) Suspect and officer vehicle speeds.

(j) Other persons in or on the pursued vehicle (e.g., passengers, co-offenders, hostages).

(k) Availability of other resources such as air support or vehicle locator or deactivation technology.

313.3.2 WHEN TO TERMINATE A PURSUIT

Pursuits should be terminated whenever the totality of objective circumstances known or which reasonably ought to be known to the officer or supervisor during the pursuit indicates that the

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present risks of continuing the pursuit reasonably appear to outweigh the risks resulting from the suspect's escape.

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

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

(a) The distance between the pursuing vehicle and the fleeing vehicle is so great that further pursuit would be futile or require the pursuit to continue for an unreasonable time and/or distance.

(b) The pursued vehicle's location is no longer definitely known.

(c) The pursuing vehicle sustains damage or a mechanical failure that renders it unsafe to drive.

(d) The pursuing vehicle's emergency lighting equipment or siren becomes partially or completely inoperable.

(e) Hazards to uninvolved bystanders or motorists.

(f) The danger that the continued pursuit poses to the public, the officers, or the suspect, balanced against the risk of allowing the suspect to remain at large.

(g) The identity of the suspect is known and it does not reasonably appear that the need for immediate capture outweighs the risks associated with continuing the pursuit.

(h) Extended pursuits of violators for misdemeanors not involving violence, risk of serious harm, or weapons (independent of the pursuit) are generally discouraged.

313.3.3 SPEED LIMITS

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

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

(a) Pursuit speeds have become unreasonably unsafe for the surrounding conditions.

(b) Pursuit speeds have exceeded the driving ability of the officer.

(c) Pursuit speeds are beyond the capabilities of the pursuit vehicle thus making its operation unsafe.

313.4 PURSUIT UNITS

When involved in a pursuit, unmarked police department emergency vehicles should be replaced by marked emergency vehicles whenever practicable

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

An officer or supervisor may request additional units to join a pursuit if, after assessing the factors outlined above, it reasonably appears that the number of officers involved may be insufficient to safely arrest the suspects. All other officers should stay out of the pursuit, but should remain alert to its progress and location. Any officer 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.

313.4.1 MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS

When involved in a pursuit, police department motorcycles should be replaced by marked four-wheel emergency vehicles as soon as practicable.

313.4.2 VEHICLES WITHOUT EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

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

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

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

(a) The location, direction of travel, and estimated speed of the suspect's vehicle.

(b) The description of the suspect's vehicle including license plate number, if known.

(c) The reason for the pursuit.

(d) Known or suspected weapons. Threat of force, violence, injuries, hostages, or other unusual hazards.

(e) The suspected number of occupants and identity or description.

(f) The weather, road, and traffic conditions.

(g) The need for any additional resources or equipment.

(h) The identity of other law enforcement agencies involved in the pursuit.

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

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313.4.4 SECONDARY UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

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

(a) Immediately notifying the dispatcher of entry into the pursuit.

(b) Remaining a safe distance behind the primary unit unless directed to assume the role of primary pursuit vehicle or if the primary pursuit vehicle is unable to continue the pursuit.

(c) Broadcasting the progress, updating known or critical information, and providing changes in the pursuit, unless the situation indicates otherwise.

(d) Identifying the need for additional resources or equipment as appropriate.

(e) Serving as backup to the primary pursuing officer once the suspect has been stopped.

313.4.5 PURSUIT DRIVING

The decision to use specific driving tactics requires the same assessment of the factors the officer considered when determining whether to initiate and/or terminate a pursuit. The following are tactics for units involved in the pursuit:

(a) Officers, considering their driving skills and vehicle performance capabilities, will space themselves from other involved vehicles such that they are able to see and avoid hazards or react safely to maneuvers by the fleeing vehicle.

(b) Because intersections can present increased risks, the following tactics should be considered:

1. Available units not directly involved in the pursuit may proceed safely to controlled intersections ahead of the pursuit in an effort to warn cross traffic.
2. Pursuing units should exercise due regard and caution when proceeding through controlled intersections.

(c) As a general rule, officers should not pursue a vehicle driving left of center (wrong way) against traffic. In the event that the pursued vehicle does so, the following tactics should be considered:

1. Requesting assistance from available air support.
2. Maintain visual contact with the pursued vehicle by paralleling it on the correct side of the roadway.
3. Request other units to observe exits available to the suspects.

(d) Notify the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and/or other law enforcement agency if it appears that the pursuit may enter its jurisdiction.

(e) Officers involved in a pursuit should not attempt to pass other units unless the situation indicates otherwise or they are requested to do so by the primary unit and with a clear understanding of the maneuver process between the involved units.

313.4.6 PURSUIT TRAILING

In the event the initiating unit from this agency either relinquishes control of the pursuit to another unit or jurisdiction, that initiating unit may, with permission of a supervisor, trail the pursuit to the

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termination point in order to provide information and assistance for the arrest of the suspects and reporting the incident.

313.4.7 AIR SUPPORT ASSISTANCE

When available, air support assistance should be requested. Once the air unit has established visual contact with the pursued vehicle, the unit should assume control over the pursuit. The primary and secondary ground units, or involved supervisor, will maintain operational control but should consider whether the participation of air support warrants the continued close proximity and/or involvement of ground units in the pursuit.

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

313.4.8 UNITS NOT INVOLVED IN THE PURSUIT

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

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

313.5 SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

(a) Immediately notifying involved unit and the dispatcher of supervisory presence and ascertaining all reasonably available information to continuously assess the situation and risk factors associated with the pursuit.

(b) Engaging in the pursuit, when appropriate, to provide on-scene supervision.

(c) Exercising management and control of the pursuit even if not engaged in it.

(d) Ensuring that no more than the required number of units are involved in the pursuit under the guidelines set forth in this policy.

(e) Directing that the pursuit be terminated if, in the supervisor's judgment, it is unreasonable to continue the pursuit under the guidelines of this policy.

(f) Ensuring that assistance from air support, canines, or additional resources is requested, if available and appropriate.

(g) Ensuring that the proper radio channel is being used.

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(h) Ensuring that the Watch Commander is notified of the pursuit as soon as practicable.

(i) Ensuring the notification and/or coordination of outside agencies if the pursuit either leaves or is likely to leave the jurisdiction of this department.

(j) Controlling and managing Westminster Police Department units when a pursuit enters another jurisdiction.

(k) Preparing a post-pursuit review and documentation of the pursuit.

1. Supervisors should initiate follow up or additional review when appropriate.

313.5.1 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

313.6 DISPATCH

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

313.6.1 DISPATCH RESPONSIBILITIES

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

(a) Clearing the radio channel of non-emergency traffic.

(b) Coordinating pursuit communications of the involved units and personnel.

(c) Broadcasting pursuit updates as well as other pertinent information as necessary.

(d) Ensuring that a field supervisor is notified of the pursuit.

(e) Notifying and coordinating with other involved or affected agencies as practicable.

(f) Notify the Watch Commander as soon as practicable.

(g) Assigning an incident number and logging all pursuit activities.

313.6.2 LOSS OF PURSUED VEHICLE

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

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313.7 INTER-JURISDICTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

When a pursuit enters another agency's jurisdiction, the primary officer or supervisor, taking into consideration distance traveled, unfamiliarity with the area and other pertinent facts, should determine whether to request the other agency to assume the pursuit. Unless entry into another jurisdiction is expected to be brief, it is generally recommended that the primary officer or supervisor ensure that notification is provided to each outside jurisdiction into which the pursuit is reasonably expected to enter, regardless of whether such jurisdiction is expected to assist.

313.7.1 ASSUMPTION OF PURSUIT BY ANOTHER AGENCY

Officers will relinquish control of the pursuit when another agency has assumed the pursuit, unless the continued assistance of the Westminster Police Department is requested by the agency assuming the pursuit. Upon relinquishing control of the pursuit, the involved officers may proceed, with supervisory approval, to the termination point of the pursuit to assist in the investigation. The supervisor should coordinate such assistance with the assuming agency and obtain any information that is necessary for any reports. Notification of a pursuit in progress should not be construed as a request to join the pursuit. Requests to or from another agency to assume a pursuit should be specific.

313.7.2 PURSUITS EXTENDING INTO THIS JURISDICTION

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

When a request is made for this department to assist or take over a pursuit that has entered the jurisdiction of Westminster Police Department, the supervisor should consider:

(a) The public's safety within this jurisdiction.

(b) The safety of the pursuing officers.

(c) Whether the circumstances are serious enough to continue the pursuit.

(d) Whether there is adequate staffing to continue the pursuit.

(e) The ability to maintain the pursuit.

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

Assistance to a pursuing allied agency by officers of this department will terminate at the City 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.

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

313.8 WHEN PURSUIT INTERVENTION IS AUTHORIZED

Whenever practicable, an officer shall seek approval from a supervisor before employing any intervention to stop the pursued vehicle. In deciding whether to use intervention tactics, officers/supervisors should balance the risks of allowing the pursuit to continue with the potential hazards to the public arising from the use of each tactic, the officers, and persons in or on the pursued vehicle to determine which, if any, intervention tactic may be reasonable.

313.8.1 USE OF FIREARMS

An officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the officer 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 officer or others.

Officers should not shoot at any part of a vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle (see the Use of Force Policy).

313.8.2 INTERVENTION STANDARDS

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

(a) Blocking should only be used after giving consideration to the following:

1. The technique should only be used by officers who have received training in the technique.
2. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle or prevent it from leaving reasonably appears to outweigh the risks of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, officers, or other members of the public.
3. It reasonably appears the technique will contain or prevent the pursuit.

(b) The PIT should only be used after giving consideration to the following:

1. The technique should only be used by officers who have received training in the technique, including speed restrictions.
2. Supervisory approval should be obtained before using the technique.
3. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle reasonably appears to outweigh the risks of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, officers, or other members of the public.
4. It reasonably appears the technique will terminate or prevent the pursuit.

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(c) Ramming a fleeing vehicle should only be done after giving consideration to the following:

1. Supervisory approval should be obtained before using the technique.
2. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle reasonably appears to substantially outweigh the risks of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, officers, or other members of the public.
3. It reasonably appears the technique will terminate or prevent the pursuit.
4. Ramming may be used only under circumstances when deadly force would be authorized.
5. Ramming may be used when all other reasonable alternatives have been exhausted or reasonably appear ineffective.

(d) Before attempting to box a suspect vehicle during a pursuit the following should be considered:

1. The technique should only be used by officers who have received training in the technique.
2. Supervisory approval should be obtained before using the technique.
3. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle reasonably appears to outweigh the risks of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, officers, or other members of the public.
4. It reasonably appears the technique will terminate or prevent the pursuit.

(e) Tire deflation devices should only be used after considering the following:

1. Tire deflation devices should only be used by officers who have received training in their use.
2. Supervisory approval should be obtained before using tire deflation devices.
3. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle reasonably appears to outweigh the risks of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, officers, or other members of the public.
4. It reasonably appears the use will terminate or prevent the pursuit.
5. Tire deflation devices should not be used when the pursued vehicle is a motorcycle, a vehicle transporting hazardous materials, or a school bus transporting children, except in extraordinary circumstances.
6. Due to the increased risk to officers deploying tire deflation devices, such deployment should be communicated to all involved personnel.

(f) Roadblocks should only be used after considering the following:

1. Roadblocks should only be used by officers who have received training in their use.
2. Supervisory approval should be obtained before using the technique.

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3. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle reasonably appears to substantially outweigh the risks of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, officers, or other members of the public.
4. It reasonably appears the technique will terminate or prevent the pursuit. Roadblocks may be used only under circumstances when deadly force would be authorized.
5. Roadblocks may be used when all other reasonable alternatives have been exhausted or reasonably appear ineffective.

313.8.3 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. Officers shall use only that amount of force, which reasonably appears necessary under the circumstances, to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

Unless relieved by a supervisor, the primary pursuing officer should coordinate efforts to apprehend the suspects following the pursuit. Officers should consider safety of the public and the involved officers when formulating plans for setting up perimeters or for containing and capturing the suspects.

313.9 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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

(a) The primary officer should complete appropriate crime/arrest reports.

(b) The Watch Commander shall ensure that an Allied Agency Vehicle Pursuit Report (form CHP 187A) is filed with the CHP not later than 30 days following the pursuit (Vehicle Code § 14602.1). The primary officer should complete as much of the required information on the form as is known and forward the report to the Watch Commander for review and distribution.

(c) After first obtaining the available information, the involved, or if unavailable on-duty, field supervisor shall promptly complete a Supervisor's Log or interoffice memorandum, briefly summarizing the pursuit to the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. This log or memorandum should include, at a minimum:

1. Date and time of pursuit.
2. Initial reason and circumstances surrounding the pursuit.
3. Length of pursuit in distance and time, including the starting and termination points.
4. Involved units and officers.
5. Alleged offenses.
6. Whether a suspect was apprehended, as well as the means and methods used.
7. Any use of force that occurred during the vehicle pursuit.

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(a) Any use of force by a member should be documented in the appropriate report (See the Use of Force Policy).

8. Any injuries and/or medical treatment.

9. Any property or equipment damage.

10. Name of supervisor at scene or who handled the incident.

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

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

313.9.1 REGULAR AND PERIODIC PURSUIT TRAINING

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

(a) This policy.

(b) The importance of vehicle safety and protecting the public.

(c) The need to balance the known offense and the need for immediate capture against the risks to officers and others (Vehicle Code § 17004.7(d)).

313.9.2 POLICY REVIEW

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

313.10 APPLICATION OF VEHICLE PURSUIT POLICY

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

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Officer Response to Calls

315.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

315.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Code-1 - Routine, handle this call next.

Code-3 - Emergency, proceed immediately using red lights and siren.

315.2 RESPONSE TO CALLS

Officers dispatched "Code-3" shall consider the call an emergency response and proceed immediately. Officers responding Code-3 shall continuously operate emergency lighting equipment, including at minimum a steady forward facing red light, and shall sound the siren as reasonably necessary pursuant to Vehicle Code § 21055.

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

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

315.3 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 officers, 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 officer shall immediately notify Dispatch.

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

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

315.3.1 NUMBER OF UNITS ASSIGNED

Every call for service presents a different set of circumstances. The Dispatcher, Watch Commander, Field Supervisor or officers can initiaterequest additional units as circumstances reasonably dictate. The Watch Commander and Field Supervisors are responsible for monitoring the number of units responding Code-3.

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315.4 INITIATING CODE 3 RESPONSE

If an officer believes a Code-3 response to any call is appropriate, the officer shall immediately notify Dispatch. Generally, only one unit should respond Code-3 to any situation. Should another officer believe a Code-3 response is appropriate, Dispatch shall be notified and the Watch Commander or field supervisor will make a determination as to whether one or more officers driving Code-3 is appropriate.

315.5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESPONDING OFFICERS

Officers shall exercise sound judgment and care with due regard for life and property when responding to an emergency call. Officers 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 officer. If, in the officer's judgment, the roadway conditions or traffic congestion does not permit such a response without unreasonable risk, the officer 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 officer should immediately notify Dispatch. An officer shall also discontinue the Code-3 response when directed by a supervisor.

Upon receiving authorization or determining a Code-3 response is appropriate, an officer, when reasonable to do so, shall immediately give the location from which he/she is responding.

315.6 COMMUNICATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES

A dispatcher shall assign a Code-3 response when an officer requests emergency assistance or available information reasonably indicates that the public is threatened with serious injury or death and immediate police response is needed. In all other circumstances, the dispatcher shall obtain authorization from the Watch Commander or a field supervisor prior to assigning units Code-3. The dispatcher shall:

(a) Attempt to assign the closest available unit to the location requiring assistance

(b) Immediately notify the Watch Commander

(c) When practical, 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 Watch Commander or field supervisor

315.7 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

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

(a) The proper response has been initiated

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(b) No more than those units reasonably necessary under the circumstances are involved in the response

(c) Affected outside jurisdictions are being notified as practical

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

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

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

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

315.8 FAILURE OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

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

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Canines

316.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

316.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department that teams of handlers and canines meet and maintain the appropriate proficiency to effectively and reasonably carry out legitimate law enforcement objectives.

316.3 ASSIGNMENT

Canine teams should be assigned to assist and supplement the Operations Bureau to function primarily in assist or cover assignments. However, they may be assigned by the Watch Commander 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. If such assignment is necessary, it should only be made with the approval of the Watch Commander.

316.4 CANINE SERGEANT

The canine sergeant shall be appointed by and directly responsible to the Operations Bureau or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the canine sergeant 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 a liaison with the vendor kennel.

(c) Maintaining a liaison with command staff and functional supervisors.

(d) Maintaining a liaison with other agency canine sergeant(s).

(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.

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316.5 REQUESTS FOR CANINE TEAMS

Operations Bureau members are encouraged to request the use of a canine. Requests for a canine team from department units outside of the Operations Bureau shall be reviewed by the Watch Commander.

316.5.1 OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUEST

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

(a) Canine teams shall not be used for any assignment beyond the boundaries of the City of Westminster 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) The canine team shall not be called out while off duty or used outside the boundaries of the City of Westminster, unless authorized by the Watch Commander or Canine Sergeant.

(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) When appropriate, another on duty police officer may accompany and assist the canine team responding to an outside agency request for assistance at the discretion of the Watch Commander.

(f) It shall be the responsibility of the canine handler to complete all necessary reports or as directed.

(g) When the canine team is responding to an outside agency request for assistance, a field supervisor shall accompany the canine team whenever possible.

316.5.2 PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION

All public requests for a canine team shall be reviewed and, if appropriate, approved by the canine sergeant prior to making any resource commitment. The canine sergeant is responsible for obtaining resources and coordinating involvement in the demonstration to include proper safety protocols. Canine handlers are to be mindful that they represent the Westminster Police Department and shall conduct themselves and their animal's actions appropriately. Canine handlers shall not demonstrate any apprehension work unless authorized to do so by the canine sergeant. When in public and not performing an enforcement related function or authorized training exercise, canines shall be muzzled.

316.6 APPREHENSION GUIDELINES

A canine may be used to locate and apprehend a suspect if the canine handler reasonably believes that the individual has committed, is committing, or is 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 officer, or the handler.

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(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 officers 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.

Absent a reasonable belief that a suspect has committed, is committing, or is threatening to commit a serious offense, mere flight from a pursuing officer, 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 Watch Commander. Absent a change in circumstances that presents an imminent threat to officers, 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, and the handler believes that the suspect no longer poses a threat, the handler should promptly command the canine to release the suspect.

316.6.1 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) Any known mental conditions that may exist.

(f) The potential for injury to officers or the public caused by the suspect if the canine is not utilized.

(g) Any potential danger to the public and/or other officers at the scene if the canine is released.

(h) 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.

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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.

316.6.2 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 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.

316.6.3 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. If the injured party is in custody, an officer shall remain with the suspect until treatment has been rendered. The deployment and injuries should also be included in any related incident or arrest report. A supervisor should be promptly notified and respond to the scene.

The canine handler shall complete the canine use report and submit the report to the Canine Sergeant or Watch Commander 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.

Any unintended bite or injury caused by a canine, whether on- or off-duty, shall be promptly reported to the Canine Sergeant or Watch Commander. Unintended bites or injuries caused by a canine should be documented in an administrative report, not in a canine use report. A copy of the administrative report shall be forwarded to the Professional Standards Commander.

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

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evidence in accordance with current department evidence procedures. It shall be the responsibility of the Canine Sergeant to ensure the photographs shall be retained until the criminal proceeding is completed and the time for any related civil proceeding has expired.

Canines used by law enforcement agencies are generally exempt from impoundment and reporting requirements (Food and Agriculture Code § 31609(b)). However, the canine shall be made available for examination at any reasonable time if requested by the local health department. The canine handler shall also notify the local health department if the canine exhibits any abnormal behavior after a bite (Health and Safety Code § 121685). The Canine Sergeant will maintain liaison with the Orange County Animal Control to ensure that information regarding canine bites is not retained by its office.

316.7 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 presents an imminent threat to officers, 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 handler should place the canine in a down-stay or otherwise secure it as soon as reasonably practicable.

316.7.1 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.

316.7.2 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.

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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.

316.8 HANDLER SELECTION

The minimum qualifications for the assignment of canine handler include:

(a) An officer who, at the time of application, 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 can accommodate a canine vehicle.

(d) Agree to be assigned to the position for a minimum of five years, with the option for additional one year extensions, as determined by the Chief of Police, not to exceed the service life of the assigned canine.

316.9 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 and is unable to directly care for the canine, alternative assignments to house the canine either with another handler or an approved kennel facility shall be made, with the approval of the Canine Sergeant.

(e) Kennel facilities at the handler's residence shall be properly maintained and kept clean. Handlers shall permit the Canine Commander, Canine Sergeant, or other authorized supervisory authority to conduct periodic on-site inspections of affected areas of their residences 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 Sergeant as soon as possible.

(g) When off-duty, the canine shall be in a kennel provided by the City 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.

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(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 Sergeant, Canine Commander or Watch Commander.

(j) When off-duty, the handler shall not involve the canine in any activity or official conduct unless approved in advance by the Canine Sergeant or Watch Commander.

(k) The handler is at all times responsible for the tactical use and control of their assigned canine.

(l) The handler is responsible for the care of the canine, including but not limited to seeking medical attention when necessary, maintaining up-to-date vaccinations, proper feeding/watering, grooming and exercising.

(m) Transportation of a department canine will be conducted via a department canine vehicle, whenever possible.

(n) In the event the canine handler elects to transport the department canine in a privately owned vehicle during non-duty related activities, the department canine will be transported in a secure travel kennel.

(o) Canines shall not be used for breeding, participation in shows, field trials, exhibitions or other demonstrations, or for off-duty employment unless authorized by the Chief of Police.

316.9.1 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.

(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 canine. The handler shall also ensure that the unattended vehicle remains inhabitable for the canine.

(c) When in public and not performing an enforcement related function or authorized training exercise, canines shall be muzzled.

316.10 HANDLER COMPENSATION

The canine handler shall be available for call-out under conditions specified by the canine sergeant.

The canine handler shall be compensated for time spent in the care, feeding, grooming, and other needs of the canine in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), and according to the terms of the collective bargaining agreement (29 USC § 207).

316.11 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 Sergeant or Watch Commander as soon as practicable. The injury will be documented on a canine use report form.

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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. Each canine must be examined and inoculated annually by the designated veterinarian. All records of medical treatment shall be maintained in the canine file by the Canine Sergeant.

316.11.1 NON EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE
Nonemergency medical care will be coordinated through the Canine Sergeant. Any indication that a canine is not in good physical condition shall be reported to the Canine Sergeant or the Watch Commander as soon as practical. The canine shall be examined by the designated veterinarian annually.

316.11.2 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE
The handler shall notify the Canine Sergeant as soon as practical when emergency medical care for the canine is required.

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

316.12 TRAINING
Before assignment in the field, each canine team shall be trained and certified to meet current POST guidelines 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 by the California Narcotic Canine Association (CNCA) or other recognized and approved certification standards established for their particular skills.

The canine sergeant 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. These trainings shall minimally occur biannually, with at least one training occurring during each six month patrol deployment cycle. Because canines may be exposed to dangerous substances such as opioids, as resources are available, the canine sergeant should also schedule periodic training for the canine handlers about the risks of exposure and treatment for it.

All canine training shall be conducted while on-duty unless otherwise approved by the canine sergeant or Watch Commander.

316.12.1 CONTINUED TRAINING
Each canine team shall thereafter be recertified to a current POST, CNCA 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 Westminster Police Department canine training provider.

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(b) Canine handlers are encouraged to engage in additional training with approval of the Canine Sergeant.

(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.

Recurring Training: Canine teams will train with the county multi-agency training group.

Monthly Training: Canine teams will participate in a minimum of 16 hours of documented monthly training to maintain basic patrol and/or detection proficiency.

Annual Training: Each canine team shall be recertified for patrol and narcotics detection annually by the Department authorized POST certified training agency.

Additional Training: Teams are encouraged to seek additional training opportunities beyond the required training. Consideration should also be given to advanced handler courses, liability sessions and canine drug enforcement programs.

Absence from scheduled training is permitted only when in conflict with scheduled time-off and other Department needs. The handler will notify the shift sergeant and the Canine sergeant.

Handlers will report recurring training problems, deficiencies and failures with the canine to the Canine Sergeant and training staff at the Department-authorized training agency. Together, the training agency, handler, and key Department personnel will determine an appropriate course of remediation. If remediation of the canine is not successful, the team may be removed from field deployment. The Chief of Police or his or her designee, with input from involved personnel, will determine the best course of action with consideration for the Department needs and community safety.

316.12.2 FAILURE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE TRAINING

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

316.12.3 TRAINING RECORDS

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

316.12.4 TRAINING AIDS

Training aids are required to effectively train and maintain the skills of canines. Officers possessing, using or transporting controlled substances or explosives for canine training purposes must comply with federal and state requirements. Alternatively, the Westminster Police Department may work with outside trainers with the applicable licenses or permits.

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316.12.5 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TRAINING AIDS

Officers 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 (Health & Safety Code § 11367.5; 21 USC § 823(f)).

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee may authorize a member to seek a court order to allow controlled substances seized by the Westminster Police Department 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 Chief of Police or the authorized designee may request narcotics training aids from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

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

316.12.6 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 maintained by the Property Bureau. Samples shall be weighed and tested by the on-duty Watch Commander prior to dispensing to the individual handler or trainer and prior to the return to the Property Bureau.

(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 immediately notify the on-duty Watch Commander and Canine Sergeant of any loss or damage to those controlled substance samples.

(d) All controlled substance training samples will be inspected, weighed, and tested quarterly, beginning in January of each calendar year, by the Canine Sergeant. The results of the quarterly testing shall be documented in a department report by the Canine Sergeant 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) Any unusable controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the Property Bureau or to the dispensing agency.

(g) 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.

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316.13 AVAILABILITY

The handler shall be available for call out under conditions specified by the Canine Sergeant. Whenever possible, an on duty Westminster Police Department canine team should be deployed when a request for the utilization of a canine is made. If no Westminster Police canine team is on duty, the on duty Watch Commander may call an off duty Westminster Police canine or request a canine from another agency.

316.14 CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF CANINE TEAM VEHICLES

(a) The canine team shall be assigned a vehicle to be used for the City of Westminster business only.

(b) The canine vehicle shall be kept at the Westminster Police Department or be garaged so as to be completely out of public view at the home of the Canine Officer. The structure containing the vehicle shall be secured when the vehicle is unattended.

(c) It is the responsibility of the canine handler to insure the care and maintenance of the canine vehicle. Regular service intervals, as scheduled by Fleet Maintenance, will be met. The canine vehicle will be kept clean and in good repair at all times. Any damage caused by a canine to the vehicle shall be reported to the Canine Sergeant.

(d) Only markings approved by the Department shall be displayed on the canine vehicle.

(e) The canine team trainer may transport a canine when necessary in a police department vehicle, also utilizing an approved transportation kennel.

(f) When a canine handler takes a vacation or extended number of days off, the marked police canine vehicle shall be maintained at the Westminster Police Department facility, or place designated by the Canine Sergeant.

(g) If the canine vehicle requires service from an outside vendor, or will be left for service out of the control or observation of the canine handler, any narcotics training samples contained in the vehicle shall be removed prior to service and properly checked back into the property division for storage.

316.15 REQUESTS FOR SCHOOL SEARCHES

Requests by local school districts for the purposes of searching for and seizing controlled substances shall only be authorized after the following criteria have been met:

(a) The request shall be made to the Chief of Police or the authorized designee, by the school administrator, principal, or the authorized representative. No body/person searches will be performed by a department canine.

(b) Areas where the canine team can search include, but are not limited to, student lockers, hallways, public access areas. and school parking lots.

(c) Any canine search conducted on school property at the request of school administration, shall be documented in an appropriate departmental report. A written request shall be completed by the requesting school administrator, which shall be added to the case file.

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316.16 CANINE RETIREMENT

Upon determination by a canine unit supervisor that a canine is no longer able to be effectively deployed based on its age, physical condition, behavioral condition, and/or time in-service, it shall be retired from service with the Westminster Police Department.

When it becomes necessary to retire a canine from active duty, the department may transfer ownership of the canine to the last handler, provided the handler wishes to keep the canine .

Should the last handler decline to accept the canine , the Canine Unit Commander shall make the appropriate disposition, considering the following options:

(a) Placement of the canine with another current handler.

(b) Placement of the canine with a previous handler who is currently a member of the Westminster Police Department.

(c) Placement of the canine with Adlerhorst International

(d) Placement of the canine at warriordogfoundation.org

(e) Euthanasia

A contract, releasing the city of all liability, must be entered into by the Chief of Police and the party taking possession of the canine . Copies of the release of liability will be made and disseminated as follows:

(a) The Purchaser taking possession of the canine

(b) The canine's file

(c) Human Resources

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Domestic Violence

319.1 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 officers in the investigation of domestic violence.

319.1.1 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.

319.2 POLICY

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

319.3 OFFICER SAFETY

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

319.3.1 DIGITAL RECORDING STATEMENTS

Officers handling Domestic Violence calls shall activate their digital recorders in order to record relevant information regarding the allegations and possible conflicting statements. Recordings shall be downloaded onto the appropriate data storage system.

319.4 INVESTIGATIONS

The following guidelines should be followed by officers 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, officers should obtain and document statements from the victim, the suspect, and any witnesses, including children, in or around the household or location of occurrence.

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(c) Officers 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.

(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 Detective Bureau in the event that the injuries later become visible.

(f) Officers 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, officers should make reasonable efforts to locate the suspect to further the investigation, provide the suspect with an opportunity to make a statement, and make an arrest or seek an arrest warrant if appropriate.

(h) Seize any firearms or other dangerous weapons in the home, if appropriate and legally permitted, for safekeeping or as evidence. If the domestic violence involved threats of bodily harm, any firearm discovered in plain view or pursuant to consent or other lawful search must be taken into temporary custody (Penal Code § 18250).

(i) When completing an incident or arrest report for violation of a court order, officers 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 officer should attach a copy of the order to the incident or arrest report.

(j) Officers should take appropriate enforcement action when there is probable cause to believe an offense has occurred. Factors that should not be used as sole justification for declining to take enforcement action include:

1. Whether the suspect lives on the premises with the victim.
2. Claims by the suspect that the victim provoked or perpetuated the violence.
3. The potential financial or child custody consequences of arrest.
4. The physical or emotional state of either party.
5. Use of drugs or alcohol by either party.
6. Denial that the abuse occurred where evidence indicates otherwise.
7. A request by the victim not to arrest the suspect.
8. Location of the incident (public/private).
9. Speculation that the complainant may not follow through with the prosecution.

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10. Actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, disability, or marital status of the victim or suspect.
11. The social status, community status, or professional position of the victim or suspect.

319.4.1 IF A SUSPECT IS ARRESTED

If a suspect is arrested, officers 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.

319.4.2 IF NO ARREST IS MADE

If no arrest is made, the officer 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.

319.5 VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Victims may be traumatized or confused. Officers 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.

(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 officer 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.

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

319.5.1 FAMILY VIOLENCE/CHILD ABUSE REPORT FORM

The Family Violence and Child Abuse Report form encompasses the following: The Penal Code § 293 Victim Confidentiality Advisement, Domestic Violence supplemental Information, Suspected Child Abuse Report, and Medical Waiver. The officer shall complete a Family Violence and Child Abuse Report form whenever a domestic violence or child abuse report, including possible child abuse, is suspected. Additionally, the Family Violence and Child Abuse Report must be completed on all other crimes listed in PC § 293.

(a) Evidence Collection: All evidence sections shall be completed on the Family Violence and Child Abuse Report. The disposition of all collected evidence or attempt to obtain evidence shall be documented in the narrative of the crime report, as appropriate.

(b) PC § 293 Confidentiality Advisement: All suspected victims of crimes listed in PC section 293 are to be advised of their confidentiality rights and the advisement must be documented within the body of the report. The "Victim Request PC 293" box next to each party section on page one of the Family Violence and Child Abuse Report form must be checked (yes or no) for each victim based upon the victim's response.

(c) Medical Waiver: All medical waivers should be signed by the victim or, in the case of a minor, the minor's parent/guardian.

(d) This Family Violence and Child Abuse Report shall be completed and forwarded to Social Services in accordance with PC §§ 11165.9 and 11166 (Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting).

319.6 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. Officers should request that dispatchers check whether any of the involved persons are subject to the terms of a court order.

319.7 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 officers as if it were the order of a court in this state. An order should be considered properly issued when it reasonably appears that the issuing court has jurisdiction over the parties and reasonable notice and opportunity to respond was given to the party against whom the order was issued (18 USC § 2265). An otherwise valid out-of-state court or foreign order shall be enforced, regardless of whether the order has been properly registered with this state (Family Code § 6403).

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

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319.8 VERIFICATION OF COURT ORDERS

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

(a) Ask the subject of the order about his/her notice or receipt of the order, his/her knowledge of its terms and efforts to respond to the order.

1. If a determination is made that a valid foreign order cannot be enforced because the subject has not been notified or served the order, the officer shall inform the subject of the order, make a reasonable effort to serve the order upon the subject, and allow the subject a reasonable opportunity to comply with the order before enforcing the order. Verbal notice of the terms of the order is sufficient notice (Family Code § 6403).

(b) Check available records or databases that may show the status or conditions of the order.

1. Registration or filing of an order in California is not required for the enforcement of a valid foreign order (Family Code § 6403).

(c) Contact the issuing court to verify the validity of the order.

(d) Contact a law enforcement official from the jurisdiction where the order was issued to verify information.

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

319.9 LEGAL MANDATES AND RELEVANT LAWS

California law provides for the following:

319.9.1 STANDARDS FOR ARRESTS

Officers investigating a domestic violence report should consider the following:

(a) An arrest should be made when there is probable cause to believe that a felony or misdemeanor domestic violence offense has been committed (Penal Code § 13701). Any decision to not arrest an adult when there is probable cause to do so requires supervisor approval.

1. Officers are only authorized to make an arrest without a warrant for a misdemeanor domestic violence offense if the officer makes the arrest as soon as probable cause arises (Penal Code § 836).

(b) An officer responding to a domestic violence call who cannot make an arrest will advise the victim of his/her right to make a private person’s arrest. The advisement should be made out of the presence of the suspect and shall include advising the victim how to safely execute the arrest. Officers shall not dissuade victims from making a lawful private person’s arrest. Officers should refer to the provisions in the Private Persons

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Arrests Policy for options regarding the disposition of private person's arrests (Penal Code § 836(b)).

(c) Officers shall not cite and release a person for the following offenses (Penal Code § 853.6(a)(3)):

1. Penal Code § 243(e)(1) (battery against spouse, cohabitant)
2. Penal Code § 273.5 (corporal injury on spouse, cohabitant, fiancé/fiancée, person of a previous dating or engagement relationship, mother/father of the offender's child)
3. Penal Code § 273.6 (violation of protective order) if violence or threats of violence have occurred or the suspect has gone to the workplace or residence of the protected party
4. Penal Code § 646.9 (stalking)
5. Other serious or violent felonies specified in Penal Code § 1270.1

(d) In responding to domestic violence incidents, including mutual protective order violations, officers should generally be reluctant to make dual arrests. Officers shall make reasonable efforts to identify the dominant aggressor in any incident. The dominant aggressor is the person who has been determined to be the most significant, rather than the first, aggressor (Penal Code § 13701). In identifying the dominant aggressor, an officer shall consider:

1. The intent of the law to protect victims of domestic violence from continuing abuse.
2. The threats creating fear of physical injury.
3. The history of domestic violence between the persons involved.
4. Whether either person acted in self-defense.

(e) An arrest shall be made when there is probable cause to believe that a violation of a domestic violence court order has been committed (Penal Code § 13701; Penal Code § 836), regardless of whether the offense was committed in the officer's presence. After arrest, the officer shall confirm that a copy of the order has been registered, unless the victim provides a copy (Penal Code § 836).

319.9.2 COURT ORDERS

(a) An officer who obtains an emergency protective order from the court shall serve it on the restrained person if the person can be reasonably located and shall provide the person protected or the person's parent/guardian with a copy of the order. The officer shall file a copy with the court as soon as practicable and shall have the order entered into the computer database system for protective and restraining orders maintained by the Department of Justice (Family Code § 6271; Penal Code § 646.91).

(b) At the request of the petitioner, an officer at the scene of a reported domestic violence incident shall serve a court order on a restrained person (Family Code § 6383; Penal Code § 13710).

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(c) Any officer serving a protective order that indicates that the respondent possesses weapons or ammunition shall request that the firearm/ammunition be immediately surrendered (Family Code § 6389(c)).

(d) During the service of a protective order any firearm discovered in plain view or pursuant to consent or other lawful search shall be taken into temporary custody (Penal Code § 18250).

(e) If a valid Canadian order cannot be enforced because the person subject to the order has not been notified or served with the order, the officer shall notify the protected individual that reasonable efforts shall be made to contact the person subject to the order. The officer shall make a reasonable effort to inform the person subject to the order of the existence and terms of the order and provide the person with a record of the order, if available, and shall allow the person a reasonable opportunity to comply with the order before taking enforcement action (Family Code § 6452).

319.9.3 PUBLIC ACCESS TO POLICY

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

319.9.4 REPORTS AND RECORDS

(a) A written report shall be completed on all incidents of domestic violence. All such reports should be documented on the appropriate form, which includes information and notations specific to domestic violence incidents as required by Penal Code § 13730.

(b) Reporting officers should provide the victim with the case number of the report. The case number may be placed in the space provided on the domestic violence victim information handout provided to the victim. If the case number is not immediately available, an explanation should be given regarding how the victim can obtain the information at a later time.

(c) Officers who seize any firearm, ammunition, or other deadly weapon in a domestic violence incident shall issue the individual possessing such weapon a receipt that includes the name and residential mailing address of the owner or person who possessed the weapon and notice of where the weapon may be recovered, along with the applicable time limit for recovery (Penal Code § 18250; Penal Code § 18255; Penal Code § 33800; Family Code § 6389(c)).

319.9.5 RECORD-KEEPING AND DATA COLLECTION

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

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319.9.6 DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF BAIL INCREASE

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

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Search and Seizure

321.1 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 Westminster Police Department personnel to consider when dealing with search and seizure issues.

321.2 POLICY

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

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

321.3 SEARCHES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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321.4 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) Officers 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 officer, a reasonable effort should be made to summon an officer of the same sex as the subject to conduct the search. When it is not practicable to summon an officer of the same sex as the subject, the following guidelines should be followed:

1. Another officer or a supervisor should witness the search.
2. The officer should not search areas of the body covered by tight-fitting clothing, sheer clothing or clothing that could not reasonably conceal a weapon.

321.5 DOCUMENTATION

Officers 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 an officer of the same sex as the person being searched and the identification of any witness officer

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.

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Temporary Custody of Juveniles

323.1 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 Westminster Police Department (34 USC § 11133).

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

323.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

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

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

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

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

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

Examples of secure custody include:

(a) A juvenile left alone in an unlocked room within the secure perimeter of the adult temporary holding area.

(b) A juvenile handcuffed to a rail.

(c) A juvenile placed in a room that contains doors with delayed egress devices that have a delay of more than 30 seconds.

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(d) A juvenile being processed in a secure booking area when a non-secure booking area is available.

(e) A juvenile left alone in a secure booking area after being photographed and fingerprinted.

(f) A juvenile placed in a cell within the adult temporary holding area, whether or not the cell door is locked.

(g) A juvenile placed in a room that is capable of being locked or contains a fixed object designed for cuffing or restricting movement.

Sight and sound separation - Located or arranged to prevent physical, visual, or auditory contact that is more than brief or inadvertent.

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

323.2 POLICY

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

323.3 JUVENILES WHO SHOULD NOT BE HELD

Juveniles who exhibit any of the following conditions should not be held at the Westminster Police Department:

(a) Unconscious

(b) Seriously injured

(c) A known suicide risk or obviously severely emotionally disturbed

(d) Significantly intoxicated except when approved by the Watch Commander. A medical clearance shall be obtained for minors who are under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or any other intoxicating substance to the extent that they are unable to care for themselves (15 CCR 1151).

(e) Extremely violent or continuously violent

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

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

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

323.3.1 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY

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

323.3.2 SUICIDE PREVENTION OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY

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

323.4 CUSTODY OF JUVENILES

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

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

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

323.4.1 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 Westminster Police Department. Custodial arrangements should be made for non-offenders as soon as reasonably possible. Juvenile non-offenders shall not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133; Welfare and Institutions Code § 206).

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

323.4.2 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE STATUS OFFENDERS

Status offenders should generally be released by citation or with a warning rather than taken into temporary custody. However, officers may take custody of a status offender if requested to do so by a parent or legal guardian in order to facilitate reunification (e.g., transported home or to

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the station to await a parent). Juvenile status offenders shall not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133).

323.4.3 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

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

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

A juvenile offender who is 14 years of age or older and taken into custody for committing or attempting to commit a felony with a firearm shall not be released and be transported to a juvenile facility (Welfare and Institutions Code § 625.3).

A juvenile offender suspected of committing murder, a sex offense described in Welfare and Institutions Code § 602(b) that may subject the juvenile to criminal jurisdiction under Welfare and Institutions Code § 707, or a serious or violent felony should be referred to a probation officer for a decision on further detention.

In all other cases the juvenile offender may be:

(a) Released upon warning or citation.

(b) Released to a parent or other responsible adult after processing at the Department.

(c) Referred to a probation officer for a decision regarding whether to transport the juvenile offender to a juvenile facility.

(d) Transported to his/her home or to the place where the juvenile offender was taken into custody (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.2).

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

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

323.5 ADVISEMENTS

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

Whenever a juvenile is taken into temporary custody, he/she shall be given the *Miranda* rights advisement regardless of whether questioning is intended. This does not apply to juvenile non-

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offenders taken into temporary custody for their safety or welfare (Welfare and Institutions Code § 625).

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

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

323.6 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.

(b) Date and time of arrival and release from the Westminster Police Department (15 CCR 1150).

(c) Watch Commander notification and approval to temporarily hold the juvenile.

(d) Any charges for which the juvenile is being held and classification of the juvenile as a juvenile offender, status offender, or non-offender.

(e) Any changes in status (e.g., emergency situations, unusual incidents).

(f) Time of all safety checks.

(g) Any medical and other screening requested and completed (15 CCR 1142).

(h) Circumstances that justify any secure custody (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1; 15 CCR 1145).

(i) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors or a local juvenile court authority.

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

323.7 NO-CONTACT REQUIREMENTS

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

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

323.8 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS

Members and supervisors assigned to monitor or process any juvenile at the Westminster Police Department shall ensure the following:

(a) The Watch Commander should be notified if it is anticipated that a juvenile may need to remain at the Westminster Police Department more than four hours. This will enable the Watch Commander to ensure no juvenile is held at the Westminster Police Department more than six hours.

(b) A staff member of the same sex shall supervise personal hygiene activities and care, such as changing clothing or using the restroom, without direct observation to allow for privacy.

(c) Personal safety checks and significant incidents/activities shall be noted on the log.

(d) Juveniles in custody are informed that they will be monitored at all times, except when using the toilet.

1. There shall be no viewing devices, such as peep holes or mirrors, of which the juvenile is not aware.

2. This does not apply to surreptitious and legally obtained recorded interrogations.

(e) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to toilets and wash basins (15 CCR 1143).

(f) Food shall be provided if a juvenile has not eaten within the past four hours or is otherwise in need of nourishment, including any special diet required for the health of the juvenile (15 CCR 1143).

(g) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to a drinking fountain or water (15 CCR 1143).

(h) Juveniles shall have reasonable opportunities to stand and stretch, particularly if handcuffed or restrained in any way.

(i) Juveniles shall have privacy during family, guardian, and/or lawyer visits (15 CCR 1143).

(j) Juveniles shall be permitted to remain in their personal clothing unless the clothing is taken as evidence or is otherwise unsuitable or inadequate for continued wear while in custody (15 CCR 1143).

(k) Blankets shall be provided as reasonably necessary (15 CCR 1143).

1. The supervisor should ensure that there is an adequate supply of clean blankets.

(l) Adequate shelter, heat, light, and ventilation should be provided without compromising security or enabling escape.

(m) Juveniles shall have adequate furnishings, including suitable chairs or benches.

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(n) Juveniles shall have the right to the same number of telephone calls as an adult in temporary custody.

(o) No discipline may be administered to any juvenile, nor may juveniles be subjected to corporal or unusual punishment, humiliation, or mental abuse (15 CCR 1142).

323.9 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 Westminster Police Department when the juvenile presents a heightened risk. However, non-offenders and status offenders should not be handcuffed unless they are combative or threatening (15 CCR 1142).

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

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

323.10 PERSONAL PROPERTY

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

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

323.11 SECURE CUSTODY

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

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

(a) Age, maturity, and delinquent history

(b) Severity of offense for which the juvenile was taken into custody

(c) The juvenile offender’s behavior

(d) Availability of staff to provide adequate supervision or protection of the juvenile offender

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(e) Age, type, and number of other individuals in custody at the facility

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

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

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

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

323.11.1 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 (15 CCR 1147).

(c) Initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1).

(d) Unscheduled safety checks to provide for the health and welfare of the juvenile by a staff member, no less than once every 15 minutes, shall occur (15 CCR 1147; 15 CCR 1151).

1. All safety checks shall be logged.
2. The safety check should involve questioning the juvenile as to his/her well-being (sleeping juveniles or apparently sleeping juveniles should be awakened).
3. Requests or concerns of the juvenile should be logged.

(e) Males and females shall not be placed in the same locked room (15 CCR 1147).

(f) Juvenile offenders should be separated according to severity of the crime (e.g., felony or misdemeanor).

(g) Restrained juveniles shall not be mixed in a cell or room with unrestrained juveniles.

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323.12 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH, OR SERIOUS INJURY OF A JUVENILE

The Watch Commander will ensure procedures are in place to address the suicide attempt, death, or serious injury of any juvenile held at the Westminster Police Department (15 CCR 1142; 15 CCR 1047). The procedures will address:

(a) Immediate notification of the on-duty supervisor, Chief of Police, and Detective Bureau 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 City attorney.

(e) Notification to the coroner.

(f) Notification of the juvenile court.

(g) In the case of a death, providing a report to the Attorney General under Government Code § 12525 within 10 calendar days of the death, and forwarding the same report to the Board of State and Community Corrections within the same time frame (15 CCR 1046).

(h) A medical and operational review of deaths and suicide attempts pursuant to 15 CCR 1046.

(i) Evidence preservation.

323.13 INTERVIEWING OR INTERROGATING JUVENILE SUSPECTS

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

Prior to conducting a custodial interrogation, including the waiver of *Miranda* rights, an officer shall permit a juvenile 17 years of age or younger to consult with legal counsel in person, by telephone, or by video conference. The consultation may not be waived by the juvenile. The requirement to consult with legal counsel does not apply when (Welfare and Institutions Code § 625.6):

(a) Information is necessary to protect life or property from an imminent threat.

(b) The questions are limited to what is reasonably necessary to obtain the information relating to the threat.

323.13.1 MANDATORY RECORDINGS OF JUVENILES

Any interrogation of an individual under 18 years of age who is in custody and suspected of committing murder shall be audio and video recorded when the interview takes place at a department facility, jail, detention facility, or other fixed place of detention. The recording shall include the entire interview and a *Miranda* advisement preceding the interrogation (Penal Code § 859.5).

This recording is not mandatory when (Penal Code § 859.5):

(a) Recording is not feasible because of exigent circumstances that are later documented in a report.

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(b) The individual refuses to have the interrogation recorded, including a refusal any time during the interrogation, and the refusal is documented in a report. If feasible, the refusal shall be electronically recorded.

(c) The custodial interrogation occurred in another state by law enforcement officers of that state, unless the interrogation was conducted with the intent to avoid the requirements of Penal Code § 859.5.

(d) The interrogation occurs when no member conducting the interrogation has a reason to believe that the individual may have committed murder. Continued custodial interrogation concerning that offense shall be electronically recorded if the interrogating member develops a reason to believe the individual committed murder.

(e) The interrogation would disclose the identity of a confidential informant or would jeopardize the safety of an officer, the individual being interrogated, or another individual. Such circumstances shall be documented in a report.

(f) A recording device fails despite reasonable maintenance and the timely repair or replacement is not feasible.

(g) The questions are part of a routine processing or booking, and are not an interrogation.

(h) The suspect is in custody for murder and the interrogation is unrelated to a murder. However, if any information concerning a murder is mentioned during the interrogation, the remainder of the interrogation shall be recorded.

These recordings shall be retained until a conviction is final and all direct and habeas corpus appeals are exhausted, a court no longer has any jurisdiction over the individual, or the prosecution for that offense is barred (Penal Code § 859.5; Welfare and Institutions Code § 626.8).

323.14 FORMAL BOOKING

No juvenile offender shall be formally booked without the authorization of the arresting officer's supervisor, or in his/her absence, the Watch Commander.

Any juvenile 14 years of age or older who is taken into custody for a felony, or any juvenile whose acts amount to a sex crime, shall be booked, fingerprinted, and photographed.

For all other acts defined as crimes, juveniles may be booked, fingerprinted or photographed upon the approval from the Watch Commander or Detective Bureau supervisor, giving due consideration to the following:

(a) The gravity of the offense

(b) The past record of the offender

(c) The age of the offender

323.15 RELEASE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING JUVENILES

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

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A copy of the current policy of the juvenile court concerning authorized release of information and appropriate acknowledgment forms shall be kept with copies of this procedure in the Westminster Police Department Policy Manual. Such releases are authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.

Welfare and Institutions Code § 828 authorizes the release of certain information to other agencies. It shall be the responsibility of the Records Supervisor and the appropriate Detective Bureau supervisors to ensure that personnel of those bureaus act within legal guidelines.

323.16 BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS CERTIFICATION

The Operations Commander shall coordinate the procedures related to the custody of juveniles held at the Westminster Police Department and ensure any required certification is maintained (Welfare and Institution Code § 210.2).

323.17 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

Juveniles have the right to the same religious accommodation as adults in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).

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Senior and Disability Victimization

325.1 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 Westminster Police Department members as required by law (Penal Code § 368.6).

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

325.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Abuse of an elder (age 65 or older) or dependent adult - Physical abuse, neglect, financial abuse, abandonment, isolation, abduction, or other treatment with resulting physical harm or pain or mental suffering; or the deprivation by a care custodian of goods or services that are necessary to avoid physical harm or mental suffering. Neglect includes self-neglect (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.05 et seq.; Penal Code § 368.5).

Department protocols (or protocols) - A procedure adopted by a local law enforcement agency consistent with the agency's organizational structure and stated in a policy adopted pursuant to this section, to effectively and accountably carry out a particular agency responsibility.

Dependent adult - An individual, regardless of whether the individual lives independently, between 18 and 64 years of age who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his/her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his/her rights, including but not limited to persons who have physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age. This also includes those admitted as inpatients to a 24-hour health facility, as defined in state law (Penal Code § 368; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.23).

Elder and dependent 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 (Penal Code § 368).

Senior and disability victimization - Means any of the following (Penal Code § 368.6):

(a) Elder and dependent adult abuse

(b) Unlawful interference with a mandated report

(c) Homicide of an elder, dependent adult, or other adult or child with a disability

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(d) Sex crimes against elders, dependent adults, or other adults and children with disabilities

(e) Child abuse of children with disabilities

(f) Violation of relevant protective orders

(g) Hate crimes against persons with actual or perceived disabilities, including but not limited to disabilities caused by advanced age, or those associated with them

(h) Domestic violence against elders, dependent adults, and adults and children with disabilities, including disabilities caused by advanced age

325.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will investigate all reported incidents of alleged elder and dependent adult abuse and ensure proper reporting and notification as required by law.

325.2.1 ARREST POLICY

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

325.2.2 ADHERENCE TO POLICY

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

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

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

325.3 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING

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

Investigations and reports related to suspected cases of elder and dependent adult abuse should address, as applicable:

(a) The overall basis for the contact. This should be done by the investigating officer in all circumstances where a suspected elder and dependent adult abuse victim is contacted.

(b) Any relevant statements the victim may have made and to whom he/she made the statements.

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(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.

(j) Witness and suspect statements if available.

(k) Review of all portable audio/video recorders, devices, and other available video.

(l) Call history related to the elder or dependent adult including calls from mandated reporters or other individuals.

(m) Whether the abuse is related to a disability-bias hate crime and related bias motivations (Penal Code § 368.6) (see the Hate Crimes Policy for additional guidance).

(n) Results of investigations shall be provided to those agencies (Adult Protective Services (APS), long-term ombudsman) that referred or reported the elder or dependent adult abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(f)).

(o) Whether a death involved the End of Life Option Act:

1. Whether or not assistance was provided to the person beyond that allowed by law (Health and Safety Code § 443.14).

2. Whether an individual knowingly altered or forged a request for an aid-in-dying drug to end a person's life without his/her authorization, or concealed or destroyed a withdrawal or rescission of a request for an aid-in-dying drug (Health and Safety Code § 443.17).

3. Whether coercion or undue influence was exerted on the person to request or ingest an aid-in-dying drug or to destroy a withdrawal or rescission of a request for such medication (Health and Safety Code § 443.17).

4. Whether an aid-in-dying drug was administered to a person without his/her knowledge or consent (Health and Safety Code § 443.17).

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

An unexplained or suspicious death of an elder, dependent adult, or other adult or child with a disability should be treated as a potential homicide until a complete investigation including an

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autopsy is completed, and it should not be assumed that the death of an elder or person with a disability is natural simply because of the age or disability of the deceased (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(18)).

325.3.1 ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

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

(a) Elder and dependent adult abuse, sex crimes, child abuse, domestic violence, and any other criminal act, when committed in whole or in part because of the victim's actual or perceived disability, including disability caused by advanced age, is also a hate crime (Penal Code § 368.6) (see the Hate Crimes Policy for additional guidance).

(b) Senior and disability victimization crimes are also domestic violence subject to the mandatory arrest requirements of Penal Code § 836 if they meet the elements described in Penal Code § 273.5, including but not limited to a violation by a caretaker or other person who is or was a cohabitant of the victim, regardless of whether the cohabitant is or was a relative of, or in an intimate personal relationship with, the victim (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(10)).

(c) Many victims of sexual assault and other sex crimes delay disclosing the crimes for reasons including but not limited to shame, embarrassment, self-doubt, fear of being disbelieved, and fear of retaliation by the perpetrator or others (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(11)).

(d) Victims and witnesses with disabilities, including cognitive and communication disabilities, can be highly credible witnesses when interviewed appropriately by trained officers or other trained persons (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(14)).

325.4 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS

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

(a) Conduct interviews in appropriate interview facilities.

(b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to elder and dependent adult abuse investigations.

(c) Present all cases of alleged elder and dependent adult abuse to the prosecutor for review.

(d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies, and facility administrators as needed (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15650).

(e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians, and support for the victim and family as appropriate (see the Victim and Witness Assistance Policy for additional guidance).

1. Ensure victims of sex crimes know their right to have a support person of their choice present at all times during an interview or contact (Penal Code § 368.6) (see the Sexual Assault Investigations Policy for additional guidance).

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2. Referrals to the crime victim liaison as appropriate for victims requiring further assistance or information regarding benefits from crime victim resources.

(f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.55).

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

325.5 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

(a) If the abuse is physical abuse and occurred in a long-term care facility (not a state mental health hospital or a state developmental center), notification shall be made as follows (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)(1)):

1. If there is serious bodily injury, notification shall be made by telephone and, within two hours, a written report shall be made to the local ombudsman and the corresponding licensing agency.

2. If there is physical abuse and no serious bodily injury, notification shall be made by telephone and, within 24 hours, a written report shall be made to the local ombudsman and the corresponding licensing agency.

3. If the abuse is allegedly caused by a resident with dementia and there is no serious bodily injury, notification shall be made by telephone and a written report to the local ombudsman within 24 hours.

4. When a report of abuse is received by the Department, the local ombudsman shall be called to coordinate efforts to provide the most immediate and appropriate response (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).

(b) If the abuse is in a long-term care facility (not a state mental health or a state developmental center) and is other than physical abuse, a telephone report and a written report shall be made to the local ombudsman as soon as practicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).

(c) The California Department of Public Health (DPH) shall be notified of all known or suspected abuse in a long-term care facility.

(d) The CDSS shall be notified of all known or suspected abuse occurring in a residential care facility for the elderly or in an adult day program.

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(e) If the abuse occurred in an adult day health care center, DPH and the California Department of Aging shall be notified.

(f) The Division of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse shall be notified of all abuse that constitutes criminal activity in a long-term care facility.

(g) The District Attorney's office shall be notified of all cases of physical abuse and financial abuse in a long-term care facility.

(h) If the abuse occurred at a state mental hospital or a state developmental center, notification shall be made to the designated investigators of the California Department of State Hospitals or the California Department of Developmental Services as soon as practicable but no later than two hours after law enforcement becomes aware of the abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).

1. When a report of abuse is received by the Department, investigation efforts shall be coordinated with the designated investigators of the California Department of State Hospitals or the California Department of Developmental Services (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).

(i) If during an investigation it is determined that the elder or dependent adult abuse is being committed by a licensed health practitioner as identified in Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(b), the appropriate licensing agency shall be immediately notified (Welfare and Institutions Code 15640(b)).

(j) When the Department receives a report of abuse, neglect, or abandonment of an elder or dependent adult alleged to have occurred in a long-term care facility, the licensing agency shall be notified by telephone as soon as practicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(e)).

The Detective Bureau supervisor is responsible for ensuring that proper notifications have occurred to the District Attorney's Office and any other regulatory agency that may be applicable based upon where the abuse took place (e.g., care facility, hospital) per Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b).

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

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

325.5.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

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

(a) The name of the person making the report.

(b) The name and age of the elder or dependent adult.

(c) The present location of the elder or dependent adult.

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(d) The names and addresses of family members or any other adult responsible for the care of the elder or dependent adult.

(e) The nature and extent of the condition of the elder or dependent adult.

(f) The date of incident.

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

325.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Before taking an elder or dependent adult abuse victim into protective custody when facts indicate the adult may not be able to care for him/herself, the officer should make reasonable attempts to contact APS. Generally, removal of an adult abuse victim from his/her family, guardian, or other responsible adult should be left to the welfare authorities when they are present or have become involved in an investigation.

Generally, members of this department should remove an elder or dependent adult abuse victim from his/her family or guardian without a court order only when no other effective alternative is reasonably available and immediate action reasonably appears necessary to protect the victim. Prior to taking an elder or dependent adult abuse victim into protective custody, the officer 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 officer shall ensure that the adult is delivered to APS.

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

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

325.6.1 EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE ORDERS

In any situation which an officer 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 officer may seek an emergency protective order against the person alleged to have committed or threatened such abuse (Family Code § 6250(d)).

325.7 INTERVIEWS

325.7.1 PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS

Absent extenuating circumstances or impracticality, officers should audio record the preliminary interview with a suspected elder or dependent adult abuse victim. Officers should avoid multiple interviews with the victim and should attempt to gather only the information necessary to begin an

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investigation. When practicable, investigating officers should defer interviews until a person who is specially trained in such interviews is available.

325.7.2 DETAINING VICTIMS FOR INTERVIEWS

An officer 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.

325.7.3 INTERVIEWS WITH A PERSON WITH DEAFNESS OR HEARING LOSS

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

325.8 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

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

In cases where the alleged offender is a family member, guardian, agency, or entity having legal custody and is refusing to give consent for the medical examination, officers should notify a supervisor before proceeding. If exigent circumstances do not exist or if state law does not provide for officers 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.

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

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325.9.1 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

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

(a) Document the environmental, medical, social, and other conditions of the adult, using photography as appropriate and the checklist or form developed for this purpose.

(b) Notify the Detective Bureau supervisor so an interagency response can begin.

325.9.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Detective Bureau supervisor should:

(a) Work with professionals from the appropriate agencies, including APS, other law enforcement agencies, medical service providers, and local prosecutors, to develop community specific procedures for responding to situations where there are elder or dependent adult abuse victims endangered by exposure to methamphetamine labs or the manufacture and trafficking of other drugs.

(b) Activate any available interagency response when an officer notifies the Detective Bureau supervisor that he/she has responded to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where an elder or dependent adult abuse victim is present or where evidence indicates that an elder or dependent adult abuse victim lives.

(c) Develop a report format or checklist for use when officers respond to drug labs or other narcotics crime scenes. The checklist will help officers document the environmental, medical, social, and other conditions that may affect the adult.

325.10 TRAINING

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

(a) Participating in multidisciplinary investigations, as appropriate.

(b) Conducting interviews.

(c) Availability of therapy services for adults and families.

(d) Availability of specialized forensic medical exams.

(e) Cultural competence (including interpretive services) related to elder and dependent adult abuse investigations.

(f) Availability of victim advocates or other support.

325.10.1 MANDATORY TRAINING

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

(a) Materials from POST as described in Penal Code § 368.6(c)(5)(A).

(b) Advanced training on senior and disability victimization available from POST, the United States Department of Justice, the Disability and Abuse Project of the Spectrum Institute, or other sources as provided by Penal Code § 368.6(c)(16)(A).

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1. Training should include the following:
   (a) Information on the wide prevalence of elder and dependent adult abuse, sexual assault, other sex crimes, hate crimes, domestic violence, human trafficking, and homicide against adults and children with disabilities, including disabilities caused by advanced age, and including those crimes often committed by caretakers (Penal Code § 368.6(c)(1)).
   (b) Information on the history of elder and dependent adult abuse and crimes against individuals with disabilities (see the POST Senior and Disability Victimization Policy Guidelines).

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

325.11 RELEVANT STATUTES

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

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

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

Penal Code § 368 (c)

Any person who knows or reasonably should know that a person is an elder or dependent adult and who, under circumstances or conditions other than those likely to produce great bodily harm or death, willfully causes or permits any elder or dependent adult to suffer, or inflicts thereon unjustifiable physical pain or mental suffering, or having the care or custody of any elder or dependent adult, willfully causes or permits the person or health of the elder or dependent adult to be injured or willfully causes or permits the elder or dependent adult to be placed in a situation in which his or her person or health may be endangered, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Penal Code § 368 (f)

A person who commits the false imprisonment of an elder or a dependent adult by the use of violence, menace, fraud, or deceit is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 for two, three, or four years.

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

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Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.05

"Abandonment" means the desertion or willful forsaking of an elder or a dependent adult by anyone having care or custody of that person under circumstances in which a reasonable person would continue to provide care and custody.

Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.06

"Abduction" means the removal from this state and the restraint from returning to this state, or the restraint from returning to this state, of any elder or dependent adult who does not have the capacity to consent to the removal from this state and the restraint from returning to this state, or the restraint from returning to this state, as well as the removal from this state or the restraint from returning to this state, of any conservatee without the consent of the conservator or the court.

Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.30

(a) "Financial abuse" of an elder or dependent adult occurs when a person or entity does any of the following:

1. Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both.
2. Assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both.
3. Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains, or assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining, real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult by undue influence, as defined in Section 15610.70.

(b) A person or entity shall be deemed to have taken, secreted, appropriated, obtained, or retained property for a wrongful use if, among other things, the person or entity takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains the property and the person or entity knew or should have known that this conduct is likely to be harmful to the elder or dependent adult.

(c) For purposes of this section, a person or entity takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains real or personal property when an elder or dependent adult is deprived of any property right, including by means of an agreement, donative transfer, or testamentary bequest, regardless of whether the property is held directly or by a representative of an elder or dependent adult.

(d) For purposes of this section, "representative" means a person or entity that is either of the following:

1. A conservator, trustee, or other representative of the estate of an elder or dependent adult.
2. An attorney-in-fact of an elder or dependent adult who acts within the authority of the power of attorney.

Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.43

(a) "Isolation" means any of the following:

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1. Acts intentionally committed for the purpose of preventing, and that do serve to prevent, an elder or dependent adult from receiving his or her mail or telephone calls.
2. Telling a caller or prospective visitor that an elder or dependent adult is not present, or does not wish to talk with the caller, or does not wish to meet with the visitor where the statement is false, is contrary to the express wishes of the elder or the dependent adult, whether he or she is competent or not, and is made for the purpose of preventing the elder or dependent adult from having contact with family, friends, or concerned persons.
3. False imprisonment, as defined in Section 236 of the Penal Code.
4. Physical restraint of an elder or dependent adult, for the purpose of preventing the elder or dependent adult from meeting with visitors.

(b) The acts set forth in subdivision (a) shall be subject to a rebuttable presumption that they do not constitute isolation if they are performed pursuant to the instructions of a physician and surgeon licensed to practice. medicine in the state, who is caring for the elder or dependent adult at the time the instructions are given, and who gives the instructions as part of his or her medical care.

(c) The acts set forth in subdivision (a) shall not constitute isolation if they are performed in response to a reasonably perceived threat of danger to property or physical safe.

Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.57

(a) “Neglect” means either of the following:

1. The negligent failure of any person having the care or custody of an elder or a dependent adult to exercise that degree of care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise.
2. The negligent failure of an elder or dependent adult to exercise that degree of self care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise.

(b) Neglect includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

1. Failure to assist in personal hygiene, or in the provision of food, clothing, or shelter.
2. Failure to provide medical care for physical and mental health needs. A person shall not be deemed neglected or abused for the sole reason that the person voluntarily relies on treatment by spiritual means through prayer alone in lieu of medical treatment.
3. Failure to protect from health and safety hazards.
4. Failure to prevent malnutrition or dehydration.
5. Substantial inability or failure of an elder or dependent adult to manage personal finances.

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6. Failure of an elder or dependent adult to satisfy any of the needs specified in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, for themselves as a result of poor cognitive functioning, mental limitation, substance abuse, or chronic poor health.

(c) Neglect includes being homeless if the elder or dependent adult is also unable to meet any of the needs specified in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (b).

Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.63

"Physical abuse" means any of the following:

(a) Assault, as defined in Section 240 of the Penal Code.

(b) Battery, as defined in Section 242 of the Penal Code.

(c) Assault with a deadly weapon or force likely to produce great bodily injury, as defined in Section 245 of the Penal Code.

(d) Unreasonable physical constraint, or prolonged or continual deprivation of food or water.

(e) Sexual assault, that means any of the following:

1. Sexual battery, as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.
2. Rape, as defined in Section 261 of the Penal Code.
3. Rape in concert, as described in Section 264.1 of the Penal Code.
4. Incest, as defined in Section 285 of the Penal Code.
5. Sodomy, as defined in Section 286 of the Penal Code.
6. Oral copulation, as defined in Section 287 or former Section 288a of the Penal Code.
7. Sexual penetration, as defined in Section 289 of the Penal Code.
8. Lewd or lascivious acts as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 288 of the Penal Code.

(f) Use of a physical or chemical restraint or psychotropic medication under any of the following conditions:

1. For punishment.
2. For a period beyond that for which the medication was ordered pursuant to the instructions of a physician and surgeon licensed in the State of California, who is providing medical care to the elder or dependent adult at the time the instructions are given.
3. For any purpose not authorized by the physician and surgeon.

325.12 RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES

The Records Bureau is responsible for:

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(a) Providing a copy of the elder or dependent adult abuse report to the APS, ombudsman, or other agency as applicable within two working days or as required by law (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(c)).

(b) Retaining the original elder or dependent adult abuse report with the initial case file.

325.13 JURISDICTION

The Westminster Police Department has concurrent jurisdiction with state law enforcement agencies when investigating elder and dependent adult abuse and all other crimes against elder victims and victims with disabilities (Penal Code § 368.5).

Adult protective services agencies and local long-term care ombudsman programs also have jurisdiction within their statutory authority to investigate elder and dependent adult abuse and criminal neglect and may assist in criminal investigations upon request, if consistent with federal law, in such cases. However, this department will retain responsibility for the criminal investigations (Penal Code § 368.5).

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

325.14 CHIEF OF POLICE RESPONSIBILITIES

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

(a) Taking leadership within the Department and in the community, including by speaking out publicly in major cases of senior and disability victimization, to assure the community of department support for the victims and their families and for others in the community who are terrorized and traumatized by the crimes, and to encourage victims and witnesses to the crimes or similar past or future crimes to report those crimes to help bring the perpetrators to justice and prevent further crimes.

(b) Developing and including department protocols in this policy, including but not limited to the following:

1. Protocols for seeking emergency protective orders by phone from a court at any time of day or night pursuant to Family Code § 6250(d).

2. Protocols for arrest warrants and arrests for senior and disability victimization for matters other than domestic violence and consistent with the requirements of Penal Code § 368.6(c)(9)(B) that include the following:

(a) In the case of a senior and disability victimization committed in an officer's presence, including but not limited to a violation of a relevant protective order, the officer shall make a warrantless arrest based on probable cause when necessary or advisable to protect the safety of the victim or others.

(b) In the case of a felony not committed in an officer's presence, the officer shall make a warrantless arrest based on probable cause when necessary or advisable to protect the safety of the victim or others.

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(c) In the case of a misdemeanor not committed in the officer's presence, including but not limited to misdemeanor unlawful interference with a mandated report or a misdemeanor violation of a relevant protective order, or when necessary or advisable to protect the safety of the victim or others, the agency shall seek an arrest warrant based on probable cause.

(d) Protocol for seeking arrest warrants based on probable cause for crimes for which no arrest has been made.

3. Procedures for first responding officers to follow when interviewing persons with cognitive and communication disabilities until officers, or staff of other responsible agencies with more advanced training, are available. The procedure shall include an instruction to avoid repeated interviews whenever possible.

(c) For each department protocol, include either a specific title-by-title list of officer responsibilities or a specific office or unit in the Department responsible for implementing the protocol.

(d) Ensure an appendix is created and attached to this policy that describes requirements for elder and dependent adult abuse investigations consistent with Penal Code § 368.6(c)(8)(B).

(e) Ensure a detailed checklist is created and attached to this policy regarding first responding responsibilities that includes but is not limited to the requirements of Penal Code § 368.6(c)(23).

(f) Ensuring that all members carry out their responsibilities under this policy.

(g) Verifying a process is in place for transmitting and periodically retransmitting this policy and related orders to officers, including a simple and immediate way for officers to access the policy in the field when needed.

(h) Ensure this policy is available to the Protection and Advocacy Agency upon request.

325.15 ELDER AND DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE LIAISON

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

(a) Acting as a liaison to other responsible agencies (defined by Penal Code § 368.6(b)(15)) to increase cooperation and collaboration among them while retaining the law enforcement agency's exclusive responsibility for criminal investigations (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15650).

(b) Reaching out to the senior and disability communities and to the public to encourage prevention and reporting of senior and disability victimization.

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Discriminatory Harassment

327.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to prevent department members from being subjected to discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation. Nothing in this policy is intended to create a legal or employment right or duty that is not created by law.

327.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to creating and maintaining a work environment that is free of all forms of discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation (Government Code § 12940(k); 2 CCR 11023). The Department will not tolerate discrimination against a member 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 nondiscrimination 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.

327.3 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

327.3.1 DISCRIMINATION

The Department prohibits all forms of discrimination, including any employment-related action by a member that adversely affects an applicant or member and is based on actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law.

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; making 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 a work environment that is free of discrimination.

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327.3.2 SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Department prohibits all forms of discrimination and discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment. It is unlawful to harass an applicant or a member 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 any employment decisions affecting the member.

(c) Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with a member's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

327.3.3 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Discrimination and discriminatory harassment do not include actions that are in accordance with established rules, principles, or standards, including:

(a) Acts or omission of acts based solely upon bona fide occupational qualifications under the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the California Fair Employment and Housing Council guidelines.

(b) Bona fide requests or demands by a supervisor that the member improve the member's work quality or output, that the member report to the job site on time, that the member comply with City or department rules or regulations, or any other appropriate work-related communication between supervisor and member.

327.3.4 RETALIATION

Retaliation is treating a person differently or engaging in acts of reprisal or intimidation against the person because the person has engaged in protected activity, filed a charge of discrimination, participated in an investigation, or opposed a discriminatory practice. Retaliation will not be tolerated.

327.4 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 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 member who is not comfortable with reporting violations of this policy to the member's 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 Chief of Police, the Director of Human Services, or the City Manager.

Any member who believes, in good faith, that the member has been discriminated against, harassed, or subjected to retaliation, or who has observed harassment, discrimination, or

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retaliation, 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.

327.4.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors and managers shall include but are not limited to:

(a) Continually monitoring the work environment and striving to ensure that it is free from all types of unlawful discrimination, including harassment or retaliation.

(b) Taking prompt, appropriate action within their work units to avoid and minimize the incidence of any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.

(c) Ensuring that their subordinates understand their responsibilities under this policy.

(d) Ensuring that members who make complaints or who oppose any unlawful employment practices are protected from retaliation and that such matters are kept confidential to the extent possible.

(e) Making a timely determination regarding the substance of any allegation based upon all available facts.

(f) Notifying the Chief of Police or the Director of Human Services in writing of the circumstances surrounding any reported allegations or observed acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation no later than the next business day.

327.4.2 SUPERVISOR'S ROLE

Supervisors and managers shall be aware of the following:

(a) Behavior of supervisors and managers should represent the values of the Department and professional standards.

(b) False or mistaken accusations of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation can have negative effects on the careers of innocent members.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent supervisors or managers from discharging supervisory or management responsibilities, such as determining duty assignments, evaluating or counseling members, or issuing discipline, in a manner that is consistent with established procedures.

327.4.3 QUESTIONS OR CLARIFICATION

Members with questions regarding what constitutes discrimination, sexual harassment, or retaliation are encouraged to contact a supervisor, a manager, the Chief of Police, the Director of Human Services, the City Manager, or the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) for further information, direction, or clarification (Government Code § 12950).

327.5 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

Various methods of resolution exist. During the pendency of any such investigation, the supervisor of the involved member should take prompt and reasonable steps to mitigate or eliminate

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any continuing abusive or hostile work environment. It is the policy of the Department that all complaints of discrimination, retaliation, or harassment shall be fully documented and promptly and thoroughly investigated.

327.5.1 SUPERVISOR RESOLUTION

Members who believe they are experiencing discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should be encouraged to inform the individual that the behavior is unwelcome, offensive, unprofessional, or inappropriate. However, if the member feels uncomfortable or threatened or has difficulty expressing the member's 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.

327.5.2 FORMAL INVESTIGATION

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

The person assigned to investigate the complaint will have full authority to investigate all aspects of the complaint. Investigative authority includes access to records and the cooperation of any members involved. No influence will be used to suppress any complaint and no member will be subject to retaliation or reprisal for filing a complaint, encouraging others to file a complaint, or for offering testimony or evidence in an investigation.

Formal investigation of the complaint will be confidential to the extent possible and will include but is not limited to details of the specific incident, frequency and dates of occurrences, and names of any witnesses. Witnesses will be advised regarding the prohibition against retaliation, and that a disciplinary process, up to and including termination, may result if retaliation occurs.

Members who believe they have been discriminated against, harassed, or retaliated against because of their protected status, are encouraged to follow the chain of command but may also file a complaint directly with the Chief of Police, the Director of Human Services, or the City Manager.

327.5.3 ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT PROCESS

No provision of this policy shall be construed to prevent any member from seeking legal redress outside the Department. Members who believe that they have been harassed, discriminated against, or retaliated against are entitled to bring complaints of employment discrimination to federal, state, and/or local agencies responsible for investigating such allegations. Specific time limitations apply to the filing of such charges. Members are advised that proceeding with complaints under the provisions of this policy does not in any way affect those filing requirements.

327.6 DOCUMENTATION OF COMPLAINTS

All complaints or allegations shall be thoroughly documented on forms and in a manner designated by the Chief of Police. The outcome of all reports shall be:

- Approved by the Chief of Police, the City Manager or the Director of Human Services, depending on the ranks of the involved parties.

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- Maintained in accordance with the department's established records retention schedule.

327.6.1 NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSITION
The complainant and/or victim will be notified in writing of the disposition of the investigation and the actions taken to remedy or address the circumstances giving rise to the complaint. Confidentiality of any personnel actions taken shall be maintained.

327.7 TRAINING

All new members shall be provided with a copy of this policy as part of their orientation. The policy shall be reviewed with each new member. The member shall certify by signing the prescribed form that the member has been advised of this policy, is aware of and understands its contents, and agrees to abide by its provisions during the member's term with the Department.

All members shall receive annual training on the requirements of this policy and shall certify by signing the prescribed form that they have reviewed the policy, understand its contents, and agree that they will continue to abide by its provisions.

327.7.1 STATE-REQUIRED TRAINING
The Training Sergeant should ensure that employees receive the required state training and education regarding sexual harassment, prevention of abusive conduct, and harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation as follows (Government Code § 12950.1; 2 CCR 11024):

(a) Supervisory employees shall receive two hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education within six months of assuming a supervisory position.

(b) All other employees shall receive one hour of classroom or other effective interactive training and education within six months of their employment or sooner for seasonal or temporary employees as described in Government Code § 12950.1.

(c) All employees shall receive refresher training every two years thereafter.

If the required training is to be provided by DFEH online training courses, the Training Sergeant should ensure that employees are provided the following website address to the training course: www.dfeh.ca.gov/shpt/ (Government Code § 12950; 2 CCR 11023).

327.7.2 TRAINING RECORDS
The Training Sergeant shall be responsible for maintaining records of all discriminatory harassment training provided to members. Records shall be retained in accordance with established records retention schedules and for a minimum of two years (2 CCR 11024).

327.8 WORKING CONDITIONS

The Professional Standards Unit Commander or the authorized designee should be responsible for reviewing facility design and working conditions for discriminatory practices. This person should collaborate with other City employees who are similarly tasked (2 CCR 11034).

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327.9 REQUIRED POSTERS

The Department shall display the required posters regarding discrimination, harassment and transgender rights in a prominent and accessible location for members (Government Code § 12950).

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Child Abuse

329.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the investigation of suspected child abuse. This policy also addresses when Westminster Police Department members are required to notify the county Child Protective Services (CPS) of suspected child abuse.

329.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

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

Child abuse - Any offense or attempted offense involving violence or neglect with a child victim when committed by a person responsible for the child's care or any other act that would mandate notification to a social service agency or law enforcement (Penal Code § 11165.9; Penal Code § 11166).

329.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will investigate all reported incidents of alleged criminal child abuse and ensure CPS is notified as required by law.

329.3 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

The child protection agency shall be notified when (Penal Code § 11166):

(a) There is a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect reported, which is alleged to have occurred as a result of the action of a person responsible for the child's welfare, or

(b) A person responsible for the child's welfare fails to adequately protect the child from abuse when the person knew or reasonably should have known that the child was in danger of abuse.

The District Attorney's office shall be notified in all instances of known or suspected child abuse or neglect reported to this department. Notification of the District Attorney is not required for reports only involving neglect by a person, who has the care or custody of a child, to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision where no physical injury to the child has occurred (Penal Code § 11166).

When the abuse or neglect occurs at a licensed facility or is alleged to have resulted from the actions of a person who is required to have a state license (e.g., foster homes, group homes, day care), notification shall also be made to the California Department of Social Services or other applicable licensing authority. When the alleged abuse or neglect involves a child of a minor parent or a dependent adult, notification shall also be made to the attorney of the minor or the dependent adult within 36 hours (Penal Code 11166.1; Penal Code 11166.2).

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For purposes of notification, the abuse or neglect includes physical injury or death inflicted by other than accidental means upon a child by another person; sexual abuse (Penal Code § 11165.1); neglect (Penal Code § 11165.2); the willful harming or injuring of a child or the endangering of the person or health of a child (Penal Code § 11165.3); and unlawful corporal punishment or injury (Penal Code § 11165.4). Child abuse or neglect does not include a mutual affray between minors, nor does it include an injury caused by the reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of the peace officer's employment as a peace officer.

329.3.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Notification should occur as follows (Penal Code § 11166):

(a) Notification shall be made immediately, or as soon as practicable, by telephone, fax or electronic transmission.

(b) A written follow-up report should be forwarded within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident.

329.4 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS

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

(a) Conduct interviews in child appropriate interview facilities.

(b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to child abuse investigations.

(c) Present all cases of alleged child abuse to the prosecutor for review.

(d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and school administrators as needed.

(e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians and support for the child and family as appropriate.

(f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 18961.7).

329.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING

In all reported or suspected cases of child abuse, a report will be written. Officers 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 officer in all circumstances where a suspected child abuse victim was contacted.

(b) The exigent circumstances that existed if officers interviewed the child victim without the presence of a parent or guardian.

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(c) Any relevant statements the child may have made and to whom he/she made the statements.

(d) If a child was taken into protective custody, the reasons, the name and title of the person making the decision, and why other alternatives were not appropriate.

(e) Documentation of any visible injuries or any injuries identified by the child. This should include photographs of such injuries, if practicable.

(f) Whether the child victim was transported for medical treatment or a medical examination.

(g) Whether the victim identified a household member as the alleged perpetrator, and a list of the names of any other children who may reside in the residence.

(h) Identification of any prior related reports or allegations of child abuse, including other jurisdictions, as reasonably known.

(i) Previous addresses of the victim and suspect.

(j) Other potential witnesses who have not yet been interviewed, such as relatives or others close to the victim's environment.

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

329.5.1 EXTRA JURISDICTIONAL REPORTS

If a report of known or suspected child abuse or neglect that is alleged to have occurred outside this jurisdiction is received, department members shall ensure that the caller is immediately transferred to the agency with proper jurisdiction for the investigation of the case. If the caller cannot be successfully transferred to the appropriate agency, a report shall be taken and immediately referred by telephone, fax or electronic transfer to the agency with proper jurisdiction (Penal Code 11165.9).

329.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Before taking any child into protective custody, the officer 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 officer 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 officer shall ensure that the child is delivered to CPS.

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

Children may only be removed from a parent or guardian in the following situations when a court order cannot reasonably be obtained in a timely manner (Welfare and Institutions Code § 305):

(a) The officer reasonably believes the child is a person described in Welfare and Institutions Code § 300, or a commercially exploited child under Penal Code § 647 and Penal Code § 653.22, and further has good cause to believe that any of the following conditions exist:

1. The child has an immediate need for medical care.
2. The child is in immediate danger of physical or sexual abuse.
3. The physical environment or the fact that the child is left unattended poses an immediate threat to the child's health or safety. In the case of a child left unattended, the officer shall first attempt to locate and determine if a responsible parent or guardian is available and capable of assuming custody before taking the child into protective custody.

(b) The officer reasonably believes the child requires protective custody under the provisions of Penal Code § 279.6, in one of the following circumstances:

1. It reasonably appears to the officer that a person is likely to conceal the child, flee the jurisdiction with the child or, by flight or concealment, evade the authority of the court.
2. There is no lawful custodian available to take custody of the child.
3. There are conflicting custody orders or conflicting claims to custody and the parties cannot agree which party should take custody of the child.
4. The child is an abducted child.

(c) The child is in the company of, or under the control of, a person arrested for Penal Code § 278 (Detainment or concealment of child from legal custodian) or Penal Code § 278.5 (Deprivation of custody of a child or right to visitation) (Penal Code § 279.6).

A child taken into protective custody shall be delivered to CPS unless otherwise directed by court order.

329.6.1 CALIFORNIA SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW

An individual having lawful custody of an infant less than 72 hours old is not guilty of abandonment if the individual voluntarily surrenders physical custody of the infant to personnel on-duty at a safe-surrender site, such as a hospital or fire department (Penal Code § 271.5). The law requires the surrender site to notify CPS.

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329.6.2 NEWBORNS TESTING POSITIVE FOR DRUGS
Under certain circumstances, officers can be prohibited from taking a newborn who is the subject of a proposed adoption into protective custody, even when the newborn has tested positive for illegal drugs or the birth mother tested positive for illegal drugs.

Officers shall instead follow the provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code § 305.6 to ensure that the newborn is placed with the adoptive parents when it is appropriate.

329.7 INTERVIEWS

329.7.1 PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS
Absent extenuating circumstances or impracticality, officers should record the preliminary interview with suspected child abuse victims. Officers should avoid multiple interviews with a child victim and should attempt to gather only the information necessary to begin an investigation. When practicable, investigating officers 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.

329.7.2 DETAINING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE VICTIMS FOR AN INTERVIEW
An officer 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.

329.7.3 INTERVIEWS AT A SCHOOL
Any student at school who is a suspected victim of child abuse shall be afforded the option of being interviewed in private or selecting any qualified available adult member of the school staff to be present. The purpose of the staff member's presence is to provide comfort and support. The staff member shall not participate in the interview. The selection of a staff member should be such that it does not burden the school with costs or hardship (Penal Code § 11174.3).

329.8 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS
If the child has been the victim of abuse that requires a medical examination, the investigating officer should obtain consent for such examination from the appropriate parent, guardian or agency

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having legal custody of the child. The officer 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, officers should notify a supervisor before proceeding. If exigent circumstances do not exist or if state law does not provide for officers to take the child for a medical examination, the notified supervisor should consider obtaining a court order for such an examination.

329.9 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.

329.9.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Detective Bureau 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 an officer notifies the Detective Bureau supervisor that the officer 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 officers respond to drug labs or other narcotics crime scenes. The checklist will help officers document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions that may affect the child.

329.9.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Officers 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 Detective Bureau supervisor so an interagency response can begin.

329.10 STATE MANDATES AND OTHER RELEVANT LAWS

California requires or permits the following:

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329.10.1 RELEASE OF REPORTS

Information related to incidents of child abuse or suspected child abuse shall be confidential and may only be disclosed pursuant to state law and the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Penal Code 841.5; Penal Code § 11167.5).

329.10.2 REQUESTS FOR REMOVAL FROM THE CHILD ABUSE CENTRAL INDEX (CACI)

Any person whose name has been forwarded to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) for placement in California's CACI, as a result of an investigation, may request that his/her name be removed from the CACI list. The CACI list is maintained by OC Social Services. Requests shall not qualify for consideration if there is an active case, ongoing investigation or pending prosecution that precipitated the entry to CACI (Penal Code § 11169). All requests for removal shall be submitted in writing by the requesting person and promptly routed to the CACI hearing officer located at OC Social Services.

329.10.3 CACI HEARING OFFICER

OC Social Services will normally assign a hearing officer who must not be actively connected with the case that resulted in the person's name being submitted to CACI. Upon receiving a qualified request for removal, the hearing officer shall promptly schedule a hearing to take place during normal business hours and provide written notification of the time and place of the hearing to the requesting party.

329.10.4 CACI HEARING PROCEDURES

The hearing is an informal process where the person requesting removal from the CACI list will be permitted to present relevant evidence (e.g., certified copy of an acquittal, factual finding of innocence) as to why his/her name should be removed. The person requesting the hearing may record the hearing at his/her own expense.

Formal rules of evidence will not apply and the hearing officer may consider, in addition to evidence submitted by the person requesting the hearing, any relevant information including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Case reports including any supplemental reports

(b) Statements by investigators

(c) Statements from representatives of the District Attorney’s Office

(d) Statements by representatives of a child protective agency who may be familiar with the case

After considering all information presented, the hearing officer shall make a determination as to whether the requesting party’s name should be removed from the CACI list. Such determination shall be based on a finding that the allegations in the investigation are not substantiated (Penal Code § 11169).

If, after considering the evidence, the hearing officer finds that the allegations are not substantiated, he/she shall cause a request to be completed and forwarded to the DOJ that the

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person's name be removed from the CACI list. A copy of the hearing results and the request for removal will be attached to the case reports.

The findings of the hearing officer shall be considered final and binding.

329.10.5 CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAM

This department should cooperate with any interagency child death review team investigation. Written and oral information relating to the death of a child that would otherwise be subject to release restrictions may be disclosed to the child death review team upon written request and approval of a supervisor (Penal Code § 11174.32).

329.11 TRAINING

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

(a) Participating in multidisciplinary investigations, as appropriate.

(b) Conducting forensic interviews.

(c) Availability of therapy services for children and families.

(d) Availability of specialized forensic medical exams.

(e) Cultural competence (including interpretive services) related to child abuse investigations.

(f) Availability of victim advocate or guardian ad litem support.

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Missing Persons

331.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for handling missing person investigations.

331.1.1 DEFINITIONS

At risk - Includes, but is not limited to (Penal Code § 14215):

- A victim of a crime or foul play.
- A person missing and in need of medical attention.
- A missing person with no pattern of running away or disappearing.
- A missing person who may be the victim of parental abduction.
- A mentally impaired missing person, including cognitively impaired or developmentally disabled.

Missing person - Any person who is reported missing to law enforcement when the person's location is unknown. This includes a child who has been taken, detained, concealed, enticed away or kept by a parent in violation of the law (Penal Code § 277 et seq.). It also includes any child who is missing voluntarily, involuntarily or under circumstances that do not conform to his/her ordinary habits or behavior, and who may be in need of assistance (Penal Code § 14215).

Missing person networks - Databases or computer networks available to law enforcement and that are suitable for information related to missing persons investigations. These include the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS), Missing Person System (MPS) and the Unidentified Persons System (UPS).

331.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department does not consider any report of a missing person to be routine and assumes that the missing person is in need of immediate assistance until an investigation reveals otherwise. The Westminster Police Department gives missing person cases priority over property-related cases and will not require any time frame to pass before beginning a missing person investigation (Penal Code § 14211).

331.3 REQUIRED FORMS AND BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION KITS

The Detective supervisor should ensure the forms and kits are developed and available in accordance with this policy, state law, federal law and the California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Missing Persons Investigations guidelines, including:

- Department report form for use in missing person cases
- Missing person investigation checklist that provides investigation guidelines and resources that could be helpful in the early hours of a missing person investigation (Penal Code § 13519.07)

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- Missing person school notification form
- Medical records release form from the California Department of Justice
- California DOJ missing person forms as appropriate
- Biological sample collection kits

331.4 ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

Any member encountering a person who wishes to report a missing person or runaway shall render assistance without delay (Penal Code § 14211). This can be accomplished by accepting the report via telephone or in-person and initiating the investigation. Those members who do not take such reports or who are unable to render immediate assistance shall promptly dispatch or alert a member who can take the report.

A report shall be accepted in all cases and regardless of where the person was last seen, where the person resides or any other question of jurisdiction (Penal Code § 14211).

331.5 INITIAL INVESTIGATION

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

(a) Respond to a dispatched call for service as soon as practicable.

(b) Interview the reporting party and any witnesses to determine whether the person qualifies as a missing person and, if so, whether the person may be at risk.

(c) Notify a supervisor immediately if there is evidence that a missing person is either at risk or may qualify for a public alert, or both (see the Public Alerts Policy).

(d) Broadcast a "Be on the Look-Out" (BOLO) bulletin if the person is under 21 years of age or there is evidence that the missing person is at risk. The BOLO should be broadcast as soon as practicable but in no event more than one hour after determining the missing person is under 21 years of age or may be at risk (Penal Code § 14211).

(e) Ensure that entries are made into the appropriate missing person networks as follows:

1. Immediately, when the missing person is at risk.
2. In all other cases, as soon as practicable, but not later than two hours from the time of the initial report.

(f) Complete the appropriate report forms accurately and completely and initiate a search as applicable under the facts.

(g) Collect and/or review:

1. A photograph and a fingerprint card of the missing person, if available.
2. A voluntarily provided biological sample of the missing person, if available (e.g., toothbrush, hairbrush).

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3. Any documents that may assist in the investigation, such as court orders regarding custody.
4. Any other evidence that may assist in the investigation, including personal electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, computers).

(h) When circumstances permit and if appropriate, attempt to determine the missing person's location through his/her telecommunications carrier.

(i) Contact the appropriate agency if the report relates to a previously made missing person report and another agency is actively investigating that report. When this is not practical, the information should be documented in an appropriate report for transmission to the appropriate agency. If the information relates to an at-risk missing person, the member should notify a supervisor and proceed with reasonable steps to locate the missing person.

331.6 REPORT PROCEDURES AND ROUTING

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

331.6.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

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

(a) Reviewing and approving missing person reports upon receipt.
   1. The reports should be promptly sent to the Records Bureau.

(b) Ensuring resources are deployed as appropriate.

(c) Initiating a command post as needed.

(d) Ensuring applicable notifications and public alerts are made and documented.

(e) Ensuring that records have been entered into the appropriate missing persons networks.

(f) Taking reasonable steps to identify and address any jurisdictional issues to ensure cooperation among agencies.

If the case falls within the jurisdiction of another agency, the supervisor should facilitate transfer of the case to the agency of jurisdiction.

331.6.2 RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES

The receiving member shall:

(a) As soon as reasonable under the circumstances, notify and forward a copy of the report to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the missing person's residence in cases where the missing person is a resident of another jurisdiction (Penal Code § 14211).

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(b) Notify and forward a copy of the report to the law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the missing person was last seen (Penal Code § 14211).

(c) Notify and forward a copy of the report to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the missing person's intended or possible destination, if known.

(d) Forward a copy of the report to the Detective Bureau.

(e) Coordinate with the NCIC Terminal Contractor for California to have the missing person record in the NCIC computer networks updated with additional information obtained from missing person investigations (34 USC § 41308).

331.7 DETECTIVE BUREAU FOLLOW-UP

In addition to completing or continuing any actions listed above, the investigator assigned to a missing person investigation:

(a) Shall ensure that the missing person's school is notified within 10 days if the missing person is a juvenile.

1. The notice shall be in writing and should also include a photograph (Education Code § 49068.6).

2. The investigator should meet with school officials regarding the notice as appropriate to stress the importance of including the notice in the child's student file, along with contact information if the school receives a call requesting the transfer of the missing child's files to another school.

(b) Should recontact the reporting person and/or other witnesses within 30 days of the initial report and within 30 days thereafter to determine if any additional information has become available via the reporting party.

(c) Should consider contacting other agencies involved in the case to determine if any additional information is available.

(d) Shall verify and update CLETS, NCIC, and any other applicable missing person networks within 30 days of the original entry into the networks and every 30 days thereafter until the missing person is located (34 USC § 41308).

(e) Should continue to make reasonable efforts to locate the missing person and document these efforts at least every 30 days.

(f) Shall maintain a close liaison with state and local child welfare systems and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children® (NCMEC) if the missing person is under the age of 21 and shall promptly notify NCMEC when the person is missing from a foster care family home or childcare institution (34 USC § 41308).

(g) Should make appropriate inquiry with the Coroner.

(h) Should obtain and forward medical and dental records, photos, X-rays, and biological samples pursuant to Penal Code § 14212 and Penal Code § 14250.

(i) Shall attempt to obtain the most recent photograph for persons under 18 years of age if it has not previously been obtained and forward the photograph to California DOJ (Penal Code § 14210) and enter the photograph into applicable missing person networks (34 USC § 41308).

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(j) Should consider making appropriate entries and searches in the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs).

(k) In the case of an at-risk missing person or a person who has been missing for an extended time, should consult with a supervisor regarding seeking federal assistance from the FBI and the U.S. Marshals Service (28 USC § 566).

331.8 WHEN A MISSING PERSON IS FOUND

When any person reported missing is found, the assigned investigator shall document the location of the missing person in the appropriate report, notify the relatives and/or reporting party, as appropriate, and other involved agencies and refer the case for additional investigation if warranted.

The Records Supervisor shall ensure that, upon receipt of information that a missing person has been located, the following occurs (Penal Code § 14213):

(a) Notification is made to California DOJ.

(b) The missing person's school is notified.

(c) Entries are made in the applicable missing person networks.

(d) Immediately notify the Attorney General's Office.

(e) Notification shall be made to any other law enforcement agency that took the initial report or participated in the investigation within 24 hours.

331.8.1 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, via Dispatch.

(c) Use available resources, such as those related to missing persons, to identify the person.

331.9 CASE CLOSURE

The Detective Bureau supervisor may authorize the closure of a missing person case after considering the following:

(a) Closure is appropriate when the missing person is confirmed returned or evidence has matched an unidentified person or body.

(b) If the missing person is a resident of Westminster or this department is the lead agency, the case should be kept under active investigation for as long as the person may still be alive. Exhaustion of leads in the investigation should not be a reason for closing a case.

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(c) If this department is not the lead agency, the case can be made inactivate 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.

331.10 TRAINING

Subject to available resources, the Training Sergeant should ensure that members of this department whose duties include missing person investigations and reports receive regular training that includes:

(a) The initial investigation:

1. Assessments and interviews
2. Use of current resources, such as Mobile Audio Video (MAV)
3. Confirming missing status and custody status of minors
4. Evaluating the need for a heightened response
5. Identifying the zone of safety based on chronological age and developmental stage

(b) Briefing of department members at the scene.

(c) Identifying NCIC Missing Person File categories (e.g., disability, endangered, involuntary, juvenile and catastrophe).

(d) Verifying the accuracy of all descriptive information.

(e) Initiating a neighborhood investigation.

(f) Investigating any relevant recent family dynamics.

(g) Addressing conflicting information.

(h) Key investigative and coordination steps.

(i) Managing a missing person case.

(j) Additional resources and specialized services.

(k) Update procedures for case information and descriptions.

(l) Preserving scenes.

(m) Internet and technology issues (e.g., Internet use, cell phone use).

(n) Media relations.

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Public Alerts

333.1 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.

333.2 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.

333.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

333.3.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees of the Westminster Police Department should notify their supervisor, Watch Commander or Detective Bureau 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.

333.3.2 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 Chief of Police, the appropriate Commander and the Public Information Officer when any public alert is generated.

The supervisor in charge of the investigation to which the alert relates is responsible for the following:

(a) Updating alerts

(b) Canceling alerts

(c) Ensuring all appropriate reports are completed

(d) Preparing an after-action evaluation of the investigation to be forwarded to the Commander

333.4 AMBER ALERTS

The AMBER Alert™ Program is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters, transportation agencies and the wireless industry, to activate urgent bulletins in child abduction cases.

333.4.1 CRITERIA FOR AMBER ALERT

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

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(a) A child has been abducted or taken by anyone, including but not limited to a custodial parent or guardian.

(b) The victim is 17 years of age or younger, or has a proven mental or physical disability.

(c) The victim is in imminent danger of serious injury or death.

(d) There is information available that, if provided to the public, could assist in the child's safe recovery.

333.4.2 PROCEDURE FOR AMBER ALERT

The supervisor in charge will ensure the following:

(a) An initial press release is prepared that includes all available information that might aid in locating the child:

1. The child's identity, age and description
2. Photograph if available
3. The suspect's identity, age and description, if known
4. Pertinent vehicle description
5. Detail regarding location of incident, direction of travel, potential destinations, if known
6. Name and telephone number of the Public Information Officer or other authorized individual to handle media liaison
7. A telephone number for the public to call with leads or information

(b) Orange County Control One should be contacted to initiate a multi-regional or statewide EAS broadcast, following any policies and procedures developed by CHP (Government Code § 8594).

(c) The press release information is forwarded to the Sheriff's Department Emergency Communications Bureau so that general broadcasts can be made to local law enforcement agencies.

(d) Information regarding the missing person should be entered into the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS).

(e) Information regarding the missing person should be entered into the California Department of Justice Missing and Unidentified Persons System (MUPS)/National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

(f) The following resources should be considered as circumstances dictate:

1. The local FBI office
2. National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)

333.5 BLUE ALERTS

Blue Alerts may be issued when an officer is killed, injured or assaulted and the suspect may pose a threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel.

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333.5.1 CRITERIA FOR BLUE ALERTS

All of the following conditions must be met before activating a Blue Alert (Government Code § 8594.5):

(a) A law enforcement officer has been killed, suffered serious bodily injury or has been assaulted with a deadly weapon, and the suspect has fled the scene of the offense.

(b) The investigating law enforcement agency has determined that the suspect poses an imminent threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel.

(c) A detailed description of the suspect's vehicle or license plate is available for broadcast.

(d) Public dissemination of available information may help avert further harm or accelerate apprehension of the suspect.

333.5.2 PROCEDURE FOR BLUE ALERT

The supervisor in charge should ensure the following:

(a) An initial press release is prepared that includes all available information that might aid in locating the suspect:

1. The license number and/or any other available description or photograph of the vehicle
2. Photograph, description and/or identification of the suspect
3. The suspect's identity, age and description, if known
4. Detail regarding location of incident, direction of travel, potential destinations, if known
5. Name and telephone number of the Public Information Officer or other authorized individual to handle media liaison
6. A telephone number for the public to call with leads or information

(b) Orange County Control One is contacted to initiate a multi-regional or statewide EAS broadcast.

(c) The information in the press release is forwarded to the Sheriff's Department Emergency Communications Bureau so that general broadcasts can be made to local law enforcement agencies.

(d) The following resources should be considered as circumstances dictate:

1. Entry into the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS)
2. The FBI local office

333.6 SILVER ALERTS

Silver Alerts® is an emergency notification system for people who are 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled or cognitively impaired and have been reported missing (Government Code § 8594.10).

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333.6.1 CRITERIA FOR SILVER ALERTS

All of the following conditions must be met before activating a Silver Alert (Government Code § 8594.10):

(a) The missing person is 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled or cognitively impaired.

(b) The department has utilized all available local resources.

(c) The investigating officer or supervisor has determined that the person is missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances.

(d) The investigating officer or supervisor believes that the person is in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, environment or weather conditions, that the person is in the company of a potentially dangerous person, or that there are other factors indicating that the person may be in peril.

(e) There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

333.6.2 PROCEDURE FOR SILVER ALERT

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

333.7 ADDITIONAL ALERTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCIES

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

333.7.1 CRITERIA

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

(a) Evacuation orders (including evacuation routes, shelter information, key information).

(b) Shelter-in-place guidance due to severe weather.

(c) Terrorist threats.

(d) HazMat incidents.

333.7.2 PROCEDURE

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

333.8 CHILD ABDUCTION POSTER AND FLYERS

AMBER Alert posters/flyers can be created at the EDIS Web site at https://edis.oes.ca.gov/amber/secure.html. The poster will contain pertinent information and has the ability to post images of the victim, suspect (s) and vehicle.

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The CHP ENTAC has the ability to disseminate flyers with Critical Reach, a proprietary image-based system used to disseminate flyers (similar to a fax machine).

333.9 MUTUAL AID

The experiences of other law enforcement jurisdictions that have implemented similar plans indicate a public alert will generate a high volume of telephone calls to the handling agency.

The Sheriff's Department emergency communications facilities and staff can be made available in the event of a high call volume.

If the Watch Commander or Detective Bureau Supervisor elects to use the services of the Sheriff's Department, the following will apply:

(a) Notify the Sheriff's Department Watch Commander of the incident and the request for assistance. He/she will provide you with a telephone number for the public to call.

(b) In the press release, direct the public to the telephone number provided by the Sheriff's Department Watch Commander.

(c) The Public Information Officer will continue to handle all press releases and media inquiries. Any press inquiries received by the Sheriff's Department will be referred back to this department.

The Westminster Police Department shall assign a minimum of two detectives/officers to respond to the Sheriff's Department emergency communications facility to screen and relay information and any clues received from incoming calls. As circumstances dictate, more staff resources from the handling law enforcement agency may be necessary to assist the staff at the emergency communications facility.

333.10 BORDER ISSUES

If there are indicators that the child may be transported out of state or the country, notifications to the FBI should be made. If the child has been transported across the Mexican border, San Diego Sheriff's Department or the San Diego Police Department's Mexico Liaison Units should be contacted. If the child is being transported across the Canadian border, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police National AMBER Alert Center can be contacted.

FBI San Diego Field Office (858) 565-1255

San Diego Sheriff's Department (619) 425-5080 Mexico Liaison Unit

San Diego Police Department (619) 525-8400 Mexico Liaison Unit

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (613) 993-5430

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Victim and Witness Assistance

335.1 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.

335.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department is committed to providing guidance and assistance to the victims and witnesses of crime. The members of the Westminster Police Department will show compassion and understanding for victims and witnesses and will make reasonable efforts to provide the support and information identified in this policy.

335.3 CRIME VICTIMS

Officers should provide all victims with the applicable victim information handouts.

Officers 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. Officers 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.

335.3.1 VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Officers investigating or receiving a report involving a victim of human trafficking shall inform the victim, or the victim's parent or guardian if the victim is a minor, that upon the request of the victim the names and images of the victim and his/her immediate family members may be withheld from becoming a matter of public record until the conclusion of the investigation or prosecution (Penal Code § 293).

335.4 VICTIM INFORMATION

The Professional Standards Unit Supervisor shall ensure that victim information handouts are available and current. These should include as appropriate:

(a) Shelters and other community resources for victims of domestic violence.

(b) Community resources for victims of sexual assault.

(c) Assurance that sexual assault victims will not incur out-of-pocket expenses for forensic medical exams, and information about evidence collection, storage and preservation in sexual assault cases (34 USC § 10449; 34 USC § 20109; Penal Code § 13823.95(a)).

(d) An explanation that victims of sexual assault who seek a medical evidentiary examination shall not be required to participate or agree to participate in the criminal justice system, either prior to the examination or at any other time (Penal Code § 13823.95(b)).

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(e) An advisement that a person who was arrested may be released on bond or some other form of release and that the victim should not rely upon an arrest as a guarantee of safety.

(f) A clear explanation of relevant court orders and how they can be obtained.

(g) Information regarding available compensation for qualifying victims of crime (Government Code § 13962).

(h) VINE® information (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), including the telephone number and whether this free service is available to allow victims to check on an offender's custody status and to register for automatic notification when a person is released from jail.

(i) Notice regarding U Visa and T Visa application processes.

(j) Resources available for victims of identity theft.

(k) A place for the officer's name, badge number and any applicable case or incident number.

(l) The "Victims of Domestic Violence" card containing the names, phone numbers or local county hotlines of local shelters for battered women and rape victim counseling centers within the county and their 24-hour counseling service telephone numbers (Penal Code § 264.2).

(m) The rights of sexual assault victims card with the required information as provided in Penal Code § 680.2.

(n) Any additional information required by state law (Penal Code § 13701; Penal Code § 679.02; Penal Code § 679.04; Penal Code § 679.05; Penal Code § 679.026).

335.5 WITNESSES

Officers should never guarantee a witness' safety from future harm or that his/her identity will always remain confidential. Officers may make practical safety suggestions to witnesses who express fear of future harm or retaliation.

Officers should investigate allegations of witness intimidation and take enforcement action when lawful and reasonable.

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Hate Crimes

337.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to meet or exceed the provisions of Penal Code § 13519.6(c) and provides members of this department with guidelines for identifying and investigating incidents and crimes that may be motivated by hatred or other bias.

337.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Hate crimes - A criminal act committed in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim (Penal Code § 422.55; Penal Code § 422.56; Penal Code § 422.57):

(a) Disability

(b) Gender

(c) Nationality

(d) Race or ethnicity

(e) Religion

(f) Sexual orientation

(g) Association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics

(h) Examples of hate crimes include, but are not limited to:

1. Interfering with, oppressing or threatening any other person in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured by the constitution or laws because of one or more of the actual or perceived characteristics of the victim (Penal Code § 422.6).
2. Defacing a person’s property because of one or more of the actual or perceived characteristics of the victim (Penal Code § 422.6(b)).
3. Terrorizing a person with a swastika or burning cross (Penal Code § 11411).
4. Vandalizing a place of worship (Penal Code § 594.3).

The federal Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act expands federal hate crimes to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability (18 USC § 249).

Victim - Includes, but is not limited to, a community center, educational facility, entity, family, group, individual, office, meeting hall, person, place of worship, private institution, public agency, library or other victim or intended victim of the offense (Penal Code § 422.56).

337.2 PREVENTION AND PREPARATION

While it is recognized that not all crime can be prevented, this department is committed to taking a proactive approach to preventing and preparing for likely hate crimes by, among other things:

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(a) Make an affirmative effort to establish contact with persons and groups within the community who are likely targets of hate crimes and forming networks that address prevention and response.

(b) Accessing assistance by, among other things, activating the California Department of Justice Hate Crime Rapid Response Protocol when necessary.

(c) Providing victim assistance and community follow-up as outlined below.

(d) Educating community and civic groups about hate crime laws.

(e) Establishing a community relations liaison to work with community organizations and leaders to coordinate public meetings, local group meetings and school assemblies on recognizing, preparing for and preventing hate crimes.

337.3 INVESTIGATIONS

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) Assigned officers should promptly contact the victim, witness or reporting party to investigate the matter further as circumstances may dictate

(b) A supervisor should be notified of the circumstances as soon as practical.

(c) Once in-progress aspects of any such situation have been stabilized (e.g., treatment of victims, apprehension of suspects at the scene), the assigned officers should take all reasonable steps to preserve evidence that establishes a possible hate crime.

(d) Based upon available information, officers should take appropriate action to mitigate further injury or damage to potential victims or the community.

1. Officers should contact the property owner to remove any evidence that cannot be physically removed (i.e., painted words or signs on a wall) by the officer once the offense is documented.

(e) The assigned officers should interview available witnesses, victims and others to determine what circumstances, if any, indicate that the situation may involve a hate crime.

1. No victim of or a witness to a hate crime who is not otherwise charged with or convicted of a crime under state law may be detained for or turned over to federal authorities exclusively for any actual or suspected immigration violation (Penal Code § 422.93(b))

2. Statements of victims and witnesses should be audio or video recorded if practicable (see the Portable Audio/Video Recorders Policy).

(f) Depending on the situation, the assigned officers or supervisor may request additional assistance from detectives or other resources.

(g) The assigned officers should include all available evidence indicating the likelihood of a hate crime in the relevant reports. All related reports should be clearly marked as “Hate Crimes” and, absent prior approval of a supervisor, should be completed and submitted by the assigned officers before the end of the shift.

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(h) The assigned officers will provide the victims of any suspected hate crime with a brochure on hate crimes (Penal Code § 422.92). Such brochures will also be available to members of the general public upon request. The assigned officers should also make reasonable efforts to assist the victims by providing available information on local assistance programs and organizations.

(i) The assigned officers and supervisor should take reasonable steps to ensure that any such situation does not escalate further and should provide information to the victim regarding legal aid (e.g., Possible Temporary Restraining Order through the District Attorney or City Attorney Penal Code § 136.2 or Civil Code § 52.1 as indicated).

337.3.1 DETECTIVE BUREAU RESPONSIBILITY

If a hate crime case is assigned to the Detective Bureau, the assigned detective will be responsible for:

(a) Coordinating further investigation with the District Attorney and other appropriate law enforcement agencies.

(b) Maintaining contact with the victims and other involved individuals, as needed.

(c) Maintaining statistical data and tracking on suspected hate crimes as indicated for required reporting to the Attorney General (Penal Code § 13023). See the Records Bureau Policy.

(d) Make reasonable efforts to identify additional witnesses.

(e) Utilize available criminal intelligence systems as appropriate (see Criminal Organizations Policy).

(f) Provide the supervisor and the Public Information Officer (PIO) with information that can be responsibly reported to the media.

1. When appropriate, the PIO should reiterate that the hate crime will not be tolerated and will be taken seriously.

337.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

The supervisor should confer with the initial responding officers to identify reasonable and appropriate preliminary actions. The supervisor should:

(a) Review related reports to verify whether the incident is appropriately classified as a hate crime for federal and state bias crime-reporting purposes.

(b) Notify other appropriate personnel in the chain of command, depending on the nature and seriousness of the offense and its potential inflammatory and related impact on the community.

(c) Consider the need for further action to be taken for the protection of the victims or vulnerable sites, such as assigning an officer at specific locations that could become targets or increase neighborhood surveillance.

(d) Ensure that members who are responsible for the conduct and maintenance of information on criminal groups are notified and that they make appropriate inquiries and entries into criminal intelligence systems (see Criminal Organizations Policy).

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337.4 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

337.4.1 DEFINITION AND LAWS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Gender expression - Gender expression means a person's gender-related appearance and behavior, regardless of whether it is stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth.

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

Hate crime - “Hate crime” includes but is not limited to a violation of Penal Code § 422.6, and means a criminal act committed, in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim:

(a) Disability

(b) Gender

(c) Nationality

(d) Race or ethnicity

(e) Religion

(f) Sexual orientation

(g) Association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics:

1. “Association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics" includes advocacy for, identification with, or being on the premises owned or rented by, or adjacent to, any of the following: a community center, educational facility, family, individual, office, meeting hall, place of worship, private institution, public agency, library, or other entity, group, or person that has, or is identified with people who have, one or more of the characteristics listed in the definition of “hate crime” under paragraphs 1 to 6, inclusive, of Penal Code § 422.55(a).

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nationality - Nationality means country of origin, immigration status, including citizenship, and national origin.

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

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

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

Victim - Victim includes but is not limited to:

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

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- Other victim or intended victim of the offense

337.5 POLICY

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

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

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

337.6 PLANNING AND PREVENTION

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

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

337.6.1 RELEASE OF INFORMATION

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

The benefit of public disclosure of hate crime incidents includes:

(a) Dissemination of correct information.

(b) Assurance to affected communities or groups that the matter is being properly and promptly investigated.

(c) The ability to request information regarding the commission of the crimes from the victimized community.

Information or records relating to hate crimes subject to public disclosure shall be released as provided by the Records Maintenance and Release Policy or as allowed by law. In accordance with the Media Relations Policy, the supervisor, public information officer, or the authorized

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designee should be provided with information that can be responsibly reported to the media. When appropriate, the department spokesperson should reiterate that hate crimes will not be tolerated, will be investigated seriously, and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

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

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

337.6.2 HATE CRIMES COORDINATOR

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

(a) Meeting with residents in target communities to allay fears; emphasizing the department's concern over hate crimes and related incidents; reducing the potential for counter-violence; and providing safety, security, and crime-prevention information. Cultural diversity education and immersion programs (if available) could facilitate this process.

(b) Finding, evaluating, and monitoring public social media sources to identify possible suspects in reported hate crimes; to identify suspects or suspect groups in future hate crimes or hate incidents affecting individuals, groups, or communities that may be victimized; and to predict future hate-based events.

(c) Providing direct and referral assistance to the victim and the victim's family.

(d) Conducting public meetings on hate crime threats and violence in general.

(e) Establishing relationships with formal community-based organizations and leaders.

(f) Expanding, where appropriate, preventive programs such as hate, bias, and crime-reduction seminars for students.

(g) Reviewing the Attorney General's latest opinion on hate crime statistics and targets in order to prepare and plan for future crimes, specifically for Arab/Middle Eastern and Muslim communities (Penal Code § 13519.6(b)(8)).

(h) Providing orientation of and with communities of specific targeted victims such as immigrants, Muslims, Arabs, LGBTQ, black or African-American, Jewish, Sikh, and persons with disabilities.

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(i) Coordinating with the Training Sergeant to include in a training plan recognition of hate crime bias characteristics, including information on general underreporting of hate crimes.

(j) Verifying a process is in place to provide this policy and related orders to officers in the field; and taking reasonable steps to rectify the situation if such a process is not in place.

(k) Taking reasonable steps to ensure hate crime data is provided to the Records Bureau for mandated reporting to the Department of Justice.

(l) Reporting any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes to the agency Terrorism Liaison Officer, the assigned designee, or other appropriate resource; and verifying that such data is transmitted to the Joint Regional Information Exchange System in accordance with the protocols of the Records Bureau Policy.

(m) Maintaining the department's supply of up-to-date hate crimes brochures (Penal Code § 422.92; Penal Code § 422.87).

(n) Annually assessing this policy, including:

1. Keeping abreast of the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) model policy framework for hate crimes for revisions or additions, including definitions, responsibilities, training resources, and planning and prevention methods.

2. Analysis of the department's data collection as well as the available outside data (e.g., annual California Attorney General's report on hate crime) in preparation for and response to future hate crimes.

337.7 RESPONSE, VICTIM ASSISTANCE, AND FOLLOW-UP

337.7.1 INITIAL RESPONSE

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

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

(a) Use agency checklist (per Penal Code § 422.87) to assist in the investigation of any hate crime (see Appendix).

(b) Stabilize the victims and request medical attention when necessary.

(c) Properly protect the safety of victims, witnesses, and perpetrators.

1. Assist victims in seeking a Temporary Restraining Order (if applicable).

(d) Notify other appropriate personnel in the chain of command, depending on the nature and seriousness of the offense and its potential inflammatory and related impact on the community.

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(e) Properly protect, preserve, and process the crime scene, and remove all physical evidence of the incident as soon as possible after the offense is documented. If evidence of an inflammatory nature cannot be physically removed, the property owner should be contacted to facilitate removal or covering as soon as reasonably possible. Department personnel should follow up with the property owner to determine if this was accomplished in a timely manner.

(f) Collect and photograph physical evidence or indicators of hate crimes such as:

1. Hate literature.
2. Spray paint cans.
3. Threatening letters.
4. Symbols used by hate groups.

(g) Identify criminal evidence on the victim.

(h) Request the assistance of translators or interpreters when needed to establish effective communication with witnesses, victims, or others as appropriate.

(i) Conduct a preliminary investigation and record pertinent information including but not limited to:

1. Identity of suspected perpetrators.
2. Identity of witnesses, including those no longer at the scene.
3. The offer of victim confidentiality per Government Code § 6254.
4. Prior occurrences in this area or with this victim.
5. Statements made by suspects; exact wording is critical.
6. The victim's protected characteristics and determine if bias was a motivation “in whole or in part” in the commission of the crime.

(j) Adhere to Penal Code § 422.93, which protects hate crime victims and witnesses from being reported to federal immigration authorities if they have not committed any crime under state law.

(k) Provide information regarding immigration remedies available to victims of crime (e.g., U-Visa, T-Visa, S-Visa).

(l) Provide the department’s Hate Crimes Brochure (per Penal Code § 422.92) if asked, if necessary, or per policy.

(m) Utilize proper techniques for interviewing people with disabilities and be aware of and provide appropriate accommodations (e.g., ADA standards, Braille, visuals, translators for the deaf or hard of hearing).

(n) Document any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes.

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337.7.2 INVESTIGATION

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

(a) Consider typologies of perpetrators of hate crimes and incidents, including but not limited to thrill, reactive/defensive, and mission (hard core).

(b) Utilize investigative techniques and methods to handle hate crimes or hate incidents in a professional manner.

(c) Utilize proper techniques for interviewing people with disabilities and be aware of and provide appropriate accommodations (e.g., ADA standards, Braille, visuals, translators for the deaf or hard of hearing).

(d) Properly investigate any report of a hate crime committed under the color of authority per Penal Code § 422.6 and Penal Code § 13519.6.

(e) Document physical evidence or indicators of hate crimes, in accordance with the provisions of the Property and Evidence Policy, such as:

1. Hate literature.
2. Spray paint cans.
3. Threatening letters.
4. Symbols used by hate groups.
5. Desecration of religious symbols, objects, or buildings.

(f) Request the assistance of translators or interpreters when needed to establish effective communication.

(g) Conduct a preliminary investigation and record information regarding:

1. Identity of suspected perpetrators.
2. Identity of witnesses, including those no longer at the scene.
3. Offer of victim confidentiality per Government Code § 6254.
4. Prior occurrences, in this area or with this victim.
5. Statements made by suspects; exact wording is critical.
6. Document the victim’s protected characteristics.

(h) Provide victim assistance and follow-up.

(i) Canvass the area for additional witnesses.

(j) Examine suspect’s social media activity for potential evidence of bias motivation.

(k) Coordinate the investigation with department, state, and regional intelligence operations. These sources can provide the investigator with an analysis of any patterns, organized hate groups, and suspects potentially involved in the offense.

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(l) Coordinate the investigation with the crime scene investigation unit (if applicable) or other appropriate units of the Department.

(m) Determine if the incident should be classified as a hate crime.

(n) Take reasonable steps to provide appropriate assistance to hate crime victims, including the following measures:

1. Contact victims periodically to determine whether they are receiving adequate and appropriate assistance.
2. Provide ongoing information to victims about the status of the criminal investigation.
3. Provide victims and any other interested persons the brochure on hate crimes per Penal Code § 422.92 and information on any local advocacy groups (if asked).

(o) Document any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes.

(p) Coordinate with other law enforcement agencies in the area to assess patterns of hate crimes and/or hate incidents, and determine if organized hate groups are involved.

337.7.3 SUPERVISION

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

(a) Provide immediate assistance to the crime victim by:

1. Expressing the department's official position on the importance of these cases and the measures that will be taken to apprehend the perpetrators.
2. Expressing the department's interest in protecting victims' anonymity (confidentiality forms, Government Code § 6254) to the extent reasonably possible. Allow the victims to convey their immediate concerns and feelings.
3. Identifying individuals or agencies that may provide victim assistance and support. Local victim assistance resources may include family members or close acquaintances, clergy, or a department chaplain, as well as community service agencies that provide shelter, food, clothing, child care, or other related services (per Penal Code § 422.92).

(b) Take reasonable steps to ensure that all relevant facts are documented on an incident and/or arrest report and make an initial determination as to whether the incident should be classified as a hate crime for federal and state bias-crimes reporting purposes.

(c) Notify other appropriate personnel in the chain of command, depending on the nature and seriousness of the offense and its potential inflammatory and related impact on the community.

(d) In cases of large-scale hate crime waves, or in circumstances where the potential exists for subsequent hate crimes or incidents, consider directing resources to protect vulnerable sites (such as assigning an officer to specific locations that could become targets).

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(e) Verify hate crimes are being properly reported, including reporting to the Department of Justice, pursuant to Penal Code § 13023.

(f) Verify adherence to Penal Code § 422.93, which protects hate crime victims and witnesses from being reported to federal immigration authorities if they have not committed any crime under state law. Supervisors should also be aware of the immigration remedies available to victims of crime (e.g., U-Visa, T-Visa, S-Visa).

(g) Respond to and properly initiate an investigation of any reports of hate crimes committed under the color of authority.

(h) Provide appropriate assistance, including activating the California Department of Justice hate crime rapid response protocol if necessary. For additional information refer to the California Department of Justice website.

(i) Verify reporting of any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes to the agency Hate Crimes Coordinator.

(j) Make a final determination as to whether the incident should be classified as a hate crime and forward to the Chief of Police for approval.

337.8 TRAINING

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

(a) Recognition of bias motivators such as ranges of attitudes and perceptions toward a specific characteristic or group, including disability bias, gender bias, and religion bias.

(b) Accurate reporting by officers, including information on the general underreporting of hate crimes.

(c) Distribution of hate crime brochures.

337.9 APPENDIX

See attachments:

Statutes and Legal Requirements.pdf

Hate Crime Checklist.pdf

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Standards of Conduct

339.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the Westminster Police Department and are expected of all department members. The standards contained in this policy are not intended to be an exhaustive list of requirements and prohibitions but they do identify many of the important matters concerning conduct. In addition to the provisions of this policy, members are subject to all other provisions contained in this manual, as well as any additional guidance on conduct that may be disseminated by this department or a member's supervisors.

339.2 POLICY

The continued employment or appointment of every member of the Westminster Police Department 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.

339.3 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.

339.3.1 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.

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.

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

339.3.2 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.

339.4 GENERAL STANDARDS

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

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

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

339.5 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:

339.5.1 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 City 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.

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339.5.2 ETHICS

(a) Using or disclosing one's status as a member of the Westminster Police Department 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.

339.5.3 DISCRIMINATION, OPPRESSION, OR FAVORITISM

Unless required by law or policy, discriminating against, oppressing, or providing favoritism to any person because of actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, economic status, cultural group, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status 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.

339.5.4 RELATIONSHIPS

(a) Unwelcome solicitation of a personal or sexual relationship while on-duty or through the use of one's official capacity.

(b) Engaging in on--duty sexual activity, including but not limited to sexual intercourse, excessive displays of public affection, or other sexual contact.

(c) Establishing or maintaining an inappropriate personal or financial relationship, as a result of an investigation, with a known victim, witness, suspect, or defendant while a case is being investigated or prosecuted, or as a direct result of any official contact.

(d) Associating with or joining a criminal gang, organized crime, and/or criminal syndicate when the member knows or reasonably should know of the criminal nature of the organization. This includes any organization involved in a definable criminal activity or enterprise, except as specifically directed and authorized by this 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.

(f) Participation in a law enforcement gang as defined by Penal Code § 13670. Participation is grounds for termination (Penal Code § 13670).

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339.5.5 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 the place of assignment at the time specified and fully prepared to perform duties without reasonable excuse.

339.5.6 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.

  (a) Members of this department shall not disclose the name, address, or image of any victim of human trafficking except as authorized by law (Penal Code § 293).

(b) Disclosing to any unauthorized person any active investigation information.

(c) The use of any information, photograph, video, or other recording obtained or accessed as a result of employment or appointment to this department for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

(d) Loaning, selling, allowing unauthorized use, giving away, or appropriating any 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.

339.5.7 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 or contact numbers.

(f) Failure to notify the Personnel Department of changes in relevant personal information (e.g., information associated with benefits determination) in a timely fashion.

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339.5.8 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 an officer 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 City policy, the memorandum of understanding, or the Chief of Police.

(h) Engaging in political activities during assigned working hours except as expressly authorized by City policy, the memorandum of understanding, or the Chief of Police.

(i) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this department.

339.5.9 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

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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.

(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 City.

(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 memorandum of understanding or contract to include fraud in securing the appointment or hire.

(l) Initiating any civil action for recovery of any damages or injuries incurred in the course and scope of employment or appointment without first notifying the Chief of Police 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.

339.5.10 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.

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(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.

339.5.11 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.

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Information Technology Use

341.1 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.

341.1.1 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 Westminster Police Department 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.

341.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department 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.

341.3 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.

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The Department shall not require a member to disclose a personal username or password for accessing personal social media or to open a personal social website; however, the Department may request access when it is reasonably believed to be relevant to the investigation of allegations of work-related misconduct (Labor Code § 980).

341.4 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 Watch Commanders.

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.

341.4.1 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 Chief of Police 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 City-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.

341.4.2 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.

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341.4.3 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.

341.4.4 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 devices that are used to access department resources.

Refer to the Personal Communication Devices Policy for guidelines regarding off-duty use of personally owned technology.

341.5 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.

341.6 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

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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

343.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Report preparation is a major part of each officer's job. The purpose of reports is to document sufficient information to refresh the officer'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.

343.1.1 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.

Supervisors must ensure they are consistent in their interpretation of this policy. Each supervisor should monitor the activity of their employees during each shift and stress the importance of completing reports prior to going off-duty. When the circumstances are appropriate and there is no follow-up action, active leads, or suspect in-custody, a supervisor may authorize a report to be held until the employee's next scheduled work day.

If a report hold is authorized, the supervisor shall ensure the face page of the DR is completed in Alliance. In the summary section, the employee should list a brief summary of the incident and the supervisor who authorized the hold. This will provide notice to other supervisors if they are asked the status of the report. A supervisor who authorizes a report to be held should ensure the report is completed by the employee on his/her next scheduled shift.

343.2 REQUIRED REPORTING

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

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343.2.1 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 misdemeanor and felony crimes

(c) Non-Felony incidents involving threats or stalking behavior

(d) Situations covered by separate policy. These include:

1. Use of Force Policy
2. Domestic Violence Policy
3. Child Abuse Policy
4. Adult Abuse Policy
5. Hate Crimes Policy
6. Suspicious Activity Reporting Policy

343.2.2 NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

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

(a) Anytime an officer points a firearm at any person

(b) Any use of force against any person by a member of this department (see the Use of Force Policy)

(c) Any firearm discharge (see the Firearms Policy)

(d) Anytime a person is reported missing, regardless of jurisdiction (see the Missing Persons Policy)

(e) Any found property or found evidence

(f) Any 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

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343.2.3 DEATH CASES

Death investigations require specific investigation methods depending on circumstances and should be handled in accordance with the Death Investigations Policy. The handling officer should notify and apprise a supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the incident to determine how to proceed. The following cases shall be appropriately investigated and documented using the approved report:

(a) Sudden or accidental deaths.

(b) Suicides.

(c) Homicide or suspected homicide.

(d) Unattended deaths (No physician or qualified hospice care in the 20 days preceding death).

(e) Found dead bodies or body parts.

343.2.4 INJURY OR DAMAGE BY CITY PERSONNEL

Reports shall be taken if an injury occurs that is a result of an act of a City employee. Additionally, reports shall be taken involving damage to City property or City equipment.

343.2.5 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

(e) Employee injuries

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.

343.2.6 MANDATORY REPORTING OF JUVENILE GUNSHOT INJURIES

A report shall be taken when any incident in which a child 18 years or younger suffered an unintentional or self-inflicted gunshot wound. The Records Bureau shall notify the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) of the incident as required by CDPH (Penal Code § 23685).

343.3 GENERAL POLICY OF EXPEDITIOUS REPORTING

In general, all officers and supervisors shall act with promptness and efficiency in the preparation and processing of all reports. An incomplete report, unorganized reports or reports delayed without supervisory approval are not acceptable. Reports shall be processed according to established priorities or according to special priority necessary under exceptional circumstances.

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343.3.1 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 department consistency.

343.3.2 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.

343.4 REPORT CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS

Reports that have been approved by a supervisor and submitted to the Records Bureau for filing and distribution shall not be modified or altered except by way of a supplemental report. Reviewed reports that have not yet been submitted to the Records Bureau may be corrected or modified by the authoring officer only with the knowledge and authorization of the reviewing supervisor.

343.5 ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

The Westminster Police Department has established an electronic signature procedure for use by all employees of the Westminster Police Department. The Operations Commander 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.
- 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.

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Media Relations

345.1 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.

345.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The ultimate authority and responsibility for the release of information to the media shall remain with the Chief of Police, however, in situations not warranting immediate notice to the Chief of Police and in situations where the Chief of Police has given prior approval, Commanders, Watch Commanders and designated Public Information Officer(s) may prepare and release information to the media in accordance with this policy and the applicable law.

345.2.1 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 comments to the media regarding any law enforcement incident not involving this department without prior approval of the Chief of Police.

345.3 MEDIA ACCESS

Authorized members of the media shall be provided access to scenes of disasters, criminal investigations, emergencies and other law enforcement activities subject to the following conditions (Penal Code § 409.5(d)):

(a) The media representative shall produce valid press credentials that shall be prominently displayed at all times while in areas otherwise closed to the public.

(b) Media representatives may be prevented from interfering with emergency operations and criminal investigations.

1. Reasonable effort should be made to provide a safe staging area for the media that is near the incident and that will not interfere with emergency or criminal investigation operations. All information released to the media should

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be coordinated through the department Public Information Officer or other designated spokesperson.

2. Whenever the presence of media or other aircraft pose a threat to public or officer safety or significantly hampers incident operations, the field supervisor should consider requesting a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR). All requests for a TFR should be routed through the Watch Commander. The TFR request should include specific information regarding the perimeter and altitude necessary for the incident and should be requested through the appropriate control tower. If the control tower is not known, the Federal Aviation Administration should be contacted (14 CFR 91.137).

(c) No member of this department who is under investigation shall be subjected to media visits or interviews without the consent of the involved employee (Government Code § 3303(e)).

(d) Media interviews with individuals who are in custody should not be permitted without the approval of the Chief of Police and the express consent of the person in custody.

A tactical operation should be handled in the same manner as a crime scene, except the news media shall be permitted within the outer perimeter of the scene, subject to any restrictions as determined by the supervisor in charge. Department members shall not jeopardize a tactical operation in order to accommodate the news media. All comments to the media shall be coordinated through a supervisor or the Public Information Officer.

345.3.1 PROVIDING ADVANCE INFORMATION

To protect the safety and rights of officers 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 Chief of Police.

Any exceptions to the above should only be considered for the furtherance of legitimate law enforcement purposes. Prior to approving any exception the Chief of Police 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.

345.4 SCOPE OF INFORMATION SUBJECT TO RELEASE

The Department will maintain a daily information log of significant law enforcement activities that shall be made available, upon request, to media representatives through the Watch Commander. This log will generally contain the following information:

(a) The date, time, location, case number, type of crime, extent of injury or loss, and names of individuals (except confidential informants) involved in crimes occurring within this jurisdiction unless the release of such information would endanger the

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safety of any individual or jeopardize the successful completion of any ongoing investigation

(b) The date, time, location, case number, name, birth date and charges for each person arrested by this department unless the release of such information would endanger the safety of any individual or jeopardize the successful completion of any ongoing investigation

(c) The time and location of other significant law enforcement activities or requests for service with a brief summary of the incident subject to the restrictions of this policy and applicable law

At no time shall identifying information pertaining to a juvenile arrestee (13 years of age and under), victim or witness be publicly released without prior approval of a competent court. The identity of a minor 14 years of age or older shall not be publicly disclosed unless the minor has been arrested for a serious felony and the release of such information has been approved by the Watch Commander (Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.5).

Identifying information concerning deceased individuals shall not be released to the media until notification of next of kin or otherwise cleared through the Coroner's Office.

Any requests for copies of related reports or additional information not contained in this log shall be referred to the designated department media representative, the custodian of records, or if unavailable, to the Watch Commander. Such requests will generally be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Records Act (Government Code § 6250, et seq.).

345.4.1 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.

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Subpoenas and Court Appearances

348.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for department members who must appear in court. It will allow the Westminster Police Department to cover any related work absences and keep the Department informed about relevant legal matters.

348.2 POLICY

Westminster Police Department members will respond appropriately to all subpoenas and any other court-ordered appearances.

348.3 SUBPOENAS

Only department members authorized to receive a subpoena on behalf of this department or any of its members may do so. This may be accomplished by personal service to the officer or by delivery of two copies of the subpoena to the officer's supervisor or other authorized departmental agent (Government Code § 68097.1; Penal Code § 1328(c)).

The party that issues a civil subpoena to an officer to testify as a witness must tender the statutory fee of $275 with the subpoena for each day that an appearance is required before service is accepted of the subpoena (Government Code § 68097.2).

An immediate supervisor or authorized individual may refuse to accept service for a criminal subpoena if (Penal Code § 1328(d)(e)):

(a) He/she knows that he/she will be unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the named officer within sufficient time for the named officer to comply with the subpoena.

(b) It is less than five working days prior to the date listed for an appearance and he/she is not reasonably certain that service can be completed.

If, after initially accepting service of a criminal subpoena, a supervisor or other authorized individual determines that he/she is unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the named officer within sufficient time for the named officer to comply with the subpoena, the supervisor or the subpoena clerk shall notify the server or the attorney named on the subpoena of such not less than 48 hours prior to the date listed for the appearance (Penal Code § 1328(f)).

348.3.1 SPECIAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any member who is subpoenaed to testify, agrees to testify or provides information on behalf of or at the request of any party other than the City Attorney or the prosecutor shall notify his/her immediate supervisor without delay regarding:

(a) Any civil case where the City or one of its members, as a result of his/her official capacity, is a party.

(b) Any civil case where any other city, county, state or federal unit of government or a member of any such unit of government, as a result of his/her official capacity, is a party.

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(c) Any criminal proceeding where the member is called to testify or provide information on behalf of the defense.

(d) Any civil action stemming from the member's on-duty activity or because of his/her association with the Westminster Police Department.

(e) Any personnel or disciplinary matter when called to testify or to provide information by a government entity other than the Westminster Police Department.

The supervisor will then notify the Chief of Police and the appropriate prosecuting attorney as may be indicated by the case. The Chief of Police should determine if additional legal support is necessary.

No member shall be retaliated against for testifying in any matter.

348.3.2 CIVIL SUBPOENA

The Department will compensate members who appear in their official capacities on civil matters arising out of their official duties, as directed by the current memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement.

The Department should seek reimbursement for the member's compensation through the civil attorney of record who subpoenaed the member.

348.3.3 OFF-DUTY RELATED SUBPOENAS

Members receiving valid subpoenas for off-duty actions not related to their employment or appointment will not be compensated for their appearance. Arrangements for time off shall be coordinated through their immediate supervisors.

348.4 FAILURE TO APPEAR

Any member who fails to comply with the terms of any properly served subpoena or court-ordered appearance may be subject to discipline. This includes properly served orders to appear that were issued by a state administrative agency.

348.5 STANDBY

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

If a member on standby changes his/her location during the day, the member shall notify the designated department member of how he/she can be reached. Members are required to remain on standby until released by the court or the party that issued the subpoena.

348.6 COURTROOM PROTOCOL

When appearing in court, members shall:

(a) Be punctual and prepared to proceed immediately with the case for which they are scheduled to appear.

(b) Dress in the department uniform or business attire.

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(c) Observe all rules of the court in which they are appearing and remain alert to changes in the assigned courtroom where their matter is to be heard.

348.6.1 TESTIMONY

Before the date of testifying, the subpoenaed member shall request a copy of relevant reports and become familiar with the content in order to be prepared for court.

348.7 OVERTIME APPEARANCES

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

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Reserve Officers

350.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Westminster Police Department Reserve Unit was established to supplement and assist regular sworn police officers in their duties. This unit provides professional, sworn volunteer reserve officers who can augment regular staffing levels.

350.2 SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF POLICE RESERVE OFFICERS

The Westminster Police Department 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 police officers before appointment.

Before appointment to the Police Reserve Unit, an applicant must have completed, or be in the process of completing, a POST approved basic academy or extended basic academy.

350.2.2 APPOINTMENT

Applicants who are selected for appointment to the Police Reserve Unit shall, on the recommendation of the Chief of Police, be sworn in by the Chief of Police 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 POLICE RESERVE OFFICERS

Compensation for reserve officers is provided as follows:

All reserve officer appointees are issued two sets of uniforms and all designated attire and safety equipment. All property issued to the reserve officer shall be returned to the Department upon termination or resignation.

350.2.4 EMPLOYEES WORKING AS RESERVE OFFICERS

Qualified employees of this department, when authorized, may also serve as reserve officers. 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 officer working as a reserve officer for reduced or no pay). Therefore, the Reserve Coordinator should consult the Personnel Department prior to an employee serving in a reserve or volunteer capacity (29 CFR 553.30).

350.3 DUTIES OF RESERVE OFFICERS

Reserve officers assist regular officers in the enforcement of laws and in maintaining peace and order within the community. Assignments of reserve officers will usually be to augment the Operations Bureau. Reserve officers may be assigned to other areas within the Department as needed. Reserve officers are required to work a minimum of 16 hours per month.

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350.3.1 POLICY COMPLIANCE
Police reserve officers 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 officer 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 officer, it shall also apply to a sworn reserve officer unless by its nature it is inapplicable.

350.3.2 RESERVE OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS
All reserve officers will be assigned to duties by the Reserve Coordinator or his/her designee.

350.3.3 RESERVE COORDINATOR
The Chief of Police shall delegate the responsibility for administering the Reserve Officer 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 officer performance

(f) Monitoring overall Reserve Program

(g) Maintaining liaison with other agency Reserve Coordinators

350.3.4 SPECIALTY RESERVES
The Westminster Police Department recognizes that there are reserve officers who possess a high level of skill, experience and expertise in a specific area such as computer forensics, medicine, or tactics. If the Chief of Police deems these types of experts to be beneficial to the department they may be designated as "specialty reserves". Specialty reserves will not be required work a minimum number of hours per month as listed in §350.3 of this policy; however they will be required to provide their specific expertise to the department, in some form, on a monthly basis.

350.4 FIELD TRAINING
Penal Code § 832.6 requires Level II reserve officers, who have not been released from the immediate supervision requirement per the Completion of the Formal Training Process subsection, to work under the immediate supervision of a peace officer who possesses a Basic POST Certificate.

350.4.1 TRAINING OFFICERS
Officers of this department, who demonstrate a desire and ability to train reserve officers, may train the reserves during Phase II, subject to Watch Commander approval.

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350.4.2 PRIMARY TRAINING OFFICER

Upon completion of the Academy, reserve officers will be assigned to a primary training officer. The primary training officer will be selected from members of the Field Training Officer (FTO) Committee. The reserve officer will be assigned to work with his/her primary training officer during the first 160 hours of training. This time shall be known as the Primary Training Phase.

350.4.3 FIELD TRAINING MANUAL

Each new reserve officer 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 an officer with the Westminster Police Department. The reserve officer shall become knowledgeable of the subject matter as outlined. He/she shall also become proficient with those skills as set forth in the manual.

350.4.4 COMPLETION OF THE PRIMARY TRAINING PHASE

At the completion of the Primary Training Phase, (Phase I) the primary training officer will meet with the Reserve Coordinator. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the progress of the reserve officer in training.

If the reserve officer 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.

350.4.5 SECONDARY TRAINING PHASE

The Secondary Training Phase (Phase II) shall consist of 100 hours of additional on-duty training. The reserve officer will no longer be required to ride with his/her primary training officer. The reserve officer may now ride with any officer designated by the Watch Commander.

During Phase II of training, as with Phase I, the reserve officer's performance will be closely monitored. In addition, rapid progress should continue towards the completion of the Officer's Field Training Manual. At the completion of Phase II of training, the reserve officer will return to his/her primary training officer for Phase III of the training.

350.4.6 THIRD TRAINING PHASE

Phase III of training shall consist of 24 hours of additional on-duty training. For this training phase, the reserve officer will return to his/her original primary training officer. During this phase, the training officer will evaluate the reserve officer for suitability to graduate from the formal training program.

At the completion of Phase III training, the primary training officer will meet with the Reserve Coordinator. Based upon the reserve officer's evaluations, plus input from the primary training officer, the Reserve Coordinator shall decide if the reserve officer has satisfactorily completed his/her formal training. If the reserve officer has progressed satisfactorily, he/she will then graduate from the formal training process. If his/her progress is not satisfactory, the Reserve Coordinator will decide upon the appropriate action to be taken.

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350.4.7 COMPLETION OF THE FORMAL TRAINING PROCESS

When a reserve officer has satisfactorily completed all three phases of formal training, he/she will have had a minimum of 284 hours of on-duty training. He/she will no longer be required to ride with a reserve training officer. The reserve officer may now be assigned to ride with any officer for the remaining 200-hour requirement for a total of 484 hours before being considered for relief of immediate supervision.

350.5 SUPERVISION OF RESERVE OFFICERS

Reserve officers who have attained the status of Level II shall be under the immediate supervision of a regular sworn officer (Penal Code 832.6). The immediate supervision requirement shall also continue for reserve officers who have attained Level I status unless special authorization is received from the Reserve Coordinator with the approval of the Commander.

350.5.1 SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Reserve officers certified as Level I may, with prior authorization of the Reserve Coordinator and on approval of the Commander, be relieved of the "immediate supervision" requirement. Level I reserve officers may function under the authority of Penal Code § 832.6(a)(1) only for the duration of the assignment or purpose for which the authorization was granted.

In the absence of the Reserve Coordinator and the Commander, the Watch Commander may assign a certified Level I reserve officer to function under the authority of Penal Code § 832.6(a)(1) for specific purposes and duration.

350.5.2 RESERVE OFFICER MEETINGS

All reserve officer meetings will be scheduled and conducted by the Reserve Coordinator. All reserve officers are required to attend scheduled meetings. Any absences must be satisfactorily explained to the Reserve Coordinator.

350.5.3 IDENTIFICATION OF RESERVE OFFICERS

All reserve officers will be issued a uniform badge and a Department identification card. The uniform badge shall be the same as that worn by a regular full-time officer. 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 officers shall conform to all uniform regulation and appearance standards of this department.

350.5.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND COMPLAINTS

If a reserve officer 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 Operations Commander.

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Reserve officers are considered at-will employees. Government Code § 3300 et seq. applies to reserve officers with the exception that the right to hearing is limited to the opportunity to clear their name.

Any disciplinary action that may have to be administered to a reserve officer shall be accomplished as outlined in the Policy Manual.

350.5.6 RESERVE OFFICER 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

Penal Code § 830.6(a)(1) designates a reserve officer as having peace officer powers during his/her assigned tour of duty, provided the reserve officer qualifies or falls within the provisions of Penal Code § 832.6.

350.6.1 CARRYING WEAPON ON DUTY
Penal Code § 830.6(a)(1) permits qualified reserve officers to carry a loaded firearm while on-duty. It is the policy of this department to allow reserves to carry firearms only while on-duty or to and from duty.

350.6.2 CONCEALED FIREARMS PROHIBITED
No reserve officer will be permitted to carry a concealed firearm while in an off-duty capacity, other than to and from work, except those reserve officers who possess a valid CCW permit. An instance may arise where a reserve officer is assigned to a plainclothes detail for his/her assigned tour of duty. Under these circumstances, the reserve officer may be permitted to carry a weapon more suited to the assignment with the knowledge and approval of the supervisor in charge of the detail.

Any reserve officer who is permitted to carry a firearm other than the assigned duty weapon may do so only after verifying that the weapon conforms to departmental standards. The weapon must be registered by the reserve officer and be inspected and certified as fit for service by a departmental armorer.

Before being allowed to carry any optional firearm during an assigned tour of duty, the reserve officer shall have demonstrated his/her proficiency with said weapon.

When a reserve officer has satisfactorily completed all three phases of training (as outlined in the Field Training section), he/she may be issued a permit to carry a concealed weapon. The decision to issue a concealed weapon permit will be made by the Chief of Police with input from the Reserve Program Coordinator and administrative staff. In issuing a concealed weapon permit a reserve officer's qualification will be individually judged. A reserve officer's dedication to the program and demonstrated maturity, among other factors, will be considered before a concealed weapon permit will be issued. Once issued, the concealed weapon permit will be valid only for as

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long as the reserve officer remains in good standing as a Reserve Officer with the Westminster Police Department.

350.6.3 RESERVE OFFICER FIREARM TRAINING
All reserve officers are required to maintain proficiency with firearms used in the course of their assignments. Reserve officers shall comply with all areas of the firearms training section of the Policy Manual.

350.7 EMERGENCY CALL-OUT FOR RESERVE PERSONNEL

The Reserve Coordinator shall develop a plan outlining an emergency call-out procedure for reserve personnel.

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Outside Agency Assistance

351.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members when requesting or responding to a request for mutual aid or when assisting another law enforcement agency.

351.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to promptly respond to requests for assistance by other law enforcement agencies, subject to available resources and consistent with the applicable laws and policies of this department.

351.3 ASSISTING OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Generally, requests for any type of assistance from another agency should be routed to the Watch Commander's office for approval. In some instances, a memorandum of understanding or other established protocol may exist that eliminates the need for approval of individual requests.

When another law enforcement agency requests assistance from this department, the Watch Commander may authorize, if available, an appropriate number of personnel to assist. Members are reminded that their actions when rendering assistance must conform with applicable laws and be consistent with the policies of this department.

Officers may respond to a request for emergency assistance, however, they shall notify a supervisor of their activity as soon as practicable.

Arrestees may be temporarily detained by this department until arrangements for transportation are made by the outside agency.

When transportation assistance is rendered, a report shall be prepared and submitted by the handling member unless otherwise directed by a supervisor.

351.3.1 INITIATED ACTIVITY

Any on-duty officer who engages in law enforcement activities of any type that are not part of a mutual aid request and take place outside the jurisdiction of the Westminster Police Department shall notify his/her supervisor or the Watch Commander and Dispatch as soon as practicable. This requirement does not apply to special enforcement details or multi-agency units that regularly work in multiple jurisdictions.

351.4 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Incidents of outside assistance or law enforcement activities that are not documented in a crime report shall be documented in an after action report or as directed by the Watch Commander.

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351.5 REQUESTING OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

If assistance is needed from another agency, the member requesting assistance should, if practicable, first notify a supervisor. The handling member or supervisor should direct assisting personnel to where they are needed and to whom they should report when they arrive.

The requesting member should arrange for appropriate radio communication capabilities, if necessary and available, so that communication can be coordinated between assisting personnel.

351.6 MANDATORY SHARING

Equipment and supplies purchased with federal funds or grants that require such equipment and supplies be shared with other agencies should be documented and updated as necessary by the Professional Standards Unit Commander or the authorized designee.

The documentation should include:

(a) The conditions relative to sharing.

(b) The training requirements for:

1. The use of the supplies and equipment.
2. The members trained in the use of the supplies and equipment.

(c) Any other requirements for use of the equipment and supplies.

Copies of the documentation should be provided to Dispatch and the Watch Commander to ensure use of the equipment and supplies is in compliance with the applicable sharing agreements.

The Training Sergeant should maintain documentation that the appropriate members have received the required training.

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Megan's Law

355.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines by which the Westminster Police Department 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 sex, arson and drug offenders.

355.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to identify and monitor registered offenders living within this jurisdiction and to take reasonable steps to address the risks those persons may pose.

355.3 REGISTRATION

The Detective Bureau supervisor shall establish a process to reasonably accommodate registration of certain offenders. The process should rebut any allegation on the part of the offender that the registration process was too confusing, burdensome or difficult for compliance. If it is reasonable to do so, an investigator assigned to related investigations should conduct the registration in order to best evaluate any threat the person may pose to the community. Those assigned to register offenders should receive appropriate training regarding the registration process.

Upon conclusion of the registration process, the investigator shall ensure that the registration information is provided to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) in accordance with applicable law (Health and Safety Code § 11594; Penal Code § 457.1; Penal Code § 290 et seq.).

The refusal of a registrant to provide any of the required information or complete the process should initiate a criminal investigation for failure to register.

355.3.1 CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION

The information collected from the registering offenders shall include a signed statement as required by the California DOJ, fingerprints and a photograph and any other information required by applicable law (Health and Safety Code § 11594; Penal Code § 457.1; Penal Code § 290 et seq.).

355.4 MONITORING OF REGISTERED OFFENDERS

The Detective Bureau supervisor should establish a system to periodically, and at least once annually, verify that a registrant remains in compliance with his/her registration requirements after the initial registration. This verification should include:

(a) Efforts to confirm residence using an unobtrusive method, such as an internet search or drive-by of the declared residence.

(b) Review of information on the California DOJ website for sex offenders.

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(c) Contact with a registrant's parole or probation officer.

Any discrepancies should be reported to the California DOJ.

The Detective Bureau supervisor should also establish a procedure to routinely disseminate information regarding registered offenders to Westminster Police Department personnel, including timely updates regarding new or relocated registrants.

355.5 DISSEMINATION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

Members will not unilaterally make a public notification advising the community of a particular registrant's presence in the community. Members who identify a significant risk or other public safety issue associated with a registrant should promptly advise their supervisor. The supervisor should evaluate the request and forward the information to the Chief of Police if warranted. A determination will be made by the Chief of Police, with the assistance of legal counsel as necessary, whether such a public alert should be made.

Members of the public requesting information on sex registrants should be provided the Megan's Law website or the Westminster Police Department's website. Information on sex registrants placed on the Westminster Police Department's website shall comply with the requirements of Penal Code § 290.46.

The Records Supervisor may release local registered offender information to residents only in accordance with applicable law (Penal Code § 290.45; Penal Code § 290.46; Penal Code § 457.1; Health and Safety Code § 11594), and in compliance with a California Public Records Act (Government Code § 6250-6276.48) request.

355.5.1 LIMITED RELEASE WITHIN COLLEGE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

California law allows the following additional information regarding a registered sex offender on campus, whose information is not available to the public via the internet website, to be released to a campus community (Penal Code § 290.01(d)):

(a) The offender's full name

(b) The offender's known aliases

(c) The offender's sex

(d) The offender's race

(e) The offender's physical description

(f) The offender's photograph

(g) The offender's date of birth

(h) Crimes resulting in the registration of the offender under Penal Code § 290

(i) The date of last registration

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For purposes of this section, campus community shall be defined as those persons present at or regularly frequenting any place constituting campus property, satellite facilities, laboratories, public areas contiguous to the campus and other areas set forth in Penal Code § 290.01(d).

355.5.2 RELEASE NOTIFICATIONS

Registrant information that is released should include notification that:

(a) The offender registry includes only those persons who have been required by law to register and who are in compliance with the offender registration laws.

(b) The information is provided as a public service and may not be current or accurate.

(c) Persons should not rely solely on the offender registry as a safeguard against offenses in their communities.

(d) The crime for which a person is convicted may not accurately reflect the level of risk.

(e) Anyone who uses information contained in the registry to harass registrants or commit any crime may be subject to criminal prosecution.

(f) The purpose of the release of information is to allow members of the public to protect themselves and their children from sex offenders (Penal Code 290.45).

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Major Incident Notification

357.1 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.

357.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department recognizes that certain incidents should be brought to the attention of supervisors or other specified personnel of this department to facilitate the coordination of activities and ensure that inquiries from the media and the public may be properly addressed.

357.3 MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR NOTIFICATION

Most situations where the media show a strong interest are of interest to the Chief of Police and the affected Bureau Commander. Command Staff and management will receive text message notifications of significant events occurring in Westminster. This includes situations where there is media interest. Dispatch will be responsible for sending text message notifications under the guidance of the Watch Commander. The following list of incident types is provided as a guide for notification and is not intended to be all inclusive:

- Homicides
- Unplanned West County SWAT call-out (e.g., barricade, hostage, active shooter, terrorist event)
- Traffic accidents with fatalities
- Officer-involved shooting on- or off-duty (see Officer-Involved Shootings and Death Policy for special notifications)
- Significant injury or death to employee on- or off-duty
- Death of a prominent Westminster official
- Arrest of a department member or prominent Westminster official
- Activation of Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Aircraft crash with major damage and/or injury or death
- In-custody deaths; significant injury (as directed by the Watch Commander)
- Riot and/or mass demonstrations
- Significant violent crimes (e.g., PC211, PC261, PC273, PC288, PC215)
- Vehicle pursuits involving WPD employees
- Any Redbook worthy event (as directed by the Watch Commander)
- Significant uses of force (as directed by the Watch Commander)

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- Significant facility problems (as directed by the Watch Commander)

357.4 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY

The Watch Commander is responsible for making the appropriate notifications. The Watch Commander shall make reasonable attempts to obtain as much information on the incident as possible before notification. The Watch Commander shall attempt to make the notifications as soon as practicable. Notification should be made by calling the home telephone number first and then by any other available contact numbers.

357.4.1 STAFF NOTIFICATION

In the event an incident occurs described in the Major Incident Notification Policy, the Chief of Police shall be notified along with the affected Commander and the Detective Lieutenant if that bureau is affected.

357.4.2 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.

357.4.3 TRAFFIC BUREAU NOTIFICATION

In the event of a traffic fatality or major injury, the Traffic Sergeant shall be notified who will then contact the appropriate accident investigator. The Traffic Sergeant will notify the Traffic Lieutenant.

357.4.4 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.

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Death Investigation

359.1 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.

359.2 INVESTIGATION CONSIDERATIONS

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

359.2.1 CORONER REQUEST

Government Code § 27491 and Health & Safety Code § 102850 direct the Coroner to inquire into and determine the circumstances, manner and cause of certain deaths. The Coroner shall be called in any of the following cases:

(a) Unattended deaths (No physician in attendance or during the continued absence of the attending physician. Also, includes all deaths outside hospitals and nursing care facilities).

(b) Deaths where the deceased has not been attended by either a physician or a registered nurse, who is a member of a hospice care interdisciplinary team, as defined by Health and Safety Code § 1746 in the 20 days prior to death.

(c) Physician unable to state the cause of death. Unwillingness does not apply. Includes all sudden, unexpected and unusual deaths and fetal deaths when the underlying cause is unknown.

(d) Known or suspected homicide.

(e) Known or suspected suicide.

(f) Involving any criminal action or suspicion of a criminal act. Includes child and dependent adult negligence and abuse.

(g) Related to or following known or suspected self-induced or criminal abortion.

(h) Associated with a known or alleged rape or crime against nature.

(i) Following an accident or injury (primary or contributory). Deaths known or suspected as resulting (in whole or in part) from or related to accident or injury, either old or recent.

(j) Drowning, fire, hanging, gunshot, stabbing, cutting, starvation, exposure, alcoholism, drug addiction, strangulation or aspiration.

(k) Accidental poisoning (food, chemical, drug, therapeutic agents).

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(l) Occupational diseases or occupational hazards.

(m) Known or suspected contagious disease and constituting a public hazard.

(n) All deaths in operating rooms and all deaths where a patient has not fully recovered from an anesthetic, whether in surgery, recovery room or elsewhere.

(o) In prison or while under sentence. Includes all in-custody and police involved deaths.

(p) All deaths of unidentified persons.

(q) All deaths of state hospital patients.

(r) Suspected Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) deaths.

(s) All deaths where the patient is comatose throughout the period of the physician's attendance. Includes patients admitted to hospitals unresponsive and expire without regaining consciousness.

The body shall not be disturbed or moved from the position or place of death without permission of the coroner.

359.2.2 SEARCHING DEAD BODIES

The Coroner or Deputy Coroner is generally the only person permitted to search a body known to be dead from any of the circumstances set forth in Government Code § 27491. The only exception is that an officer is permitted to search the body of a person killed in a traffic collision for the limited purpose of locating an anatomical donor card (Government Code § 27491.3). If such a donor card is located, the Coroner or a designee shall be promptly notified. Should exigent circumstances indicate to an officer that any search of a known dead body is warranted prior to the arrival of the Coroner or a designee; the investigating officer shall first obtain verbal consent from the Coroner or a designee (Government Code § 27491.2).

Whenever possible, a witness, preferably a relative to the deceased or a member of the household, should be requested to remain at the scene with the officer pending the arrival of the Coroner or a designee. The name and address of this person shall be included in the narrative of the death report. Whenever personal effects are removed from the body of the deceased by the Coroner or a designee, a receipt shall be obtained. This receipt shall be attached to the death report.

359.2.3 DEATH NOTIFICATION

When practical, and if not handled by the Coroner's Office, notification to the next-of-kin of the deceased person shall be made, in person, by the officer 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.

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359.2.4 UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODIES

If the identity of a dead body cannot be established after the Coroner arrives, the Coroner’s office will issue a “John Doe" or "Jane Doe” number for the report.

359.2.5 DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORTING

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

359.2.6 SUSPECTED HOMICIDE

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

359.2.7 EMPLOYMENT RELATED DEATHS OR INJURIES

Any member of this agency who responds to and determines that a death, serious illness, or serious injury has occurred as a result of an accident at or in connection with the victim's employment shall ensure that the nearest office of Cal-OSHA is notified by telephone immediately or as soon as practicable with all pertinent information (8 CCR 342(b)).

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Identity Theft

361.1 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.

361.2 REPORTING

(a) In an effort to maintain uniformity in reporting, officers presented with the crime of identity theft (Penal Code § 530.6) shall initiate a report for victims residing within the jurisdiction of this department when the crime occurred. For incidents of identity theft occurring outside this jurisdiction, officers should observe the following:

1. For any victim not residing within this jurisdiction, the officer may either take a courtesy report to be forwarded to the victim's residence agency or the victim should be encouraged to promptly report the identity theft to the law enforcement agency where he or she resides.

(b) While the crime of identity theft should be reported to the law enforcement agency where the victim resides, officers of this department should investigate and report crimes occurring within this jurisdiction which have resulted from the original identity theft (e.g., the identity theft occurred elsewhere, but the credit card fraud occurred and is reported in this jurisdiction).

(c) Officers should include all known incidents of fraudulent activity (e.g., credit card number applied for in victim's name when the victim has never made such an application).

(d) Officers should also cross-reference all known reports made by the victim (e.g., U.S. Secret Service, credit reporting bureaus, U.S. Postal Service and DMV) with all known report numbers.

(e) The reporting officer should inform victims of identity theft that the California Identity Theft Registry is available to help those who are wrongly linked to crimes. The registry can be checked by law enforcement and other authorized persons to investigate whether a criminal history or want was created in the victim's name (Penal Code § 530.7). Information regarding the California Identity Theft Registry can be obtained by calling toll free (888) 880-0240.

(f) Following supervisory review and departmental processing, the initial report should be forwarded to the appropriate detective for follow up investigation, coordination with other agencies and prosecution as circumstances dictate.

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Private Persons Arrests

363.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the handling of private person's arrests made pursuant to Penal Code § 837.

363.2 ADVISING PRIVATE PERSONS OF THE ARREST PROCESS

Penal Code § 836(b) expressly mandates that all officers shall advise victims of domestic violence of the right to make a private person's arrest, including advice on how to safely execute such an arrest. In all other situations, officers should use sound discretion in determining whether or not to advise an individual of the arrest process.

(a) When advising any individual regarding the right to make a private person's arrest, officers should refrain from encouraging or dissuading any individual from making such an arrest and should instead limit advice to the legal requirements for such an arrest as listed below.

(b) Private individuals should be discouraged from using force to effect a private person's arrest, and absent immediate threat to their own safety or the safety of others, private individuals should be encouraged to refer matters to law enforcement officials for further investigation or arrest.

363.3 ARRESTS BY PRIVATE PERSONS

Penal Code § 837 provides that a private person may arrest another:

(a) For a public offense committed or attempted in his or her presence;

(b) When the person arrested has committed a felony, although not in his or her presence;

(c) When a felony has been in fact committed, and he or she has reasonable cause for believing the person arrested has committed it.

Unlike peace officers, private persons may not make an arrest on suspicion that a felony has been committed - the felony must in fact have taken place.

363.4 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Any officer presented with a private person wishing to make an arrest must determine whether or not there is reasonable cause to believe that such an arrest would be lawful (Penal Code § 847).

(a) Should any officer determine that there is no reasonable cause to believe that a private person's arrest is lawful, the officer 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.

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1. Any officer who determines that a private person's arrest appears to be unlawful should promptly release the arrested individual pursuant to Penal Code § 849(b)(1). The officer must include the basis of such a determination in a related report.
2. Absent reasonable cause to support a private person's arrest or other lawful grounds to support an independent arrest by the officer, the officer should advise the parties that no arrest will be made and that the circumstances will be documented in a related report.

(b) Whenever an officer determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that a private person's arrest is lawful, the officer may exercise any of the following options:

1. Take the individual into physical custody for booking
2. Release the individual pursuant to a Notice to Appear
3. Release the individual pursuant to Penal Code § 849

363.5 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Officers shall complete a narrative report regarding the circumstances and disposition of the incident.

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Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes Reporting

365.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy shall establish a procedure for the mandated reporting of Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes (ARRC) to the Attorney General pursuant to the Reproductive Rights Law Enforcement Act (Penal Code § 13775 et seq.).

365.2 DEFINITIONS

Penal Code § 423.2 provides that the following acts shall be considered Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes (ARRC) when committed by any person, except a parent or guardian acting towards his or her minor child or ward:

(a) By force, threat of force, or physical obstruction that is a crime of violence, intentionally injures, intimidates, interferes with, or attempts to injure, intimidate, or interfere with any person or entity because that person or entity is a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant, or in order to intimidate any person or entity, or any class of persons or entities, from becoming or remaining a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant

(b) By non-violent physical obstruction, intentionally injures, intimidates, or interferes with, or attempts to injure, intimidate, or interfere with, any person or entity because that person or entity is a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant, or in order to intimidate any person or entity, or any class of persons or entities, from becoming or remaining a reproductive health services client, provider or assistant

(c) Intentionally damages or destroys the property of a person, entity, or facility, or attempts to do so, because the person, entity, or facility is a reproductive health services client, provider, assistant, or facility

365.3 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

(a) Upon the receipt of the report of an ARRC, it shall be the responsibility of the employee taking such a report to also complete an ARRC Data Collection Worksheet (BCIA 8371) in accordance with the instructions contained on such forms.

(b) The ARRC Data Collection Worksheet shall be processed with all related reports and forwarded to the Investigation Commander.

(c) By the tenth day of each month, it shall be the responsibility of the Investigation Commander to ensure that a Summary Worksheet (BCIA 8370) is submitted to the Department of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center.

1. In the event that no ARRC(s) were reported during the previous month, a Summary Worksheet shall be submitted to Department of Justice with an indication that no such crimes were reported.

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2. Any ARRC(s) reported in the Summary Worksheet shall be accompanied by a copy of the related Data Collection Worksheet(s).

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Limited English Proficiency Services

367.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) (42 USC § 2000d).

367.1.1 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 Westminster Police Department, designated by the Department, who has the ability to communicate fluently, directly and accurately in both English and another language. Bilingual members may be fluent enough to communicate in a non-English language but may not be sufficiently fluent to interpret or translate from one language into another.

Translate or translation - The replacement of written text from one language (source language) into an equivalent written text (target language).

367.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to reasonably ensure that LEP individuals have meaningful access to law enforcement services, programs and activities, while not imposing undue burdens on its members.

The Department will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, rights or programs based upon national origin or any other protected interest or right.

367.3 LEP COORDINATOR

Depending on the balance of the above four factors, this department will make every reasonable effort to provide meaningful and timely assistance to LEP individuals through a variety of services, where available. LEP individuals may elect to accept interpreter services offered by the Department at no cost or choose to provide their own interpreter services at their own expense. Department personnel should document in any related report whether the LEP individual elected to

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use interpreter services provided by the Department or some other source. Department-provided interpreter services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this section.

367.4 FOUR-FACTOR ANALYSIS

Since there are many different languages that members could encounter, the Department will utilize the four-factor analysis outlined in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients, available at the DOJ website, to determine which measures will provide meaningful access to its services and programs. It is recognized that law enforcement contacts and circumstances will vary considerably. This analysis, therefore, must remain flexible and will require an ongoing balance of four factors, which are:

(a) The number or proportion of LEP individuals eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by department members, or who may benefit from programs or services within the jurisdiction of the Department or a particular geographic area.

(b) The frequency with which LEP individuals are likely to come in contact with department members, programs or services.

(c) The nature and importance of the contact, program, information or service provided.

(d) The cost of providing LEP assistance and the resources available.

367.5 TYPES OF LEP ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Westminster Police Department members should never refuse service to an LEP individual who is requesting assistance, nor should they require an LEP individual to furnish an interpreter as a condition for receiving assistance. The Department will make every reasonable effort to provide meaningful and timely assistance to LEP individuals through a variety of services.

The Department will utilize all reasonably available tools, such as language identification cards, when attempting to determine an LEP individual's primary language.

LEP individuals may choose to accept department-provided LEP services at no cost or they may choose to provide their own.

Department-provided LEP services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

367.6 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.

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367.7 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.

367.8 QUALIFIED BILINGUAL MEMBERS

Bilingual members may be qualified to provide LEP services when they have demonstrated through established department procedures a sufficient level of skill and competence to fluently communicate in both English and a non-English language. Members utilized for LEP services must demonstrate knowledge of the functions of an interpreter/translator and the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit. Additionally, bilingual members must be able to communicate technical and law enforcement terminology, and be sufficiently proficient in the non-English language to perform complicated tasks, such as conducting interrogations, taking statements, collecting evidence or conveying rights or responsibilities.

When a qualified bilingual member from this department is not available, personnel from other City departments, who have been identified by the Department as having the requisite skills and competence, may be requested.

367.9 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.

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367.9.1 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 City 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.

367.9.2 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.

367.10 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.

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367.11 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

The Westminster Police Department will take reasonable steps and will work with the Personnel Department to develop in-house language capacity by hiring or appointing qualified members proficient in languages representative of the community being served.

367.11.1 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.

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.

367.12 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 officer is unable to effectively communicate with an LEP individual.

If available, officers should obtain the assistance of a qualified bilingual member or an authorized interpreter before placing an LEP individual under arrest.

367.13 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

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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, officers 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.

367.14 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.

367.15 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.

367.16 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.

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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.

367.17 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.

367.18 TRAINING

To ensure that all members who may have contact with LEP individuals are properly trained, the Department will provide periodic training on this policy and related procedures, including how to access department-authorized telephonic and in-person interpreters and other available resources.

The Training Sergeant 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 Sergeant 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.

367.18.1 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 Sergeant shall be responsible for coordinating the annual refresher training and will maintain a record of all training the interpreters have received.

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Communications with Persons with Disabilities

369.1 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.

369.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Auxiliary aids - Tools used to communicate with people who have a disability or impairment. They include, but are not limited to, the use of gestures or visual aids to supplement oral communication; a notepad and pen or pencil to exchange written notes; a computer or typewriter; an assistive listening system or device to amplify sound; a teletypewriter (TTY) or videophones (video relay service or VRS); taped text; qualified readers; or a qualified interpreter.

Disability or impairment - A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, including hearing or seeing, regardless of whether the disabled person uses assistive or adaptive devices or auxiliary aids. Individuals who wear ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses are not considered to have a disability (42 USC § 12102).

Qualified interpreter - A person who is able to interpret effectively, accurately and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary. Qualified interpreters include oral interpreters, translators, sign language interpreters and intermediary interpreters.

369.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to reasonably ensure that people with disabilities, including victims, witnesses, suspects and arrestees have equal access to law enforcement services, programs and activities. Members must make efforts to communicate effectively with individuals with disabilities.

The Department will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, rights or programs based upon disabilities.

369.3 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police shall delegate certain responsibilities to an ADA Coordinator (28 CFR 35.107). The ADA Coordinator shall be appointed by, and directly responsible, to the Operations Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the ADA Coordinator shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) Working with the City ADA coordinator regarding the Westminster Police Department's efforts to ensure equal access to services, programs and activities.

(b) Developing reports, new procedures, or recommending modifications to this policy.

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(c) Acting as a liaison with local disability advocacy groups or other disability groups regarding access to department services, programs and activities.

(d) Ensuring that a list of qualified interpreter services is maintained and available to each Watch Commander and Dispatch Supervisor. The list should include information regarding the following:

1. Contact information
2. Availability

(e) Developing procedures that will enable members to access auxiliary aids or services, including qualified interpreters, and ensure the procedures are available to all members.

(f) Ensuring signage is posted in appropriate areas, indicating that auxiliary aids are available free of charge to people with disabilities.

(g) Ensuring appropriate processes are in place to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints and inquiries regarding discrimination in access to department services, programs and activities.

369.4 FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Because the nature of any law enforcement contact may vary substantially from one situation to the next, members of this department should consider all information reasonably available to them when determining how to communicate with an individual with a disability. Members should carefully balance all known factors in an effort to reasonably ensure people who are disabled have equal access to services, programs and activities. These factors may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Members should not always assume that effective communication is being achieved. The fact that an individual appears to be nodding in agreement does not always mean he/she completely understands the message. When there is any doubt, members should ask the individual to communicate back or otherwise demonstrate their understanding.

(b) The nature of the disability (e.g., deafness or blindness vs. hard of hearing or low vision).

(c) The nature of the law enforcement contact (e.g., emergency vs. non-emergency, custodial vs. consensual contact).

(d) The availability of auxiliary aids. The fact that a particular aid is not available does not eliminate the obligation to reasonably ensure access. However, in an emergency, availability may factor into the type of aid used.

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369.5 INITIAL AND IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS

Recognizing that various law enforcement encounters may be potentially volatile and/or emotionally charged, members should remain alert to the possibility of communication problems.

Members should exercise special care in the use of all gestures, and verbal and written communication to minimize initial confusion and misunderstanding when dealing with any individual with known or suspected disabilities.

In a non-emergency situation, when a member knows or suspects an individual requires assistance to effectively communicate, the member shall identify the individual's choice of auxiliary aid or service.

The individual's preferred communication method must be honored unless another effective method of communication exists under the circumstances (28 CFR 35.160).

Factors to consider when determining whether an alternative method is effective include:

(a) The methods of communication usually used by the individual.

(b) The nature, length and complexity of the communication involved.

(c) The context of the communication.

In emergency situations involving an imminent threat to the safety or welfare of any person, members may use whatever auxiliary aids and services that reasonably appear effective under the circumstances. This may include, for example, exchanging written notes or using the services of a person who knows sign language but is not a qualified interpreter, even if the person who is deaf or hard of hearing would prefer a qualified sign language interpreter or another appropriate auxiliary aid or service. Once the emergency has ended, the continued method of communication should be reconsidered. The member should inquire as to the individual's preference and give primary consideration to that preference.

If an individual who is deaf, hard of hearing or has impaired speech must be handcuffed while in the custody of the Westminster Police Department, consideration should be given, safety permitting, to placing the handcuffs in the front of the body to facilitate communication using sign language or writing.

369.6 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Westminster Police Department members shall never refuse to assist an individual with disabilities who is requesting assistance. The Department will not charge anyone to receive auxiliary aids, nor shall they require anyone to furnish their own auxiliary aid or service as a condition for receiving assistance. The Department will make every reasonable effort to provide equal access and timely assistance to individuals who are disabled through a variety of services.

A person who is disabled may choose to accept department-provided auxiliary aids or services or they may choose to provide their own.

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Department-provided auxiliary aids or services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

369.7 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.

369.8 QUALIFIED INTERPRETERS

A qualified interpreter may be needed in lengthy or complex transactions (e.g., interviewing a victim, witness, suspect or arrestee), if the individual to be interviewed normally relies on sign language or speechreading (lip-reading) to understand what others are saying. The qualified interpreter should not be a person with an interest in the case or investigation involving the disabled individual. A person providing interpretation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation in a court proceeding.

Qualified interpreters should be:

(a) Available within a reasonable amount of time but in no event longer than one hour if requested.

(b) Experienced in providing interpretation services related to law enforcement matters.

(c) Familiar with the use of VRS and/or video remote interpreting services.

(d) Certified in either American Sign Language (ASL) or Signed English (SE).

(e) Able to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.

(f) Knowledgeable of the ethical issues involved when providing interpreter services.

Members should use department-approved procedures to request a qualified interpreter at the earliest reasonable opportunity, and generally not more than 15 minutes after a request for an interpreter has been made or it is reasonably apparent that an interpreter is needed. No individual who is disabled shall be required to provide his/her own interpreter (28 CFR 35.160).

369.9 TTY AND RELAY SERVICES

In situations where an individual without a disability would have access to a telephone (e.g., booking or attorney contacts), members must also provide those who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech the opportunity to place calls using an available TTY (also known as a telecommunications device for deaf people, or TDD). Members shall provide additional time, as needed, for effective communication due to the slower nature of TTY and TDD communications.

The Department will accept all TTY or TDD calls placed by those who are deaf or hard of hearing and received via a telecommunications relay service (28 CFR 35.162).

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Note that relay services translate verbatim, so the conversation must be conducted as if speaking directly to the caller.

369.10 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Interpreter services may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in communication services, such as ASL or SE, and have been approved by the Department to provide interpreter services.

Where qualified interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, department members must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the individual with the disability and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

369.11 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.

369.12 REPORTING

Whenever any member of this department is required to complete a report or other documentation, and communication assistance has been provided, such services should be noted in the related report. Members should document the type of communication services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the Department or some other identified source. If the individual's express preference is not honored, the member must document why another method of communication was used.

All written communications exchanged in a criminal case shall be attached to the report or placed into evidence.

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369.13 FIELD ENFORCEMENT

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts that may involve individuals with disabilities. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary.

The Department recognizes that it would be virtually impossible to provide immediate access to complete communication services to every member of this department. Members and/or supervisors must assess each situation and consider the length, complexity and importance of the communication, as well as the individual's preferred method of communication, when determining the type of resources to use and whether a qualified interpreter is needed.

Although not every situation can be addressed in this policy, it is important that members are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action. For example, it would be meaningless to verbally request consent to search if the officer is unable to effectively communicate with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing and requires communications assistance.

If available, officers 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.

369.13.1 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.

369.14 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS

In an effort to ensure that the rights of individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech impairment are protected during a custodial interrogation, this department will provide interpreter services before beginning an interrogation, unless exigent circumstances exist or the individual

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has made a clear indication that he/she understands the process and desires to proceed without an interpreter. The use of a video remote interpreting service should be considered, where appropriate, if a live interpreter is not available. *Miranda* warnings shall be provided to suspects who are deaf or hard of hearing by a qualified interpreter or by providing a written *Miranda* warning card.

In order to ensure that communications during custodial investigations are accurately documented and are admissible as evidence, interrogations should be recorded whenever reasonably possible. See guidance on recording custodial interrogations in the Investigation and Prosecution Policy.

369.15 ARREST AND BOOKINGS

If an individual with speech or hearing disabilities is arrested, the arresting officer 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 officer 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.

369.16 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.

369.17 COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department are important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. This department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

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369.17.1 CALL-TAKER TRAINING
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: The requirements of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act for telephone emergency service providers. ASL syntax and accepted abbreviations. 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. 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.

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Mandatory Employer Notification

371.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to describe the requirements and procedures to follow when a public or private school employee (teacher and non-teacher) has been arrested under certain circumstances.

371.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will meet the reporting requirements of California law to minimize the risks to children and others.

371.3 MANDATORY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE ARREST REPORTING

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

The arresting officer shall notify the Watch Commander of the arrest as soon as practicable and the Watch Commander is responsible for notifying the Chief of Police or his/her authorized designee.

371.3.1 ARREST OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER

In the event a public school teacher is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11590 or Health and Safety Code § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(12), or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290, Penal Code § 261(a) or Education Code § 44010, the Chief of Police or his/her designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the superintendent of the school district employing the teacher and to immediately give written notice of the arrest to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and to the superintendent of schools in the county where the person is employed (Health and Safety Code § 11591; Penal Code § 291).

371.3.2 ARREST OF PUBLIC SCHOOL NON-TEACHER EMPLOYEE

In the event a public school non-teacher employee is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11590 or Health and Safety Code § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(12), or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290, Penal Code § 261(a) or Education Code § 44010, the Chief of Police or his/her designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the superintendent of the school district employing the non-teacher and to immediately give written notice of the arrest to the governing board of the school district employing the person (Health and Safety Code § 11591; Penal Code § 291).

371.3.3 ARREST OF PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHER

In the event a private school teacher is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11590 or Health and Safety Code § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(12), or for any of the offenses enumerated

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in Penal Code § 290 or Education Code § 44010, the Chief of Police or his/her designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the private school authority employing the teacher and to immediately give written notice of the arrest to the private school authority employing the teacher (Health and Safety Code § 11591; Penal Code § 291.1).

371.3.4 ARREST OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE INSTRUCTOR

In the event a teacher or instructor employed in a community college district school is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11590 or Health and Safety § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(9), or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290 or in Penal Code § 261(a)(1), the Chief of Police or the authorized designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the superintendent of the community college district employing the person, and shall immediately give written notice of the arrest to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (Health and Safety Code § 11591.5; Penal Code § 291.5).

371.4 NOTIFICATIONS

The Records Supervisor or the authorized designee shall provide written notice of the arrest to the applicable educational entity as soon as practicable.

371.5 ARREST OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN COMMUNITY CARE FACILITIES

In the event an employee of a community treatment facility, a day treatment facility, a group home, a short-term residential therapeutic program or a foster family agency is arrested for child abuse (as defined in Penal Code § 11165.6) and the employee is free to return to work where children are present, the investigating member shall notify the licensee of the charge of abuse (Health and Safety Code § 1522.2).

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Biological Samples

373.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the collection of biological samples from those individuals required to provide samples upon conviction or arrest for certain offenses. This policy does not apply to biological samples collected at a crime scene or taken from a person in conjunction with a criminal investigation. Nor does it apply to biological samples from those required to register, for example, sex offenders.

373.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will assist in the expeditious collection of required biological samples from offenders in accordance with the laws of this state and with as little reliance on force as practicable.

373.3 PERSONS SUBJECT TO DNA COLLECTION

Those who must submit a biological sample include (Penal Code § 296):

(a) A person, including a juvenile, upon conviction or other adjudication of any felony offense.

(b) A person, including a juvenile, upon conviction or other adjudication of any offense if the person has a prior felony on record.

(c) An adult arrested or charged with any felony.

373.4 PROCEDURE

When an individual is required to provide a biological sample, a trained employee shall obtain the sample in accordance with this policy.

373.4.1 COLLECTION

The following steps should be taken to collect a sample:

(a) Verify that the individual is required to provide a sample pursuant to Penal Code § 296; Penal Code § 296.1.

(b) Verify that a biological sample has not been previously collected from the offender by querying the individual's criminal history record for a DNA collection flag or, during regular business hours, calling the California Department of Justice (DOJ) designated DNA laboratory. There is no need to obtain a biological sample if one has been previously obtained.

(c) Use a DNA buccal swab collection kit provided by the California DOJ to perform the collection and take steps to avoid cross contamination.

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373.5 USE OF FORCE TO OBTAIN SAMPLES

If a person refuses to cooperate with the sample collection process, officers should attempt to identify the reason for refusal and seek voluntary compliance without resorting to using force. Force will not be used in the collection of samples except as authorized by court order and only with the approval of a supervisor. Methods to consider when seeking voluntary compliance include contacting:

(a) The person's parole or probation officer when applicable.

(b) The prosecuting attorney to seek additional charges against the person for failure to comply or to otherwise bring the refusal before a judge.

(c) The judge at the person's next court appearance.

(d) The person's attorney.

(e) A chaplain.

(f) Another custody facility with additional resources, where an arrestee can be transferred to better facilitate sample collection.

(g) A supervisor who may be able to authorize custodial disciplinary actions to compel compliance, if any are available.

The supervisor shall review and approve any plan to use force and be present to document the process.

373.5.1 VIDEO RECORDING

A video recording should be made anytime force is used to obtain a biological sample. The recording should document all staff participating in the process, in addition to the methods and all force used during the collection. The recording should be part of the investigation file, if any, or otherwise retained in accordance with the department's records retention schedule (15 CCR 1059).

373.5.2 CELL EXTRACTIONS

If the use of force includes a cell extraction, the extraction shall be video recorded, including audio. Video shall be directed at the cell extraction event. The video recording shall be retained by the Department for the length of time required by statute. Notwithstanding the use of the video as evidence in a criminal proceeding, the tape shall be retained administratively (15 CCR 1059).

373.6 LEGAL MANDATES AND RELEVANT LAWS

California law provides for the following:

373.6.1 DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO FORCE

The Watch Commander shall prepare prior written authorization for the use of any force (15 CCR 1059). The written authorization shall include information that the subject was asked to provide the requisite specimen, sample or impression and refused, as well as the related court order authorizing the force.

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373.6.2 BLOOD SAMPLES

A blood sample should only be obtained under this policy when:

(a) The California DOJ requests a blood sample and the subject consents, or

(b) A court orders a blood sample following a refusal.

The withdrawal of blood may only be performed in a medically approved manner by health care providers trained and qualified to draw blood. A California DOJ collection kit shall be used for this purpose (Penal Code § 298(a); Penal Code § 298(b)(2)).

373.6.3 LITIGATION

The Chief of Police or authorized designee should notify the California DOJ's DNA Legal Unit in the event this department is named in a lawsuit involving the DNA Data Bank sample collection, sample use or any aspect of the state's DNA Data Bank Program.

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Chaplains

375.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Westminster Police Department Chaplain Program is established for the purposes of providing spiritual and emotional support to all members of the Department, their families and members of the public.

375.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department that the Chaplain Program shall be a non-denominational, ecumenical ministry provided by volunteer clergy without financial compensation.

375.3 GOALS

Members of the Chaplain Program shall fulfill the program's purpose in the following manner:

(a) By serving as a resource for department personnel when dealing with the public in such incidents as accidental deaths, suicides, suicidal subjects, serious accidents, drug and alcohol abuse, and other such situations that may arise.

(b) By providing an additional link between the community, other chaplain programs and the Department.

(c) By providing counseling, spiritual guidance and insight for department personnel and their families.

(d) By being alert to the spiritual and emotional needs of department personnel and their families.

(e) By familiarizing themselves with the role of law enforcement in the community.

375.4 REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for the Chaplain Program shall meet the following requirements:

(a) Must be above reproach, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not be addicted to alcohol or other drugs, not contentious, and free from excessive debt. Must manage their household, family, and personal affairs well. Must have a good reputation with those outside the church.

(b) Must be ecclesiastically certified and/or endorsed, ordained, licensed, or commissioned by a recognized religious body.

(c) Must successfully complete an appropriate level background investigation.

(d) Must have at least five years of successful ministry experience within a recognized church or religious denomination.

(e) Membership in good standing with the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC).

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(f) Possess a valid California Drivers License.

375.5 SELECTION PROCESS

Chaplain candidates are encouraged to participate in the ride-along program before and during the selection process. Chaplain candidates shall successfully complete the following process prior to deployment as a chaplain:

(a) Appropriate written application.

(b) Recommendation from their church elders, board, or council.

(c) Interview with Chief of Police & Chaplain Supervisor

(d) Successfully complete an appropriate level background investigation.

(e) Complete an appropriate probationary period as designated by the Chief of Police.

375.6 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties of a chaplain include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Assisting in making notification to families of department members who have been seriously injured or killed.

(b) After notification, responding to the hospital or home of the department member.

(c) Visiting sick or injured law enforcement personnel in the hospital or at home.

(d) Attending and participating, when requested, in funerals of active or retired members of the Department.

(e) Assisting sworn personnel in the diffusion of a conflict or incident, when requested.

(f) Responding to natural and accidental deaths, suicides and attempted suicides, family disturbances and any other incident that in the judgment of the Watch Commander or supervisor aids in accomplishing the Department's mission.

(g) 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 personnel.

(h) Counseling officers and other personnel with personal problems, when requested.

(i) Attending department and academy graduations, ceremonies and social events and offering invocations and benedictions, as requested.

(j) Being responsible for the organization and development of spiritual organizations in the Department.

(k) Responding to all major disasters such as earthquakes, bombings and similar critical incidents.

(l) Providing liaison with various religious leaders of the community.

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(m) Assisting public safety personnel and the community in any other function of the clergy profession, as requested.

(n) Participating in in-service training classes.

(o) Willing to train to enhance effectiveness.

(p) Promptly facilitating requests for representatives or ministers of various denominations.

(q) Making referrals in cases where specialized attention is needed or in cases that are beyond the chaplain's ability to assist.

Chaplains may not proselytize or attempt to recruit members of the department or the public into a religious affiliation while on-duty unless the receiving person has solicited spiritual guidance or teaching. 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 follow-up contacts that was provided while functioning as a chaplain for the Westminster Police Department.

375.7 CLERGY-PENITENT CONFIDENTIALITY

No person who provides chaplain services to members of the department may work or volunteer for the Westminster Police Department in any capacity other than that of chaplain.

Department chaplains shall be familiar with state evidentiary laws and rules pertaining to the limits of the clergy-penitent privilege and shall inform department members when it appears reasonably likely that the member is discussing matters that are not subject to the clergy-penitent privilege. 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 Westminster Police Department employees concerning an incident personally witnessed by the chaplain or concerning an incident involving the chaplain.

375.8 COMMAND STRUCTURE

(a) Under the general direction of the Chief of Police or his/her designee, chaplains shall report to the Senior Chaplain and/or Watch Commander.

(b) The Chief of Police shall make all appointments to the Chaplain Program and will designate a Senior Chaplain/Chaplain Commander.

(c) The Senior Chaplain shall serve as the liaison between the Chaplain Unit and the Chief of Police. He/she will arrange for regular monthly meetings, act as chairman of all chaplain meetings, prepare monthly schedules, maintain records on all activities of the Chaplain Unit, coordinate activities that may concern the members of the Chaplain Unit and arrange for training classes for chaplains.

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375.9 OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

(a) Chaplains will be scheduled to be on-call for a period of seven days at a time during each month, beginning on Monday and ending on the following Sunday.

(b) Generally, each chaplain will serve with Westminster Police Department personnel a minimum of eight hours per month.

(c) At the end of each watch the chaplain will complete a Chaplain Shift Report and submit it to the Chief of Police or his designee.

(d) Chaplains shall be permitted to ride with officers during any shift and observe Westminster Police Department operations, provided the Watch Commander has been notified and approved of the activity.

(e) Chaplains shall not be evaluators of employees and shall not be required to report on an employee's performance or conduct.

(f) In responding to incidents, a chaplain shall never function as an officer.

(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 Westminster Police Department unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police or his designee.

(i) Each chaplain shall have access to current personnel rosters, addresses, telephone numbers, duty assignments and other information that may assist in their duties. Such Information will be considered confidential and each chaplain will exercise appropriate security measures to prevent distribution of the information.

375.9.1 UNIFORMS AND BADGES

A distinct uniform, badge and necessary safety equipment will be provided for the Chaplains. This uniform may be similar to that worn by the personnel of this department.

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Public Safety Video Surveillance System

377.1 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.

377.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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 City 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 City 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.

377.3 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 Chief of Police 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.

377.3.1 PLACEMENT AND MONITORING

Camera placement will be guided by the underlying purpose or strategy associated with the overall video surveillance plan. As appropriate, the Chief of Police should confer with other affected City 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.

The 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 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.

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(d) To assist in identifying, apprehending, and prosecuting offenders.

(e) To document officer and offender conduct during interactions to safeguard the rights of the public and officers.

(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 Watch Commander'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 officers in a timely manner. The Watch Commander or trained personnel in Dispatch are authorized to adjust the cameras to more effectively view a particular area for any legitimate public safety purpose.

The Chief of Police may authorize video feeds from the public safety video surveillance system to be forwarded to a specified location for monitoring by other than police 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.

377.3.2 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.

377.4 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.

377.4.1 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 safety video surveillance equipment shall not be used in an unequal or discriminatory manner and shall not target individuals or groups based solely on actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability.

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Video surveillance equipment shall not be used to harass, intimidate, or discriminate against any individual or group.

377.5 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 and for a minimum of one year. Prior to destruction, written consent shall be obtained from the City Attorney. If recordings are evidence in any claim filed or any pending litigation, they shall be preserved until pending litigation is resolved (Government Code § 34090.6).

Any recordings needed as evidence in a criminal or civil proceeding shall be copied to a suitable medium and booked into evidence in accordance with current evidence procedures.

377.5.1 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.

377.6 RELEASE OF VIDEO IMAGES

All recorded video images gathered by the public safety video surveillance equipment are for the official use of the Westminster Police Department.

Requests for recorded video images from the public or the media shall be processed in the same manner as requests for department public records.

Requests for recorded images from other law enforcement agencies shall be referred to the Watch Commander 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.

377.7 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,

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including this policy. Training should also address state and federal law related to the use of video surveillance equipment and privacy.

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Child and Dependent Adult Safety

379.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that children and dependent adults are not left without appropriate care in the event their caregiver or guardian is arrested or otherwise prevented from providing care due to actions taken by members of this department (Penal Code § 833.2(a)).

This policy does not address the actions to be taken during the course of a child abuse or dependent adult investigation. These are covered in the Child Abuse and Senior and Disability Victimization policies.

379.2 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 Westminster Police Department will endeavor to create a strong, cooperative relationship with local, state and community-based social services to ensure an effective, collaborative response that addresses the needs of those affected, including call-out availability and follow-up responsibilities.

379.3 PROCEDURES DURING AN ARREST

When encountering an arrest or prolonged detention situation, officers 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, officers should inquire if the arrestee has caregiver responsibilities for any children or dependent adults who are without appropriate supervision. The following steps should be taken (Penal Code § 13517.7(b)(1)):

(a) Inquire about and confirm the location of any children or dependent adults.

(b) Look for evidence of children and dependent adults. Officers 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, officers 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, officers 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 officer at the scene should explain the reason for the arrest in age-appropriate language and offer reassurance to the child or dependent adult that he/she will receive appropriate care.

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379.3.1 AFTER AN ARREST

Whenever an arrest is made, the officer should take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the arrestee's disclosed or discovered children or dependent adults.

Officers 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. Officers should consider allowing the person to use his/her cell phone to facilitate arrangements through access to contact phone numbers, and to lessen the likelihood of call screening by the recipients due to calls from unknown sources.

(b) Unless there is evidence to the contrary (e.g., signs of abuse, drug use, unsafe environment), officers should respect the parent or caregiver's judgment regarding arrangements for care. It is generally best if the child or dependent adult remains with relatives or family friends that he/she knows and trusts because familiarity with surroundings and consideration for comfort, emotional state and safety are important.

  1. Except when a court order exists limiting contact, the officer should attempt to locate and place children or dependent adults with the non-arrested parent, guardian or caregiver.

(c) Provide for the immediate supervision of children or dependent adults until an appropriate caregiver arrives.

(d) Notify Child Protective Services or the Division of Aging and Adult Services, if appropriate.

(e) Notify the field supervisor or Watch Commander of the disposition of children or dependent adults.

If children or dependent adults are at school or another known location outside the household at the time of arrest, the arresting officer 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.

379.3.2 DURING THE BOOKING PROCESS

During the booking process the arrestee shall be allowed to make additional telephone calls to relatives or other responsible individuals as is reasonably necessary to arrange for the care of any child or dependent adult. These telephone calls should be given as soon as practicable and are in addition to any other telephone calls allowed by law (Penal Code § 851.5(c)).

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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.

379.3.3 REPORTING

(a) For all arrests where children are present or living in the household, the reporting member will document the following information:

1. Name
2. Sex
3. Age
4. Special needs (e.g., medical, mental health)
5. How, where and with whom or which agency the child was placed
6. Identities and contact information for other potential caregivers
7. Notifications made to other adults (e.g., schools, relatives)

(b) For all arrests where dependent adults are present or living in the household, the reporting member will document the following information:

1. Name
2. Sex
3. Age
4. Whether he/she reasonably appears able to care for him/herself
5. Disposition or placement information if he/she is unable to care for him/herself

379.3.4 SUPPORT AND COUNSELING REFERRAL

If, in the judgment of the handling officers, 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.

379.4 DEPENDENT WELFARE SERVICES

Whenever an arrestee is unwilling or incapable of arranging for the appropriate care of any child or dependent adult, the handling officer should contact the appropriate welfare service or other department-approved social service to determine whether protective custody is appropriate (Welfare and Institutions Code § 305).

Only when other reasonable options are exhausted should a child or dependent adult be transported to the police facility, transported in a marked patrol car, or taken into formal protective custody.

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Under no circumstances should a child or dependent adult be left unattended or without appropriate care.

379.5 TRAINING

The Training Sergeant is responsible to ensure that all personnel of this department who may be involved in arrests affecting children or dependent adults receive approved POST-approved training on effective safety measures when a parent, guardian or caregiver is arrested (Penal Code § 13517.7).

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Service Animals

381.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the guidelines necessary to ensure the rights of individuals who use service animals to assist with disabilities are protected in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

381.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Service animal - A dog that is trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability (28 CFR 35.104; Health and Safety Code § 113903).

Service animal also includes a miniature horse if the horse is trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities, provided the horse is housebroken, is under the handler's control, the facility can accommodate the horse's type, size and weight, and the horse's presence will not compromise legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of the facility (28 CFR 35.136(i)).

381.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to provide services and access to persons with service animals in the same manner as those without service animals. Department members shall protect the rights of persons assisted by service animals in accordance with state and federal law.

381.3 IDENTIFICATION AND USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS

Some service animals may be readily identifiable. However, many do not have a distinctive symbol, harness or collar.

Service animals may be used in a number of ways to provide assistance, including:

- Guiding people who are blind or have low vision.
- Alerting people who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Retrieving or picking up items, opening doors or flipping switches for people who have limited use of their hands, arms or legs.
- Pulling wheelchairs.
- Providing physical support and assisting with stability and balance.
- Doing work or performing tasks for persons with traumatic brain injury, intellectual disabilities or psychiatric disabilities, such as reminding a person with depression to take medication.

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- 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.

381.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Service animals that are assisting individuals with disabilities are permitted in all public facilities and areas where the general public is allowed. Department members are expected to treat individuals with service animals with the same courtesy and respect that the Westminster Police Department affords to all members of the public (28 CFR 35.136).

381.4.1 INQUIRY

If it is apparent or if a member is aware that an animal is a service animal, the individual generally should not be asked any questions as to the status of the animal. If it is unclear whether an animal meets the definition of a service animal, the member should ask the individual only the following questions (28 CFR 35.136(f)):

- Is the animal required because of a disability?
- What task or service has the service animal been trained to perform?

If the individual explains that the animal is required because of a disability and has been trained to work or perform at least one task, the animal meets the definition of a service animal and no further questions as to the animal's status should be asked. The individual should not be questioned about his/her disability nor should the person be asked to provide any license, certification or identification card for the service animal.

381.4.2 CONTACT

Service animals are not pets. Department members should not interfere with the important work performed by a service animal by talking to, petting or otherwise initiating contact with a service animal.

381.4.3 REMOVAL

If a service animal is not housebroken or exhibits vicious behavior, poses a direct threat to the health of others, or unreasonably disrupts or interferes with normal business operations, an officer may direct the handler to remove the animal from the premises. Barking alone is not a threat nor does a direct threat exist if the person takes prompt, effective action to control the service animal (28 CFR 35.136(b)).

Each incident must be considered individually and past incidents alone are not cause for excluding a service animal. Removal of a service animal may not be used as a reason to refuse service to an individual with disabilities. Members of this department are expected to provide all services as are reasonably available to an individual with a disability, with or without a service animal.

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381.4.4 COMPLAINTS

When handling calls of a complaint regarding a service animal, members of this department should remain neutral and should be prepared to explain the ADA requirements concerning service animals to the concerned parties. Businesses are required to allow service animals to accompany their handlers into the same areas that other customers or members of the public are allowed (28 CFR 36.302).

Absent a violation of law independent of the ADA, officers should take no enforcement action beyond keeping the peace. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against as a result of a disability should be referred to the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

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Volunteer Program

383.1 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 officers and civilian personnel. Volunteers can be an important part of any organization and are proven to be a valuable asset to law enforcement agencies. Volunteers help to increase departmental responsiveness, delivery of services and information input, and provide new program opportunities. In addition, volunteers bring new skills and expertise to the Department and prompt new enthusiasm.

383.1.1 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 officers, interns, persons providing administrative support and youth involved in a law enforcement Explorer Post, among others.

383.2 VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

383.2.1 VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Volunteer Coordinator shall be appointed by the Professional Standards Unit Commander. The function of the Volunteer Coordinator is to provide a central coordinating point for effective volunteer management within the Department, and to direct and assist staff and volunteer efforts to jointly provide more productive services. The Volunteer Coordinator should work with other Department staff on an ongoing basis to assist in the development and implementation of volunteer-staffed positions.

The Volunteer Coordinator, or his/her designee, shall be responsible for the following:

(a) Recruiting, selecting and training qualified volunteers for various positions.

(b) Facilitating the implementation of new volunteer activities and assignments.

(c) Maintaining records for each volunteer.

(d) Tracking and evaluating the contribution of volunteers.

(e) Maintaining the volunteer handbook and outlining expectations, policies and responsibilities for all volunteers.

(f) Maintaining a record of volunteer schedules and work hours.

(g) Completion and dissemination as appropriate of all necessary paperwork and information.

(h) Planning periodic recognition events.

(i) Administering discipline when warranted.

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(j) Maintaining liaison with other volunteer-utilizing programs in the community and assisting in community-wide efforts to recognize and promote volunteering.

383.2.2 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.

383.2.3 SCREENING

All prospective volunteers should complete the volunteer application form. The Volunteer Coordinator or designee should conduct a face-to-face interview with an applicant under consideration.

A documented background investigation shall be completed on each volunteer applicant and shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

(a) Traffic and criminal background check. Fingerprints shall be obtained from all applicants and processed through the California Criminal Information Index.

(b) Employment

(c) References

(d) Credit check

A polygraph exam may be required of each applicant depending on the type of assignment.

383.2.4 SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

Volunteers should be at least 18 years of age at the time of selection and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

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.

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Volunteers should be placed only in assignments or programs that are consistent with their knowledge, skills, abilities and the needs of the Department.

383.2.5 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 officers 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.

383.2.6 FITNESS FOR DUTY

No volunteer shall report to work or be on-duty when his/her judgment or physical condition has been impaired by alcohol, medication, other substances, illness or injury.

Volunteers shall report to their supervisor any changes in status that may affect their ability to fulfill their duties. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Driver license

(b) Medical condition

(c) Arrests

(d) Criminal investigations

All volunteers shall adhere to the guidelines set forth by this department regarding drug and alcohol use.

383.2.7 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 officers. 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.

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Volunteers shall be required to return any issued uniform or department property at the termination of service.

383.3 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.

383.4 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.

383.5 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Volunteers will be issued an identification card and volunteer badge that must be worn at all times while on-duty. Any fixed and portable equipment issued by the Department shall be for official and authorized use only. Any property or equipment issued to a volunteer shall remain the property of the Department and shall be returned at the termination of service.

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383.5.1 VEHICLE USE

Volunteers assigned to duties such as vacation house checks or other assignments that require the use of a vehicle must first complete the following:

(a) A driving safety briefing and department approved driver safety course.

(b) Verification that the volunteer possesses a valid California Driver License.

(c) Verification that the volunteer carries current vehicle insurance.

The Volunteer Coordinator should insure that all volunteers receive safety briefing updates and license and insurance verification at least once a year.

When operating a Department vehicle, volunteers shall obey all rules of the road, including seat belt requirements. Smoking is prohibited in all Department vehicles.

Volunteers should not operate a marked patrol car unless there is a prominently placed sign indicating that it is out of service and are not authorized to operate a Department vehicle Code-3.

383.5.2 RADIO AND MDT USAGE

Volunteers shall successfully complete CLETS and radio procedures training prior to using the police radio or MDT and comply with all related provisions. The Volunteer Coordinator should ensure that radio and CLETS training is provided for volunteers whenever necessary.

383.6 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES/TERMINATION

A volunteer may be removed from the volunteer program at the discretion of the Chief of Police 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 Chief of Police 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.

383.6.1 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.

383.7 EVALUATION

An evaluation of the overall volunteer program will be conducted on an annual basis by the Volunteer Coordinator. Regular evaluations should be conducted with volunteers to ensure the best use of human resources available, to ensure personnel problems can be identified and dealt with promptly and fairly, and to ensure optimum satisfaction on the part of volunteers.

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Police Explorer Program

384.1 PURPOSE AND PROGRAM MISSION

The purpose of Law Enforcement Exploring is to provide juveniles who may be interested in a career in law enforcement with a comprehensive program of training, competition, service and practical experiences. Character development, physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism are integral components of the overall program. Through their involvement in the program, Explorers develop an awareness of the purpose, mission and objectives of law enforcement agencies.

The mission of the Westminster Police Department Explorers is to train the youth of today for the future that awaits them in the law enforcement field of tomorrow; to stimulate interest in law enforcement practices and the Explorer Code of Ethics; To promote self-confidence and responsibility; To provide specific services to the community and the Department by performing functions to relieve sworn officers for other assignments.

384.2 EXPLORER POST MEMBERSHIP

Law Enforcement Exploring is open to juveniles' ages 14 and graduated from the eighth grade, through 21, or age 15 through 21 years. Eligibility standards include:

a. A hold harmless and release form for the agency and Learning for Life must be executed by the parents or legal guardian and/or the Explorer if of legal age to sign such a form.

b. Must not have a prior conviction for a criminal offense or serious traffic offense.

c. Must have and maintain a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) in high school or college to remain in the Post.

d. Must complete a basic training course, to include Youth Protection: Personal Safety Awareness training, and a probationary period.

e. Must undergo a background review to assess character and integrity.

f. Must keep body weight in proportion to height and maintain physical fitness.

384.2.1 BACKGROUND REVIEW

The advisory staff shall complete the background review on all applicants. The background will ensure the applicant meets the Explorer Post minimum membership requirements. If a candidate fails to meet these requirements, the advisor should contact the candidate and family/parent to explain membership denial. Any candidate failing the background requirements may reapply for membership after a period of six months if they feel they now qualify for membership.

384.2.2 PROBATION PERIOD

All new Explorers shall be placed on probation for a minimum of six months upon their entry into the POST. Probationary Explorers must attend all training sessions and meetings during their probationary period, unless excused in advance by an Advisor. Probationary Explorers shall

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attend one of the next scheduled Basic Explorer Academies. Probation will be extended if training guidelines are not met. If a Probationary Explorer cannot complete the training as described, she/he must apply for an extension period in writing to the advisory staff, including their plan on completion of the required training.

384.2.3 EXPLORER FILE
Upon appointment as an explorer, an explorer file will be prepared. The file will include:

a. Application and background review
b. Oral interview evaluation forms
c. Parental consent forms
d. All parental waivers
e. Commendations and discipline memos
f. Any relevant / future documents
g. Semester or quarterly grades from school

384.3 ORGANIZATION AND COMMAND STRUCTURE

The Post shall have one Post Advisor in charge appointed by the police commander overseeing the program. The Post may have as many Associate Advisors as deemed necessary to effectively operate the Post. All members of the staff shall be full-time, Westminster Employees. The Post Advisor in charge and all Associate Advisors shall report to the police Commander in charge of the Explorer Program.

384.3.1 CHAIN OF COMMAND
The Explorer post chain of command is a framework for membership that follows a traditional rank structure of paramilitary organizations. It teaches Explorers responsibility, supervision and cooperation. The chain of command gives the post an efficient method for communication and authority to flow from the lowest rank upwards to the top levels. The chain of command is as follows:

a. Chief of Police
b. Deputy Chief of Police
c. Commander
d. Post Advisor
e. Associate Advisors
f. Explorer Captain
g. Explorer Lieutenant
h. Explorer Sergeant

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i. Explorer Corporal

j. Explorer FTO

k. Explorer

l. Probationary Explorer

Generally, Explorers should follow the chain of command to communicate information. In instances where the Explorer needs to report violations of the Department's sexual harassment policy, any crime, or any serious policy violation, the Explorer should contact any sworn member of the Explorer chain of command immediately.

384.4 SCOPE OF ACTIVITES

Typical types of patrol operations, calls for services and other law enforcement assistance that trained Explorers can provide with relatively minimal risk include, but are not limited to:

a. Crime prevention services.

b. Citizen tours of police facilities.

c. Perimeter security checks.

d. Disabled motorist assists.

e. Child identification fingerprinting for parents/legal guardian.

f. Agency information booth at career fairs and community events.

g. Agency telecommunications/dispatch center assistance.

h. Assistance with organized searches for lost/missing persons.

i. Traffic/crowd control at parades, festivals and other community events

384.4.1 RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES

There are numerous police operations and procedures that must not intentionally involve Explorers due to the considerable potential for legal complications or for an aggressive and risk inherent response. The law enforcement officer who is responsible for the Explorer must use his/her best professional judgment with respect to the safety and security of the Explorer and should never intentionally place an Explorer in a high risk or legally precarious situation. Such operations and procedures include, but are not limited to:

a. Arrests.

b. Felony in-progress calls.

c. Breathalyzer/sobriety tests.

d. Custodial interviews or interrogations.

e. Traffic or foot pursuits.

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f. Searches & seizures (to include direct Explorer involvement in a routine stop and frisk).

g. Surveillances.

h. Processing evidence or involved in the chain of custody of same.

i. Field testing of narcotics or other controlled substances if such test is part of a criminal investigation.

j. Handling, intake or transfer of persons taken into custody

384.5 EXPLORER SAFETY

The following provisions have been adopted to provide security for youth; in addition they serve to protect adult leaders from situations in which they are vulnerable to allegations of abuse:

a. Two-deep leadership. Two Explorer Advisors are required on all over night types of trips/ outings.

b. No one-on-one contact. One-on-one contact between adults and participants is not permitted, except for authorized ride-along programs in Exploring. Personal conferences must be conducted in plain view of others.

c. Respect of privacy. Adult leaders must respect the privacy of participants in situations such as changing into swimsuits or taking showers at activities and intrude only to the extent that health and safety require. They must also protect their own privacy in similar situations.

d. Separate accommodations. When camping or on overnight type outings, no youth is permitted to sleep in the same tent or room with an adult other than their parents or guardians, or with a member of same sex.

e. Proper preparation for high-adventure activities. Activities with elements of risk should never be undertaken without proper preparation, equipment, supervision, and safety measures.

f. No secret organizations. There are no secret organizations allowed and all aspects of the Explorer program are open to observation by parents and leaders.

g. Appropriate attire. Proper clothing for activities is required.

h. Constructive discipline. Discipline in the Explorer Program should be constructive and reflect the program's underlying values. Corporal punishment is never permitted.

i. Hazing prohibited. Physical or emotional hazing and initiations are prohibited.

j. Youth Leader Training and Supervision. Explorer Advisors must monitor and guide the leadership techniques used by youth leaders.

Adherence to these provisions not only enhances the protection of participants but also ensures the values of the Department are preserved. It helps to protect Explorer leaders from situations that are deemed at risk by creating barriers to abuse.

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384.5.1 COVERT OPERATIONS

Explorers are prohibited from directly or indirectly engaging in covert operations (i.e., serving in an undercover capacity) and should not be used as confidential informants or sources. These activities are fraught with potential legal complications and are risk inherent for the agency and the Explorer. Further, they are inconsistent with the career education and orientation objectives of Law Enforcement Exploring. Any agency electing to utilize Explorers as private citizens in covert operations does so with the clear understanding that its unit of government is solely responsible for any civil damages and legal or medical complications that might arise from such an activity.

384.5.2 DRIVING AND TRANSPORTATION

Law Enforcement Explorers (whether or not in uniform) are not permitted to drive marked police vehicles or other motorized police conveyances. The exception to this policy is when Explorers are participating in an authorized training program or competition and are under the direct, onsite, supervision of a law enforcement officer. Advisor Staff will be responsible for driving explorers to and from POST functions and at least one Advisor must be present with Explorers during the duration of any POST function and/or outing.

Outings are trips or meetings that occur at places other than the usual group/post meeting location and require preplanning of transportation. Outings may have an overnight component. All groups or posts planning an outing must read, agree, and comply with the requirements in the outing permit.

Transportation to and from Planned Outings/Functions:

a. Meet for departure at a designated area.

b. Prearrange a schedule for periodic checkpoint stops as a group.

c. Plan a daily destination point.

d. A common departure site and daily destination point are a must. If you cannot provide two adults for each vehicle, the minimum required is one adult and two or more youth participants; never one on one.

384.5.3 RULE OF FOUR

Safety Rule of Four: No fewer than four individuals (always with the minimum of two adults) go on any overnight or extended outing. If an accident occurs, one person stays with the injured, and two go for help. Additional adult leadership requirements must reflect an awareness of such factors as size and skill level of the group, anticipated environmental conditions, and overall degree of challenge.

a. Male and female leaders require separate sleeping facilities. Married couples may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available.

b. Male and female youth participants will not share the same sleeping facility.

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c. When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian. Youth and adults, other than the participant's parent(s), must have separate sleeping quarters.

d. If separate shower and bathroom facilities are not available, separate times for male and female use should be scheduled and posted.

384.6 CODE OF CONDUCT

Explorers should remember that whether on or “off-duty” their actions reflect upon the Westminster Police Department and the community. Whether in a post-sponsored social activity or “on-duty”, explorers shall always act so as not to bring discredit on themselves, the Department or the community.

a. Explorers will be orderly, attentive and will exercise patience and discretion when dealing with the public.

b. Explorers will obey all laws. Violation of any law may be cause for disciplinary action including termination.

c. Explorers shall not impersonate a police officer or imply through appearance or action that they have any law enforcement authority beyond that of a private person.

d. Explorers will immediately report any type of “off duty” contact with any law enforcement officer to an advisor. During regular hours Explorers must contact an advisor by telephone. Between 2300 and 0600, Explorers must send an email to all of the advisory staff. This includes contacts for traffic violations, criminal investigations, field interviews and any time the explorer is a reporting party or witness in any police matter. Any failure to notify an advisor is cause for immediate termination from the Post.

e. Explorers will not use or have in their possession any controlled substance except when legally prescribed by a licensed physician. When an explorer is taking prescribed medication that could affect performance, the advisory staff shall be notified before the event/shift begins. Explorers are not allowed to use any tobacco products while on duty or at explorer social events.

1. Any Explorers who are issued a “Medicinal Marijuana” prescription must notify the advisory staff immediately.

2. Explorers are never permitted to be present in a situation where drugs are being used illegally. Furthermore, Explorers shall never be present in a situation where legal medications are being improperly used.

f. Explorers shall address all Department personnel in a courteous manner, using rank or title and their last name unless otherwise instructed by the individual Department member.

g. In some circumstances the advisory staff may allow the Explorers to call them by their first name. (i.e., summer trips). However, explorers shall avoid treating Advisors like their peers and be respectful at all times.

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h. Explorers will perform their assigned duties to the best of their abilities. Laziness is looked upon by your peers and the public as inappropriate and it will not be tolerated.

i. Members will arrive at their assignments on time, dressed in proper attire and ready for the activity at hand. Explorers should not arrive earlier than 30 minutes prior to an assignment.

j. Explorers will promptly obey any lawful orders of a superior officer. Any explorer who refuses to obey a lawful order will be considered insubordinate. Should any lawful order given by a superior conflict with any previous order or published directive; the explorer will respectfully bring this conflict to the attention of the superior. The superior will take any necessary steps to correct the conflict and, at the same time, assume responsibility for the explorer's actions in carrying out the order.

k. Explorers will not directly or indirectly solicit or accept any gratuities, loans, gifts, rewards, merchandise, meals, beverages, or any other thing of value in connection with their official position. Explorers will not use their official position, uniforms, or identification to obtain privileges not otherwise available to them. Any items of value, which the advisory staff obtains as a form of compensation to the post, shall not be considered gratuities, i.e.: means at functions, event T-shirts, etc. Explorers shall not accept these items unless they have been specifically approved by the advisory staff for that function.

l. Explorers are never permitted to utilize an Explorer identification card or badge to identify them when off duty for any reason including a traffic stop.

m. Fraternization: Close social relationships, such as dating, between adult leaders and/or Officers of the department and Explorers are prohibited. If such relationships begin between Officers and Explorers, notification of the relationship will immediately be divulged to the Advisor in charge and/or Commander overseeing the program. Explorers are encouraged to keep personal relationships and dating outside of the Explorer Post and the Department. Explorers shall not display affection toward one another (i.e., kissing, holding hands, etc.) while on duty or attending any Explorer activity.

384.7 CONFIDENTIALITY

Explorers may see or 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. Subsequent unauthorized disclosure of any confidential information, verbally, in writing or by any other means, by the Explorer is grounds for immediate dismissal and possible criminal prosecution.

Explorers 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

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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.

384.8 HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE

Explorers shall be courteous to the public and fellow explorers. Explorers shall be tactful in the performance of their duties, shall control their tempers, and exercise patience and discretion. Explorers shall not use coarse, violent, profane or insolent language or gestures. Explorers shall not express any prejudice or engage in harassment or discrimination based upon race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical handicap, medical condition, religion, marital status or sexual preference. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, verbal, physical and visual harassment.

384.8.1 REPORTING

Reporting Harassment: Any explorer who believes he or she has been the subject of harassment should report the alleged act immediately to his/her advisor or sergeant in charge of the explorer post. The explorer need not follow the chain of command to report harassment incidents.

384.8.2 DEFINITIONS

Sexual Harassment Defined: Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when any of the following exist:

a. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term, or condition of an individual's employment;

b. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is use as a basis for employment decisions affection such individual;

c. Submission to such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creation an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment. Sexual harassment may include any of the following behaviors:

1. Verbal Harassment: Repeated, unsolicited, derogatory comments or slurs, or continued requests for social or sexual contact after being advised such is unwelcome;

2. Physical Harassment: Physical interference or contact which impedes normal work movement when directed at an individual;

3. Visual Harassment: Derogatory posters, cartoons, or drawings, staring or leering;

4. Sexual Favors: Sexual advances which condition an employment benefit in exchange for sexual favors, or which may reasonably be perceived as such.

384.8.3 EXPLORER RESPONSIBILITIES

Explorer Responsibilities: All explorers have a responsibility and obligation to enforce a zero tolerance sexual harassment and discrimination policy. If offensive or hostile type behavior occurs, all explorers present have the obligation to stop the action in progress and report it to their advisor.

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There is no intent by this Department to regulate or control any relationship or social interactions of explorers which are freely entered into by both parties and which do not impact explorer job performance.

The following are suggestions for all explorers to help establish and maintain a professional and healthy working environment, while at the same time preventing sexual harassment from occurring.

a. It is this Department's philosophy that explorers must set an example of acceptable conduct by not participating in or provoking behavior that is offensive.

b. When appropriate and possible, the explorer should warn the harasser that the particular behavior is offensive and unwelcome. Make it absolutely clear that you are neither interested in, nor flattered by, uninvited sexual advances. Be specific in advising that person about what conduct is offensive and unwelcome. Make it clear that you will take official action if it continues. If you foresee a problem document the incident thoroughly.

c. If the harassing behavior continues, or if you were unable or unwilling to confront the harasser directly, you must notify your immediate advisor or any advisor, including the Chief's office and document the notification. It is the explorer's responsibility to bring sexual harassment behavior to the attention of an advisor to ensure proper follow-up action. YOU NEED NOT FOLLOW THE CHAIN OF COMMAND TO REPORT HARASSING BEHAVIOR.

d. The Department will take steps necessary to prevent retaliation against the complaining party or witnesses and support that individual. Appropriate sanctions will be imposed on any individual subjecting any party involved in this process to retaliation.

384.8.4 ADVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

a. Individual advisors are responsible to report and/or handle harassment incidents where the advisor knows or should have known of the incident by nature of his or her advisory position.

b. Regardless of whether the complaining party requests action, the advisor must follow through, either by the formal complaint or by verbally warning the harasser and documenting the admonishment in writing.

c. The advisor, as well as the Department, may be held civilly liable if swift corrective action is not taken. Any advisor who fails to take corrective action can and will be disciplined by this Department.

d. It is the responsibility of all advisors to establish and maintain a working environment, which is free from discriminatory intimidation, ridicule and insult.

The advisors and Department supervisors have the responsibility and obligation to enforce a zero tolerance harassment policy.

384.8.5 INVESTIGATION

Investigation of Harassment: It is the advisor's obligation to document all incidents and any action taken involving allegations of harassment. All such incidents must be reported to the Commander

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in charge of the explorer post, at which time it would be determined whether an internal affairs investigation is required. An investigation may be conducted whether or not an involved party elects to pursue a complaint.

If, based upon the facts and circumstances presented, a decision is made to proceed; then, a full and complete investigation will be conducted by an individual selected by the Chief of Police. The investigation will be conducted as quickly as possible and based upon that report; a decision will be made regarding whether disciplinary action is necessary.

The identity and statements of the complaining party will be kept confidential to the fullest extent possible, but disclosure may occur in some circumstances including, but not limited to counseling, discipline or litigation.

Discipline up to and including termination may result from behavior found to constitute a violation of this directive.

384.9 RIDE ALONGS

The purpose of the Explorer Program is to provide comprehensive training, competition, service, practical, and recreational experience for young adults interested in a career in law enforcement or a related field. Toward that end, the objectives of the Ride-Along program are to offer qualified Explorers the opportunity to accompany a police officer on patrol to observe and gain practical experience with regard to the methods and techniques used in patrol operations and related services. This program also provides Explorers with valuable knowledge of the challenges and benefits of patrol operations and a better understanding of the importance of police services within the City of Westminster.

a. The Department recognizes the potential risks to participants involved with Explorer activities, to include personal injury and/or inadvertent involvement with dangerous situations. All WPD personnel, or approved volunteers, involved with Post #810 will make every effort to minimize risk to Explorers through training, supervision, adherence to policy and standard operating procedures, and proactive risk management. As a condition of acceptance into the Explorer Program, the parents or legal guardian of every Explorer, or the Explorer if of legal age to do so, must sign a hold harmless and release form acknowledging they have been advised of the risk potential and waive any right to initiate a legal cause of action against the City of Westminster, the Department, and Learning for Life/Law Enforcement Exploring, or any of their representatives.

b. Prior to participation the Program, the parents or legal guardian of every Explorer, or the Explorer if of legal age to do so, must sign a medical release form authorizing WPD representatives to approve emergency medical treatment.

c. Explorers may not accompany officers on a Ride-Along between 12 midnight and 6 AM. In order to ensure that Explorers partake in all activities of the Post, and to provide an equal

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opportunity for all members, Explorers will be limited to participating in the Ride- Along program based on the number of hours expended on other Post activities. Upon accruing Fifteen (15) hours of time involved in approved activities, an Explorer can spend an equal amount of time participating in the Ride-Along program. The Post Advisor, or his designee, can make an exception to this policy as needed. Explorers shall not participate in more than two Ride-Alongs per month unless authority is granted by the Commander in charge of the explorer program.

d. As a prerequisite for participating in the Ride-Along Program, an Explorer must have successfully passed the Department's Explorer basic training course, completed the required probationary period, and not be the subject of any disciplinary action (to include not being on academic probation for failure to maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA).

e. Prior to being designated as qualified for the Ride-Along program, Explorers will receive specialized training in methods and techniques used in patrol operations and related services, traffic control, crowd control, telecommunications procedures, basic first aid/CPR, and youth protection issues. The youth protection issues portion of the training will emphasize assertive and practical ways in which an Explorer can prevent and stop inappropriate behavior from adults or other Explorers. Explorers also will be provided with familiarization training on all patrol vehicle systems and equipment.

f. In order for an Officer to be considered for the program as an Advisor, they must have completed their field training program and probationary period, and be in good standing with no pending disciplinary actions or other adverse matters. WPD personnel approved for participation in the Ride-Along program must undergo an orientation that includes an overview of Law Enforcement Exploring, agency policy and standard operating procedures for Officers and Explorers, and youth protection issues. All Officers must undergo the self-guided Youth Protection Training course for adults.

g. Explorers will report for a Ride-Along well groomed in a clean and pressed Class B uniform (unless otherwise notified). Explorers should have other uniform items as dictated by weather or other factors (i.e. rain coat, coat, boots, etc), along with a reflective vest or other approved reflective clothing item to be used when in engaged in traffic control functions.

h. Explorers will have with them on every Ride-Along a notepad, pen and pencil, flashlight, and whistle contained in an approved carrying case. Explorers should wear a protective vest.

i. Explorers may not carry an offensive or defensive weapon, such as a firearm, Taser, nightstick, baton (collapsible or otherwise), sap, sap gloves, tactical flashlight, any knife with a blade in excess of four inches, chemical repellent or electrical shock device.

j. Explorers will report for their Ride-Along at least 15 minutes before their scheduled time in their complete uniform and with the required equipment.

k. Whenever possible and practical, the Ride-Along officer and Explorer should be of the same gender.

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l. A Ride-Along logbook will be maintained in the Patrol Division Watch Commander's Office and will be completed by a supervisor each time an Explorer goes on a Ride-Along. The logbook will contain the following information about the Ride-Along: date, start time, end time, Explorer's name, supervising officer's name and any comments deemed appropriate by the supervising officer or supervisor. A records book will also be maintained in the Watch Commander's Office that will contain a current list of Explorers qualified to participate in the Ride-Along program, along with a copy of their hold harmless and release form as well as their medical release form that permits WPD representatives to approve emergency medical treatment. It is the responsibility of the Post Advisor, or his designee, to make sure the logbook is maintained properly and the release records book is up to date.

m. Explorers may not eat or drink (except while on a break with supervising patrol officer); use tobacco products; use any electronic device such as a cell phone, personal digital assistant, music device or game; or engage in any other behavior that would distract the supervising officer or interfere with the objectives of the Ride-Along program. The only exception to this policy is the use of a cell phone, or other communication device, in an emergency.

n. Due to potential legal issues with federal and state statutes regulating criminal law and procedure, civil law, and privacy and confidentiality concerns, Explorers are not permitted to participate in interviews, interrogations, the handling or processing of evidence, or the intake or transfer of persons taken into custody. Further, Explorers are forbidden from responding to any opinion or judgment questions posed to them by the public (i.e., at a scene of a traffic accident someone asks, "Who do you think was at fault?" "What type of citation should be issued?" etc.). Conversations with citizens will be limited to comments made necessary by direct inquiry and do not require an opinion or judgment, or as otherwise directed by the supervising officer. If avoidable, Explorers should not be placed in situations where they may be called as a witness in a criminal or civil proceeding.

o. At all times during a Ride-Along the Explorer will adhere to the commands and direction given to him/her by the supervising officer or, in the supervising officer's absence or incapacity, any other law enforcement officer. The Explorer shall, to the extent possible, remain in the patrol vehicle as an observer during a Ride-Along unless otherwise directed by the supervising officer or other law enforcement officer.

p. Explorers, as directed by the supervising officer, may assist with telecommunications; traffic control; perimeter control; completion of incident report forms; or any other activity that is considered by the supervising officer to be routine and low-risk for the Explorer.

q. Due to the considerable potential for legal complications or for an aggressive or risk inherent response, Explorers are prohibited from directly participating in arrests (above and beyond simply observing); felony-in-progress calls; high-speed traffic pursuits; foot pursuits, domestic crisis calls; civil unrest or drinking establishment disturbances; sobriety tests or any other high risk or legally precarious situation. Should, during the course of a Ride-Along, the supervising officer have enough advance notice of a high risk or legally precarious call

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as it relates to the Explorer, he/she will transport the Explorer to a safe location or make arrangements for the Explorer to be transported to a safe location.

r. Patrol operations and calls for service often involve spontaneous situations that require an aggressive and risk inherent response; or just as likely a routine call for service escalates into a situation requiring the same type of response. In that it is not possible to foresee every possible contingency for Explorers participating in the Ride-Along program the supervising law enforcement officer responsible for the Explorer must, based upon the circumstances presented, use his/her best professional judgment with respect to the safety and security of the Explorer. As a general rule, if the supervising officer is confronted with such a situation and able, he/she should make arrangements for another law enforcement officer to transport the Explorer to the police station or other safe location. In some situations it may be safer for the Explorer to remain in the patrol vehicle. It is the responsibility of the Explorer to remain as uninvolved as possible during a spontaneous emergency. In the event the supervising officer is in need of emergency assistance, the Explorer will contact the police dispatch center by police radio or cell phone and relate as clearly as possible the location and situation. If the Explorer's safety is in jeopardy, and he/she can be of no further assistance to the supervising officer or other law enforcement personnel, the Explorer should remove himself/herself from the immediate area and, without unnecessary delay, report to the police station.

s. The supervising officer, or any other WPD personnel or volunteer involved with Post #810, must report to the shift supervisor and Post Advisor any injury that occurs to an Explorer, or any situation that may have legal consequences, arising from the Explorer's participation in a Ride-Along or any other Post #810 activity.

t. The supervising officer shall immediately terminate the Ride-Along for any infraction of this policy.

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Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions

385.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The decision to become involved in a law enforcement action when off-duty can place an officer as well as others at great risk and must be done with careful consideration. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for officers of the Westminster Police Department with respect to taking law enforcement action while off-duty.

385.2 POLICY

Initiating law enforcement action while off-duty is generally discouraged. Officers 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.

Officers 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, officers should first consider reporting and monitoring the activity and only take direct action as a last resort.

385.3 FIREARMS

Officers 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 officers shall also carry their department-issued badge and identification.

Officers 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 officer who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage or taken any drugs or medications or any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the officer's senses or judgment.

385.3.1 DECISION TO INTERVENE
318.4 DECISION TO INTERVENE

There is no legal requirement for off-duty officers to take law enforcement action. However, should officers decide to intervene, they must evaluate whether the action is necessary or desirable, and should take into consideration the following:

The tactical disadvantage of being alone and the fact there may be multiple or hidden suspects.

The inability to communicate with responding units.

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The lack of equipment, such as handcuffs, OC or baton.

The lack of cover.

The potential for increased risk to bystanders if the off-duty officer were to intervene.

Unfamiliarity with the surroundings.

The potential for the off-duty officer to be misidentified by other peace officers or members of the public.

Officers should consider waiting for on-duty uniformed officers to arrive, and gather as much accurate intelligence as possible instead of immediately intervening.

385.4 DECISION TO INTERVENE

There is no legal requirement for off-duty officers to take law enforcement action. However, should officers decide to intervene, they must evaluate whether the action is necessary or desirable, and should take into consideration the following:

(a) The tactical disadvantage of being alone and the fact there may be multiple or hidden suspects.

(b) The inability to communicate with responding units.

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

(d) The lack of cover.

(e) The potential for increased risk to bystanders if the off-duty officer were to intervene.

(f) Unfamiliarity with the surroundings.

(g) The potential for the off-duty officer to be misidentified by other peace officers or members of the public.

Officers should consider waiting for on-duty uniformed officers to arrive, and gather as much accurate intelligence as possible instead of immediately intervening.

385.5 REPORTING

Any off-duty officer who engages in any law enforcement activity, regardless of jurisdiction, shall notify the Watch Commander as soon as practicable. The Watch Commander shall determine whether a report should be filed by the employee.

Officers should cooperate fully with the agency having jurisdiction in providing statements or reports as requested or as appropriate.

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Department Use of Social Media

389.1 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).

389.1.1 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

389.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department may use social media as a method of effectively informing the public about department services, issues, investigations and other relevant events.

Department members shall ensure that the use or access of social media is done in a manner that protects the constitutional rights of all.

389.3 AUTHORIZED USERS

Only members authorized by the Chief of Police 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 Chief of Police 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.

389.4 AUTHORIZED CONTENT

Only content that is appropriate for public release, that supports the department mission and conforms to all department policies regarding the release of information may be posted.

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Examples of appropriate content include:

(a) Announcements.

(b) Tips and information related to crime prevention.

(c) Investigative requests for information.

(d) Requests that ask the community to engage in projects that are relevant to the department mission.

(e) Real-time safety information that is related to in-progress crimes, geographical warnings or disaster information.

(f) Traffic information.

(g) Press releases.

(h) Recruitment of personnel.

389.4.1 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.

389.5 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 Westminster Police Department or its members.

(e) Any information that could compromise the safety and security of department operations, members of the Department, victims, suspects or the public.

(f) Any content posted for personal use.

(g) Any content that has not been properly authorized by this policy or a supervisor.

Any member who becomes aware of content on this department's social media site that he/she believes is unauthorized or inappropriate should promptly report such content to a supervisor. The supervisor will ensure its removal from public view and investigate the cause of the entry.

389.5.1 PUBLIC POSTING PROHIBITED

Department social media sites shall be designed and maintained to prevent posting of content by the public.

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The Department may provide a method for members of the public to contact department members directly.

389.6 MONITORING CONTENT

The Chief of Police 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.

389.7 RETENTION OF RECORDS

The Professional Standards Unit Commander should work with the Custodian of Records to establish a method of ensuring that public records generated in the process of social media use are retained in accordance with established records retention schedules.

389.8 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.

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Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation

390.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended ensure the protection and security of ancient or historic grave sites, including notification of personnel responsible for cultural items, in compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) (25 USC § 3001 et seq.).

390.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (43 CFR 10.2):

Funerary objects and associated funerary objects - Objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed intentionally at the time of death or later with or near individual human remains, or that were made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains.

Native American human remains - The physical remains of the body of a person of Native American ancestry.

Objects of cultural patrimony - Objects having ongoing historical, traditional or cultural importance that is central to the Native American group or culture itself and therefore cannot be appropriated or conveyed by any individual, including members of the Native American group or Native Hawaiian organization. Such objects must have been considered inalienable by the Native American group at the time the object was separated from the group.

Sacred objects - Specific ceremonial objects needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions.

390.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department that the protection of Native American human remains, funerary objects, associated funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony is the responsibility of all members. Such protection includes minimizing destruction, contamination, inadvertent disruption or complicated custody transfer processes.

390.3 COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT

Upon discovery or arrival upon a scene where it reasonably appears that a Native American grave, human remains, funerary objects, associated funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony are exposed or otherwise unsecured, members shall secure the site in the same manner as a crime scene. All activity at the scene other than scene preservation activity must cease (43 CFR 10.4).

No photography or video recording may be permitted by the media or any group or individual who may wish to exhibit the remains.

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Without delay, the appropriate agency or group shall be notified to respond and take control of the scene. These include the following (43 CFR 10.4):

- Federal land - Appropriate agency at the U.S. Department of the Interior or U.S. Department of Agriculture
- State land/Private land - Coroner, when appropriate (Health and Safety Code § 7050.5)
- Tribal land - Responsible Indian tribal official

390.4 EVIDENCE AND PROPERTY

If the location has been investigated as a possible homicide scene prior to identification as a NAGPRA site, investigators shall work with other appropriate agencies and individuals to ensure the proper transfer and repatriation of any material collected. Members shall ensure that any remains or artifacts located at the site are expediently processed (43 CFR 10.6).

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Gun Violence Restraining Orders

391.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for petitioning and serving gun violence restraining orders and accounting for the firearms obtained pursuant to those orders (Penal Code § 18108).

391.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Gun violence restraining order - Civil restraining order prohibiting a named person from controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, receiving, or otherwise having custody of any firearms or ammunition, including an ammunition magazine (Penal Code § 18100).

391.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to petition for and serve gun violence restraining orders in compliance with state law and to properly account for firearms and ammunition obtained by the Department pursuant to such orders.

391.3 GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

An officer who reasonably believes a person is a present danger to self or another person by controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, receiving, or otherwise having custody of a firearm may request permission from the officer's supervisor to petition the court for a gun violence restraining order.

Officers petitioning the court should use the forms established by the Judicial Council (Penal Code § 18105). The petition should describe the number, types, and locations of any firearms and ammunition that the officer believes to be possessed or controlled by the person (Penal Code § 18107). The petition should also describe why less-restrictive alternatives are ineffective or inadequate for the circumstances (Penal Code § 18125; Penal Code § 18150; Penal Code § 18175).

If it is not practical under the circumstances to submit a written petition, an officer may submit the petition electronically or orally request a temporary order (Penal Code § 18122; Penal Code § 18140).

391.3.1 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

(a) When responding to a domestic disturbance where the residence is associated with a firearm registration or record.

(b) When responding to any call or incident when a firearm is present or when one of the involved parties owns or possesses a firearm.

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

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

391.4 SERVICE OF GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

An officer serving any gun violence restraining order shall:

(a) Verbally ask the subject of the order if he/she has any firearm, ammunition, or magazine in his/her possession or under his/her custody or control (Penal Code § 18160).

(b) Request that any firearms or ammunition be immediately surrendered and issue a receipt for the surrendered items (Penal Code § 18120).

(c) Take into temporary custody any firearm or other deadly weapon discovered in plain view or pursuant to consent or other lawful search (Penal Code § 18250).

(d) Inform the restrained person of any scheduled hearing regarding the order (Penal Code § 18160).

(e) Transmit the original proof of service form to the issuing court as soon as practicable but within one business day (Penal Code § 18115).

(f) As soon as practicable, but by the end of his/her shift, submit proof of service to the Records Supervisor for prompt entry into the California Restraining and Protective Order System (Penal Code § 18115).

The officer should also inform the restrained person that he/she is required, within 24 hours, to surrender to a law enforcement agency any other firearms and ammunition he/she owns or that are in his/her custody or control or sell them to a firearms dealer. This notification should be documented.

All firearms and ammunition collected shall be handled and booked in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

391.4.1 TEMPORARY EMERGENCY GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

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

(a) For oral requests, sign a declaration under penalty of perjury reciting the oral statements provided to the judicial officer and memorialize the order of the court on the form approved by the Judicial Council.

(b) Serve the order on the restrained person if the person can be reasonably located.

(c) Forward a copy of the order to the Records Supervisor for filing with the court and appropriate databases.

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391.5 SEARCH WARRANTS

If a person who has been served with a gun violence restraining order refuses to surrender any firearm or ammunition, the officer should consider whether to seek a search warrant. If a search warrant is to be obtained, the preparation and service of the search warrant shall be done in accordance with the Warrant Service Policy. Additionally, (Penal Code § 1542.5):

(a) The officer serving the warrant shall take custody of any firearm or ammunition that is controlled, possessed or owned by the person who is the subject of the gun violence restraining order, including any discovered pursuant to the warrant, a consensual search or other lawful search.

(b) If the location being searched is jointly occupied and the firearm or ammunition is owned by a person other than the restrained person, the firearm or ammunition should not be seized if the following conditions are met:

1. The firearm or ammunition can be stored in a manner that does not allow the restrained person to have control or access.
2. There is no evidence that the owner unlawfully possesses the firearm or ammunition.

(c) If a locked gun safe belonging to someone other than the subject of a gun violence restraining order is discovered, the officer shall not search the contents of the safe unless the owner consents or there is a valid search warrant for the safe. Any search of the safe must be done in the owner's presence.

391.6 RECORDS SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Records Supervisor is responsible for ensuring:

(a) Proof of service of any gun violence restraining order served by an officer or received from the clerk of the court is entered in the computer database system for protective and restraining orders maintained by the Department of Justice within one business day of service if served by an officer, or within one business day of receipt of proof of service if served by a person other than a law enforcement officer (Penal Code § 18115).

(b) Temporary orders are entered into the California Restraining and Protective Order System (Penal Code § 18140).

(c) Copies of temporary orders are filed with the court as soon as practicable, but no later than three court days, after issuance (Penal Code § 18140).

(d) Copies of receipts of surrendered firearms or ammunition issued by other agencies for gun violence restraining orders issued by the Department are properly maintained (Penal Code § 18120).

(e) Any relinquishment of firearm rights form received from the court is entered into the California Restraining and Protective Order System within one business day of receipt (Penal Code § 18115).

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391.7 COURT-ORDERED FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SURRENDERS

Authorized members shall accept firearms and ammunition from any individual who is the subject of a gun violence restraining order. The member receiving any firearm or ammunition shall:

(a) Record the individual's name, address and telephone number.

(b) Record the serial number of the firearm.

(c) Prepare an incident report and property report.

(d) Provide a property receipt to the individual who surrendered the firearms and ammunition.

(e) Package and submit the firearms and ammunition in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

391.8 RELEASE OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

Firearms and ammunition that were taken into temporary custody or surrendered pursuant to a gun violence restraining order shall be returned to the restrained person upon the expiration of the order and in accordance with Penal Code § 18120 and the Property and Evidence Policy.

391.9 RENEWAL OF GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

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

391.10 POLICY AVAILABILITY

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

391.11 TRAINING

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

391.12 GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER COORDINATOR

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

(a) Developing and maintaining procedures for the filing of a petition for an order or a renewal of an order by department members, also including procedures for requesting and serving (Penal Code § 18108):

1. A temporary emergency gun violence restraining order.
2. An ex parte gun violence restraining order.
3. A gun violence restraining order issued after notice and hearing.

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(b) Developing and maintaining factors to consider when assessing the need to seek an order, including:

1. Whether threats have been made, and if so, whether the threats are credible and specific.
2. Whether the potential victim is within close proximity.
3. Whether the person has expressed suicidal tendencies.
4. Whether the person has access to firearms.
5. The criminal history of the person, in particular any history of criminal violence, including whether the person is currently on parole, probation, or monitored release.
6. The mental health history of the person, in particular whether the person has any history of mental illness or has ever been detained for being a danger to themselves or others.
7. Any upcoming holidays, anniversaries, or other dates of significance that may serve as a trigger for the person, such as the death of a family member.
8. Whether the person has any history of drug or alcohol abuse.

(c) Developing and maintaining procedures for the receipt and service of orders consistent with the requirements of Penal Code § 18115; Penal Code § 18120; Penal Code § 18135; Penal Code § 18140; and Penal Code § 18160. Procedures should include:

1. Evaluation of an order to determine appropriate service and necessary precautions (see the Warrant Service Policy and the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).
2. Forwarding orders to the Records Supervisor for recording in appropriate databases and required notice to the court, as applicable.
3. Preparing or obtaining a search warrant prior to attempting service of an order, when appropriate (Penal Code § 18108).
4. Seizure procedures of firearms and ammunition at the time of issuance of a temporary emergency gun violence restraining order.
5. Verification procedures for the removal of firearms and ammunition from the subject of a gun violence restraining order.

(d) Coordinating with the Training Sergeant to provide officers who may be involved in petitioning for or serving orders with training on such orders. Training should include determining when a petition is appropriate, the process for seeking an order, and the service of such orders.

(e) Reviewing each petition and any associated court documents for an order prepared by members, for compliance with this policy, department procedures, and state law.

(f) Developing and maintaining procedures for members to accept voluntarily surrendered prohibited items at times other than when an order is being served by the Department.

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1. Procedures should include preparing and providing a receipt identifying all prohibited items to the person surrendering the items.

(g) Coordinating review of notices of court hearings and providing notice to the appropriate officer of the hearing date and the responsibility to appear (Penal Code § 18108).

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Chapter 4 - Patrol Operations

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Patrol Function

400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the patrol function and address intraorganizational cooperation and information sharing.

400.2 INFORMATION SHARING

To the extent feasible, all information relevant to the mission of the Department should be shared among all bureaus and specialized units on a timely basis. Members should be provided with opportunities on a regular basis to share information during the daily briefings and to attend briefings of other bureaus or specialized units.

Additionally, information should be shared with outside agencies and the public in conformance with department policies and applicable laws. Members are encouraged to share information with other units and bureaus.

400.3 CROWDS, EVENTS AND GATHERINGS

Officers may encounter gatherings of people, including but not limited to, civil demonstrations, civic, social and business events, public displays, parades and sporting events. Officers 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.

Officers 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.

Generally, officers should consider seeking compliance through advisements and warnings for minor violations and should reserve greater enforcement options for more serious violations or when voluntary compliance with the law is not achieved.

Officers are encouraged to contact organizers or responsible persons to seek voluntary compliance that may address relevant public safety/order concerns.

Officers should consider enforcement of applicable state and local laws, such as Penal Code 602.1 (obstructing or intimidating business operators), when the activity blocks the entrance or egress of a facility or location and when voluntary compliance with the law is not achieved.

400.4 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department provides patrol services 24 hours a day, seven days a week and will prioritize responses to requests for emergency services using available resources to enhance the safety of the public and department members.

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400.5 FUNCTION

Patrol will generally be conducted by uniformed officers in clearly marked law enforcement vehicles in assigned jurisdictional areas of Westminster. The function of patrol is to respond to calls for assistance and reports of criminal activity, act as a deterrent to crime, enforce state and local laws, identify community needs, provide support and assistance to the community and respond to emergencies.

Patrol services include, but are not limited to:

(a) Responding to emergency calls for service.

(b) Apprehending criminal offenders.

(c) Providing mutual aid and assistance to other agencies for emergency and law enforcement-related activities.

(d) Preventing criminal acts, traffic violations and collisions, maintaining public order and discovering hazardous situations or conditions.

(e) Responding to reports of criminal and non-criminal acts.

(f) Responding to routine calls for service, such as public assistance or public safety.

(g) Carrying out crime prevention activities such as residential inspections, business inspections and community presentations.

(h) Carrying out community oriented policing and problem-solving activities including the application of resources to improve or resolve specific problems or situations and contacting or assisting members of the public in a positive way.

(i) Directing and controlling traffic.

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Shift Change Policy

401.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish protocol for shift change, selection of shifts, and mandatory shift rotation for sworn officers and supervisors assigned to patrol.

401.2 BI-ANNUAL SHIFT CHANGE

Shift changes will occur twice a year. They will occur on the first day of the 28-day pay period cycle that starts nearest January 1 and July 1.

401.3 MANDATORY SHIFT ROTATION

Officers and dispatchers:

(a) Officers or dispatchers with three or more years of continuous service at WPD are exempt from the mandatory shift rotation.

(b) Officers and dispatchers with less than three years of experience at WPD will be subject to the mandatory shift rotation. They must rotate after three consecutive tours of duty on any particular shift.

(c) As in the past, management reserves the right to designate certain shift slots for probationary officers or dispatchers in order to ensure an acceptable distribution of experience. Also, in the event an officer or dispatcher is having performance difficulties, management may assign him/her to a particular shift if reasonable appropriate for remedial training purposes.

(d) In determining the three or more years of continuous service at WPD, the determining dates will be the date of swearing-in as a sworn officer or dispatcher and the date of the upcoming shift change.

401.4 PROTOCOL FOR SHIFT SIGN UP

(a) A seniority list for both officers and sergeants will be posted in a conspicuous place. Officers or sergeants required to rotate shifts will be denoted by (*) following his/her name, along with an indication of which shift they are barred from signing up for.

(b) A list of available shifts will be posted in a conspicuous place.

(c) Officers will be given a memo assigning them a date and time they must sign up. This memo will also include the phone number and extension to call. In the event that two or more officers were hired the same day, seniority will be determined by alphabetical order of their last name.

(d) The sign up may be done in person or by phone either by the officer/sergeant or their designated written proxy.

(e) If an on duty officer is unavailable to either call in or sign up in person; due to an incident occurring during their assigned sign up time the sign up process will be temporarily suspended. Sign ups will resume upon that officer becoming available.

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(f) In the event an officer/sergeant fails to call in within 15 minutes of their allotted time period they will be passed over and the sign up will continue for the remaining officers/ sergeants. An officer/sergeant passed over may call in at any time and may sign up for any remaining shifts. If at the conclusion of the sign up period they still have not signed up, they will be placed in any available shift.

(g) In the event of the department's phone system failing or a departmental emergency the sign up process will be suspended. Sign ups will resume after reasonable notification.

(h) In the event that a special assignment selection or other type of personnel transfer is made after the affected shift change sign-up has commenced, the officer returning to Patrol will assume the vacated shift of the transferring patrol officer. In the event no patrol personnel are leaving, the officer transferring to Patrol will be assigned to the next available shift as determined by management for the remainder of that shift.

(i) Upon posting of the sign up list officers may, in order of seniority sign up for any available shift.

(j) All shift selections are final, unless written authorization for any changes or trades between officers/sergeants is received in writing from the Operations Commander.

401.5 DEPARTMENT NEEDS

Management reserves the right to change or eliminate any days off and reassign an officer(s) if needed to accommodate the needs of the department.

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Bias-Based Policing

402.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to department members that affirms the Westminster Police Department's commitment to policing that is fair and objective.

Nothing in this policy prohibits the use of specified characteristics in law enforcement activities designed to strengthen the department's relationship with its diverse communities (e.g., cultural and ethnicity awareness training, youth programs, community group outreach, partnerships).

402.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Bias-based policing - An inappropriate reliance on actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, disability, or affiliation with any non-criminal group (protected characteristics) as the basis for providing differing law enforcement service or enforcement (Penal Code § 13519.4).

402.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services to the community with due regard for the racial, cultural or other differences of those served. It is the policy of this department to provide law enforcement services and to enforce the law equally, fairly, objectively and without discrimination toward any individual or group.

402.3 BIAS-BASED POLICING PROHIBITED

Bias-based policing is strictly prohibited.

However, nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit an officer from considering protected characteristics in combination with credible, timely and distinct information connecting a person or people of a specific characteristic to a specific unlawful incident, or to specific unlawful incidents, specific criminal patterns or specific schemes.

402.3.1 CALIFORNIA RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT

Members shall not collect information from a person based on religious belief, practice, affiliation, national origin or ethnicity unless permitted under state or federal law (Government Code § 8310.3).

Members shall not assist federal government authorities (Government Code § 8310.3):

(a) In compiling personal information about a person’s religious belief, practice, affiliation, national origin or ethnicity.

(b) By investigating, enforcing or assisting with the investigation or enforcement of any requirement that a person register with the federal government based on religious belief, practice, or affiliation, or national origin or ethnicity.

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402.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Every member of this department shall perform his/her duties in a fair and objective manner and is responsible for promptly reporting any suspected or known instances of bias-based policing to a supervisor. Members should, when reasonable to do so, intervene to prevent any biased-based actions by another member.

402.4.1 REASON FOR CONTACT

Officers contacting a person shall be prepared to articulate sufficient reason for the contact, independent of the protected characteristics of the individual.

To the extent that written documentation would otherwise be completed (e.g., arrest report, field interview (FI) card), the involved officer should include those facts giving rise to the contact, as applicable.

Except for required data-collection forms or methods, nothing in this policy shall require any officer to document a contact that would not otherwise require reporting.

402.4.2 REPORTING OF STOPS

The following is effective January 1, 2022:

Unless an exception applies under 11 CCR 999.227, an officer conducting a stop of a person shall collect the data elements required by 11 CCR 999.226 for every person stopped and prepare a stop data report. When multiple officers conduct a stop, the officer with the highest level of engagement with the person shall collect the data elements and prepare the report (11 CCR 999.227).

If multiple agencies are involved in a stop and the Westminster Police Department is the primary agency, the Westminster Police Department officer shall collect the data elements and prepare the stop data report (11 CCR 999.227).

The stop data report should be completed by the end of the officer's shift or as soon as practicable (11 CCR 999.227).

402.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors should monitor those individuals under their command for compliance with this policy and shall handle any alleged or observed violations in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

(a) Supervisors should discuss any issues with the involved officer and his/her supervisor in a timely manner.

    1. Supervisors should document these discussions, in the prescribed manner.

(b) Supervisors should periodically review MAV recordings, portable audio/video recordings, Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) data and any other available resource used to document contact between officers and the public to ensure compliance with the policy.

    1. Supervisors should document these periodic reviews.

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2. Recordings or data that capture a potential instance of bias-based policing should be appropriately retained for administrative investigation purposes.

(c) Supervisors shall initiate investigations of any actual or alleged violations of this policy.

(d) Supervisors should take prompt and reasonable steps to address any retaliatory action taken against any member of this department who discloses information concerning bias-based policing.

402.6 ADMINISTRATION

Each year, the PSU Commander should review the efforts of the Department to provide fair and objective policing and submit an annual report, including public concerns and complaints, to the Chief of Police.

The annual report should not contain any identifying information about any specific complaint, member of the public or officers. It should be reviewed by the Chief of Police to identify any changes in training or operations that should be made to improve service.

Supervisors should review the annual report and discuss the results with those they are assigned to supervise.

402.7 TRAINING

Training on fair and objective policing and review of this policy should be conducted as directed by the Professional Standards Unit.

(a) All sworn members of this department will be scheduled to attend Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved training on the subject of bias-based policing.

(b) Pending participation in such POST-approved training and at all times, all members of this department are encouraged to familiarize themselves with and consider racial and cultural differences among members of this community.

(c) Each sworn member of this department who received initial bias-based policing training will thereafter be required to complete an approved refresher course every five years, or sooner if deemed necessary, in order to keep current with changing racial, identity and cultural trends (Penal Code § 13519.4(i)).

402.8 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Professional Standards Unit Manager shall ensure that all data required by the California Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding complaints of racial bias against officers is collected and provided to the Records Supervisor for required reporting to the DOJ (Penal Code § 13012; Penal Code § 13020). See the Records Bureau Policy.

Supervisors should ensure that data stop reports are provided to the Records Supervisor for required annual reporting to the DOJ (Government Code § 12525.5) (See Records Bureau Policy).

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First Amendment Assemblies

403.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for responding to public assemblies or demonstrations.

403.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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.

403.3 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, officers 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 officers 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.

Officers 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 an officer 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.

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403.3.1 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.

403.4 UNPLANNED EVENTS

When responding to an unplanned or spontaneous public gathering, the first responding officer 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.

403.5 PLANNED EVENT PREPARATION

For planned events, comprehensive, incident-specific operational plans should be developed. The ICS should be considered for such events.

403.5.1 INFORMATION GATHERING AND ASSESSMENT

In order to properly assess the potential impact of a public assembly or demonstration on public safety and order, relevant information should be collected and vetted. This may include:

- Information obtained from outreach to group organizers or leaders.
- Information about past and potential unlawful conduct associated with the event or similar events.

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- The potential time, duration, scope, and type of planned activities.
- Any other information related to the goal of providing a balanced response to criminal activity and the protection of public safety interests.

Information should be obtained in a transparent manner, and the sources documented. Relevant information should be communicated to the appropriate parties in a timely manner.

Information will be obtained in a lawful manner and will not be based solely on the purpose or content of the assembly or demonstration, or actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability of the participants (or any other characteristic that is unrelated to criminal conduct or the identification of a criminal subject).

403.5.2 OPERATIONAL PLANS

An operational planning team with responsibility for event planning and management should be established. The planning team should develop an operational plan for the event.

The operational plan will minimally provide for:

(a) Command assignments, chain of command structure, roles and responsibilities.

(b) Staffing and resource allocation.

(c) Management of criminal investigations.

(d) Designation of uniform of the day and related safety equipment (e.g., helmets, shields).

(e) Deployment of specialized resources.

(f) Event communications and interoperability in a multijurisdictional event.

(g) Liaison with demonstration leaders and external agencies.

(h) Liaison with City government and legal staff.

(i) Media relations.

(j) Logistics: food, fuel, replacement equipment, duty hours, relief and transportation.

(k) Traffic management plans.

(l) First aid and emergency medical service provider availability.

(m) Prisoner transport and detention.

(n) Review of policies regarding public assemblies and use of force in crowd control.

(o) Parameters for declaring an unlawful assembly.

(p) Arrest protocol, including management of mass arrests.

(q) Protocol for recording information flow and decisions.

(r) Rules of engagement, including rules of conduct, protocols for field force extraction and arrests, and any authorization required for the use of force.

(s) Protocol for handling complaints during the event.

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(t) Parameters for the use of body-worn cameras and other portable recording devices.

403.5.3 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).

403.6 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.

403.7 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 officers, themselves or others, or will result in substantial property loss or damage (see the Control Devices and Techniques and the Conducted Energy Device policies).

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Force or control devices, including oleoresin capsaicin (OC), should be directed toward individuals and not toward groups or crowds, unless specific individuals cannot reasonably be targeted due to extreme circumstances, such as a riotous crowd.

Any use of force by a member of this 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.

403.8 USE OF KINETIC ENERGY PROJECTILES AND CHEMICAL AGENTS FOR CROWD CONTROL

Kinetic energy projectiles and chemical agents for crowd control purposes shall only be deployed by officers who have received POST training for crowd control if the use is objectively reasonable to defend against a threat to life or serious bodily injury to any individual, including an officer, or to bring an objectively dangerous and unlawful situation safely and effectively under control (Penal Code § 13652).

403.8.1 USE SUMMARY

The Operations Commander or the authorized designee should ensure that a summary of each deployment of kinetic energy projectiles or chemical agents for crowd control purposes is prepared and published on the department website within 60 days of each incident. The time frame may be extended for another 30 days where just cause is demonstrated, but no longer than 90 days from the time of the incident. The summary shall be limited to the information known to the Department at the time of the report and include the information required in Penal Code § 13652.1.

403.9 ARRESTS

The Westminster Police Department 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 officers 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.

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(g) Coordination and cooperation with the prosecuting authority, jail and courts (see the Cite and Release Policy).

403.10 MEDIA RELATIONS

The Public Information Officer should use all available avenues of communication, including press releases, briefings, press conferences, and social media to maintain open channels of communication with media representatives and the public about the status and progress of the event, taking all opportunities to reassure the public about the professional management of the event (see the Media Relations Policy).

403.10.1 MEDIA ACCESS

If officers close the immediate area surrounding any emergency field command post or any other command post, or establish a police line, or rolling closure at a demonstration, march, protest, or rally where individuals are engaged in a protected activity pursuant to the First Amendment, officers shall comply with the requirements of Penal Code § 409.7 relating to media access (i.e., access to closed areas, obtaining information) (Penal Code § 409.7).

403.11 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.

403.12 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)

403.12.1 AFTER-ACTION REPORTING

The Incident Commander should work with City 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)

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(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.

403.13 TRAINING

Department members should receive periodic training regarding this policy, as well as the dynamics of crowd control and incident management (Penal Code § 13514.5). The Department should, when practicable, train with its external and mutual aid partners.

Officers should also receive periodic training on the standards for the use of kinetic energy projectiles and chemical agents for crowd control purposes as identified in Penal Code § 13652.

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Briefing Training

404.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Briefing training is generally conducted at the beginning of the officer's assigned shift. Briefing provides an opportunity for important exchange between employees and supervisors. A supervisor generally will conduct Briefing; however officers may conduct Briefing for training purposes with supervisor approval.

Briefing should accomplish, at a minimum, the following basic tasks:

(a) Briefing officers with information regarding daily patrol activity, with particular attention given to unusual situations and changes in the status of wanted persons, stolen vehicles, and major investigations

(b) Notifying officers of changes in schedules and assignments

(c) Notifying officers of new Indexed Briefingss or changes in Indexed Briefingss

(d) Reviewing recent incidents for training purposes

(e) Providing training on a variety of subjects

404.2 PREPARATION OF MATERIALS

The supervisor conducting Briefing is responsible for preparation of the materials necessary for a constructive briefing. Supervisors may delegate this responsibility to a subordinate officer in his or her absence or for training purposes.

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Civil Disputes

405.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides members of the Westminster Police Department with guidance for addressing conflicts between persons when no criminal investigation or enforcement action is warranted (e.g., civil matters), with the goal of minimizing any potential for violence or criminal acts.

The Domestic Violence Policy will address specific legal mandates related to domestic violence court orders. References in this policy to “court orders” apply to any order of a court that does not require arrest or enforcement by the terms of the order or by California law.

405.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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.

405.3 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.

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405.4 COURT ORDERS

Disputes involving court orders can be complex. Where no mandate exists for an officer to make an arrest for a violation of a court order, the matter should be addressed by documenting any apparent court order violation in a report. If there appears to be a more immediate need for enforcement action, the investigating officer 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 officer 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.

405.4.1 STANDBY REQUESTS

Officer 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. Officers 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.

405.5 VEHICLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Officers may be faced with disputes regarding possession or ownership of vehicles or other personal property. Officers 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, officers 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.

405.6 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.

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Civil Disputes

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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 Westminster Police Department to secure crime or disaster scenes so that evidence is preserved, and to identify and mitigate the dangers associated with a major crime or disaster scene for the safety of the community and those required to enter or work near the scene.

406.3 SCENE RESPONSIBILITY

The first officer at the scene of a crime or major incident is generally responsible for the immediate safety of the public and preservation of the scene. Officers 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 an officer has assumed or been assigned to maintain the integrity and security of the crime or disaster scene, the officer 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.

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406.5 SEARCHES

Officers 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 officers 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. Officers 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, officers 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

Any sworn member of this department is authorized to enforce all orders of the local health officer that have been issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious or communicable disease (Health and Safety Code § 120155).

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Suspicious Activity Reporting

407.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for reporting and investigating suspicious and criminal activity.

407.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Involved party - An individual who has been observed engaging in suspicious activity, as defined in this policy, when no definitive criminal activity can be identified, thus precluding the person's identification as a suspect.

Suspicious activity - Any reported or observed activity that a member reasonably believes may have a nexus to any criminal act or attempted criminal act, or to foreign or domestic terrorism. Actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability should not be considered as factors that create suspicion (although these factors may be used as specific suspect descriptions). Examples of suspicious activity may include but are not limited to:

- Suspected pre-operational surveillance or intelligence gathering (e.g., photographing security features, asking questions about sensitive security-related subjects).
- Tests of security measures and response to incidents (e.g., "dry run," creating false alarms, attempts to enter secure areas without authorization).
- Suspicious purchases (e.g., purchasing large quantities of otherwise legal items, such as fertilizer, that could be used to create an explosive or other dangerous device).
- An individual in possession of such things as a hoax explosive or dispersal device, sensitive materials (e.g., passwords, access codes, classified government information), or coded or ciphered literature or correspondence.

Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) - An incident report used to document suspicious activity.

407.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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.

407.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Detective Commander 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 Detective Commander include, but are not limited to:

(a) Remaining familiar with those databases available to the Department that would facilitate the purpose of this policy.

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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).

407.4 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 an officer 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, an officer 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.

407.5 HANDLING INFORMATION

The Records Bureau will forward copies of SARs, in a timely manner, to the following:

- Detective Bureau supervisor
- Crime Analysis Unit
- Other authorized designees

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West County SWAT

408.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

West County SWAT is comprised of specialized teams which include a Negotiation Team and Special Weapons and Tactics Teams (SWAT). The unit has been established to provide specialized support in handling critical field operations where intense negotiations and/or special tactical deployment methods beyond the capacity of field officers appear to be necessary. This policy is written to comply with the guidelines established in the Attorney General's Commission on Special Weapons and Tactics Report (September 2002) and the POST 2005 SWAT Operational Guidelines and Standardized Training Recommendations (Penal Code § 13514.1).

408.1.1 OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

The Policy Manual sections pertaining to West County SWAT are divided into Administrative and Operational Policy and Procedures. Since situations that necessitate the need for such a police response vary greatly from incident to incident and such events often demand on-the-scene evaluation, the Operational Policy outlined in this manual section serves as a guideline to department personnel allowing for appropriate on scene decision making as required. The Administrative Procedures, however, are more restrictive and few exceptions should be taken.

408.1.2 SWAT TEAM DEFINED

A SWAT team is a designated unit of law enforcement officers that is specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that are so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or investigative units including, but not limited to, hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts and other high-risk incidents. As a matter of department policy, such a unit may also be used to serve high-risk warrants, both search and arrest, where public and officer safety issues warrant the use of such a unit.

408.2 LEVELS OF CAPABILITY/TRAINING

408.2.1 LEVEL I

A level I SWAT team is a basic team capable of providing containment and intervention with critical incidents that exceed the training and resources available to line-level officers. This does not include ad hoc teams of officers that are formed around a specific mission, detail or incident (e.g. active shooter response). Generally 5% of the basic team's on-duty time should be devoted to training.

408.2.2 LEVEL II

A level II, Intermediate level SWAT team is capable of providing containment and intervention. Additionally, these teams possess tactical capabilities above the Level I teams. These teams may or may not work together on a daily basis, but are intended to respond to incidents as a team. At least 5% of their on-duty time should be devoted to training with supplemental training for tactical capabilities above the Level I team.

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408.2.3 LEVEL III

A Level III, Advanced level SWAT team is a SWAT team whose personnel function as a full-time unit. Generally 25% of their on-duty time is devoted to training. Level III teams operate in accordance with contemporary best practices. Such units possess both skills and equipment to utilize tactics beyond the capabilities of Level I and Level II teams.

408.3 POLICY

It shall be the policy of this department to maintain a SWAT team and to provide the equipment, manpower, and training necessary to maintain a SWAT team. The SWAT team should develop sufficient resources to perform three basic operational functions:

(a) Command and Control

(b) Containment

(c) Entry/Apprehension/Rescue

It is understood it is difficult to categorize specific capabilities for critical incidents. Training needs may vary based on the experience level of the team personnel, team administrators and potential incident commanders. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit individual teams from responding to a situation that exceeds their training levels due to the exigency of the circumstances. The preservation of innocent human life is paramount.

408.3.1 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A needs assessment should be conducted to determine the type and extent of SWAT missions and operations appropriate to this department. The assessment should consider the team's capabilities and limitations and should be reviewed annually by the SWAT Commander or his/her designee.

408.3.2 ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES

This department shall develop a separate written set of organizational procedures which should address, at minimum, the following:

(a) Locally identified specific missions the team is capable of performing.

(b) Team organization and function.

(c) Personnel selection and retention criteria.

(d) Training and required competencies.

(e) Procedures for activation and deployment.

(f) Command and control issues, including a clearly defined command structure.

(g) Multi-agency response.

(h) Out-of-jurisdiction response.

(i) Specialized functions and supporting resources.

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408.3.3 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

This department shall develop a separate written set of operational procedures in accordance with the determination of their level of capability, using sound risk reduction practices. The operational procedures should be patterned after the National Tactical Officers Association Suggested SWAT Best Practices. Because such procedures are specific to WCS members and will outline tactical and officer safety issues, they are not included within this policy. The operational procedures should include, at minimum, the following:

(a) Designated personnel responsible for developing an operational or tactical plan prior to, and/or during SWAT operations (time permitting).

1. All SWAT team members should have an understanding of operational planning.
2. SWAT team training should consider planning for both spontaneous and planned events.
3. SWAT teams should incorporate medical emergency contingency planning as part of the SWAT operational plan.

(b) Plans for mission briefings conducted prior to an operation, unless circumstances require immediate deployment.

1. When possible, briefings should include the specialized units and supporting resources.

(c) Protocols for a sustained operation should be developed which may include relief, rotation of personnel and augmentation of resources.

(d) A generic checklist to be worked through prior to initiating a tactical action as a means of conducting a threat assessment to determine the appropriate response and resources necessary, including the use of SWAT.

(e) The appropriate role for a trained negotiator.

(f) A standard method of determining whether or not a warrant should be regarded as high-risk.

(g) A method for deciding how best to serve a high-risk warrant with all reasonably foreseeable alternatives being reviewed in accordance with risk/benefit criteria prior to selecting the method of response.

(h) Post incident scene management including:

1. Documentation of the incident.
2. Transition to investigations and/or other units.
3. Debriefing after every deployment of the SWAT team.

(a) After-action team debriefing provides evaluation and analysis of critical incidents and affords the opportunity for individual and team assessments,

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helps to identify training needs, and reinforces sound risk management practices.

(b) Such debriefing should not be conducted until involved officers have had the opportunity to individually complete necessary reports or provide formal statements.

(c) In order to maintain candor and a meaningful exchange, debriefing will generally not be recorded.

(d) When appropriate, debriefing should include specialized units and resources.

(i) Sound risk management analysis.

(j) Standardization of equipment deployed.

408.4 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The WCS Commander shall conduct an annual SWAT Training needs assessment to ensure that training is conducted within team capabilities, department policy and the training guidelines as established by POST (11 C.C.R. § 1084).

408.4.1 INITIAL TRAINING

SWAT team operators and SWAT supervisors/team leaders should not be deployed until successful completion of the POST-certified Basic SWAT Course or its equivalent.

(a) To avoid unnecessary or redundant training, previous training completed by members may be considered equivalent when the hours and content (topics) meet or exceed department requirements or POST standardized training recommendations.

408.4.2 UPDATED TRAINING

Appropriate team training for the specialized SWAT functions and other supporting resources should be completed prior to full deployment of the team.

SWAT team operators and SWAT supervisors/team leaders should complete update or refresher training as certified by POST, or its equivalent, every 24 months.

408.4.3 SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Command and executive personnel are encouraged to attend training for managing the SWAT function at the organizational level to ensure personnel who provide active oversight at the scene of SWAT operations understand the purpose and capabilities of the teams.

Command personnel who may assume incident command responsibilities should attend SWAT or Critical Incident Commander course or its equivalent. SWAT command personnel should attend a POST-certified SWAT commander or tactical commander course, or its equivalent.

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408.4.4 SWAT ONGOING TRAINING

Training shall be coordinated by the WCS Commander. The WCS Commander may conduct monthly training exercises that include a review and critique of personnel and their performance in the exercise in addition to specialized training. Training shall consist of the following:

(a) Each SWAT member shall perform a physical fitness test twice each year. A minimum qualifying score must be attained by each team member.

(b) Any SWAT team member failing to attain the minimum physical fitness qualification score will be notified of the requirement to retest and attain a qualifying score. Within 30 days of the previous physical fitness test date, the member required to qualify shall report to a team supervisor and complete the entire physical fitness test. Failure to qualify after a second attempt may result in dismissal from the team.

(c) Those members who are on vacation, ill, or are on light duty status with a doctor's note of approval on the test date, shall be responsible for reporting to a team supervisor and taking the test within 30 days of their return to regular duty. Any member, who fails to arrange for and perform the physical fitness test within the 30-day period, shall be considered as having failed to attain a qualifying score for that test period.

(d) Quarterly, each SWAT team member shall perform the mandatory SWAT handgun qualification course. The qualification course shall consist of the SWAT Basic Drill for the handgun. Failure to qualify will require that officer to seek remedial training from a team range master approved by the WCS Commander. Team members who fail to qualify must retest within 30 days. Failure to qualify within 30 days with or without remedial training may result in dismissal from the team.

408.4.5 TRAINING SAFETY

Use of a designated safety officer should be considered for all tactical training.

408.4.6 SCENARIO BASED TRAINING

SWAT teams should participate in scenario-based training that simulates the tactical operational environment. Such training is an established method of improving performance during an actual deployment.

408.4.7 TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

Individual and team training shall be documented and records maintained by the SWAT Commander. Such documentation shall be maintained in each member's individual training file. A separate agency SWAT training file shall be maintained with documentation and records of all team training.

408.5 UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIREARMS

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408.5.1 UNIFORMS
SWAT teams from this agency should wear uniforms that clearly identify team members as law enforcement officers. It is recognized that certain tactical conditions may require covert movement. Attire may be selected appropriate to the specific mission.

408.5.2 EQUIPMENT
SWAT teams from this agency should be adequately equipped to meet the specific mission(s) identified by the agency.

408.5.3 FIREARMS
Weapons and equipment used by SWAT, the specialized units, and the supporting resources should be agency-issued or approved, including any modifications, additions, or attachments.

408.6 MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT
The Commander of WCS shall be selected by the Chief of Police upon recommendation of staff.

408.6.1 PRIMARY UNIT MANAGER
Under the direction of the Chief of Police, through the Operations Bureau Commander, the West County SWAT Team shall be managed by a lieutenant.

408.6.2 TEAM SUPERVISORS
The Negotiation Team and each Special Weapons and Tactics Team will be supervised by a corporal.

The team supervisors shall be selected by the Chief of Police upon specific recommendation by staff and the WCS Commander.

The following represent the supervisor responsibilities for West County SWAT.

(a) The Negotiation Team supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the Negotiation Team which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the 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 WCS Commander.

408.7 CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES
The West County SWAT 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 Negotiations Team.

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408.7.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Interested sworn personnel, who are off probation, shall submit a request to their appropriate Bureau Commander. A copy will be forwarded to the WCS Commander and the Negotiation Team supervisor. Qualified applicants will then be invited to participate in the SWAT testing process. 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 SWAT Commander shall submit a list of successful applicants to the Chief of Police for final selection.

408.7.2 TRAINING OF NEGOTIATORS

Those officers selected as members of the Negotiation Team should attend the Basic Negotiators Course as approved by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) prior to primary use in an actual crisis situation. Untrained officers may be used in a support or training capacity. Additional training will be coordinated by the team supervisor.

A minimum of one training day per quarter will be required to provide the opportunity for role playing and situational training necessary to maintain proper skills. This will be coordinated by the team supervisor.

Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the team supervisor. Performance and efficiency levels, established by the team supervisor, will be met and maintained by all team members. Any member of the Negotiation Team who performs or functions at a level less than satisfactory shall be subject to dismissal from the unit.

408.8 SWAT TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team was established to provide a skilled and trained team which may be deployed during events requiring specialized tactics in such situations as cases where suspects have taken hostages and/or barricaded themselves as well as prolonged or predictable situations in which persons armed or suspected of being armed pose a danger to themselves or others.

The following procedures serve as directives for the administrative operation of the Special Weapons and Tactics Team.

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408.8.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Interested sworn personnel who are off probation shall submit a change of assignment request to their appropriate Bureau Commander, a copy of which will be forwarded to the WCS 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 WCS 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 WCS Commander. Applicants will be evaluated by the following criteria:

1. Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance;
2. Demonstrated good judgment and understanding of critical role of SWAT member;
3. Special skills, training, or appropriate education as it pertains to this assignment; and,
4. Commitment to the unit, realizing that the additional assignment may necessitate unusual working hours, conditions, and training obligations.

(b) Physical agility: The physical agility test is designed to determine the physical capabilities of the applicant as it relates to performance of SWAT-related duties. The test and scoring procedure will be established by the WCS 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 and must achieve a minimum passing score as indicated within the WCS Manual.

(d) SWAT rifle: Candidates will be invited to shoot the SWAT Basic Drill for the rifle and must achieve a minimum passing score as indicated within the WCS Manual.

(e) Team evaluation: Current team members will evaluate each candidate on his or her field tactical skills, teamwork, ability to work under stress, communication skills, judgment, and any special skills that could benefit the team.

(f) A list of successful applicants shall be submitted to staff, by the WCS Commander, for final selection.

408.8.2 TEAM EVALUATION

Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the WCS 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.

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408.9 OPERATION GUIDELINES FOR CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

The following procedures serve as guidelines for the operational deployment of the West County SWAt Team. Generally, the Special Weapons and Tactics Team and the 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 WCS Commander.

408.9.1 ON-SCENE DETERMINATION

The supervisor in charge on the scene of a particular event will assess whether the West County SWAT Team is to respond to the scene. Upon final determination by the Watch Commander, he/she will notify the WCS Commander.

408.9.2 APPROPRIATE SITUATIONS FOR USE OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

The following are examples of incidents which may result in the activation of West County SWAT:

(a) Barricaded suspects who refuse an order to surrender.

(b) Incidents where hostages are taken.

(c) Cases of suicide threats.

(d) Arrests of dangerous persons.

(e) Any situation that could enhance the ability to preserve life, maintain social order, and ensure the protection of property.

408.9.3 OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUESTS

Requests by field personnel for assistance from outside agency crisis units must be approved by the Watch Commander. Deployment of West County SWAT in response to requests by other agencies must be authorized by a Bureau Commander.

408.9.4 MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SWAT OPERATIONS

The SWAT team, including relevant specialized units and supporting resources, have developed protocols, agreements, MOU's and working relationships to support multi-jurisdictional or regional responses (West County SWAT).

(a) If it is anticipated that multi-jurisdictional SWAT operations will regularly be conducted; SWAT multi-agency and multi-disciplinary joint training exercises will be regularly conducted.

(b) Members of the Westminster Police Department SWAT team shall operate under the policies, procedures and command of the Westminster Police Department and West County SWAT when working in a multi-agency situation.

408.9.5 MOBILIZATION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

The On-Scene supervisor shall make a request to the Watch Commander for West County SWAT. The Watch Commander shall then notify the WCS Commander. If unavailable, a team supervisor

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shall be notified. A current mobilization list shall be maintained in the Watch Commander's office by the WCS Commander. The Watch Commander will then notify the Operations Bureau Commander as soon as practical.

The Watch Commander should advise the WCS 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 officers 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 officers to respond.

408.9.6 FIELD UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

While waiting for West County SWAT, field personnel should, if safe, practical and sufficient resources exist:

(a) Establish an inner and outer perimeter.

(b) Establish a command post outside of the inner perimeter.

(c) Establish an arrest/response team. The team actions may include:

1. Securing any subject or suspect who may surrender.
2. Taking action to mitigate a deadly threat or behavior.

(d) Evacuate any injured persons or citizens in the zone of danger.

(e) Attempt to establish preliminary communication with the suspect. Once the CRU has arrived, all negotiations should generally be halted to allow the negotiators and SWAT time to set up.

(f) Be prepared to brief the WCS Commander on the situation.

(g) Plan for, and stage, anticipated resources.

408.9.7 ON-SCENE COMMAND RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon arrival of WCS at the scene, the Incident Commander shall brief the WCS Commander and team supervisors about the situation. Upon review, it will be the Incident Commander's decision, with input from the WCS Commander, whether to deploy SWAT Personnel. Once the Incident

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Commander authorizes deployment, the WCS 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 WCS Units. The Incident Commander and the WCS Commander (or his or her designee) shall maintain communications at all times.

408.9.8 COMMUNICATION WITH CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT PERSONNEL

All of those persons who are non-West County SWAT 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 WCS Team personnel directly. All non-emergency communications shall be channeled through the Negotiation Team Sergeant or his or 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 Westminster Police Department Ride-Along Program is offered to residents, students and those employed within the City. 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 Chief of Police, Commander, or Watch Commander.

410.2 PROCEDURE TO REQUEST A RIDE-ALONG

Generally, ride-along requests will be scheduled by the Watch Commander. The participant will complete a ride-along waiver form. Information requested will include a valid ID or California driver's license, address, and telephone number. If the participant is under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian must be present to complete the Ride-Along Form.

The Watch Commander will schedule a date, based on availability, at least one week after the date of application. If approved, a copy will be forwarded to the respective Watch Commander as soon as possible for his/her scheduling considerations.

If the ride-along is denied after the request has been made, a representative of the Department will contact the applicant and advise him/her of the denial.

410.2.1 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Once approved, civilian ride-alongs will be allowed to ride no more than once every six months. An exception would apply to the following: Cadets, Explorers, RSVP, Chaplains, Reserves, police applicants, and all others with approval of the Watch Commander.

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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 officer's vehicle at a given time.

Ride-along requirements for police cadets are covered in the Police Cadets Policy.

Officers will not be allowed to have immediate family members ride along with them.

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 police vehicle. The Watch Commander or field supervisor may refuse a ride along to anyone not properly dressed.

410.2.3 PEACE OFFICER RIDE-ALONGS
Off-duty members of this department or any other law enforcement agency will not be permitted to ride-along with on-duty officers without the expressed consent of the Watch Commander. In the event that such a ride-along is permitted, the off-duty employee shall not be considered on-duty and shall not represent themselves as a peace officer or participate in any law enforcement activity except as emergency circumstances may require.

410.2.4 RIDE-ALONG CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK
All Ride-along applicants are subject to a criminal history check. The criminal history check may include a local records check and a Department of Justice Automated Criminal History System check through CLETS prior to their approval as a ride-along with a law enforcement officer (provided that the ride-along is not an employee of the Westminster Police Department) (CLETS Policies, Practices and Procedures Manual § 1.6.1.F.2.).

410.3 OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITY
The officer shall advise the dispatcher that a ride-along is present in the vehicle before going into service. Officers shall consider the safety of the ride-along at all times. Officers 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 police unit respond to pick up the participant at that location. The ride-along may be continued or terminated at this time.

The Watch Commander is responsible for maintaining and scheduling ride-alongs. Upon completion of the ride-along, the yellow form shall be returned to the Watch Commander with any comments which may be offered by the officer.

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:

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(a) The ride-along will follow the directions of the officer

(b) The ride-along will not become involved in any investigation, handling of evidence, discussions with victims or suspects, or handling any police equipment.

(c) The ride-along is prohibited from using any type of video, photographic, or recording devices unless granted written permission from the Chief of Police or his/her designee prior to the ride-along.

(d) The ride-along may terminate the ride at any time and the officer may return the observer to their home or to the station if the ride-along interferes with the performance of the officer's duties.

(e) Ride-alongs may be allowed to continue riding during the transportation and booking process provided this does not jeopardize their safety.

(f) Officers 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.

(g) Under no circumstance shall a civilian ride along be permitted to enter a private residence with an officer without the expressed consent of the resident or other authorized person.

(h) Officers shall ensure the ride-along is wearing and clearly displaying the "Ride Along" identification card during the ride along.

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Hazardous Material Response

412.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Hazardous materials present a potential harm to employees resulting from their exposure. To comply with Title 8, California Code of Regulations, § 5194, the following is to be the policy of this department.

412.1.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL DEFINED

A hazardous material is a substance which by its nature, containment and reactivity, has the capability of inflicting harm during exposure; characterized as being toxic, corrosive, flammable, reactive, an irritant or strong sensitizer and thereby posing a threat to health when improperly managed.

412.2 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE

Employees may encounter situations involving suspected hazardous materials, such as at the scene of a traffic accident, chemical spill or fire. When employees come into contact with a suspected hazardous material, certain steps should be taken to protect themselves and citizens.

The following steps should be considered at any scene involving suspected hazardous materials:

(a) Attempt to identify the type of hazardous substance. (Identification can be determined by placard, driver's manifest or statements from the person transporting).

(b) Notify the Fire Department.

(c) Provide first-aid for injured parties if it can be done safely and without contamination.

(d) Begin evacuation of the immediate area and surrounding areas, depending on the substance. Voluntary evacuation should be considered; however, depending on the substance, mandatory evacuation may be necessary.

(e) Notify the local health authority. Such notification is mandatory when a spilled or released item is a pesticide (Health and Safety Code § 105215).

(f) Notify the Department of Toxic Substances Control. This is mandatory when an officer comes in contact with, or is aware of, the presence of a suspected hazardous substance at a site where an illegal controlled substance is or was manufactured (Health and Safety § 25354.5).

412.3 REPORTING EXPOSURE(S)

Department personnel who believe that they have been exposed to a hazardous material shall immediately report the exposure to a supervisor. Each exposure shall be documented by the employee in an employee memorandum that shall be forwarded via chain of command to the Commanding Officer. Should the affected employee be unable to document the exposure for any reason, it shall be the responsibility of the notified supervisor to complete the memorandum.

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Injury or illness caused or believed to be caused from exposure to hazardous materials shall be reported the same as any other on-duty injury or illness in addition to a crime report or incident report.

412.3.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

When a supervisor has been informed that an employee has been exposed to a hazardous material, he/she shall ensure that immediate medical treatment is obtained and appropriate action is taken to lessen the exposure.

To ensure the safety of employees, safety equipment is available through supervisory personnel. Safety items not maintained by the Department will be obtained through the Fire Department.

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Hostage and Barricade Incidents

414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for situations where officers have legal cause to contact, detain or arrest a person, and the person refuses to submit to the lawful requests of the officers 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 officers encounter during their initial response or when a hostage or barricade situation has developed. This policy does not require or purport to recommend specific strategies or tactics for resolution as each incident is a dynamic and rapidly evolving event.

414.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Barricade situation - An incident where a person maintains a position of cover or concealment and ignores or resists law enforcement personnel, and it is reasonable to believe the subject is armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon.

Hostage situation - An incident where it is reasonable to believe a person is:

(a) Unlawfully held by a hostage-taker as security so that specified terms or conditions will be met.

(b) Unlawfully held against his/her will under threat or actual use of force.

414.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to address hostage and barricade situations with due regard for the preservation of life and balancing the risk of injury, while obtaining the safe release of hostages, apprehending offenders and securing available evidence.

414.3 COMMUNICATION

When circumstances permit, initial responding officers should try to establish and maintain lines of communication with a barricaded person or hostage-taker. Officers should attempt to identify any additional subjects, inquire about victims and injuries, seek the release of hostages, gather intelligence information, identify time-sensitive demands or conditions and obtain the suspect's surrender.

When available, department-authorized negotiators should respond to the scene as soon as practicable and assume communication responsibilities. Negotiators are permitted to exercise flexibility in each situation based upon their training, the circumstances presented, suspect actions or demands and the available resources.

414.3.1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Only an officer who has been designated by the District Attorney or Attorney General may use or authorize the use of an electronic amplifying or recording device to eavesdrop on or record,

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or both, oral communication in response to an emergency situation involving a hostage or the barricading of a location, and only when (Penal Code § 633.8(b)):

(a) The officer reasonably determines an emergency situation exists that involves the immediate danger of death or serious physical injury to any person within the meaning of 18 USC § 2518(7)(a)(i),

(b) The officer reasonably determines that the emergency situation requires that eavesdropping on oral communication occur immediately, and

(c) There are grounds upon which an order could be obtained pursuant to 18 USC § 2516(2).

(d) An application for an order approving the eavesdropping and complying with the requirements of Penal Code § 629.50 is made within 48 hours of the beginning of the eavesdropping.

(e) The contents of any oral communications overheard are recorded on tape or other comparable device.

414.4 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATIONS

First responding officers should promptly and carefully evaluate all available information to determine whether an incident involves, or may later develop into, a hostage or barricade situation.

The first responding officer should immediately request a supervisor's response as soon as it is determined that a hostage or barricade situation exists. The first responding officer shall assume the duties of the supervisor until relieved by a supervisor or a more qualified responder. The officer shall continually evaluate the situation, including the level of risk to officers, to the persons involved and to bystanders, and the resources currently available.

The handling officer should brief the arriving supervisor of the incident, including information about suspects and victims, the extent of any injuries, additional resources or equipment that may be needed, and current perimeters and evacuation areas.

414.4.1 BARRICADE SITUATION

Unless circumstances require otherwise, officers handling a barricade situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of stabilizing the incident by establishing and maintaining lines of communication while awaiting the arrival of specialized personnel and trained negotiators. During the interim the following options, while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

(a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.

(b) Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.

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(c) Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).

(d) Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.

(e) Evacuate uninjured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.

(f) Attempt or obtain a line of communication and gather as much information on the subject as possible, including weapons, other involved parties, additional hazards or injuries.

(g) Establish an inner and outer perimeter as circumstances require and resources permit to prevent unauthorized access.

(h) Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.

(i) Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the Department, such as command officers and the Public Information Officer (PIO).

(j) If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.

(k) Establish a command post.

414.4.2 HOSTAGE SITUATION

Officers presented with a hostage situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of controlling the incident in anticipation of the arrival of specialized personnel and trained hostage negotiators. However, it is understood that hostage situations are dynamic and can require that officers react quickly to developing or changing threats. The following options, while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

(a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.

(b) Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.

(c) Establish a rapid response team in the event it becomes necessary to rapidly enter a building, structure or vehicle, such as when the suspect is using deadly force against any hostages (see the Rapid Response and Deployment Policy).

(d) Assist hostages or potential hostages to escape if it is reasonably safe to do so. Hostages should be kept separated if practicable pending further interview.

(e) Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).

(f) Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.

(g) Evacuate uninjured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.

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(h) Coordinate pursuit or surveillance vehicles and control of travel routes.

(i) Attempt to obtain a line of communication and gather as much information about the suspect as possible, including any weapons, victims and their injuries, additional hazards, other involved parties and any other relevant intelligence information.

(j) Establish an inner and outer perimeter as resources and circumstances permit to prevent unauthorized access.

(k) Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.

(l) Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the Department, such as command officers and the PIO.

(m) If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.

414.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon being notified that a hostage or barricade situation exists, the supervisor should immediately respond to the scene, assess the risk level of the situation, establish a proper chain of command and assume the role of Incident Commander until properly relieved. This includes requesting a Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) response if appropriate and apprising the SWAT Commander of the circumstances. In addition, the following options should be considered:

(a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated and treated by medical personnel.

(b) Ensure the completion of necessary first responder responsibilities or assignments.

(c) Request crisis negotiators, specialized units, additional personnel, resources or equipment as appropriate.

(d) Establish a command post location as resources and circumstances permit.

(e) Designate assistants who can help with intelligence information and documentation of the incident.

(f) If it is practicable to do so, arrange for video documentation of the operation.

(g) Consider contacting utility and communication providers to restrict such services (e.g., restricting electric power, gas, telephone service).

1. When considering restricting communication services, a supervisor should make the determination that there is reason to believe an emergency situation exists involving immediate danger of death or great bodily harm and that an interruption to communication services is necessary to protect public safety (Penal Code § 11471). The supervisor must ensure the Department obtains a court order, in accordance with Penal Code § 11472, prior to requesting the interruption. In the case of an extreme emergency when there is insufficient time to obtain an order prior to the request, application for the order must be submitted within six hours after initiating the interruption. If six hours is not possible, then the application for the court order shall be made at the first reasonably available opportunity, but no later than 24 hours in accordance with Penal Code § 11475.

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(h) Ensure adequate law enforcement coverage for the remainder of the City during the incident. The supervisor should direct non-essential personnel away from the scene unless they have been summoned by the supervisor or Dispatch.

(i) Identify a media staging area outside the outer perimeter and have the department Public Information Officer or a designated temporary media representative provide media access in accordance with the Media Relations Policy.

(j) Identify the need for mutual aid and the transition or relief of personnel for incidents of extended duration.

(k) Debrief personnel and review documentation as appropriate.

414.6 CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Incident Commander will decide, with input from the WCS Commander, whether to deploy the WCS during a hostage or barricade situation. Once the Incident Commander authorizes deployment, the WCS Commander or the authorized designee will be responsible for the tactical portion of the operation. The Incident Commander shall continue supervision of the command post operation, outer perimeter security and evacuation, media access and support for the WCS. The Incident Commander and the WCS Commander or the authorized designee shall maintain communications at all times.

414.7 REPORTING

Unless otherwise relieved by a supervisor or Incident Commander, the handling officer at the scene is responsible for completion and/or coordination of incident reports.

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Crisis Intervention Incidents

415.1 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 an officer to make difficult judgments about a person's mental state and intent in order to effectively and legally interact with the individual.

415.1.1 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.

415.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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.

415.3 SIGNS

Members should be alert to any of the following possible signs of mental health issues or crises:

(a) A known history of mental illness

(b) Threats of or attempted suicide

(c) Loss of memory

(d) Incoherence, disorientation or slow response

(e) Delusions, hallucinations, perceptions unrelated to reality or grandiose ideas

(f) Depression, pronounced feelings of hopelessness or uselessness, extreme sadness or guilt

(g) Social withdrawal

(h) Manic or impulsive behavior, extreme agitation, lack of control

(i) Lack of fear

(j) Anxiety, aggression, rigidity, inflexibility or paranoia

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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.

415.4 COORDINATION WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

The Chief of Police should designate an appropriate Commander 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.

415.5 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 officers; such a threat should be addressed with reasonable tactics. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit an officer's authority to use reasonable force when interacting with a person in crisis.

Officers 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.

An officer 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 officers and specialized resources as deemed necessary and, if it is reasonably believed that the person is in a crisis situation, use conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques to stabilize the incident as appropriate.

(c) If feasible, and without compromising safety, turn off flashing lights, bright lights or sirens.

(d) Attempt to determine if weapons are present or available.

    1. Prior to making contact, and whenever possible and reasonable, conduct a search of the Department of Justice Automated Firearms System via the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) to determine whether the person is the registered owner of a firearm (Penal Code § 11106.4).

(e) Take into account the person's mental and emotional state and potential inability to understand commands or to appreciate the consequences of his/her action or inaction, as perceived by the officer.

(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.

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(k) If circumstances reasonably permit, consider and employ alternatives to force.

415.6 DE-ESCALATION

Officers should consider that taking no action or passively monitoring the situation may be the most reasonable response to a mental health crisis.

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 officers 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.

415.7 INCIDENT ORIENTATION

When responding to an incident that may involve mental illness or a mental health crisis, the officer 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 police response.

(c) Contact information for a treating physician or mental health professional.

Additional resources and a supervisor should be requested as warranted.

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415.8 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).

(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.

Evaluate whether a critical incident stress management debriefing for involved members is warranted.

415.9 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.

415.9.1 DIVERSION

Individuals who are not being arrested should be processed in accordance with the Mental Illness Commitments Policy.

415.10 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, an officer should be promptly summoned to provide assistance.

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415.11 EVALUATION

The Commander designated to coordinate the crisis intervention strategy for this department should ensure that a review and analysis of the department response to these incidents is conducted annually. The report will not include identifying information pertaining to any involved individuals, officers or incidents and will be submitted to the Chief of Police through the chain of command.

415.12 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.

This department will endeavor to provide Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved advanced officer training on interaction with persons with mental disabilities, welfare checks and crisis intervention (Penal Code § 11106.4; Penal Code § 13515.25; Penal Code § 13515.27; Penal Code § 13515.30).

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Response to Bomb Calls

416.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to assist members of the Westminster Police Department in their initial response to incidents involving explosives, explosive devices, explosion/bombing incidents or threats of such incidents. Under no circumstances should these guidelines be interpreted as compromising the safety of first responders or the public. When confronted with an incident involving explosives, safety should always be the primary consideration.

416.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to place a higher priority on the safety of persons and the public over damage or destruction to public or private property.

416.3 RECEIPT OF BOMB THREAT

Department members receiving a bomb threat should obtain as much information from the individual as reasonably possible, including the type, placement and alleged detonation time of the device.

If the bomb threat is received on a recorded line, reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that the recording is preserved in accordance with established department evidence procedures.

The member receiving the bomb threat should ensure that the Watch Commander is immediately advised and informed of the details. This will enable the Watch Commander to ensure that the appropriate personnel are dispatched, and, as appropriate, the threatened location is given an advance warning.

416.3.1 INFORMATION TO GATHER FROM A BOMB THREAT

The following questions should be asked if a person reports a bomb threat to any member:

- When is the bomb going to explode?
- Where is the bomb?
- What kind of bomb is it?
- What does it look like?
- Why did you place the bomb?
- Who are you? (to avoid possible termination of the call this should be the last question asked)

Attempt to keep the caller on the line (if reported by telephone) as long as possible and obtain expanded answers to the six above questions.

During this time, document the following:

- Time of the call.

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- Exact words of the person as accurately as possible.
- Estimated age and gender of the caller.
- Speech patterns and/or accents.
- Background noises.

If the incoming call is received at the police facility on a recorded line, steps shall be taken to ensure that the recording is preserved in accordance with current department evidence procedures.

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 WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITY

If the bomb threat is against the Westminster Police Department facility, the Watch Commander will direct and assign officers as required for coordinating a general building search or evacuation of the police 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 Westminster Police Department that is not the property of this department, the appropriate agency will be promptly informed of the threat. Assistance to the other entity may be provided as the Watch Commander deems appropriate.

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 City of Westminster, 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.

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(e) Whether the individual is requesting police assistance at the facility.

(f) Whether there are any internal facility procedures regarding bomb threats in place, such as:

1. No evacuation of personnel and no search for a device.
2. Search for a device without evacuation of personnel.
3. Evacuation of personnel without a search for a device.
4. Evacuation of personnel and a search for a device.

The member receiving the bomb threat information should ensure that the Watch Commander is immediately notified so that he/she can communicate with the person in charge of the threatened facility.

416.5.1 ASSISTANCE

The Watch Commander should be notified when police assistance is requested. The Watch Commander will make the decision whether the Department will render assistance and at what level. Information and circumstances that indicate a reasonably apparent, imminent threat to the safety of either the facility or the public may require a more active approach, including police control over the facility.

Should the Watch Commander determine that the Department will assist or control such an incident, he/she will determine:

(a) The appropriate level of assistance.

(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 police assistance to clear the interior of a building, based upon the circumstances and known threat, officers 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.

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(b) The device should not be touched or moved except by the Orange County Bomb Squad or designee.

(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 should be summoned for assistance.

(e) The largest perimeter reasonably possible should initially be established around the device based upon available personnel and the anticipated danger zone.

(f) A safe access route should be provided for support personnel and equipment.

(g) Search the area for secondary devices as appropriate and based upon available resources.

(h) Consider evacuation of buildings and personnel near the device or inside the danger zone and the safest exit route.

(i) Promptly relay available information to the Watch Commander including:

1. The time of discovery.
2. The exact location of the device.
3. A full description of the device (e.g., size, shape, markings, construction).
4. The anticipated danger zone and perimeter.
5. The areas to be evacuated or cleared.

416.7 EXPLOSION/BOMBING INCIDENTS

When an explosion has occurred, there are multitudes of considerations which may confront the responding officers. 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

Officers 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.

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(e) Assist with the safe evacuation of victims, if possible.

(f) Establish an inner perimeter to include entry points and evacuation routes. Search for additional or secondary devices.

(g) Preserve evidence.

(h) Establish an outer perimeter and evacuate if necessary.

(i) Identify witnesses.

416.7.2 NOTIFICATIONS

When an explosion has occurred, the following people should be notified as appropriate:

- Fire department
- Bomb squad
- Additional department personnel, such as investigators and forensic services
- Field supervisor
- Watch Commander
- Other law enforcement agencies, including local, state or federal agencies, such as the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
- Other government agencies, as appropriate

416.7.3 CROWD CONTROL

Only authorized members with a legitimate need should be permitted access to the scene. Spectators and other unauthorized individuals should be restricted to a safe distance as is reasonably practicable given the available resources and personnel.

416.7.4 PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE

As in any other crime scene, steps should immediately be taken to preserve the scene. The on-scene supervisor should assign officers to protect the crime scene area, which could extend over a long distance. Consideration should be given to the fact that evidence may be imbedded in nearby structures or hanging in trees and bushes.

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Medical Aid and Response

417.1 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.

417.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department that all officers and other designated members be trained to provide emergency medical aid and to facilitate an emergency medical response.

417.3 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.

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417.4 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.

Officers should search any person who is in custody before releasing that person to EMS for transport.

An officer 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.

417.5 PERSONS REFUSING EMS CARE

If a person who is not in custody refuses EMS care or refuses to be transported to a medical facility, an officer 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 officer should consider proceeding with a 72-hour treatment and evaluation commitment (5150 commitment) process in accordance with the Mental Illness Commitments Policy.

If an officer 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 officer 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 officer will require the person to be transported to the nearest medical facility. In such cases, the officer should consult with a supervisor prior to the transport.

Members shall not sign refusal-for-treatment forms or forms accepting financial responsibility for treatment.

417.5.1 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 officer has reason to believe the arrestee is feigning injury or illness, the officer 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 officer 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.

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Arrestees who appear to have a serious medical issue should be transported by ambulance. Officers shall not transport an arrestee to a hospital without a supervisor's approval.

417.6 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.

417.7 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) USE

A member may use an AED only after receiving appropriate training from an approved public safety first aid and CPR course (22 CCR 100014; 22 CCR 100017; 22 CCR 100018).

417.7.1 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 Sergeant 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 should contact Dispatch as soon as possible and request response by EMS.

417.7.2 AED REPORTING

Any member using an AED will complete an incident report detailing its use.

417.7.3 AED TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE

The Training Sergeant should ensure appropriate training and refresher training is provided to members authorized to use an AED. A list of authorized members and training records shall be made available for inspection by the local EMS agency (LEMSA) or EMS authority upon request (22 CCR 100021; 22 CCR 100022; 22 CCR 100029).

The Training Sergeant is responsible for ensuring AED devices are appropriately maintained and will retain records of all maintenance in accordance with the established records retention schedule (22 CCR 100021).

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Mental Illness Commitments

418.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for when officers may take a person into custody for psychiatric evaluation and treatment (5150 commitment) (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

418.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to protect the public and individuals through legal and appropriate use of the 72-hour treatment and evaluation commitment (5150 commitment) process.

418.2.1 DEFINITIONS

Centralized Assessment Teams (CAT). Orange County Health Care Agency/Behavioral Health Services Centralized Assessment Team(s) (CAT) are available to 24 hours a day seven days a week. CAT Teams are available to respond throughout the county. The Countywide CAT phone number is 1-866-830-6011.

Psychiatric Evaluation Team (PET Team). College Hospital in Costa Mesa is a Designated Mental Health Facility. This hospital has a Psychiatric Evaluation Team (PET) called the Crisis Response Team (CRT) and it is available to 24 hours a day seven days a week. They are authorized and designated by the County to complete 5150 evaluations in emergency departments, police departments, and at College Hospital Costa Mesa. They can also complete evaluations on medical floors of contracted hospitals once authorized by the County. Their phone number is 800-773-8001.

Evaluation Treatment Services "ETS". ETS is the Orange County Health Care Agency's "Evaluation Treatment Services" located 1030 West Warner Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92707. The phone number is 714-834-6913/6900. ETS is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week and will accept adult mental health patients absent any attendant medical or intoxicated condition(s).

418.3 AUTHORITY

An officer having probable cause may take a person into custody and place the person in an approved mental health facility for 72-hour treatment and evaluation when the officer believes that, as a result of a mental disorder, the person is a danger to him/herself or others or the person is gravely disabled (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150; Welfare and Institutions Code § 5585.50).

When determining whether to take a person into custody, officers are not limited to determining the person is an imminent danger and shall consider reasonably available information about the historical course of the person’s mental disorder, which may include evidence presented from any of the following (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150; Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150.05):

(a) An individual who is providing or has provided mental health treatment or related support services to the person

(b) A family member

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(c) The person subject to the determination or anyone designated by the person

418.3.1 VOLUNTARY EVALUATION

If an officer encounters an individual who may qualify for a 5150 commitment, he/she may inquire as to whether the person desires to voluntarily be evaluated at an appropriate facility. If the person so desires, the officers should:

(a) Transport the person to an appropriate facility that is able to conduct the evaluation and admit the person pursuant to a 5150 commitment.

(b) If at any point the person changes his/her mind regarding voluntary evaluation, officers should proceed with the 5150 commitment, if appropriate.

(c) Document the circumstances surrounding the individual's desire to pursue voluntary evaluation and/or admission.

418.4 CONSIDERATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Any officer handling a call involving an individual who may qualify for a 5150 commitment should consider, as time and circumstances reasonably permit:

(a) Available information that might assist in determining the cause and nature of the person's action or stated intentions.

(b) Community or neighborhood mediation services.

(c) Conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques.

(d) Community or other resources available to assist in dealing with mental health issues.

While these steps are encouraged, nothing in this section is intended to dissuade officers from taking reasonable action to ensure the safety of the officers and others.

Officers should consider a 5150 commitment over arrest when mental health issues appear to be a mitigating factor for people who are suspected of committing minor crimes or creating other public safety issues.

418.4.1 SECURING OF PROPERTY

When a person is taken into custody for evaluation, or within a reasonable time thereafter, and unless a responsible relative, guardian or conservator is in possession of the person's personal property, the officer shall take reasonable precautions to safeguard the individual's personal property in his/her possession or on the premises occupied by the person (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

The officer taking the person into custody shall provide a report to the court that describes the person's property and its disposition in the format provided in Welfare and Institutions Code § 5211, unless a responsible person took possession of the property, in which case the officer shall only include the name of the responsible person and the location of the property (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

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418.5 TRANSPORTATION

When transporting any individual for a 5150 commitment, the transporting officer 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.

Officers may transport individuals in a patrol unit and shall secure them in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. Should the detainee require transport in a medical transport vehicle and the safety of any person, including the detainee, requires the presence of an officer during the transport, supervisor approval is required before transport commences.

418.6 TRANSFER TO APPROPRIATE FACILITY

Upon arrival at the facility, the officer will escort the individual into a treatment area designated by a facility staff member. If the individual is not seeking treatment voluntarily, the officer should provide the staff member with the written application for a 5150 commitment and remain present to provide clarification of the grounds for detention, upon request.

Absent exigent circumstances, the transporting officer 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 officer may assist with transferring the individual to facility restraints and will be available to assist during the admission process, if requested. Under normal circumstances, officers will not apply facility-ordered restraints.

418.7 DOCUMENTATION

The officer shall complete an application for a 72-Hour detention for evaluation and treatment, provide it to the facility staff member assigned to that patient and retain a copy of the application for inclusion in the case report.

The application shall include the circumstances for officer involvement; the probable cause to believe the person is, as a result of a mental health disorder, a danger to others or him/herself or gravely disabled; and all information used for the determination of probable cause (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150; Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150.05).

The officer should also provide a verbal summary to any evaluating staff member regarding the circumstances leading to the involuntary detention.

418.7.1 ADVISEMENT

The officer taking a person into custody for evaluation shall advise the person of:

(a) The officer’s name and agency.

(b) The fact that the person is not under criminal arrest but is being taken for examination by mental health professionals and the mental health staff will advise him/her of their rights.

(c) The name of the facility to which the person is being taken.

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(d) If the person is being taken into custody at his/her residence, he/she should also be advised that he/she may take a few personal items, which the officer must approve, and may make a telephone call or leave a note indicating where he/she is being taken. The officer should also ask if the person needs assistance turning off any appliance or water.

The advisement shall be given in a language the person understands. If the person cannot understand an oral advisement, the information shall be provided in writing (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

418.8 JUVENILES

Juveniles present unique challenges and protocols to the mental health system. As such, the following information is provided to assist the officers when faced with a juvenile in a mental health crisis.

The Orange County Behavioral Health Children and Youth Services Centralized Assessment Team (CYS CAT) can respond to evaluate all juveniles (individuals under the age of eighteen). They can be contacted 24/7 to provide a 5150/5585 evaluation and are contacted through the countywide CAT phone # (1-866-830-6011). CYS County staff provides crisis evaluations for minors to determine if psychiatric hospitalization is required or if the minor can be safely referred to a lower level of care. If intoxicated, injured or medically comprised the juvenile should be transported to the nearest medical facility for treatment and stabilization. Once medically cleared, the CYS CAT will evaluate.

CYS CAT will evaluate all juveniles and will write the hold whenever it is safe to do so. Whenever CYS CAT or the Clinician on Duty evaluates and determines that a juvenile requires psychiatric hospitalization they will locate a bed, arrange ambulance transport, and notify ETS to confirm the bed. If the juvenile does not meet W&I code 5150/5585 criteria for hospitalization, they will be linked to follow-up services in the community.

College Hospital Costa Mesa's Crisis Response Team (CRT) may be contacted to provide a 5150/5585 evaluation for juveniles that have Out of County Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, or Private Insurance coverage; the evaluations can be done at non-designated Emergency Departments and the police station. They can be reached at (800-773-8001). Designated Facilities are expected to evaluate and, if necessary, write their own holds for youth with these funding sources.

During normal business hours (8am to 5pm Monday-Friday except holidays), juveniles that are unfunded or who have Orange County Medi-Cal can also be taken to the CYS West Region office at 14140 Beach Blvd. Suite 155 Westminster, CA 92683 (714)896-7556. They will be evaluated by CYS CAT or the Clinician on Duty as determined by the clinic.

418.9 CRIMINAL OFFENSES

Officers investigating an individual who is suspected of committing a minor criminal offense and who is being taken on a 5150 commitment should resolve the criminal matter by issuing a warning or a Notice to Appear as appropriate.

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When an individual who may qualify for a 5150 commitment has committed a serious criminal offense that would normally result in an arrest and transfer to a jail facility, the officer 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 5150 commitment.

(c) Facilitate the individual's transfer to jail.

(d) Thoroughly document in the related reports the circumstances that indicate the individual may qualify for a 5150 commitment.

In the supervisor's judgment, the individual may instead be arrested or booked and transported to the appropriate mental health facility. The supervisor should consider the seriousness of the offense, the treatment options available, the ability of this department to regain custody of the individual, department resources (e.g., posting a guard) and other relevant factors in making this decision.

418.10 ORANGE COUNTY DESIGNATED MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES

ALL OF THESE FACILITIES ARE OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK:

COLLEGE HOSPITAL / COSTA MESA (Adult and Adolescent).

301 Victoria Street,

Costa Mesa, CA. 92627

1-800-773-8001.

LOS ALAMITOS MEDICAL CENTER (Geriatric)

3751 Katella Avenue

Los Alamitos, CA. 90720

562-799-3234

NEWPORT BAY HOSPITAL (Adult)

1501 East 16th Street

Newport Beach, CA. 92663

949-650-9750

MISSION HOSPITAL LAGUNA BEACH (Adults)

Inpatient Psychiatric Program

31872 Pacific Coast Highway

Laguna Beach, CA. 92651

949-499-1311

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ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL (Adult)

Rush Center

1100 W. Stewart Drive

Orange, CA. 92668

714-633-9111

UCI MEDICAL CENTER (Adult, Adolescent)

101 The City Drive South

Orange, CA. 92868

714-456-5801 / 5878

Police Contacts: Emergency Department Charge Nurse 714-456-5980 or 714-456-5705.

WESTERN MEDICAL CENTER ANAHEIM (Adult)

1025 S. Anaheim Blvd.

Anaheim, CA. 92805

714-563-2805

CHAPMAN MEDICAL CENTER (Geriatric)

2601 E. Chapman Ave.

Orange, CA. 92869

714-633-0011

418.11 FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS

Whenever a person is taken into custody for a 5150 commitment, the handling officers should seek to determine if the person owns or has access to any firearm or other deadly weapon defined in Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100. Officers 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).

Officers are cautioned that a search warrant may be needed before entering a residence or other place to search, unless lawful, warrantless entry has already been made (e.g., exigent circumstances, consent). A search warrant may also be needed before searching for or seizing weapons

The handling officers shall issue a receipt describing the deadly weapon or any firearm seized, and list any serial number or other identification that is on the firearm. Officers shall advise the person of the procedure for the return of any firearm or other weapon that has been taken into custody (Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102 (b)) (see Property and Evidence Policy).

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418.11.1 PETITION FOR RETURN OF FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS

Whenever the handling officer has cause to believe that the future return of any confiscated weapon might endanger the person or others, the officer shall detail those facts and circumstances in a report. The report shall be forwarded to the Detective Bureau, which shall be responsible for initiating a petition to the Superior Court for a hearing in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102(c), to determine whether the weapon will be returned.

The petition to the Superior Court shall be initiated within 30 days of the release of the individual from whom such weapon has been confiscated, unless the Department makes an ex parte application to the court to extend the time to file such a petition, up to a maximum of 60 days. At the time any such petition is initiated, the Department shall send written notice to the individual informing him/her of the right to a hearing on the issue, that he/she has 30 days to confirm with the court clerk any desire for a hearing and that the failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of any confiscated weapon.

418.12 TRAINING

This department will endeavor to provide Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved advanced officer training on interaction with persons with mental disabilities, 5150 commitments and crisis intervention.

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Cite and Release Policy

420.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance on when to release adults who are arrested for a criminal misdemeanor offense on a written notice to appear (citation) and when to hold for court or bail.

420.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to release all persons arrested on misdemeanor or other qualifying charges on a citation with certain exceptions (Penal Code § 853.6).

If there is a reason for non-release, the Department's mission to protect the community will be the primary consideration when determining whether to release any individual in lieu of holding for court or bail.

420.2.1 DISCRETION TO ARREST

While this department recognizes the statutory power of peace officers to make arrests throughout the state, officers 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 City, or while assisting another agency. On-duty officers who discover criminal activity outside the jurisdiction of the City should, when circumstances permit, consider contacting the agency having primary jurisdiction before attempting an arrest.

Off-duty officers 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 officer shall clearly identify him/herself as a police officer.

Officers are authorized to use verbal or written warnings to resolve minor traffic and criminal violations when appropriate.

420.3 RELEASE BY CITATION

Except in cases where a reason for non-release as described below exists, adults arrested for a misdemeanor offense, including a private person's arrest, shall be released from custody on a citation (Penal Code § 853.6).

The citing officer shall, at the time the defendant signs the notice to appear, call attention to the time and place for appearance and take any other steps they deem necessary to ensure that the defendant understands their written promise to appear.

420.3.1 FIELD CITATIONS

In some cases an adult arrested for a misdemeanor offense may be released in the field on a citation in lieu of physical arrest, but only with supervisor approval, when booking and

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fingerprinting is not practicable or immediately required provided the individual can be satisfactorily identified, there is no outstanding arrest warrant for the individual and none of the below described disqualifying circumstances are present (Penal Code § 853.6; Penal Code § 1270.1). In such cases the arresting officer should check the booking required box on the citation form to indicate that the person will be photographed and fingerprinted at a later time when ordered by the court.

When a booking photo or fingerprints are needed for the furtherance of any investigation, the person should be released on citation after booking instead of on a field citation.

420.3.2 RELEASE AFTER BOOKING

In some cases it may not be feasible or desirable to release a person in the field. The person should instead be released on citation after booking at the jail. All bookings shall be approved by the Watch Commander or the authorized designee.

420.4 NON-RELEASE

420.4.1 DISQUALIFYING OFFENSES

An adult arrested on any of the following disqualifying charges shall not be released on citation and shall be transported to the appropriate detention facility or held for court or bail after booking (Penal Code § 1270.1):

(a) Misdemeanor domestic battery (Penal Code § 243(e)(1))

(b) Felony domestic battery (Penal Code § 273.5)

(c) Serious or violent felonies (Penal Code § 1270.1(a)(1))

(d) Felony intimidation of witnesses and victims (Penal Code § 136.1)

(e) Violation of a protective order and the arrested person has made threats, used violence, or has gone to the protected person's workplace or residence (Penal Code § 273.6)

(f) Stalking (Penal Code § 646.9)

(g) Misdemeanor violations of a protective order relating to domestic violence if there is a reasonable likelihood the offense will continue or the safety of the individuals or property would be endangered (Penal Code § 853.6)

420.4.2 REASONS FOR NON-RELEASE

A person arrested for a misdemeanor shall be released on a citation unless there is a reason for non-release. The Watch Commander may authorize a release on citation regardless of whether a reason for non-release exists when it is determined to be in the best interest of the Department and does not present an unreasonable risk to the community (e.g., release of an intoxicated or ill person to a responsible adult).

Reasons for non-release include (Penal Code § 853.6(i)):

(a) The person arrested is so intoxicated that they could be a danger to themselves or to others. Release may occur as soon as this condition no longer exists.

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(b) The person arrested requires medical examination or medical care or is otherwise unable to care for their own safety

1. The Westminster Police Department shall not release an arrestee from custody for the purpose of allowing that person to seek medical care at a hospital, and then immediately re-arrest the same individual upon discharge from the hospital, unless the hospital determines this action will enable it to bill and collect from a third-party payment source (Penal Code § 4011.10).

(c) The person is arrested for one or more of the offenses listed in Vehicle Code § 40302, Vehicle Code § 40303, and Vehicle Code § 40305.

(d) There are one or more outstanding arrest warrants for the person (see Misdemeanor Warrants elsewhere in this policy).

(e) The person could not provide satisfactory evidence of personal identification.

1. If a person released on citation does not have satisfactory identification in their possession, a right thumbprint or fingerprint should be obtained on the citation form.

(f) The prosecution of the offense or offenses for which the person was arrested or the prosecution of any other offense or offenses would be jeopardized by the immediate release of the person arrested.

(g) There is a reasonable likelihood that the offense or offenses would continue or resume, or that the safety of persons or property would be imminently endangered by the release of the person arrested.

(h) The person arrested demands to be taken before a magistrate or has refused to sign the notice to appear.

(i) There is reason to believe that the person would not appear at the time and place specified in the notice to appear. The basis for this determination shall be specifically documented. Reasons may include:

1. Previous failure to appear is on record
2. The person lacks ties to the area, such as a residence, job, or family
3. Unusual circumstances lead the officer responsible for the release of prisoners to conclude that the suspect should be held for further investigation

When a person is arrested on a misdemeanor offense and is not released by criminal citation, the reason for non-release shall be noted on the booking form. This form shall be submitted to the Watch Commander for approval and included with the case file in the Records Bureau.

420.5 MISDEMEANOR WARRANTS

An adult arrested on a misdemeanor warrant may be released, subject to Watch Commander approval, unless any of the following conditions exist:

(a) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves violence.

(b) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves a firearm.

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(c) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves resisting arrest.

(d) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves giving false information to a peace officer.

(e) The person arrested is a danger to themselves or others due to intoxication or being under the influence of drugs or narcotics.

(f) The person requires medical examination or medical care or was otherwise unable to care for their own safety.

(g) The person has other ineligible charges pending against themselves.

(h) There is reasonable likelihood that the offense or offenses would continue or resume, or that the safety of persons or property would be immediately endangered by the release of the person.

(i) The person refuses to sign the notice to appear.

(j) The person cannot provide satisfactory evidence of personal identification.

(k) The warrant of arrest indicates that the person is not eligible to be released on a notice to appear.

Release under this section shall be done in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

420.6 JUVENILE CITATIONS

Completion of criminal citations for juveniles is generally not appropriate with the following exceptions:

- Misdemeanor traffic violations of the Vehicle Code
- Violations of the Westminster City codes

All other misdemeanor violations for juveniles shall be documented with a case number and the case should be referred to the Detective Bureau for further action including diversion.

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Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

422.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that members of the Westminster Police Department extend appropriate privileges and immunities to foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in accordance with international law.

422.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department respects international laws related to the special privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives assigned to the United States.

All foreign diplomatic and consular representatives shall be treated with respect and courtesy, regardless of any privileges or immunities afforded them.

422.3 CLAIMS OF IMMUNITY

If a member comes into contact with a person where law enforcement action may be warranted and the person claims diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, the member should, without delay:

(a) Notify a supervisor.

(b) Advise the person that his/her claim will be investigated and he/she may be released in accordance with the law upon confirmation of the person's status.

(c) Request the person's identification card, either issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS), Office of the Chief of Protocol, or in the case of persons accredited to the United Nations, by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. These are the only reliable documents for purposes of determining privileges and immunities.

(d) Contact the DOS Diplomatic Security Command Center at 571-345-3146 or toll free at 866-217-2089, or at another current telephone number and inform the center of the circumstances.

(e) Verify the immunity status with DOS and follow any instructions regarding further detention, arrest, prosecution and/or release, as indicated by the DOS representative. This may require immediate release, even if a crime has been committed.

Identity or immunity status should not be presumed from the type of license plates displayed on a vehicle. If there is a question as to the status or the legitimate possession of a Diplomat or Consul license plate, a query should be run via the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), designating "US" as the state.

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422.4 ENFORCEMENT

If the DOS is not immediately available for consultation regarding law enforcement action, members shall be aware of the following:

(a) Generally, all persons with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may be issued a citation or notice to appear. However, the person may not be compelled to sign the citation.

(b) All persons, even those with a valid privilege or immunity, may be reasonably restrained in exigent circumstances for purposes of self-defense, public safety or the prevention of serious criminal acts.

(c) An impaired foreign diplomatic or consular representative may be prevented from driving a vehicle, even if the person may not be arrested due to privileges and immunities.

1. Investigations, including the request for field sobriety tests, chemical tests and any other tests regarding impaired driving may proceed but they shall not be compelled.

(d) The following persons may not be detained or arrested, and any property or vehicle owned by these persons may not be searched or seized:

1. Diplomatic-level staff of missions to international organizations and recognized family members
2. Diplomatic agents and recognized family members
3. Members of administrative and technical staff of a diplomatic mission and recognized family members
4. Career consular officers, unless the person is the subject of a felony warrant

(e) The following persons may generally be detained and arrested:

1. International organization staff; however, some senior officers are entitled to the same treatment as diplomatic agents.
2. Support staff of missions to international organizations
3. Diplomatic service staff and consular employees; however, special bilateral agreements may exclude employees of certain foreign countries.
4. Honorary consular officers
5. Whenever an officer arrests and incarcerates, or detains for investigation for over two hours, a person with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities, the officer shall promptly advise the person that he/she is entitled to have his/her government notified of the arrest or detention (Penal Code § 834c). If the individual wants his/her government notified, the officer shall begin the notification process.

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422.5 DOCUMENTATION

All contacts with persons who have claimed privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives should be thoroughly documented and the related reports forwarded to DOS.

422.6 DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY TABLE

Reference table on diplomatic immunity:

Category	Arrested or Detained	Enter Residence Subject to Ordinary Procedures	Issued Traffic Citation	Subpoenaed as Witness	Prosecuted	Recognized Family Members
Diplomatic Agent	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
Member of Admin and Tech Staff	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
Service Staff	Yes (note (a))	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note (a))	No immunity or inviolability (note (a))
Career Consul Officer	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
Honorable Consul Officer	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise.	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability
Consulate Employees	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))
Int'l Org Staff (note (b))	Yes (note (c))	Yes (note (c))	Yes	Yes (note (c))	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note (c))	No immunity or inviolability

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Diplomatic-Level Staff of Missions to Int'l Org	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
Support Staff of Missions to Int'l Orgs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability

Notes for diplomatic immunity table:

(a) This table presents general rules. The employees of certain foreign countries may enjoy higher levels of privileges and immunities on the basis of special bilateral agreements.

(b) Reasonable constraints, however, may be applied in emergency circumstances involving self-defense, public safety, or in the prevention of serious criminal acts.

(c) A small number of senior officers are entitled to be treated identically to diplomatic agents.

(d) Note that consul residences are sometimes located within the official consular premises. In such cases, only the official office space is protected from police entry.

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Rapid Response and Deployment

424.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Violence that is committed in schools, workplaces and other locations by individuals or a group of individuals who are determined to target and kill persons and to create mass casualties presents a difficult situation for law enforcement. The purpose of this policy is to identify guidelines and factors that will assist responding officers in situations that call for rapid response and deployment.

424.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will endeavor to plan for rapid response to crisis situations, and to coordinate response planning with other emergency services as well as with those that are responsible for operating sites that may be the target of a critical incident.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of reasonable force, deadly or otherwise, by members of the Department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

424.3 FIRST RESPONSE

If there is a reasonable belief that acts or threats by a suspect are placing lives in imminent danger, first responding officers should consider reasonable options to reduce, prevent or eliminate the threat. Officers must decide, often under a multitude of difficult and rapidly evolving circumstances, whether to advance on the suspect, take other actions to deal with the threat or wait for additional resources.

If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, officers should take immediate action, if reasonably practicable, while requesting additional assistance.

Officers should remain aware of the possibility that an incident may be part of a coordinated multi-location attack that may require some capacity to respond to other incidents at other locations.

When deciding on a course of action officers should consider:

(a) Whether to advance on or engage a suspect who is still a possible or perceived threat to others. Any advance or engagement should be based on information known or received at the time.

(b) Whether to wait for additional resources or personnel. This does not preclude an individual officer from taking immediate action.

(c) Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved or evacuated with reasonable safety.

(d) Whether the suspect can be contained or denied access to victims.

(e) Whether the officers have the ability to effectively communicate with other personnel or resources.

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(f) Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.

(g) The availability of rifles, shotguns, shields, breaching tools, control devices and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.

In a case of a barricaded suspect with no hostages and no immediate threat to others, officers should consider summoning and waiting for additional assistance (special tactics and/or hostage negotiation team response).

424.4 CONSIDERATIONS

When dealing with a crisis situation members should:

(a) Assess the immediate situation and take reasonable steps to maintain operative control of the incident.

(b) Obtain, explore and analyze sources of intelligence and known information regarding the circumstances, location and suspect involved in the incident.

(c) Attempt to attain a tactical advantage over the suspect by reducing, preventing or eliminating any known or perceived threat.

(d) Attempt, if feasible and based upon the suspect's actions and danger to others, a negotiated surrender of the suspect and release of the hostages.

424.5 PLANNING

The Operations Commander with the assistance of the SWAT Commander should coordinate critical incident planning. Planning efforts should consider:

(a) Identification of likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.

(b) Availability of building plans and venue schematics of likely critical incident target sites.

(c) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.

(d) Training opportunities in critical incident target sites, including joint training with site occupants.

(e) Evacuation routes in critical incident target sites.

(f) Patrol first-response training.

(g) Response coordination and resources of emergency medical and fire services.

(h) Equipment needs.

(i) Mutual aid agreements with other agencies.

(j) Coordination with private security providers in critical incident target sites.

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424.6 TRAINING

The Training Sergeant should include rapid response to critical incidents in the training plan. This training should address:

(a) Orientation to likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.

(b) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.

(c) Patrol first-response training, including patrol rifle, shotgun, breaching tool and control device training.

1. This should include the POST terrorism incident training required for officers assigned to field duties (Penal Code § 13519.12).

(d) First aid, including gunshot trauma.

(e) Reality-based scenario training (e.g., active shooter, disgruntled violent worker).

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Robot Policy

425.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use and maintenance of patrol and SWAT robots.

425.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department may deploy a robot when an officer believes doing so will increase the safety of the public and/or officer. The robot should only be deployed into a location where an officer has the constitutional right to enter that location.

425.3 HANDLING AND STORAGE

The robot should be stored inside the patrol SUV when not in use. The robot batteries should remain on the charging dock in the patrol SUV when not in use.

425.4 ISSUING, CARRYING AND USING PATROL ROBOTS

A robot described in this policy may be carried in a patrol SUV and used by an officer who has successfully completed department-approved training in the use of the robot.

Some examples of situations where the deployment of a robot would provide increased safety to the public and/or officer may include:

- To communicate with a suspect
- To locate a suspect
- To search a structure

When using a robot, the officer should be mindful that it may cause property damage.

If the suspect is believed to be a danger to the public and/or officers, then alternative methods should be used, such as utilizing the SWAT Team or engaging the suspect with available patrol resources.

425.5 EQUIPMENT DEPLOYMENT

When deploying a robot from the patrol SUV, it should be driven down the provided ramp or lifted by two officers using the provided handles. Whenever an officer is operating a robot, the officer should do so behind cover and should have a cover officer.

425.6 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

425.6.1 FIELD SUPERVISORS AND WATCH COMMANDERS RESPONSIBILITIES

The Watch Commander shall monitor the use of robots.

(a) A Field Supervisor may authorize the use of a robot by an officer who has completed the required training.

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(b) A request for a robot should be made through the Watch Commander or Field Supervisor.

(c) Commanders shall review each use of a robot by any personnel within his/her command. An officer who deploys a robot will be required to complete and submit a Patrol Robot Deployment Form as soon as practicable after the deployment concludes.

425.6.2 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Professional Standard Unit shall control the inventory, training and issuance of all robots to field supervisors and shall ensure that all damaged, inoperative, outdated or expended robots, robot batteries and related devices are properly disposed of, repaired or replaced, as appropriate.

Every robot will be periodically inspected by the Professional Standards Unit. The inspection shall be documented.

425.6.3 OPERATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

All routine maintenance, charging or cleaning shall remain the responsibility of the member using the robot and shall be in accordance with manufacturer recommendations or training.

Any damaged, inoperative, outdated or expended robots or batteries and related accessories, along with documentation explaining any cause of the damage, shall be returned to the Professional Standards Unit for disposition. When appropriate, an administrative report explaining the cause of damage shall be prepared and forwarded through the chain of command.

425.6.4 WEST COUNTY SWAT RESPONSIBILITIES

A Westminster Police Department robot has been issued to West County SWAT. Although West County SWAT is a multi-agency SWAT Team, WPD shall maintain and care for the assigned robot in accordance with this policy.

West County SWAT Team leaders may also consider using their assigned robot as a tool during any tactical operation under these same guidelines.

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Immigration Violations

428.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to members of the Westminster Police Department relating to immigration and interacting with federal immigration officials.

428.1.1 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to this policy (Government Code § 7284.4):

Criminal immigration violation - Any federal criminal immigration violation that penalizes a person's presence in, entry, or reentry to, or employment in, the United States. This does not include any offense where a judicial warrant already has been issued.

Immigration enforcement - Any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law, including any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person's presence in, entry or reentry to, or employment in the United States.

Judicial warrant - An arrest warrant for a violation of federal criminal immigration law and issued by a federal judge or a federal magistrate judge.

428.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department 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 national origin or immigration status.

428.3 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

To encourage crime reporting and cooperation in the investigation of criminal activity, all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, must feel secure that contacting or being addressed by members of law enforcement will not automatically lead to immigration inquiry and/or deportation. While it may be necessary to determine the identity of a victim or witness, members shall treat all individuals equally and not in any way that would violate the United States or California constitutions.

428.4 IMMIGRATION INQUIRIES PROHIBITED

Officers shall not inquire into an individual's immigration status for immigration enforcement purposes (Government Code § 7284.6).

428.5 DETENTIONS AND ARRESTS

An officer shall not detain any individual, for any length of time, for a civil violation of federal immigration laws or a related civil warrant (Government Code § 7284.6).

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An officer who has a reasonable suspicion that an individual already lawfully contacted or detained has committed a criminal violation of 8 USC § 1326(a) (unlawful reentry) that may be subject to an enhancement due to a previous conviction of an aggravated felony under 8 USC § 1326(b)(2), may detain the person for a reasonable period of time to contact federal immigration officials to verify whether the United States Attorney General has granted the individual permission for reentry and whether the violation is subject to enhancement (Government Code § 7284.6). No individual who is otherwise ready to be released should continue to be detained only because questions about the individual's status are unresolved.

If the officer has facts that establish probable cause to believe that a person already lawfully detained has violated 8 USC § 1326(a) and the penalty may be subject to enhancement due to prior conviction for specified aggravated felonies, he/she may arrest the individual for that offense (Government Code § 7284.6).

An officer shall not detain any individual, for any length of time, for any other criminal immigration violation of federal immigration laws (Government Code § 7284.6).

An officer should notify a supervisor as soon as practicable whenever an individual is arrested for violation of 8 USC § 1326(a).

428.5.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

When notified that an officer has arrested an individual for violation of 8 USC § 1326(a) or under the authority of a judicial warrant, the supervisor should determine whether it is appropriate to:

(a) Transfer the person to federal authorities.

(b) Transfer the person to jail.

428.6 FEDERAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Absent an urgent issue of officer safety or other emergency circumstances, requests by federal immigration officials for assistance from this department should be directed to a supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for determining whether the requested assistance would be permitted under the California Values Act (Government Code § 7284.2 et seq.).

428.6.1 TASK FORCE PARTICIPATION

The primary purpose of any Westminster Police Department employee's involvement in a joint task force cannot be for immigration enforcement.

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; Government Code § 7284.6):

(a) Sending information to, or requesting or receiving such information from federal immigration officials

(b) Maintaining such information in department records

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(c) Exchanging such information with any other federal, state, or local government entity

Nothing in this policy restricts sharing information that is permissible under the California Values Act.

428.7.1 IMMIGRATION DETAINERS

No individual should be held based solely on a federal immigration detainer under 8 CFR 287.7 (Government Code § 7284.6).

Notification to a federal authority may be made prior to release of an individual who is the subject of a notification request only if the individual meets one of the following conditions (Government Code § 7282.5; Government Code § 7284.6):

(a) The individual has been arrested and had a judicial probable cause determination for a serious or violent felony identified in Penal Code § 667.5(c) or Penal Code § 1192.7(c).

(b) The individual has been arrested and had a judicial probable cause determination for a felony punishable by time in a state prison.

(c) The individual has been convicted of an offense as identified in Government Code § 7282.5(a).

(d) The individual is a current registrant on the California Sex and Arson Registry.

(e) The individual is identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement as the subject of an outstanding federal felony arrest warrant.

428.7.2 NOTICE TO INDIVIDUALS

Individuals in custody shall be given a copy of documentation received from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) regarding a hold, notification, or transfer request along with information as to whether the Westminster Police Department intends to comply with the request (Government Code § 7283.1).

If the Westminster Police Department provides ICE with notification that an individual is being, or will be, released on a certain date, the same notification shall be provided in writing to the individual and to his/her attorney or to one additional person who the individual may designate (Government Code § 7283.1).

428.7.3 ICE INTERVIEWS

Before any interview regarding civil immigration violations takes place between ICE personnel and an individual in custody, the Westminster Police Department shall provide the individual with a written consent form that explains the purpose of the interview, that the interview is voluntary, and that he/she may decline to be interviewed or may choose to be interviewed only with his/her attorney present. The consent form must be available in the languages specified in Government Code § 7283.1.

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428.7.4 TRANSFERS TO IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES

Members shall not transfer an individual to immigration authorities unless one of the following circumstances exist (Government Code § 7282.5; Government Code § 7284.6):

(a) Transfer is authorized by a judicial warrant or judicial probable cause determination.

(b) The individual has been convicted of an offense as identified in Government Code § 7282.5(a).

(c) The individual is a current registrant on the California Sex and Arson Registry.

(d) The individual is identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement as the subject of an outstanding federal felony arrest warrant.

428.7.5 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Detective Bureau supervisor shall ensure that data regarding the number of transfers of an individual to immigration authorities, as permitted by Government Code § 7284.6(a)(4), and the offense that allowed for the transfer is collected and provided to the Records Supervisor for required reporting to the DOJ (Government Code § 7284.6(c)(2)(see the Records Bureau Policy).

428.8 U VISA AND T VISA NONIMMIGRANT STATUS

Under certain circumstances, federal law allows temporary immigration benefits, known as a U visa, to victims and witnesses of certain qualifying crimes (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(U)).

Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)).

Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Detective Bureau supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case. The Detective Bureau supervisor should:

(a) Consult with the assigned investigator to determine the current status of any related case and whether further documentation is warranted.

(b) Contact the appropriate prosecutor assigned to the case, if applicable, to ensure the certification or declaration has not already been completed and whether a certification or declaration is warranted.

(c) Address the request and complete the certification or declaration, if appropriate, in a timely manner.

1. The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.

2. Form I-918 Supplement B certification shall be completed if the victim qualifies under Penal Code § 679.10 (multiple serious offenses). Form I-914 Supplement B certification shall be completed if the victim qualifies under Penal Code § 236.5 or Penal Code § 679.11 (human trafficking).

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(d) Ensure that any decision to complete, or not complete, a certification or declaration form is documented in the case file and forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. Include a copy of any completed form in the case file.

(e) Inform the victim liaison of any requests and their status.

428.8.1 TIME FRAMES FOR COMPLETION

Officers and their supervisors who are assigned to investigate a case of human trafficking as defined by Penal Code § 236.1 shall complete the above process and the documents needed for indicating the individual is a victim for the T visa application within 15 business days of the first encounter with the victim, regardless of whether it is requested by the victim (Penal Code § 236.5).

Officers and their supervisors shall complete the above process and the documents needed certifying victim cooperation for a U visa or T visa application pursuant to Penal Code § 679.10 and Penal Code § 679.11 within 30 days of a request from the victim, victim's family, or authorized representative (as defined in Penal Code § 679.10 and Penal Code § 679.11) related to one of their assigned cases. If the victim is in removal proceedings, the certification shall be processed within seven days of the first business day following the day the request was received.

428.8.2 REPORTING TO LEGISLATURE

The Detective Bureau supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure that certification requests are reported to the Legislature in January of each year and include the number of certifications signed and the number denied. The report shall comply with Government Code § 9795 (Penal Code § 679.10; Penal Code § 679.11).

428.8.3 POLICE REPORTS

Upon request, an officer or supervisor should provide a victim or authorized representative with a copy of the report filed by the victim within seven days of the request (Penal Code § 679.10).

428.9 TRAINING

The Training Sergeant should ensure that all appropriate members receive training on immigration issues.

Training should include:

(a) Identifying civil versus criminal immigration violations.

(b) Factors that may be considered in determining whether a criminal immigration violation has been committed.

(c) Prohibitions contained in the California Values Act (Government Code § 7284 et seq.).

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Emergency Utility Service

430.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The City 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 Police Department. Requests for such service received by this department should be handled in the following manner.

430.1.1 BROKEN WATER LINES

The City'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 City side of the meter, emergency personnel should be called as soon as practical by the Communications Center.

430.1.2 ELECTRICAL LINES

City Public Works does not maintain electrical lines to street light poles. When a power line poses a hazard, an officer 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 the Communications Center.

430.2 TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE

The City of Westminster contracts with a private maintenance company to furnish maintenance for all traffic signals within the City, other than those maintained by the State of California.

430.2.1 OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Upon observing a damaged or malfunctioning signal, the officer will advise the the Communications Center of the location and problem with the signal. The dispatcher should make the necessary notification to the proper maintenance agency.

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Aircraft Accidents

434.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide department members with guidelines for handling aircraft accidents.

This policy does not supersede, and is supplementary to, applicable portions of the Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity, Emergency Management Plan and Hazardous Material Response policies.

434.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Aircraft - Any fixed wing aircraft, rotorcraft, balloon, blimp/dirigible or glider that is capable of carrying a person or any unmanned aerial vehicle other than those intended for non-commercial recreational use.

434.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to provide an appropriate emergency response to aircraft accidents. This includes emergency medical care and scene management.

434.3 ARRIVAL AT SCENE

Officers or other authorized members tasked with initial scene management should establish an inner and outer perimeter to:

(a) Protect persons and property.

(b) Prevent any disturbance or further damage to the wreckage or debris, except to preserve life or rescue the injured.

(c) Preserve ground scars and marks made by the aircraft.

(d) Manage the admission and access of public safety and medical personnel to the extent necessary to preserve life or to stabilize hazardous materials.

(e) Maintain a record of persons who enter the accident site on a crime scene log.

(f) Consider implementation of an Incident Command System (ICS).

434.4 NOTIFICATIONS

When an aircraft accident is reported to this department, the responding supervisor shall ensure notification is or has been made to NTSB, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and when applicable, the appropriate branch of the military.

Supervisors shall ensure other notifications are made once an aircraft accident has been reported. The notifications will vary depending on the type of accident, extent of injuries or damage, and the type of aircraft involved. When an aircraft accident has occurred, it is generally necessary to notify the following:

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(a) Fire department

(b) Appropriate airport tower

(c) Emergency medical services (EMS)

(d) Mutual aid agencies

434.5 CONTROLLING ACCESS AND SCENE AUTHORITY

Prior to NTSB arrival, scene access should be limited to authorized personnel from the:

(a) FAA.

(b) Fire department, EMS or other assisting law enforcement agencies.

(c) Coroner.

(d) Air Carrier/Operators investigative teams with NTSB approval.

(e) Appropriate branch of the military, when applicable.

(f) Other emergency services agencies (e.g., hazardous materials teams, biohazard decontamination teams, fuel recovery specialists, explosive ordnance disposal specialists).

The NTSB has primary responsibility for investigating accidents involving civil aircraft. In the case of a military aircraft accident, the appropriate branch of the military will have primary investigation responsibility.

After the NTSB or military representative arrives on-scene, the efforts of this department will shift to a support role for those agencies.

If NTSB or a military representative determines that an aircraft or accident does not qualify under its jurisdiction, the on-scene department supervisor should ensure the accident is still appropriately investigated and documented.

434.6 DOCUMENTATION

All aircraft accidents occurring within the City of Westminster shall be documented. At a minimum the documentation should include the date, time and location of the incident; any witness statements, if taken; the names of WPD members deployed to assist; other City resources that were utilized; any appropriate federal agency identification; and cross reference information to other investigating agencies. Suspected criminal activity should be documented on the appropriate crime report.

434.6.1 WRECKAGE

When reasonably safe, members should:

(a) Obtain the aircraft registration number (N number) and note the type of aircraft.

(b) Attempt to ascertain the number of casualties.

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(c) Obtain photographs or video of the overall wreckage, including the cockpit and damage, starting at the initial point of impact, if possible, and any ground scars or marks made by the aircraft.

1. Military aircraft may contain classified equipment and therefore shall not be photographed unless authorized by a military commanding officer (18 USC § 795).

(d) Secure, if requested by the lead authority, any electronic data or video recorders from the aircraft that became dislodged or cell phones or other recording devices that are part of the wreckage.

(e) Acquire copies of any recordings from security cameras that may have captured the incident.

434.6.2 WITNESSES

Members tasked with contacting witnesses should obtain:

(a) The location of the witness at the time of his/her observation relative to the accident site.

(b) A detailed description of what was observed or heard.

(c) Any photographs or recordings of the accident witnesses may be willing to voluntarily surrender.

(d) The names of all persons reporting the accident, even if not yet interviewed.

(e) Any audio recordings of reports to 9-1-1 regarding the accident and dispatch records.

434.7 MEDIA RELATIONS

The Public Information Officer (PIO) should coordinate a response to the media, including access issues, road closures, detours and any safety information that is pertinent to the surrounding community. Any release of information regarding details of the accident itself should be coordinated with the NTSB or other authority who may have assumed responsibility for the investigation.

Depending on the type of aircraft, the airline or the military may be responsible for family notifications and the release of victims' names. The PIO should coordinate with other involved entities before the release of information.

434.8 DANGEROUS MATERIALS

Members should be aware of potentially dangerous materials that might be present. These may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Fuel, chemicals, explosives, biological or radioactive materials and bombs or other ordnance.

(b) Pressure vessels, compressed gas bottles, accumulators and tires.

(c) Fluids, batteries, flares and igniters.

(d) Evacuation chutes, ballistic parachute systems and composite materials.

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434.9 INJURIES AND CASUALTIES

Members should address emergency medical issues and provide care as a first priority.

Those tasked with the supervision of the scene should coordinate with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) before the removal of bodies. If that is not possible, the scene supervisor should ensure documentation of what was disturbed, including switch/control positions and instrument/gauge readings.

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Field Training Officer Program

436.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Field Training Officer Program is intended to provide a standardized program to facilitate the officer's transition from the academic setting to the actual performance of general law enforcement duties of the Westminster Police Department.

It is the policy of this department to assign all new police officers to a structured Field Training Officer Program that is designed to prepare the new officer to perform in a patrol assignment, and possessing all skills needed to operate in a safe, productive, and professional manner.

436.2 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER - SELECTION AND TRAINING

The Field Training Officer (FTO) is an experienced officer trained in the art of supervising, training, and evaluating entry level and lateral police officers in the application of their previously acquired knowledge and skills.

436.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS

The FTO selection process is documented in the Special and Collateral Assignments Policy.

436.2.2 TRAINING

An officer selected as a Field Training Officer shall successfully complete a POST certified (40-hour) Field Training Officer's Course prior to being assigned as an FTO.

All FTOs must complete a 24-hour Field Training Officer update course every three years while assigned to the position of FTO (11 CCR 1004).

All FTOs must meet any training mandate regarding crisis intervention behavioral health training pursuant to Penal Code § 13515.28.

436.3 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

The FTO Program supervisor should be selected from the rank of sergeant or above by the Chief of Police or an authorized designee and should possess, or be eligible to receive, a POST Supervisory Certificate.

The responsibilities of the FTO Program supervisor include the following:

(a) Assignment of trainees to FTOs

(b) Conduct FTO meetings

(c) Maintain and ensure FTO/trainee performance evaluations are completed

(d) Maintain, update and issue the Field Training Manual to each trainee

(e) Monitor individual FTO performance

(f) Monitor overall FTO Program

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(g) Maintain liaison with FTO coordinators of other agencies

(h) Maintain liaison with academy staff on recruit performance during the academy

(i) Develop ongoing training for FTOs

The FTO Program supervisor will be required to successfully complete a POST approved Field Training Administrator's Course within one year of appointment to this position (11 CCR 1004(c)).

436.4 TRAINEE DEFINED

Any entry level or lateral police officer newly appointed to the Westminster Police Department who has successfully completed a POST approved Basic Academy.

436.5 REQUIRED TRAINING

Entry level officers shall be required to successfully complete the Field Training Program, consisting of a minimum of 10 weeks (11 CCR 1004; 11 CCR 1005).

The training period for a lateral officer 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 officers 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 officer 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 an officer with the Westminster Police Department. The officer shall become knowledgeable of the subject matter as outlined. He/she shall also become proficient with those skills as set forth in the manual.

The Field Training Manual will specifically cover those policies, procedures, rules, and regulations adopted by the Westminster Police Department.

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 Coordinator on a daily basis.

(b) Review the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations with the trainee each day.

(c) Complete a detailed end-of-phase performance evaluation on his/her assigned trainee at the end of each phase of training.

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(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 Coordinator.

436.6.3 FIELD TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR
The Field Training Administrator will review and approve the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations submitted by the FTO through his/her immediate supervisor.

436.6.4 TRAINEE
At the completion of the Field Training Program, the trainee shall submit a confidential performance evaluation on each of their FTOs and on the Field Training Program.

436.7 DOCUMENTATION
All documentation of the Field Training Program will be retained in the officer's training files and will consist of the following:

(a) Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations

(b) Weekly evaluations from the trainee's immediate supervisor

(c) End of Phase evaluations

(d) A Certificate of Completion certifying that the trainee has successfully completed the required number of hours of field training

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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

No officer shall request helicopter assistance without first obtaining approval from the watch commander or supervisor. If a watch commander or supervisor 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 Watch Commander, or his/her designee, will call the closest agency having helicopter support available. The Watch Commander on duty will apprise that agency of the specific details of the incident prompting the request.

438.2.2 CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH AID MAY BE REQUESTED

Police helicopters may be requested under any of the following conditions:

(a) When the helicopter is activated under existing mutual aid agreements

(b) Whenever the safety of law enforcement personnel is in jeopardy and the presence of the helicopters may reduce such hazard

(c) When the use of the helicopters will aid in the capture of a suspected fleeing felon whose continued freedom represents an ongoing threat to the community

(d) When a helicopter is needed to locate a person who has strayed or is lost and whose continued absence constitutes a serious health or safety hazard

(e) Vehicle pursuits

(f) Riots and/or mass demonstrations.

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 officers on the ground.

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Contacts and Temporary Detentions

440.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for temporarily detaining but not arresting persons in the field, conducting field interviews (FI) and pat-down searches, and the taking and disposition of photographs.

440.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Consensual encounter - When an officer 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 officer is voluntary.

Field interview - The brief detainment of an individual, whether on foot or in a vehicle, based on reasonable suspicion for the purpose of determining the individual's identity and resolving the officer's suspicions.

Field photographs - Posed photographs taken of a person during a contact, temporary detention, or arrest in the field. Undercover surveillance photographs of an individual and recordings captured by the normal operation of a Mobile Audio Video (MAV) system, body-worn camera, or public safety camera when persons are not posed for the purpose of photographing are not considered field photographs.

Pat-down search - A type of search used by officers in the field to check an individual for dangerous weapons. It involves a thorough patting-down of clothing to locate any weapons or dangerous items that could pose a danger to the officer, the detainee, or others.

Reasonable suspicion - When, under the totality of the circumstances, an officer has articulable facts that criminal activity may be afoot and a particular person is connected with that possible criminal activity.

Temporary detention - When an officer intentionally, through words, actions, or physical force, causes an individual to reasonably believe he/she is required to restrict his/her movement without an actual arrest. Temporary detentions also occur when an officer actually restrains a person’s freedom of movement.

440.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department respects the right of the public to be free from unreasonable searches or seizures. Due to an unlimited variety of situations confronting the officer, the decision to temporarily detain a person and complete a field interview (FI), pat-down search, or field photograph shall be left to the officer based on the totality of the circumstances, officer safety considerations, and constitutional safeguards.

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440.3 FIELD INTERVIEWS

Based on observance of suspicious circumstances or upon information from investigation, an officer may initiate the stop of a person, and conduct an FI, when there is articulable, reasonable suspicion to do so. A person, however, shall not be detained longer than is reasonably necessary to resolve the officer's suspicion.

Nothing in this policy is intended to discourage consensual contacts. Frequent casual contact with consenting individuals is encouraged by the Westminster Police Department to strengthen community involvement, community awareness, and problem identification.

440.3.1 INITIATING A FIELD INTERVIEW

When initiating the stop, the officer should be able to point to specific facts which, when considered with the totality of the circumstances, reasonably warrant the stop. Such facts include but are not limited to an individual's:

(a) Appearance or demeanor suggesting that he/she is part of a criminal enterprise or is engaged in a criminal act

(b) Actions suggesting that he/she is engaged in a criminal activity

(c) Presence in an area at an inappropriate hour of the day or night

(d) Presence in a particular area is suspicious

(e) Carrying of suspicious objects or items

(f) Excessive clothes for the climate or clothes bulging in a manner that suggest he/she is carrying a dangerous weapon

(g) Location in proximate time and place to an alleged crime

(h) Physical description or clothing worn that matches a suspect in a recent crime

(i) Prior criminal record or involvement in criminal activity as known by the officer

440.4 PAT-DOWN SEARCHES

Once a valid stop has been made, and consistent with the officer's training and experience, an officer may pat a suspect's outer clothing for weapons if the officer has a reasonable, articulable suspicion the suspect may pose a safety risk. The purpose of this limited search is not to discover evidence of a crime, but to allow the officer to pursue the investigation without fear of violence. Circumstances that may establish justification for performing a pat-down search include but are not limited to:

(a) The type of crime suspected, particularly in crimes of violence where the use or threat of deadly weapons is involved.

(b) Where more than one suspect must be handled by a single officer.

(c) The hour of the day and the location or neighborhood where the stop takes place.

(d) Prior knowledge of the suspect's use of force and/or propensity to carry weapons.

(e) The actions and demeanor of the suspect.

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(f) Visual indications which suggest that the suspect is carrying a firearm or other weapon.

Whenever practicable, a pat-down search should not be conducted by a lone officer. A cover officershould be positioned to ensure safety and should not be involved in the search.

440.5 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS

All available databases should be searched before photographing any field detainee. If a photograph is not located, or if an existing photograph no longer resembles the detainee, the officer 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 being photographed knowingly and voluntarily gives consent. When taking a consensual photograph, the officer 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 upon reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, and the photograph serves a legitimate law enforcement purpose related to the detention. The officer must be able to articulate facts that reasonably indicate that the subject was involved in or was about to become involved in criminal conduct. The subject should not be ordered to remove or lift any clothing for the purpose of taking a photograph.

If, prior to taking a photograph, the officer's reasonable suspicion of criminal activity has been dispelled, the detention must cease and the photograph should not be taken.

All field photographs and related reports shall be submitted to a supervisor and retained in compliance with this policy.

440.5.3 DISPOSITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

All detainee photographs must be adequately labeled and submitted to the Watch Commander with either an associated FI card or other documentation explaining the nature of the contact. If an individual is photographed as a suspect in a particular crime, the photograph should be submitted as an evidence item in the related case, following standard evidence procedures.

If a photograph is not associated with an investigation where a case number has been issued, the Watch Commander should review and forward the photograph to one of the following locations:

(a) If the photograph and associated FI or documentation is relevant to criminal organization/enterprise enforcement, the Watch Commander will forward the photograph and documents to the designated criminal intelligence system supervisor. The supervisor will ensure the photograph and supporting documents are retained as prescribed in the Criminal Organizations Policy.

(b) Photographs that do not qualify for retention in a criminal intelligence system or temporary information file shall be forwarded to the Records Bureau.

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When a photograph is taken in association with a particular case, the investigator 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 shall be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

440.5.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

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 is taken.

Access to, and use of, field photographs shall be strictly limited to law enforcement purposes.

440.6 WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEWS

Because potential witnesses to an incident may become unavailable or the integrity of their statements compromised with the passage of time, officers should, when warranted by the seriousness of the case, take reasonable steps to promptly coordinate with an on-scene supervisor and/or criminal investigator to utilize available members for the following:

(a) Identifying all persons present at the scene and in the immediate area.

1. When feasible, a recorded statement should be obtained from those who claim not to have witnessed the incident but who were present at the time it occurred.
2. Any potential witness who is unwilling or unable to remain available for a formal interview should not be detained absent reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, officers should attempt to identify the witness prior to his/her departure.

(b) Witnesses who are willing to provide a formal interview should be asked to meet at a suitable location where criminal investigators may obtain a recorded statement. Such witnesses, if willing, may be transported by Westminster Police Department members.

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 transport.

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Criminal Organizations

442.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Westminster Police Department appropriately utilizes criminal intelligence systems and temporary information files to support investigations of criminal organizations and enterprises.

442.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Criminal intelligence system - Any record system that receives, stores, exchanges or disseminates information that has been evaluated and determined to be relevant to the identification of a criminal organization or enterprise, its members or affiliates. This does not include temporary information files.

442.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department recognizes that certain criminal activities, including but not limited to gang crimes and drug trafficking, often involve some degree of regular coordination and may involve a large number of participants over a broad geographical area.

It is the policy of this department 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 Chief of Police 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.

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, field interview (FI), photo or other relevant document into an authorized criminal intelligence system. If entries are made based upon information that is not on file with this department, such as open or public source documents or documents that are on file at another agency, the designated supervisor should ensure copies of those documents are retained by the Records Bureau. Any

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supporting documentation for an entry shall be retained by the Records Bureau in accordance with the established records retention schedule and for at least as long as the entry is maintained in the system.

The designated supervisor should ensure that any documents retained by the Records Bureau are appropriately marked as intelligence information. The Records Supervisor may not purge such documents without the approval of the designated supervisor.

442.3.2 GANG DATABASES

The Chief of Police may approve participation by the gang unit in a shared criminal gang intelligence database, such as CALGANG®. Members must obtain the requisite training before accessing any such database (11 CCR 751.6).

It is the gang unit supervisor's responsibility to determine whether any report or FI contains information that would qualify for entry into the database. Prior to designating any person as a suspected gang member, associate, or affiliate in a shared gang database; or submitting a document to the Attorney General's office for the purpose of designating a person in a shared gang database; or otherwise identifying the person in a shared gang database, the gang unit supervisor shall provide written notice to the person and, if the person is under the age of 18, to his/her parent or guardian of the designation and the basis for the designation, unless providing that notification would compromise an active criminal investigation or compromise the health or safety of a minor. Notice shall also describe the process to contest the designation (Penal Code § 186.34).

The person, an attorney working on his/her behalf, or his/her parent or guardian (if the person is under 18 years of age) may request, in writing, information as to whether the person is designated as a suspected gang member, associate, or affiliate in a shared gang database accessible by the Department, the basis for that designation, and the name of the agency that made the designation. The Department shall respond to a valid request in writing within 30 days, and shall provide the information requested unless doing so would compromise an active investigation or compromise the health and safety of the person if he/she is under 18 years of age (Penal Code § 186.34).

The person, or his/her parent or guardian if the person is under 18 years of age, may contest the designation by submitting written documentation, which shall be reviewed by the gang unit supervisor. If it is determined that the person is not a suspected gang member, associate, or affiliate, the person shall be removed from the database. The person and the parent or guardian shall be provided written verification of the department's decision within 30 days of receipt of the written documentation contesting the designation and shall include the reason for a denial when applicable (Penal Code § 186.34).

The gang unit supervisor should forward reports or FIs to the Records Bureau after appropriate database entries are made. The supervisor should clearly mark the report/FI as gang intelligence information.

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It is the responsibility of the Records Bureau supervisor to retain reports and FIs in compliance with the database rules and any applicable end user agreement.

Records contained in a shared gang database shall not be disclosed for employment or military screening purposes, and shall not be disclosed for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law unless required by state or federal statute or regulation (Penal Code § 186.36).

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 criminal intelligence system only as provided in this section. Once information qualifies for inclusion, it should be submitted to the supervisor responsible for consideration of criminal intelligence system entries.

442.4.1 FILE CONTENTS

A temporary information file may only contain information and documents that, within one year, will have a reasonable likelihood to meet the criteria for entry into an authorized criminal intelligence system.

Information and documents contained in a temporary information file:

(a) Must only be included upon documented authorization of the responsible department supervisor.

(b) Should not be originals that would ordinarily be retained by the Records Bureau or Property Bureau, but should be copies of, or references to, retained documents such as copies of reports, FI forms, Dispatch records or booking forms.

(c) Shall not include opinions. No person, organization or enterprise shall be labeled as being involved in crime beyond what is already in the document or information.

(d) May include information collected from publicly available sources or references to documents on file with another government agency. Attribution identifying the source should be retained with the information.

442.4.2 FILE REVIEW AND PURGING

The contents of a temporary information file shall not be retained longer than one year. At the end of one year, the contents must be purged.

The designated supervisor shall periodically review the temporary information files to verify that the contents meet the criteria for retention. Validation and purging of files is the responsibility of the supervisor.

442.5 INFORMATION RECOGNITION

Department members should document facts that suggest an individual, organization or enterprise is involved in criminal activity and should forward that information appropriately. Examples include, but are not limited to:

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(a) Gang indicia associated with a person or residence.

(b) Information related to a drug-trafficking operation.

(c) Vandalism indicating an animus for a particular group.

(d) Information related to an illegal gambling operation.

Department supervisors who utilize an authorized criminal intelligence system should work with the Training Sergeant 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 Maintenance and Release Policy.

When an inquiry is made by the parent or guardian of a juvenile as to whether that juvenile's name is in a temporary information file, such information should be provided by the supervisor responsible for the temporary information file, unless there is good cause to believe that the release of such information might jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation.

442.7 CRIMINAL STREET GANGS

The Detective Bureau 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:

1. Any organization, associate or group of three or more persons that meets the definition of a criminal street gang under Penal Code § 186.22(f).
2. Identification of a person as a criminal street gang member and criminal street gang-related crimes.
3. The California Street Terrorism Enforcement and Prevention Act (Penal Code § 186.21 et seq.), associated crimes and what defines a criminal street gang (Penal Code § 186.22).

(b) Coordinate with other agencies in the region regarding criminal street gang-related crimes and information.

(c) Train other members to identify gang indicia and investigate criminal street gang-related crimes.

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442.8 TRAINING

The Detective Commander or his/her designee should provide training on best practices in the use of each authorized criminal intelligence system to those tasked with investigating criminal organizations and enterprises. Training should include:

(a) The protection of civil liberties.

(b) Participation in a multiagency criminal intelligence system.

(c) Submission of information into a multiagency criminal intelligence system or the receipt of information from such a system, including any governing federal and state rules and statutes.

(d) The type of information appropriate for entry into a criminal intelligence system or temporary information file.

(e) The review and purging of temporary information files.

442.8.1 SHARED GANG DATABASE TRAINING

The Training Sergeant should ensure that members who are authorized users of a shared gang database receive the required training from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) or an instructor certified by the DOJ that includes comprehensive and standardized training on the use of shared gang databases, and any other associated training required by the Department (Penal Code § 186.36; 11 CCR 751.6).

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Watch Commanders

444.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Each patrol shift must be directed by supervisors who are capable of making decisions and communicating in a manner consistent with departmental policies, procedures, practices, functions and objectives.

444.2 DESIGNATION AS ACTING WATCH COMMANDER

Patrol Commanders are ultimately responsible for all patrol operations. However, Sergeants and Corporals can be designated as the Watch Commander. In most instances, the senior qualified sergeant shall be designated as acting Watch Commander. This policy does not preclude designating a less senior Sergeant or Corporal to act in the position.

444.3 WATCH COMMANDER AVAILABILITY

The Watch Commander shall remain in the station and immediately available for contact by on-duty personnel or a request from the public. The Watch Commander may go out in the field if the following circumstances exist:

1. The police department is closed to the pubic and secured.
2. There are no in-custodies in the jail facility.
3. There is an immediate need or shortage in field supervision.

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Mobile Data Terminal Use

448.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper access, use and application of the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) system in order to ensure appropriate access to confidential records from local, state and national law enforcement databases, and to ensure effective electronic communications between department members and Dispatch.

448.2 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to messages accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

448.3 POLICY

Westminster Police Department members using the MDT shall comply with all appropriate federal and state rules and regulations and shall use the MDT in a professional manner, in accordance with this policy.

448.4 RESTRICTED ACCESS AND USE

MDT use is subject to the Information Technology Use and Protected Information policies.

Members shall not access the MDT system if they have not received prior authorization and the required training. Members shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of the MDT by another member to their supervisors or Watch Commanders.

Use of the MDT system to access law enforcement databases or transmit messages is restricted to official activities, business-related tasks and communications that are directly related to the business, administration or practices of the Department. In the event that a member has questions about sending a particular message or accessing a particular database, the member should seek prior approval from his/her supervisor.

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

It is a violation of this policy to transmit a message or access a law enforcement database under another member's name or to use the password of another member to log in to the MDT system unless directed to do so by a supervisor. Members are required to log off the MDT or secure the MDT when it is unattended. This added security measure will minimize the potential for unauthorized access or misuse.

448.4.1 USE WHILE DRIVING

Use of the MDT by the vehicle operator should generally be limited to times when the vehicle is stopped. When the vehicle is in motion, the operator should only attempt to read messages

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that are likely to contain information that is required for immediate enforcement, investigative or safety needs.

Short transmissions, such as a license plate check, are permitted if it reasonably appears that it can be done safely. In no case shall an operator attempt to send or review lengthy messages while the vehicle is in motion.

448.5 DOCUMENTATION OF ACTIVITY

Except as otherwise directed by the Watch Commander or other department-established protocol, all calls for service assigned by a dispatcher should be communicated by voice over the police radio and electronically via the MDT unless security or confidentiality prevents such broadcasting.

MDT and voice transmissions are used to document the member's daily activity. To ensure accuracy:

(a) All contacts or activity shall be documented at the time of the contact.

(b) Whenever the activity or contact is initiated by voice, it should be documented by a dispatcher.

(c) Whenever the activity or contact is not initiated by voice, the member shall document it via the MDT.

448.5.1 STATUS CHANGES

All changes in status (e.g., arrival at scene, meal periods, in service) will be transmitted over the police radio or through the MDT 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 MDT when the vehicle is not in motion.

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 officer should respond in accordance with the Officer Response to Calls Policy.

Members should ensure a field supervisor and the Watch Commander are notified of the incident without delay.

Officers not responding to the emergency shall refrain from transmitting on the police radio until a no-further-assistance broadcast is made or if they are also handling an emergency.

448.6 EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

448.6.1 MALFUNCTIONING MDT

Whenever possible, members will not use vehicles with malfunctioning MDTs. Whenever members must drive a vehicle in which the MDT is not working, they shall notify Dispatch. It shall

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be the responsibility of the dispatcher to document all information that will then be transmitted verbally over the police radio.

448.6.2 BOMB CALLS

When investigating reports of possible bombs, members should not communicate on their MDTs when in the evacuation area of a suspected explosive device. Radio frequency emitted by the MDT could cause some devices to detonate.

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Portable Audio/Video Recorders

450.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use of portable audio/video recording devices (“BWC”) 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 recordings, interviews or interrogations conducted at any Westminster Police Department facility, authorized undercover operations, wiretaps or eavesdropping.

These digital media devices are intended to assist and complement employees in the performance of their official police duties by collecting evidence for use in criminal investigations, providing an unbiased and objective video and/or audio record of certain police contacts and activities, and/or supplementing the employee's reports.

While recordings obtained from body worn cameras (“BWC”) provide an objective record of these events, it is understood digital recordings captured by a BWC do not necessarily reflect the experience or state of mind of the individual employee(s) in a given incident, nor do they capture all information necessary to understand or appreciate the events. Moreover, the audio and video recording has limitations, and may depict events differently than the events recalled by the involved employee. Specifically, it is understood that BWC’s may capture information that may not have been heard and/or observed by the involved employee.

450.1.1 BODY WORN CAMERA SYSTEM (BWC)

WPD has provided each of its sworn members, and selected civilian positions with access to BWC recorders for use while on duty. These recorders are intended to assist officers and employees in the performance of their duties by providing an unbiased and objective record of a contact. The recordings maintained in the system may, or may not be for permanent retention depending on various factors, as later documented within this policy.

450.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department has provided its sworn members, and selected civilian positions, with access to BWC’s for use during the performance of their duties. Officers are prohibited from utilizing Department issued BWC’s for personal use.

450.3 MEMBER PRIVACY EXPECTATION

All recordings made by Department members acting in their official capacity shall remain the property of the Westminster Police Department. Members shall have no expectation of privacy or ownership interest in the content of these recordings while acting in their official capacity or when the recorded material serves a public interest.

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The exception to this policy section shall apply only in situations where a reasonable expectation of privacy exists. For example: in the restroom; in the locker room; while changing out of or into uniform; conversations with medical personnel about current medical treatment/diagnoses regarding Department personnel and their families, etc. This list is not an all inclusive list and the reasonableness of an employee's privacy expectations shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

In the event a Department member inadvertently creates a recording capturing an incident deemed to warrant an exception to this Policy, redaction of the footage shall be completed by an approved Department Administrator.

450.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Uniformed Department members wearing a BWC shall wear the recorder in a conspicuous manner and in a position minimizing recording obstructions. The BWC shall be affixed to the Department member's outermost garment upon the "chest area," in a forward facing manner. The "chest area" is defined as, below the collarbone and above the waist.

Any Department member assigned to a non-uniformed position/operation may utilize a Department BWC at any time the employee believes such a device may assist in their official duties as employees of the City of Westminster. Mounting/positioning of the BWC for Department members in plain clothes shall be at the discretion of the Department member; however, the same positioning considerations as outlined for uniformed personnel should be considered. In these situations, the Department member shall use best efforts to place the BWC in a position minimizing obstructions to the BWC's view.

When executing pre-planned enforcement activities such as, serving a search or arrest warrant or parole/probation searches, non-uniformed personnel shall utilize and use their best efforts to position the BWC, in the same manner as uniformed personnel. Unless conducting a lawful recording in an authorized undercover capacity, non-uniformed members should wear the recorder in a conspicuous manner.

Field Training Officers who are wearing civilian clothing during the "ghost phase" of training are not required to wear a BWC, but may do so if they wish. However, they are still responsible for ensuring their assigned trainee is recording all contacts, as required by this policy.

Department members utilizing BWC's shall be responsible for uploading their digital recordings in a manner as detailed in WPD P&P § 450.7. Members shall 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. Whenever an officer fails to record all or part of a contact as described in this policy, that omission shall be documented in the officer's report including an explanation of the cause for the failure to record.

The BWC is the responsibility of the employee and will be used with reasonable care to ensure proper functioning and reliability. If an employee determines that a BWC is not functioning properly, the employee shall notify a supervisor as soon as practicable to obtain a replacement BWC.

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450.4.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES
Supervisors shall ensure that members download audio/video recordings for all uses of force or for any incident that the field Supervisor determines is important. This download should occur as soon as practicable.

450.5 ACTIVATION OF THE PORTABLE RECORDER

This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which the recorders should be used. There are many situations where the use of the BWC is appropriate for various reasons: criminal investigation, criminal prosecution, administrative reviews, civil liability, etc. Members should activate the recorders any time the member believes it would be appropriate or valuable to record an incident. At no time is a member expected to jeopardize his/her safety or the safety of others in order to activate their BWC.

All BWC's shall be activated in any of the following situations:

(a) All enforcement and investigative contacts including report calls, pedestrian 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) Activities in which a member pursuant to WPD Policy would notify Dispatch (e.g. failure to yield, vehicle pursuits, foot pursuits, etc.);

(d) Any other contact that could become confrontational after the initial contact in a situation that would not otherwise require recording;

(e) When transporting any individual in a Department vehicle, excluding the transport of solely Department personnel (e.g. Explorers, civilian employees, etc.)

Once the BWC is activated, it shall remain on and shall not be turned off until the member's direct participation in the incident is complete or the situation no longer fits the criteria for activation. A recording may be stopped when the member is no longer actively involved in any incident.

When a member has determined it to be reasonable to interrupt an in-progress recording, prior to the termination of their involvement in the incident, he/she should verbally indicate the intent and reason for stopping the recoding, and upon reactivation, state that he/she has restarted the recording. The interruption and the underlying reason for stopping the recording shall be documented in the police report. In the event a report is not generated, the member will document the circumstances in the incident's CAD history. If no CAD history was created for the incident, the member shall create one and document the circumstances in the incident's CAD history.
Communication between Law Enforcement Personnel outside the presence of any member of the public need not be recorded. However, the BWC shall be immediately reactivated upon any contact with any member of the public if the encounter falls within the scope of this BWC policy.

There may be times when a member is asked to turn off his/her BWC while inside a private residence. If this occurs the member has the discretion to comply with the request or refuse to cease the recording. The Department member should consider the request and decide if the need for an accurate recording outweighs the request for privacy. At no time shall a Department

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member terminate a recording while effectuating an arrest, search, or other enforcement action, or if the situation is confrontational or adversarial.

In the event the Department member decides to turn off the recording and comply with an individual's request, the Department member should attempt to have the individual's request for privacy recorded on the recording device and documented in the Department member's written report.

450.5.1 WHEN ACTIVATION IS NOT REQUIRED

There are various times when the BWC does not need to be activated. Some examples of non-activation are:

- Exchanging information or speaking with other Department members;
- When in the immediate presence of the public and there is no call for service;
- During breaks, meal periods;
- When not in-service, or when in-service but not in contact with members of the public in an official capacity;
- Encounters with the public of a non-enforcement nature, i.e., an individual asking for directions.

There may be times when members should be aware of a situation that may develop on a call for service and use discretion in their decision to record the encounter. There are numerous types of encounters that may rise to this level. Some examples of this type of encounter are:

(a) An unexpected or sudden encounter that may lead to an application of force;

(b) An informant or community member requests the BWC be turned off prior to providing confidential information;

(c) A health care provider is discussing confidential medical issues with a patient;

(d) While in a hospital for the sole purpose of waiting for an arrestee to be medically cleared and the arrestee is not uncooperative. Hospital staff should be made aware that the BWC is being utilized;

(e) While conferring with other Department members regarding privileged official information, as defined in Evidence Code § 1040;

(f) When interviewing victims of sexual assaults or child abuse.

1. The member needs to evaluate the value of the video recorded statement versus the privacy concerns for the victim. In such cases where the Department member believes it would be best that the victim's face not be video-recorded, the member should consider adjusting the BWC so as not to video-record the victim's face or consider using a stand-alone digital audio recorder (PUMA).

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450.5.2 SURREPTITIOUS USE OF THE PORTABLE RECORDER

Members of the Department may surreptitiously record any conversation during the course of a criminal investigation in which the member reasonably believes that such a recording will be lawful and beneficial to the investigation (Penal Code § 633). Members shall not intentionally and surreptitiously record another Department member without a court order or unless lawfully authorized by the Chief of Police or his/her authorized designee.

Penal Code § 622 prohibits an individual from surreptitiously recording a conversation in which any party to the conversation has a reasonable belief the conversation is private and confidential; however, Penal Code § 633 expressly exempts law enforcement officers from this prohibition during the course of a criminal investigation in which the officer reasonably believes that such a recording will be for a lawful investigative purpose. Despite this exemption, officers should inform other officers or emergency responders arriving on a scene when their recorder is active to help avoid recording immaterial statements. The following requirements shall apply:

(a) No member of this Department may intentionally and surreptitiously record a conversation of any other member of this Department without the express knowledge and consent of all member parties to the conversation, or unless otherwise set forth herein.

(b) A sworn member of this Department may surreptitiously record any conversation during the course of a criminal investigation if the officer reasonably believes that such a recording will be beneficial to the investigation. Any officer contacting an individual during the course of any official law enforcement related activity is presumed to be engaging in a criminal investigation.

450.6 PROHIBITED USE OF RECORDERS

Members are prohibited from using Department-issued BWC’s 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 and captured by Department-issued BWC’s for personal use.

Members shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for authorized legitimate Department business purposes. All such recordings shall be retained by the Department. Recordings shall not be used by any Department member for the purpose of embarrassment, intimidation, or ridicule.

450.7 UPLOADING, IDENTIFICATION AND PRESERVATION

To assist with identifying and preserving data and recordings, members shall upload and tag all recordings during or prior to the end of their assigned shift and document the existence of the recording in any related case report. The upload shall contain any relevant case numbers or information pertinent to the uploaded event.

A Department member shall transfer, tag or mark recordings when the member reasonably believes:

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(a) The recording contains evidence relevant to a potential criminal (misdemeanor or felony, including traffic enforcement), civil or administrative matter;

(b) Any time a member reasonably believes a recorded contact may be beneficial in a non-criminal matter (e.g., hostile encounter), the member shall promptly notify a supervisor of the existence of the recording.

If a copy of the BWC footage is needed for evidentiary purposes, a request will be made through the Records Supervisor.

All recordings, whether evidence or not, shall minimally include the following basic information:

(a) Incident history (IH) number or DR number in the following format:

1. IH YYMM-1234
2. DR WPD YY-123456

(b) Type of incident: “Traffic stop,” Call for service,” etc.

Department members shall not edit, alter, erase, duplicate, copy, share, record, or otherwise distribute in any manner BWC images and information without the prior approval of the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

Department members shall not remove, dismantle, or tamper with any hardware or software components of the BWC system unless for the specific purpose of maintenance, repair, upgrade, or replacement, and only at the direction of the Body Worn Camera Coordinator. Personal computer equipment and software programs shall not be utilized when making copies of the BWC data or files. Using secondary devices such as a video camera, cell phone, or any other electronic device to record or capture BWC data or files is strictly prohibited.

450.8 MEDIA RELEASE OF RECORDED MEDIA FILES

The Chief of Police has the discretion to prohibit or to grant the public release of any recordings by Department employees if it is determined, in the Chief’s or authorized designee’s sole discretion that it is in the best interest of the Police Department or the City and it is within compliance of federal and state law and WPD Policy.

450.8.1 RELEASE OF RECORDED MEDIA FILES

Digital evidence captured by BWC’s shall be treated as an investigative record and handled pursuant to existing Department policies and procedures.

A copy of a recording may only be released to a third party in response to a valid court order or by approval of the Chief of Police or his/her designee. All requests for BWC media files generated by the District Attorney, U.S. Attorney, Attorney General’s Office, Grand Jury, City Attorney, Defense Attorney, or sworn law enforcement personnel will be handled by the BWC Coordinator or BWC Program Evidence Specialist.

Requests for recorded video images from the public or the media shall be processed in the same manner as requests for Department public records and governed by WPD P&P § 806, Records

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Maintenance and Release. Requests for recorded images from other law enforcement agencies shall be referred to the Custodian of Records or Professional Standards Unit Commander for release in accordance with federal and state laws and WPD Policy. Recorded video images that are the subject of any court order or subpoena shall be processed in accordance with the established Department court order/subpoena process.

450.9 REVIEW OF RECORDINGS

Unless prohibited by law, recorded files may be reviewed in any of the following situations:

(a) When preparing written reports, members should review their recordings as a resource; however, members shall not use the fact that a recording was made as a reason to write a less detailed report;

(b) Any supervisor who is participating in an official investigation, such as a personnel complaint, administrative investigation, or criminal investigation;

(c) A Department member who requests to review their own recordings;

(d) A Field Training Officer (FTO) or supervisor in the review, evaluation or remediation of the performance of any trainee;

(e) Pursuant to lawful process or by court personnel who are otherwise authorized to review evidence in a related case and in compliance with federal and state law;

(f) By media personnel with permission of the Chief of Police or his/her authorized designee, in compliance with a valid public records request, if permitted, and in accordance with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy, WPD P&P § 806;

(g) Recordings of incidents maybe shown for the purpose of training; however, this shall not occur until the incident is reviewed and/or any administrative investigation has been adjudicated;

(h) Recordings shall not be used or shown to ridicule or embarrass any Department member. If an involved member objects to the showing of a recording, his/her objection will be submitted to the Chief of Police to determine if the member has raised a valid objection;

(i) In preparation of a member's statements for any legal proceeding;

(j) Detective bureau personnel, in the execution of their job duties;

(k) By members of the City Attorney's Office or City Risk Management Department for any official purpose;

(l) Any officer involved in an officer-involved shooting incident as outlined in WPD P&P Section 310.8, Audio and Video Recordings; Officer Involved-Shootings and Deaths;

(m) If an employee is the subject of a disciplinary investigation, the employee shall have the option of reviewing his/her BWC recording(s). The employee shall also be allowed to review recordings from other BWC's capturing the employee's image or voice during the underlying incident.

Subject to the provisions of this policy, the Chief of Police or his/her designee has the discretion to prohibit the review of any recordings by Department members if it is determined to be in the

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best interest of the Department or City. Any supervisor reviewing recordings under this policy shall note the basis for the review in the notes section of Evidence.com.

All recordings shall be reviewed and properly redacted by the Custodian of Records prior to public release (see the Records Maintenance and Release Policy, WPD P&P § 806).

450.10 BWC SYSTEM COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police, or his/her authorized designee, shall appoint a member of the Department to coordinate the use and maintenance of Department-issued BWC devices and the storage of recordings, including (see, Penal Code § 832.18):

(a) Establishing a system for the uploading, storing, and security of recordings;

(b) Establishing a maintenance system to ensure availability of operable BWC devices;

(c) Establishing a system for tagging and categorizing data according to the type of incident captured;

(d) Establishing an auditing system to prevent the tampering, deleting, improper copying and release of recordings and ensure chain of custody integrity;

(e) Working with counsel to ensure an appropriate retention schedule is being applied to recordings and associated documentation per California Public Records Act (CPRA) guidelines;

(f) Maintaining logs of access and deletions of recordings;

(g) Providing department management recommendations on policy development and equipment integrity;

(h) Ensuring media files are only released in accordance with Department/City Policy and applicable laws;

(i) Documenting system malfunctions and system failures related to BWC's;

(j) Development of auditing procedures and oversight of auditing processes;

(k) Review and redaction of video material meeting the guidelines set forth in this policy.

450.11 BWC SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

The Chief of Police, or the authorized designee, shall appoint a minimum of two members (one male and one female) of the Department to be a BWC System Administrator. The BWC Administrator's responsibilities will consist of specific duties as outlined in this policy section or as assigned by the BWC System Coordinator. Their duties shall minimally include:

(a) Conducting compliance audits for retained recordings (see WPD P&P § 450.12);

(b) Review and redaction of video footage;

(c) Personnel training on the use of the BWC system;

(d) Maintenance and issuance of BWC equipment.

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450.12 RETENTION OF RECORDINGS

BWC and audio recordings will be uploaded via Evidence.com. Once uploaded, the files will be retained according to the following retention schedule:

CATEGORY	RETENTION PERIOD	RESTRICTIONS	OPTIONS
Uncategorized	Unit manual deletion	None	Edit
Arrest - Felony	10 years	None	Edit/Delete
Arrest - Misd	3 years	None	Edit/Delete
Citation - Infraction/Code Violation	2 years	None	Edit/Delete
Citation - Misd	2 years	None	Edit/Delete
Citizen Contact - Non-Enforcement	2 years	None	Edit/Delete
Critical Incident - OIS/ Major UOF	Until manual deletion	None	Edit/Delete
Domestic Violence	Until manual deletion	None	Edit/Delete
DUI	10 years	None	Edit/Delete
Filed - Felony	Until manual deletion	None	Edit/Delete
Filed - Misd	10 years	None	Edit/Delete
Gang - FI/STEP	Until manual deletion	None	Edit/Delete
Homicide, Sex Crime, ADW	Until manual deletion	None	Edit/Delete
Investigation - Felony	Until manual deletion	None	Edit/Delete
Investigation - Misd	5 years	None	Edit/Delete
No Action	2 years	None	Edit/Delete
Pending Review	Until manual deletion	None	Edit
Restricted - WPD	Until manual deletion	Restricted	Edit/Delete
Test/Training	60 days	None	Edit/Delete
Theft - Misd	3 years	None	Edit/Delete

Storage and transfer of media files (recordings) from BWC recordings shall comply with the following provisions:

(a) Only Department members designated by the BWC Coordinator may transfer or copy recordings onto any third party media storage device. These devices include, but are not limited to: compact discs, floppy disks, portable hard drives, memory sticks, thumb-drives, DVD's, or other electronic storage devices;

(b) Only the BWC Coordinator may redact recordings for production in response to a subpoena, Public Records Act request or other official request;

(c) Digital files may not be deleted by any person from the recording device or the archival storage media without the authorization of the Chief of Police, the BWC Coordinator, or the Information Technology Manager.

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450.13 BWC SYSTEM AUDITS

The purpose of the BWC is to capture and preserve an accurate and objective record of certain police contacts and activities in criminal investigations. All data for this system, including video that is stored on the digital storage system, is considered Offender Record Information ("CORI"), and shall be treated in the same manner as CORI data. All access to the system is logged and subject to audit at any time by the Chief of Police or his/her designee. Access to the data from the digital recorder system is permitted on a right-to-know, need-to-know basis.

As directed by the Chief of Police or his/her designee, the BWC program shall be audited at such times as directed to ensure the fulfillment of the purpose and objectives of the program. These audits will also ensure compliance with operational, retention, and security policies and procedures.

450.13.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) Sergeants whose personnel have been issued BWC‘s are required to conduct monthly inspections. The inspections will insure that the BWC‘s are being used in compliance with this policy.

(b) Sergeants will conduct random inspections on a monthly basis to inspect the proper use of the Department’s BWC as set forth in the BWC procedures. Sergeants will confirm that the number of enforcement contacts is consistent with the number of videos submitted. If the sergeant identifies a discrepancy, they will follow up to determine the reason for any inconsistency. If the sergeant is satisfied with the reason provided, no further action is required. If the supervisor suspects a violation of this policy has occurred, appropriate action will be taken.

(c) Sergeants will ensure that all BWC video footage has been uploaded and categorized with the appropriate metadata. All videos that remain uncategorized must be immediately corrected by the officer who originally uploaded the footage. The sergeant will conduct a second inspection to confirm all appropriate revisions are made.

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Medical Marijuana

452.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of this department with guidelines for investigating the acquisition, possession, transportation, delivery, production or use of marijuana under California's medical marijuana laws.

452.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Cardholder - A person issued a current identification card.

Compassionate Use Act (CUA) (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5) - California law intended to provide protection from prosecution to those who are seriously ill and whose health would benefit from the use of marijuana in the treatment of illness for which marijuana provides relief. The CUA does not grant immunity from arrest but rather provides an affirmative defense from prosecution for possession of medical marijuana.

Identification card - A valid document issued by the California Department of Public Health to both persons authorized to engage in the medical use of marijuana and also to designated primary caregivers.

Medical marijuana - Marijuana possessed by a patient or primary caregiver for legitimate medical purposes.

Medical Marijuana Program (MMP) (Health and Safety Code § 11362.7 et seq.) - California laws passed following the CUA to facilitate the prompt identification of patients and their designated primary caregivers in order to avoid unnecessary arrests and provide needed guidance to law enforcement officers. MMP prohibits arrest for possession of medical marijuana in certain circumstances and provides a defense in others.

Patient - A person who is entitled to the protections of the CUA because he/she has received a written or oral recommendation or approval from a physician to use marijuana for medical purposes or any person issued a valid identification card.

Primary caregiver - A person designated by the patient, who has consistently assumed responsibility for the patient's housing, health or safety, who may assist the patient with the medical use of marijuana under the CUA or the MMP (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5; Health and Safety Code § 11362.7).

Statutory amount - No more than 8 ounces of dried, mature, processed female marijuana flowers ("bud") or the plant conversion (e.g., kief, hash, hash oil), and no more than six mature or 12 immature marijuana plants (roots, stems and stem fibers should not be considered) (Health and Safety Code § 11362.77).

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452.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to prioritize resources to forgo making arrests related to marijuana that the arresting officer reasonably believes would not be prosecuted by state or federal authorities.

California's medical marijuana laws are intended to provide protection to those who are seriously ill and whose health would benefit from the use of medical marijuana.

However, California medical marijuana laws do not affect federal laws and there is no medical exception under federal law for the possession or distribution of marijuana. The Westminster Police Department will exercise discretion to ensure laws are appropriately enforced without unreasonably burdening both those individuals protected under California law and public resources.

452.3 INVESTIGATION

Investigations involving the possession, delivery, production or use of marijuana generally fall into one of several categories:

(a) Investigations when no person makes a medicinal claim.

(b) Investigations when a medicinal claim is made by a cardholder.

(c) Investigations when a medicinal claim is made by a non-cardholder.

452.3.1 INVESTIGATIONS WITH NO MEDICINAL CLAIM

In any investigation involving the possession, delivery, production or use of marijuana or drug paraphernalia where no person claims that the marijuana is used for medicinal purposes, the officer should proceed with a criminal investigation if the amount is greater than permitted for personal use under the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Health and Safety Code § 11362.1; Health and Safety Code § 11362.2). A medicinal defense may be raised at any time, so officers should document any statements and observations that may be relevant to whether the marijuana was possessed or produced for medicinal purposes.

452.3.2 INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING A MEDICINAL CLAIM MADE BY A CARDHOLDER

A cardholder or designated primary caregiver in possession of an identification card shall not be arrested for possession, transportation, delivery or cultivation of medical marijuana at or below the statutory amount unless there is probable cause to believe that (Health and Safety Code § 11362.71; Health and Safety Code § 11362.78):

(a) The information contained in the card is false or falsified.

(b) The card has been obtained or used by means of fraud.

(c) The person is otherwise in violation of the provisions of the MMP.

(d) The person possesses marijuana but not for personal medical purposes.

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Officers who reasonably believe that a person who does not have an identification card in his/her possession has been issued an identification card may treat the investigation as if the person had the card in his/her possession.

Cardholders may possess, transport, deliver or cultivate medical marijuana in amounts above the statutory amount if their doctor has concluded that the statutory amount does not meet the patient's medical needs (Health and Safety Code § 11362.71; Health and Safety Code § 11362.77). Investigations involving cardholders with more than the statutory amount of marijuana should be addressed as provided in this policy for a case involving a medicinal claim made by a non-cardholder.

452.3.3 INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING A MEDICINAL CLAIM MADE BY A NON-CARDHOLDER

No patient or primary caregiver should be arrested for possession or cultivation of an amount of medical marijuana if the officer reasonably believes that marijuana is in a form and amount reasonably related to the qualified patient's current medical needs (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5). This arrest guidance also applies to sales, transportation or delivery of medical marijuana, or maintaining/renting a drug house or building that may be a nuisance if otherwise in compliance with MMP (Health and Safety Code § 11362.765).

Officers are not obligated to accept a person's claim of having a physician's recommendation when the claim cannot be readily verified with the physician but are expected to use their judgment to assess the validity of the person's medical-use claim.

Officers should review any available written documentation for validity and whether it contains the recommending physician's name, telephone number, address and medical license number for verification.

Officers should generally accept verified recommendations by a physician that statutory amounts do not meet the patient's needs (Health and Safety Code § 11362.77).

452.3.4 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Officers should consider the following when investigating an incident involving marijuana possession, delivery, production or use:

(a) Because enforcement of medical marijuana laws can be complex, time consuming and call for resources unavailable at the time of initial investigation, officers may consider submitting a report to the prosecutor for review, in lieu of making an arrest. This can be particularly appropriate when:

1. The suspect has been identified and can be easily located at a later time.
2. The case would benefit from review by a person with expertise in medical marijuana investigations.
3. Sufficient evidence, such as photographs or samples, has been lawfully obtained.

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4. Other relevant factors, such as available department resources and time constraints prohibit making an immediate arrest.

(b) Whenever the initial investigation reveals an amount of marijuana greater than the statutory amount, officers should consider the following when determining whether the form and amount is reasonably related to the patient's needs:

1. The amount of marijuana recommended by a medical professional to be ingested.
2. The quality of the marijuana.
3. The method of ingestion (e.g., smoking, eating, nebulizer).
4. The timing of the possession in relation to a harvest (patient may be storing marijuana).
5. Whether the marijuana is being cultivated indoors or outdoors, the climate, etc.

(c) Before proceeding with enforcement related to collective gardens or dispensaries, officers should consider conferring with a supervisor, an applicable state regulatory agency or other member with special knowledge in this area and/or appropriate legal counsel (Business and Professions Code § 26010; Business and Professions Code § 26060). Licensing, zoning and other related issues can be complex. Patients, primary caregivers and cardholders who collectively or cooperatively cultivate marijuana for medical purposes are provided a defense under the MMP (Health and Safety Code § 11362.775; Business and Professions Code § 26032).

(d) Investigating members should not order a patient to destroy marijuana plants under threat of arrest.

452.3.5 EXCEPTIONS

This policy does not apply to, and officers should consider taking enforcement action for the following:

(a) Persons who engage in illegal conduct that endangers others, such as driving under the influence of marijuana in violation of the Vehicle Code (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5).

(b) Marijuana possession in jails or other correctional facilities that prohibit such possession (Health and Safety Code § 11362.785).

(c) Smoking marijuana (Health and Safety Code § 11362.79):

1. In any place where smoking is prohibited by law.
2. In or within 1,000 feet of the grounds of a school, recreation center or youth center, unless the medical use occurs within a residence.
3. On a school bus.
4. While in a motor vehicle that is being operated.
5. While operating a boat.

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(d) Use of marijuana by a person on probation or parole, or on bail and use is prohibited by the terms of release (Health and Safety Code § 11362.795).

452.3.6 INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING A STATE LICENSEE

No person issued a state license under the Business and Professions Code shall be arrested or cited for cultivation, possession, manufacture, processing, storing, laboratory testing, labeling, transporting, distribution or sale of medical cannabis or a medical cannabis product related to qualifying patients and primary caregivers when conducted lawfully. Whether conduct is lawful may involve questions of license classifications, local ordinances, specific requirements of the Business and Professions Code and adopted regulations. Officers should consider conferring with a supervisor, the applicable state agency or other member with special knowledge in this area and/or appropriate legal counsel before taking enforcement action against a licensee or an employee or agent (Business and Professions Code § 26032).

452.4 FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Officers should provide information regarding a marijuana investigation to federal law enforcement authorities when it is requested by federal law enforcement authorities or whenever the officer believes those authorities would have a particular interest in the information.

452.5 PROPERTY BUREAU SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Property Bureau supervisor should ensure that marijuana, drug paraphernalia or other related property seized from a person engaged or assisting in the use of medical marijuana is not destroyed pending any charges and without a court order. The Property Bureau supervisor is not responsible for caring for live marijuana plants.

Upon the prosecutor's decision to forgo prosecution, or the dismissal of charges or an acquittal, the Property Bureau supervisor should, as soon as practicable, return to the person from whom it was seized any useable medical marijuana, plants, drug paraphernalia or other related property.

The Property Bureau supervisor may release marijuana to federal law enforcement authorities upon presentation of a valid court order or by a written order of the Detective Bureau supervisor.

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Bicycle Patrol Unit

454.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Westminster Police Department has established the Bicycle Patrol Unit (BPU) for the purpose of enhancing patrol efforts in the community. Bicycle patrol has been shown to be an effective way to increase officer visibility in congested areas and their quiet operation can provide a tactical approach to crimes in progress. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the safe and effective operation of the patrol bicycle.

454.2 POLICY

Patrol bicycles may be used for regular patrol duty, traffic enforcement, parking control, or special events. The use of the patrol bicycle will emphasize their mobility and visibility to the community.

Bicycles may be deployed to any area at all hours of the day or night, according to Department needs and as staffing levels allow.

Requests for specific deployment of bicycle patrol officers shall be coordinated through the Bicycle Patrol Unit supervisor or the Watch Commander.

454.3 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Interested sworn personnel, who are off probation, shall submit a memorandum of interest to the appropriate Commander. Qualified applicants will then be invited to an oral interview. The oral board will consist of the BPU supervisor and second person to be selected by the BPU supervisor. Interested personnel shall be evaluated by, but not limited to, the following criteria:

(a) Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance.

(b) Special skills or training as it pertains to the assignment.

(c) Good physical condition.

(d) Willingness to perform duties using the bicycle as a mode of transportation.

454.3.1 BICYCLE PATROL UNIT SUPERVISOR

The Bicycle Operations Unit supervisors will be selected from the rank of sergeant and corporal by the appropriate Bureau Commander or his/her designee.

The Bicycle Operations Unit supervisors shall have responsibility for the following:

(a) Organizing bicycle patrol training.

(b) Inspecting and maintaining inventory of patrol bicycles and program equipment.

(c) Scheduling maintenance and repairs.

(d) Evaluating performance of bicycle officers.

(e) Coordinating activities with the Operations Bureau.

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(f) Other activities as required to maintain the efficient operation of the Bicycle Operations Unit.

454.4 TRAINING

Selected candidates will be required to successfully complete a POST certified bicycle patrol training course within one year of appointment to the team. Thereafter, bicycle patrol officers should receive twice yearly in-service training to improve skills and refresh safety, health and operational procedures. Training shall minimally include the following:

- Bicycle patrol strategies.
- Bicycle safety and accident prevention.
- Operational tactics using bicycles.

Bicycle patrol officers will be required to qualify with their duty firearm while wearing bicycle safety equipment including the helmet and riding gloves.

454.5 UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Officers shall wear the department-approved uniform and safety equipment while operating the department bicycle. Safety equipment includes department-approved ballistic vest, helmet, riding gloves, protective eyewear and approved footwear.

The bicycle patrol unit uniform specifications can be located within the department uniform matrix maintained within the Professional Standards Unit.

Optional equipment includes a radio head set and microphone, and jackets in colder weather.

Bicycle patrol officers shall carry the same equipment on the bicycle patrol duty belt as they would on a regular patrol assignment.

Officers will be responsible for obtaining the necessary forms, citation books and other department equipment needed while on bicycle patrol.

454.6 CARE AND USE OF PATROL BICYCLES

Officers will be assigned a specially marked and equipped patrol bicycle and attached gear bag.

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be primarily black or white in with a "POLICE" decal affixed to each side of the crossbar or the bike's saddlebag. Every such bicycle shall be equipped with front and rear reflectors, front lights and a siren/horn satisfying the requirements of Vehicle Code §2800.1(b).

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be equipped with a rear rack and/or saddle bag(s) sufficient to carry all necessary equipment to handle routine patrol calls including report writing, vehicle storage and citations.

Each bicycle shall be equipped with a steady or flashing red/blue warning light that is visible from the front, sides, or rear of the bicycle. (Vehicle Code § 21201.3)

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Bicycle officers shall conduct an inspection of the bicycle and equipment prior to use to insure proper working order of the equipment. Officers are responsible for the routine care and maintenance of their assigned equipment (e.g., tire pressure, chain lubrication, overall cleaning).

If a needed repair is beyond the ability of the bicycle officer, a repair work order will be completed and forwarded to the program supervisor for repair by an approved technician.

Each bicycle will have scheduled maintenance twice yearly to be performed by a department approved repair shop/technician.

At the end of a bicycle assignment, the bicycle shall be returned clean and ready for the next tour of duty.

Officers shall not modify the patrol bicycle, remove, modify or add components except with the expressed approval of the bicycle supervisor, or in the event of an emergency.

Vehicle bicycle racks are available should the officer need to transport the patrol bicycle. Due to possible component damage, transportation of the patrol bicycle in a trunk or on a patrol car push-bumper is discouraged.

Bicycles shall be properly secured when not in the officer's immediate presence.

454.7 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY

Officers must operate the bicycle in compliance with the vehicle code under normal operation. Officers may operate the bicycle without lighting equipment during hours of darkness when such operation reasonably appears necessary for officer safety and tactical considerations. Officers must use caution and care when operating the bicycle without lighting equipment.

Officers are exempt from the rules of the road under the following conditions (Vehicle Code § 21200(b)(1)):

(a) In response to an emergency call.

(b) While engaged in rescue operations.

(c) In the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law.

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Foot Pursuits

458.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

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

458.2 POLICY

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

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

458.3 DECISION TO PURSUE

The safety of department members and the public should be the primary consideration when determining whether a foot pursuit should be initiated or continued. Officers must be mindful that immediate apprehension of a suspect is rarely more important than the safety of the public and department members.

Officers may be justified in initiating a foot pursuit of any individual the officer reasonably believes is about to engage in, is engaging in or has engaged in criminal activity. The decision to initiate or continue such a foot pursuit, however, must be continuously re-evaluated in light of the circumstances presented at the time.

Mere flight by a person who is not suspected of criminal activity shall not serve as justification for engaging in an extended foot pursuit without the development of reasonable suspicion regarding the individual's involvement in criminal activity or being wanted by law enforcement.

Deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit is a decision that an officer must make quickly and under unpredictable and dynamic circumstances. It is recognized that foot pursuits may place department members and the public at significant risk. Therefore, no officer or supervisor shall be criticized or disciplined for deciding not to engage in a foot pursuit because of the perceived risk involved.

If circumstances permit, surveillance and containment are generally the safest tactics for apprehending fleeing persons. In deciding whether to initiate or continue a foot pursuit, an officer should continuously consider reasonable alternatives to a foot pursuit based upon the circumstances and resources available, such as:

(a) Containment of the area.

(b) Saturation of the area with law enforcement personnel, including assistance from other agencies.

(c) A canine search.

(d) Thermal imaging or other sensing technology.

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(e) Air support.

(f) Apprehension at another time when the identity of the suspect is known or there is information available that would likely allow for later apprehension, and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect does not reasonably appear to outweigh the risk of continuing the foot pursuit.

458.4 GENERAL GUIDELINES

When reasonably practicable, officers should consider alternatives to engaging in or continuing a foot pursuit when:

(a) Directed by a supervisor to terminate the foot pursuit; such an order shall be considered mandatory

(b) The officer is acting alone.

(c) Two or more officers become separated, lose visual contact with one another, or obstacles separate them to the degree that they cannot immediately assist each other should a confrontation take place. In such circumstances, it is generally recommended that a single officer keep the suspect in sight from a safe distance and coordinate the containment effort.

(d) The officer is unsure of his/her location and direction of travel.

(e) The officer is pursuing multiple suspects and it is not reasonable to believe that the officer would be able to control the suspect should a confrontation occur.

(f) The physical condition of the officer renders him/her incapable of controlling the suspect if apprehended.

(g) The officer loses radio contact with the dispatcher or with assisting or backup officers.

(h) The suspect enters a building, structure, confined space, isolated area or dense or difficult terrain, and there are insufficient officers to provide backup and containment. The primary officer should consider discontinuing the foot pursuit and coordinating containment pending the arrival of sufficient resources.

(i) The officer becomes aware of unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances that unreasonably increase the risk to officers or the public.

(j) The officer reasonably believes that the danger to the pursuing officers or public outweighs the objective of immediate apprehension.

(k) The officer loses possession of his/her firearm or other essential equipment.

(l) The officer or a third party is injured during the pursuit, requiring immediate assistance, and there are no other emergency personnel available to render assistance.

(m) The suspect’s location is no longer definitely known.

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(n) The identity of the suspect is established or other information exists that will allow for the suspect's apprehension at a later time, and it reasonably appears that there is no immediate threat to department members or the public if the suspect is not immediately apprehended.

(o) The officer's ability to safely continue the pursuit is impaired by inclement weather, darkness or other environmental conditions.

458.5 RESPONSIBILITIES IN FOOT PURSUITS

458.5.1 INITIATING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Unless relieved by another officer or a supervisor, the initiating officer shall be responsible for coordinating the progress of the pursuit. When acting alone and when practicable, the initiating officer should not attempt to overtake and confront the suspect but should attempt to keep the suspect in sight until sufficient officers are present to safely apprehend the suspect.

Early communication of available information from the involved officers is essential so that adequate resources can be coordinated and deployed to bring a foot pursuit to a safe conclusion. Officers initiating a foot pursuit should, at a minimum, broadcast the following information as soon as it becomes practicable and available:

(a) Location and direction of travel

(b) Call sign identifier

(c) Reason for the foot pursuit, such as the crime classification

(d) Number of suspects and description, to include name if known

(e) Whether the suspect is known or believed to be armed with a dangerous weapon

Officers should be mindful that radio transmissions made while running may be difficult to understand and may need to be repeated.

Absent extenuating circumstances, any officer unable to promptly and effectively broadcast this information should terminate the foot pursuit. If the foot pursuit is discontinued for any reason, immediate efforts for containment should be established and alternatives considered based upon the circumstances and available resources.

When a foot pursuit terminates, the officer will notify the dispatcher of his/her location and the status of the pursuit termination (e.g., suspect in custody, lost sight of suspect), and will direct further actions as reasonably appear necessary, to include requesting medical aid as needed for officers, suspects or members of the public.

458.5.2 ASSISTING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever any officer announces that he/she is engaged in a foot pursuit, all other officers should minimize non-essential radio traffic to permit the involved officers maximum access to the radio frequency.

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Any officer who is in a position to intercept a fleeing suspect or who can assist the primary officer with the apprehension of the suspect, shall act reasonably and in accordance with department policy, based upon available information and his/her own observations.

458.5.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon becoming aware of a foot pursuit, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to ascertain sufficient information to direct responding resources and to take command, control and coordination of the foot pursuit. The supervisor should respond to the area whenever possible; the supervisor does not, however, need not be physically present to exercise control over the foot pursuit. The supervisor shall continuously assess the situation in order to ensure the foot pursuit is conducted within established department guidelines.

The supervisor shall terminate the foot pursuit when the danger to pursuing officers or the public appears to unreasonably outweigh the objective of immediate apprehension of the suspect.

Upon apprehension of the suspect, the supervisor shall promptly proceed to the termination point to direct the post-foot pursuit activity.

458.5.4 DISPATCH RESPONSIBILITIES

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

(a) Clearing the radio channel of non-emergency traffic.

(b) Coordinating pursuit communications of the involved officers.

(c) Broadcasting pursuit updates as well as other pertinent information as necessary.

(d) Ensuring that a field supervisor is notified of the foot pursuit.

(e) Notifying and coordinating with other involved or affected agencies as practicable.

(f) Notifying the Watch Commander as soon as practicable.

(g) Assigning an incident number and logging all pursuit activities.

458.6 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The initiating officer shall complete appropriate crime/arrest reports documenting, at minimum:

(a) Date and time of the foot pursuit.

(b) Initial reason and circumstances surrounding the foot pursuit.

(c) Course and approximate distance of the foot pursuit.

(d) Alleged offenses.

(e) Involved vehicles and officers.

(f) Whether a suspect was apprehended as well as the means and methods used.

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1. Any use of force shall be reported and documented in compliance with the Use of Force Policy.

(g) Arrestee information, if applicable.

(h) Any injuries and/or medical treatment.

(i) Any property or equipment damage.

(j) Name of the supervisor at the scene or who handled the incident.

Assisting officers taking an active role in the apprehension of the suspect shall complete supplemental reports as necessary or as directed.

The supervisor reviewing the report will make a preliminary determination that the pursuit appears to be in compliance with this policy or that additional review and/or follow-up is warranted.

In any case in which a suspect is not apprehended and there is insufficient information to support further investigation, a supervisor may authorize that the initiating officer need not complete a formal report.

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Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

462.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the capture, storage and use of digital data obtained through the use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology.

462.2 ADMINISTRATION

The ALPR technology, also known as License Plate Recognition (LPR), allows for the automated detection of license plates. It is used by the Westminster Police Department to convert data associated with vehicle license plates for official law enforcement purposes, including identifying stolen or wanted vehicles, stolen license plates and missing persons. It may also be used to gather information related to active warrants, homeland security, electronic surveillance, suspect interdiction and stolen property recovery.

All installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Professional Standards Unit Commander. The Professional Standards Unit Commander will assign members under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

462.2.1 ALPR ADMINISTRATOR

The Professional Standards Unit Commander shall be responsible for developing guidelines and procedures to comply with the requirements of Civil Code § 1798.90.5 et seq. This includes, but is not limited to (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

(a) A description of the job title or other designation of the members and independent contractors who are authorized to use or access the ALPR system or to collect ALPR information.

(b) Training requirements for authorized users.

(c) A description of how the ALPR system will be monitored to ensure the security of the information and compliance with applicable privacy laws.

(d) Procedures for system operators to maintain records of access in compliance with Civil Code § 1798.90.52.

(e) The title and name of the current designee in overseeing the ALPR operation.

(f) Working with the Custodian of Records on the retention and destruction of ALPR data.

(g) Ensuring this policy and related procedures are conspicuously posted on the department's website.

462.3 OPERATIONS

Use of an ALPR is restricted to the purposes outlined below. Department members shall not use, or allow others to use the equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53).

(a) An ALPR shall only be used for official law enforcement business.

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(b) An ALPR may be used in conjunction with any routine patrol operation or criminal investigation. Reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not required before using an ALPR.

(c) While an ALPR may be used to canvass license plates around any crime scene, particular consideration should be given to using ALPR-equipped cars to canvass areas around homicides, shootings and other major incidents. Partial license plates reported during major crimes should be entered into the ALPR system in an attempt to identify suspect vehicles.

(d) No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training.

(e) No ALPR operator may access department, state or federal data unless otherwise authorized to do so.

(f) If practicable, the officer should verify an ALPR response through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) before taking enforcement action that is based solely on an ALPR alert.

462.4 DATA COLLECTION AND RETENTION

The Professional Standards Unit Commander is responsible for ensuring systems and processes are in place for the proper collection and retention of ALPR data. Data will be transferred from vehicles to the designated storage in accordance with department procedures.

All ALPR data downloaded to the server should be stored for a minimum of one year (Government Code § 34090.6) and in accordance with the established records retention schedule. Thereafter, ALPR data should be purged unless it has become, or it is reasonable to believe it will become, evidence in a criminal or civil action or is subject to a discovery request or other lawful action to produce records. In those circumstances the applicable data should be downloaded from the server onto portable media and booked into evidence.

462.5 ACCOUNTABILITY

All data will be closely safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Westminster Police Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

(a) All ALPR data downloaded to the mobile workstation and in storage shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time (Civil Code § 1798.90.52).

(b) Members approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action.

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(c) ALPR system audits should be conducted on a regular basis.

For security or data breaches, see the Records Release and Maintenance Policy.

462.6 POLICY

The policy of the Westminster Police Department is to utilize ALPR technology to capture and store digital license plate data and images while recognizing the established privacy rights of the public.

All data and images gathered by the ALPR are for the official use of this department. Because such data may contain confidential information, it is not open to public review.

462.7 RELEASING ALPR DATA

The ALPR data may be shared only with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as otherwise permitted by law, using the following procedures:

(a) The agency makes a written request for the ALPR data that includes:

1. The name of the agency.
2. The name of the person requesting.
3. The intended purpose of obtaining the information.

(b) The request is reviewed by the Professional Standards Unit Commander or the authorized designee and approved before the request is fulfilled.

(c) The approved request is retained on file.

Requests for ALPR data by non-law enforcement or non-prosecutorial agencies will be processed as provided in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Civil Code § 1798.90.55).

462.8 TRAINING

The Training Sergeant should ensure that members receive department-approved training for those authorized to use or access the ALPR system (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53).

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LOUD PARTY RESPONSE

465.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to designate the process of enforcing WMC§ 9.50.010 Loud Party Response. Officers should read this municipal code section in full prior to any enforcement to insure an understanding of the intent/use of this section.

465.2 LOUD PARTY DEFINED

For the purposes of this policy, loud party is defined as the following:

A 'large party" or "loud party" means a gathering or assembly of persons on a premises within the City of Westminster at the invitation, request, or consent of the person in charge or having actual control of the premises, and which generates loud, unnecessary, and unusual noise, which disturbs the peace or quiet of any neighborhood, or which causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitiveness residing in the area.

465.3 OFFICER DETERMINATION

The responding officers to the scene shall be responsible for determining if the party constitutes a violation of this section.

465.4 FIRST RESPONSE NOTIFICATION

On the initial response to a location where the officer(s) determine a violation of this section is occurring, a "Loud Party Warning" (WPD Form# PD-011) notification shall be issued to the responsible party, or person in charge of the party, who is at the location.

465.5 REPORTING OF VIOLATION

After a "Loud Party Warning" notification has been completed and officers responding to a second call for service have determined a violation has occurred, the following documentation is required:

1. An administrative citation issued to the responsible party who is at the location

2. A crime report for violation of WMC§ 9.50.040. This crime report should contain:

a. The reason for the subsequent response

b. The name, address, date of birth and CDL/ID number of the responsible party

c. The number of people at the location

d. The number of officers needed for the subsequent response

e. A detailed justification for the violation notice

Each subsequent violation to the same incident can be documented under the same DR as a supplemental to the CR-1.

Responses to new incidents at the same location within the 14-day period will require a new DR.

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465.6 COLLECTION OF EVIDENCE

Any violations of this section which generate an administrative cite and criminal report should include photographic and/or video evidence. This type of evidence could include the impact on parking in the area, trash or debris noted, and the amount of people attending the party, etc.

As in any potential enforcement activity, all responses to these calls for service shall be audio recorded and entered into the PUMA system with the associated DR or Event Number.

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Homeless Persons

466.1 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 officers during all contacts with the homeless, whether consensual or for enforcement purposes. The Westminster Police Department recognizes that members of the homeless community are often in need of special protection and services. The Westminster Police Department will address these needs in balance with the overall mission of this department. Therefore, officers will consider the following when serving the homeless community.

466.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department 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.

466.3 HOMELESS COMMUNITY LIAISON

In accordance with the special assignment selection process, the Chief of Police will designate a member of this department to act as the Homeless Liaison Officer. The responsibilities of the Homeless Liaison Officer 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) Coordinate with City of Westminster Public Works personnel for property removal.

(c) Meet with Social Services personnel and representatives of other organizations that render assistance to the homeless.

(d) Maintain a list of the areas within and near this jurisdiction that are used as frequent homeless encampments.

(e) Remain abreast of laws dealing with the removal and/or destruction of the personal property of the homeless. This will include:

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.

(f) Be present during any clean-up operation conducted by this department involving the removal of personal property of the homeless to ensure that the rights of the homeless are not violated.

(g) Develop training to assist officers in understanding current legal and social issues relating to the homeless.

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466.4 FIELD CONTACTS

Officers 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 an officer 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, officers 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.

Officers should provide homeless persons with assistance information whenever it is reasonably apparent that such services may be appropriate.

466.4.1 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. Officers should consider the following when handling investigations involving homeless victims, witnesses or suspects:

(a) Document alternate contact information. This may include obtaining addresses and phone numbers of relatives and friends.

(b) Document places the homeless person may frequent.

(c) Provide homeless victims with victim/witness resources when appropriate.

(d) Obtain statements from all available witnesses in the event that a homeless victim is unavailable for a court appearance.

(e) Consider whether the person may be a dependent adult or elder, and if so, proceed in accordance with the Senior and Disability Victimization Policy.

(f) Arrange for transportation for investigation-related matters, such as medical exams and court appearances.

(g) Consider whether a crime should be reported and submitted for prosecution, even when a homeless victim indicates that he/she does not desire prosecution.

466.5 PERSONAL PROPERTY

The personal property of homeless persons must not be treated differently than the property of other members of the public. Officers should use reasonable care when handling, collecting and retaining the personal property of homeless persons and should not destroy or discard the personal property of a homeless person.

When a homeless person is arrested or otherwise removed from a public place, officers 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 officer, a supervisor should be consulted. The property should be photographed and measures should be

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taken to remove or secure the property. It will be the supervisor's responsibility to coordinate the removal and safekeeping of the property.

Officers 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 Officer. When practicable, requests by the public for clean-up of a homeless encampment should be referred to the Homeless Liaison Officer.

Officers 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 Officer 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 Officer to address the matter in a timely fashion.

466.6 MENTAL ILLNESS AND MENTAL IMPAIRMENT

Some homeless persons may suffer from a mental illness or a mental impairment. Officers shall not detain a homeless person under a mental illness commitment unless facts and circumstances warrant such a detention (see the Crisis Intervention Incidents Policy).

When a mental illness hold is not warranted, the contacting officer should provide the homeless person with contact information for mental health assistance as appropriate. In these circumstances, officers may provide transportation to a mental health specialist if requested by the person and approved by a supervisor.

466.7 ECOLOGICAL ISSUES

Sometimes homeless encampments can impact the ecology and natural resources of the community and may involve criminal offenses beyond mere littering. Officers 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.

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Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity

467.1 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.

467.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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.

Officers 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.

467.3 RECORDING LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Members of the public who wish to record law enforcement activities are limited only in certain aspects.

(a) Recordings may be made from any public place or any private property where the individual has the legal right to be present (Penal Code § 69; Penal Code § 148).

(b) Beyond the act of photographing or recording, individuals may not interfere with the law enforcement activity. Examples of interference include, but are not limited to:

1. Tampering with a witness or suspect.
2. Inciting others to violate the law.
3. Being so close to the activity as to present a clear safety hazard to the officers.
4. Being so close to the activity as to interfere with an officer's effective communication with a suspect or witness.

(c) The individual may not present an undue safety risk to the officers, him/herself or others.

467.4 OFFICER RESPONSE

Officers should promptly request that a supervisor respond to the scene whenever it appears that anyone recording activities may be interfering with an investigation or it is believed that the recording may be evidence. If practicable, officers should wait for the supervisor to arrive before taking enforcement action or seizing any cameras or recording media.

Whenever practicable, officers or supervisors should give clear and concise warnings to individuals who are conducting themselves in a manner that would cause their recording or

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behavior to be unlawful. Accompanying the warnings should be clear directions on what an individual can do to be compliant; directions should be specific enough to allow compliance. For example, rather than directing an individual to clear the area, an officer 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, officers shall document in a report the nature and extent of the interference or other unlawful behavior and the warnings that were issued.

467.5 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 officer 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.

467.6 SEIZING RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE

Officers should not seize recording devices or media unless (42 USC § 2000aa):

(a) There is probable cause to believe the person recording has committed or is committing a crime to which the recording relates, and the recording is reasonably necessary for prosecution of the person.

  1. Absent exigency or consent, a warrant should be sought before seizing or viewing such recordings. Reasonable steps may be taken to prevent erasure of the recording.

(b) There is reason to believe that the immediate seizure of such recordings is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury or death of any person.

(c) The person consents.

  1. To ensure that the consent is voluntary, the request should not be made in a threatening or coercive manner.

  2. If the original recording is provided, a copy of the recording should be provided to the recording party, if practicable. The recording party should be permitted to be present while the copy is being made, if feasible. Another way to obtain the

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evidence is to transmit a copy of the recording from a device to a department-owned device.

Recording devices and media that are seized will be submitted within the guidelines of the Property and Evidence Policy.

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Naloxone Policy

468.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Westminster Police personnel are occasionally the first responders to a person who is experiencing or suspected of experiencing an opioid-related overdose. The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures to govern an "Overdose Response Program" through the deployment of Naloxone by the Westminster Police Department personnel. The objective is to reduce injuries and fatalities resulting from opioid overdoses, in the instances where emergency medical personnel have not yet arrived.

468.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department that officers shall be trained to administer Naloxone in accordance with mandated training guidelines as determined and established by the Orange County Health Care Agency/Emergency Medical Services (HCA/EMS) pursuant to Health & Safety Code 1797.197 and California Civil Code 1714.22.

(a) Officers who are trained in accordance with mandated training guidelines shall deploy with Naloxone kits in the field. However, the officer will retain the discretion to administer or not administer Naloxone to persons experiencing or suspected of experiencing opioid-related overdoses. There is no legal obligation to administer Naloxone.

(b) Officers who administer Naloxone, are protected from civil and criminal liability if they "act with reasonable care" and "in good faith". This is accomplished by administering Naloxone according to established training protocol.

(c) If a officer has a valid reason for not participating in the program, such as religious objections, the officer will be excused with the approval of his/her Division Commander.

468.3 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Professional Standards Unit Commander or his/her designee will designate a member of their unit to serve as the Department's Program Manager and will work in collaboration with the HCA/EMS. The Program Manager will be responsible for tracking, storage, maintenance, replacement of Naloxone kits, and reporting Naloxone use to the Orange County Health Care Agency (HCA).

468.4 TRAINING

468.4.1 INITIAL TRAINING

Officers may not administer Naloxone without the completion of mandated training by HCA/EMS. All officers at WPD will receive initial training that will include, at a minimum, an overview of California Civil Code 1714.22, patient assessment (signs/symptomology of overdose), universal precautions (e.g., medical gloves, face shield, eye protection), rescue breathing, seeking medical

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attention, and the use of intra-nasal Naloxone. Upon completion of training, officers will have their training recorded with the Program Manager.

468.4.2 CONTINUED TRAINING
Officers will receive refresher training as deemed appropriate by HCA/EMS.

468.5 NALOXONE DEPLOYMENT

The Westminster Police Department will deploy Naloxone kits in patrol, property, forensics, the jail and other areas as deemed appropriate by the Police Chief or the authorized designee.

468.6 NALOXONE KITS

Naloxone kits will include at a minimum: gloves, mask, eye protection, atomizer, and Naloxone.

Officers shall check out a Naloxone kit from the WPD Armory and deploy with the kit during their tour of duty. If no kits are available, the officer must notify his/her supervisor.

468.6.1 NALOXONE STORAGE
Naloxone kits must be returned to the WPD Armory at the end of shift and will not be kept in patrol vehicles for extended periods of time. Naloxone is heat sensitive.

468.7 NALOXONE USE

Officers who have completed mandated Naloxone training by HCA/EMS are authorized to administer Naloxone when they reasonably believe someone is experiencing an opioid-related overdose. Personnel will treat the incident as a medical emergency and shall follow these steps when performing this intervention:

(a) Confirm emergency personnel are responding;

(b) Maintain universal precautions (i.e., wear medical gloves, face mask);

(c) Perform patient assessment;

(d) Determine unresponsiveness;

(e) Update dispatch of potential overdose state;

(f) Follow Naloxone use protocol. A Naloxone atomizer can only be administered intranasally.

(g) Immediately notify responding emergency medical personnel that Naloxone has been administered; and

(h) Notify the patrol Sergeant or Watch Commander.

468.8 DOCUMENTATION/NALOXONE REPORTS

Upon completion of the incident, officers will submit an incident report detailing the nature of the incident, the care the patient received and the fact Naloxone was deployed.

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468.8.1 REPORTING RESPONSIBILITY

The patrol sergeant will be responsible to ensure the incident report is completed and submitted to the Program Manager in accordance with standard report writing procedures. The Program Manager will ensure the incident report is forwarded to the Program Coordinator at HCA/EMS.

468.9 MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT

The daily inspection of Naloxone kits will be the responsibility of officers who are assigned the kit for field deployment. The maintenance and replacement of Naloxone kits will be the responsibility of the Program Manager or the authorized designee. Used, lost or damaged Naloxone kits shall be reported to the immediate supervisor and returned to the local Program Manager for replacement.

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Chapter 5 - Traffic Operations

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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 OFFICER DEPLOYMENT

Several factors are considered in the development of deployment schedules for officers of the Westminster Police Department. Information provided by the California Statewide Integrated Traffic Reporting System (SWITRS) is a valuable resource for traffic accident occurrences and therefore officer deployment. Some of the factors for analysis include:

- Location
- Time
- Day
- Violation factors

All officers assigned to patrol or traffic enforcement functions will emphasize enforcement of accident causing violations during high accident hours and at locations of occurrence. All officers will take directed enforcement action on request, and random enforcement action when appropriate against violators as a matter of routine. All officers shall maintain high visibility while working general enforcement, especially at high accident locations.

Other factors to be considered for deployment are requests from the public, construction zones or special events.

500.3 ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement actions are commensurate with applicable laws and take into account the degree and severity of the violation committed. This department does not establish ticket quotas and the number of arrests or citations issued by any officer shall not be used as the sole criterion for evaluating officer overall performance (Vehicle Code § 41603). The visibility and quality of an officer’s work effort will be commensurate with the philosophy of this policy. Several methods are effective in the reduction of collisions:

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500.3.1 WARNINGS
Warnings or other non-punitive enforcement actions should be considered in each situation and substituted for arrests or citations when circumstances warrant, especially in the case of inadvertent violations.

500.3.2 CITATIONS
Citations may be issued when an officer believes it is appropriate. It is essential that officers fully explain the rights and requirements imposed on motorists upon issuance of a citation for a traffic violation. Officers should provide the following information at a minimum:

(a) Explanation of the violation or charge

(b) Court appearance procedure including the optional or mandatory appearance by the motorist

(c) Notice of whether the motorist can enter a plea and pay the fine by mail or at the court

500.3.3 PHYSICAL ARREST
Physical arrest can be made on a number of criminal traffic offenses outlined in the Vehicle Code or Penal Code. These physical arrest cases usually deal with, but are not limited to:

(a) Vehicular manslaughter

(b) Felony and misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs

(c) Felony or misdemeanor hit-and-run

(d) Refusal to sign notice to appear

(e) Any other misdemeanor at the discretion of the officer, such as reckless driving with extenuating circumstances

500.4 SUSPENDED OR REVOKED DRIVERS LICENSES
If an officer contacts a traffic violator for driving on a suspended or revoked license, the officer may issue a traffic citation pursuant to Vehicle Code § 14601.

If a computer check of a traffic violator's license status reveals a suspended or revoked driver license and the traffic violator still has his or her license in possession, the license shall be seized by the officer. The officer shall verbally advise the traffic violator of the suspension or revocation and issue the citation. The officer will be responsible for filling out the Verbal Notice form (DMV form DL-310) and causing that form and license to be forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

500.5 HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS
The Department has provided American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Class II high-visibility vests to increase the visibility of department members who may be exposed to hazards presented by passing traffic, maneuvering or operating vehicles, machinery and equipment (23 CFR 655.601; 8 CCR 1598).

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Although intended primarily for use while performing traffic related assignments, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time increased visibility would improve the safety or efficiency of the member.

500.5.1 REQUIRED USE

Except when working in a potentially adversarial or confrontational role, such as during vehicle stops, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time it is anticipated that an employee will be exposed to the hazards of approaching traffic or construction and recovery equipment. Examples of when high-visibility vests should be worn include traffic control duties, accident investigations, lane closures and while at disaster scenes, or anytime high visibility is desirable. When emergency conditions preclude the immediate donning of the vest, officers 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 officer 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 police motorcycle and in the saddlebag or gear bag of each police bicycle. Each vest should be stored inside the re-sealable plastic bag provided to protect and maintain the vest in a serviceable condition. Before going into service each employee shall ensure a serviceable high-visibility vest is properly stored.

A supply of high-visibility vests will be maintained in the equipment room for replacement of damaged or unserviceable vests. The Training Sergeant should be promptly notified whenever the supply of vests in the equipment room needs replenishing.

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Traffic Collision Reporting

501.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Westminster Police Department prepares traffic collision reports in compliance with the California Highway Patrol Collision Investigation Manual (CIM) and as a public service makes traffic collision reports available to the community with some exceptions.

501.2 RESPONSIBILITY

The Traffic Sergeant will be responsible for distribution of the Collision Investigation Manual.

501.3 TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORTING

All traffic collision reports taken by members of this department shall be forwarded to the Traffic Bureau for approval and data entry into the Records Management System. The Commander in charge of the Traffic Division will be responsible for monthly and quarterly reports on traffic collision statistics to be forwarded to the Chief of Police or other persons as required.

501.4 REPORTING SITUATIONS

501.4.1 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS INVOLVING CITY VEHICLES

Traffic collision investigation reports shall be taken when a City-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision upon a roadway or highway wherein any damage or injury results. A general information report may be taken in lieu of a traffic collision report (CHP 555 form) at the direction of a supervisor when the collision occurs on private property or does not involve another vehicle. Whenever there is damage to a City vehicle, a Vehicle Damage Report shall be completed and forwarded to the appropriate Commander.

Photographs of the collision scene and vehicle damage shall be taken at the discretion of the traffic investigator or any supervisor.

501.4.2 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH POLICE 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 Westminster Police Department resulting in a serious injury or fatality, the Traffic Bureau Sergeant or the Watch Commander, may notify the California Highway Patrol for assistance.

The term serious injury is defined as any injury that may result in a fatality.

501.4.3 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIALS

The Commander in charge of the Traffic Division or the on-duty Watch Commander may request assistance from the California Highway Patrol for the investigation of any traffic collision involving any City official or employee where a serious injury or fatality has occurred.

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501.4.4 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

In compliance with the Collision Investigation Manual, traffic collision reports shall not be taken for traffic collisions occurring on private property unless there is a death or injury to any person involved, a hit-and-run violation, or Vehicle Code violation. An Incident Report may be taken at the discretion of any supervisor.

501.4.5 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON ROADWAYS OR HIGHWAYS

Traffic collision reports shall be taken when they occur on a roadway or highway within the jurisdiction of this department under any of the following circumstances:

(a) When there is a death or injury to any persons involved in the collision

501.4.6 NON INJURY TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to NOT respond to property damage only traffic collisions unless specific conditions are present. Parties involved will be instructed by WPD Dispatch to exchange information as required by California State law.

Property damage only collisions do NOT require a traffic accident report. For the purpose of this policy, a property damage only collision is any collision resulting in property (vehicle or other property) damage only.

Officers of this department will no longer respond to or document non-injury/property damage only traffic collision reports unless certain conditions apply. These include, but are not limited to:

1. One or more parties is refusing to exchange information.

2. Vehicles are blocking a roadway and cannot be immediately moved.

3. Damage poses danger to the public (e.g. vehicle vs. building or utility pole).

4. Damage exists to city, county, or public utilities property.

5. One or more of the drivers may be impaired.

6. Involves a city employee either on-duty or off-duty

Non-Injury/Property damage only collision reports will be taken using the CHP555 form if one of the parties refuses to exchange information, there is damage to city, county or public utilities property, one or more of the drivers is impaired (DUI), or the involved party is a city employee, either on-duty or off-duty.

In every other case where an officer responds to a non-injury/property damage only collision, the officer/PSO should assist all parties involved by completing a four part Accident Information Form (PD-309 form). All parties involved will receive a copy of the PD-309 form, which will be assigned a DR/Event number. The original (white copy) of the PD-309 form will be filed with the Records Division.

Officers/PSO's responsibilities at the scene of a traffic collision necessitating response include:

Traffic control

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Clearing roadways

Assisting parties in completing the four part Accident Information Form (PD-309).

Pulling an event number for the PD-309 form if no enforcment actions are taken.

Pull a DR number for the PD-309 form when any enforcment actions are taken (cites, impounds, etc.).

Providing parties with a copy of the completed PD-309 form.

Records Responsibilities:

Records personnel shall process PD-309 forms following established procedures for traffic collision record keeping.

The 902T collision reports that are issued a DR number shall be processed as normal. The information shall be data entered into Alliance RMS with people, vehicle and property information. The form shall be scanned into Liberty under the correct case number, if a case number exists. The retention of this document shall be for the established retention of case reports. Any citation referencing a 902T issued a DR number shall be cross referenced with the citation entry.

PD-309 forms issued an event number shall be placed in a binder in order by month and date. These reports will not require any data entry into Alliance RMS, but will require uploading to the on-line E-Commerce web site for sale of the report. The retention of this document shall be for a period of three (3) years.

WPD Dispatch Responsibilities:

WPD Dispatch should attempt to verify with the reporting parties whether the collision is a property damage only/non-injury collision or an injury collision. If the dispatcher can determine that the collision is a property damage only/non-injury collision, he/she will advise the involved parties to exchange information at the scene and that officers will not be responding. Such an incident will be documented as a "call for service" with the appropriate type code (902T) and closed with a disposition of "names exchanged."

If a dispatcher determines that any of the six conditions above exist that would necessitate an officer response, the dispatcher will dispatch officer(s) to the scene.

If the reporting party is not an involved party and cannot verify the possibility of injuries, the collision will be treated as an "unknown if injuries exist" incident. Officers will be dispatched to such an incident.

501.4.7 LATE TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORTS

Traffic collision reports are not to be taken over the telephone. All late collision reports should be taken at the collision scene or at WPD. When practical, the collision scene should be visited for proper documentation (measurements and photographs) and collection of any available physical evidence. No determination of the primary collision factor is required on late reports, unless, a complete investigation is completed.

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(a) Late reported collision is defined in Section 2.1 dd of the Collision Investigation Manual.

(b) Hit and run investigations may be initiated at the scene or at WPD. In the case of late reports where the victim and victim's vehicle are not available, no documentation should be taken.

(c) Non-injury reports will not be filed when only one of the involved parties is available! In those cases where one party wishes to file a report and is either unable or unwilling to have all involved parties present, an Incident Report may be filed.

(d) Late injury investigation/reports will be filled if the involved party claiming injury, resulting from the collision has documentation from a medical facility verifying treatment. If all involved parties are readily available, a complete investigation should be completed! In the event all parties are not available (after reasonable effort by the investigating officer) a report is sufficient, no PCF or diagram is required.

If a person claiming injury has not been to a medical facility for the claimed injury and no collision report is taken, but an Incident Report may be filed. In all instances a copy of the medical form must be attached to the report.

501.4.8 ADDING INFORMATION TO AN EXISTING REPORT

(a) Additional passengers ''' No documentation will be taken when someone comes to WPD to report an additional passenger in a vehicle, unless the reporting officer of the original report can confirm the existence of that additional passenger.

(b) Late report of injury ''' When someone comes to WPD with documentation of medical treatment, make a copy of the medical form and write the DR number at the top right corner. Write a follow up report documenting the addition of the medical form. There will be no change of the original report filed.

(c) Statements ''' should involved parties not agree with or wish to add information to the original report, they may write their own supplemental report. The supplemental report will be added to the original collision report file. The supplemental report should contain the DR number, the name of the submitting party, and the date the supplemental was filed. Copies of the changes are to be sent out to all parties who have previously received the original DR.

501.5 NOTIFICATION OF TRAFFIC BUREAU SUPERVISION

In the event of a serious injury or death related traffic collision, the Watch Commander shall notify the Traffic Sergeant to relate the circumstances of the traffic collision and seek assistance from the Traffic Bureau. In the absence of a Traffic Sergeant, the Watch Commander or any supervisor may assign an accident investigator or motor officer to investigate the traffic collision.

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501.6 TRAFFIC COLLISION INVESTIGATION RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary responsibility for traffic collision investigation and reporting is with the Traffic Police Service Officer (PSO). If the PSO is unavailable, the following sequence will be followed:

(a) Designated "Crash Motor" officer.

(b) First available patrol officer.

1. Traffic collision reports should not be held before being dispatched when any of the three classifications of above personnel are available:

(c) In the event of a fatal or life threatening injury traffic collision, the Traffic Bureau should be requested to assist. The responsibility for documenting all of the involved parties information, i.e.; pages 1 and 3 of the CHP 555 form, and any witnesses not willing to remain at the scene will be that of the initial responding officer(s).

(d) On all reports of injury traffic collisions, a police officer should be assigned for primary response and a PSO will be dispatched for filing the report.

(e) When a Traffic PSO determines fault at the conclusion of the investigation, and a citation is to be issued, the PS0 should request an officer to write a citation. To insure proper issuance of subpoenas, the citing officer shall list the PS0 as the arresting officer on the citation.

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Vehicle Towing and Release

502.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides the procedures for towing a vehicle by or at the direction of the Westminster Police Department. Nothing in this policy shall require the Department to tow a vehicle.

502.2 STORAGE AND IMPOUNDS

When circumstances permit, for example when towing a vehicle for parking or registration violations, the handling employee should, prior to having the vehicle towed, make a good faith effort to notify the owner of the vehicle that it is subject to removal. This may be accomplished by personal contact, telephone or by leaving a notice attached to the vehicle at least 24 hours prior to removal. If a vehicle presents a hazard, such as being abandoned on the roadway, it may be towed immediately.

The responsibilities of those employees towing, storing or impounding a vehicle are listed below.

502.2.1 VEHICLE STORAGE REPORT

Department members requesting towing, storage or impound of a vehicle shall complete CHP Form 180 and accurately record the mileage and a description of property within the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 22850). A copy of the storage report should to be given to the tow truck operator and the original shall be submitted to the Records Bureau as soon as practicable after the vehicle is stored.

502.2.2 REMOVAL FROM TRAFFIC COLLISION SCENES

When a vehicle has been involved in a traffic collision and must be removed from the scene, the officer shall have the driver select a towing company, if possible, and shall relay the request for the specified towing company to the dispatcher. When there is no preferred company requested, a company will be selected from the rotational list of towing companies in Dispatch.

If the owner is incapacitated, or for any reason it is necessary for the Department to assume responsibility for a vehicle involved in a collision, the officer shall request the dispatcher to call the official towing garage for the City of Westminster. The officer will then store the vehicle using a CHP Form 180.

502.2.3 STORAGE AT ARREST SCENES

Whenever a person in charge or in control of a vehicle is arrested, it is the policy of this department to provide reasonable safekeeping by storing the arrestee's vehicle subject to the exceptions described below. The vehicle, however, shall be stored whenever it is needed for the furtherance of the investigation or prosecution of the case, or when the community caretaker doctrine would reasonably suggest that the vehicle should be stored (e.g., traffic hazard, high crime area).

The following are examples of situations where consideration should be given to leaving a vehicle at the scene in lieu of storing, provided the vehicle can be lawfully parked and left in a reasonably secured and safe condition:

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- Traffic related warrant arrest.
- Situations where the vehicle was not used to further the offense for which the driver was arrested.
- Whenever the licensed owner of the vehicle is present, willing, and able to take control of any vehicle not involved in criminal activity.
- Whenever the vehicle otherwise does not need to be stored and the owner requests that it be left at the scene. In such cases the owner shall be informed that the Department will not be responsible for theft or damages.

502.2.4 IMPOUNDMENT AT SOBRIETY CHECKPOINTS

Whenever a driver is stopped at a sobriety checkpoint and the only violation is that the operator is driving without a valid driver's license, the officer shall make a reasonable attempt to identify the registered owner of the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 2814.2). The officer shall release the vehicle to the registered owner if the person is a licensed driver, or to another licensed driver authorized by the registered owner, provided the vehicle is claimed prior to the conclusion of the checkpoint operation.

If the vehicle is released at the checkpoint, the officer shall list on his/her copy of the notice to appear the name and driver's license number of the person to whom the vehicle is released.

When a vehicle cannot be released at the checkpoint, it shall be towed (Vehicle Code § 22651(p)). When a vehicle is removed at the checkpoint, it shall be released during the normal business hours of the storage facility to the registered owner or his/her agent upon presentation of a valid driver's license and current vehicle registration.

502.2.5 DRIVING A NON-CITY VEHICLE

Vehicles which have been towed by or at the direction of the Department should not be driven by police 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.

502.2.6 DISPATCHER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon receiving a request for towing, the dispatcher shall promptly telephone the specified authorized towing service. The officer 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.

502.2.7 RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITY

Records personnel shall promptly enter pertinent data from the completed storage form (CHP Form 180) into the Stolen Vehicle System and return the form to the Watch Commander for approval (Vehicle Code § 22651.5(b); Vehicle Code § 22851.3(b); Vehicle Code § 22854.5).

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Approved storage forms shall be promptly placed into the auto-file so that they are immediately available for release or review should inquiries be made.

Within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays, of the storage of any such vehicle it shall be the responsibility of the Records Bureau to determine the names and addresses of any individuals having an interest in the vehicle through DMV or CLETS computers. Notice shall be sent to all such individuals by first-class mail (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(d); Vehicle Code § 22852(a); Vehicle Code § 14602.6(a)(2)). The notice shall include the following (Vehicle Code § 22852(b)):

(a) The name, address, and telephone number of this Department.

(b) The location of the place of storage and description of the vehicle, which shall include, if available, the name or make, the manufacturer, the license plate number, and the mileage.

(c) The authority and purpose for the removal of the vehicle.

(d) A statement that, in order to receive their post-storage hearing, the owners, or their agents, shall request the hearing in person, writing, or by telephone within 10 days of the date appearing on the notice.

502.3 TOWING SERVICES

The City of Westminster periodically selects a firm to act as the official tow service and awards a contract to that firm. This firm will be used in the following situations:

(a) When it is necessary to safeguard a vehicle due to the inability of the owner or operator to take the required action.

(b) When a vehicle is being held as evidence in connection with an investigation.

(c) When it is otherwise necessary to store a motor vehicle. This would include situations involving the recovery of stolen or abandoned vehicles, and the removal from the streets of vehicles obstructing traffic in violation of state or local regulations.

502.3.1 "NO PREFERENCE" TOW SERVICES

Upon proper application, the Traffic Bureau may approve qualified towing services to be called when a citizen needs towing but has "no preference" as to which service to call.

A tow service operator, seeking designation as an authorized "No Preference" towing service, may obtain a copy of the Specifications for Non-preference Rotating Towing and Storage Services and application from the Traffic Bureau Lieutenant. All completed applications shall be maintained in the office of the Traffic Bureau.

All applicants who are approved as "No Preference" operators shall adhere to the specifications for Non-Preference Rotating Towing and Storage Services during the life of their agreement.

Any complaint alleging a violation of the agreement or other misconduct by a "No Preference" operator shall be referred to the Traffic Bureau for investigation. The Traffic Bureau Lieutenant may periodically review the performance of each authorized "No Preference" operator.

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The Police Department will assist citizens by calling any towing company desired. If the citizen has no preference and requests that an officer call a towing company, one of the authorized firms shall be called in rotation.

All officers are specifically prohibited from directly or indirectly soliciting for or recommending any garage or tow service.

502.4 VEHICLE INVENTORY

All property in a stored or impounded vehicle shall be inventoried and listed on the vehicle storage form. This includes the trunk and any compartments or containers, even if closed and/or locked. Members conducting inventory searches should be as thorough and accurate as practical in preparing an itemized inventory. These inventory procedures are for the purpose of protecting an owner's property while in police custody, to provide for the safety of officers, and to protect the Department against fraudulent claims of lost, stolen, or damaged property.

502.5 SECURITY OF VEHICLES AND PROPERTY

Unless it would cause an unreasonable delay in the completion of a vehicle impound/storage or create an issue of officer safety, officers 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, personnel conducting the search shall take such steps as are reasonably necessary to secure and/or preserve the vehicle or property from such hazards.

502.6 RELEASE OF VEHICLE

The Department will maintain a listed, 24-hour telephone number to provide information regarding impoundment of vehicles and the right of the registered owner to request a storage hearing. Releases for towed vehicles will be made available during regular, non-emergency business hours (Vehicle Code § 14602.6).

(a) Vehicles removed pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22850 shall be released after proof of current registration is provided by the owner or the person in control of the vehicle and after all applicable fees are paid (Vehicle Code § 22850.3; Vehicle Code § 22850.5).

(b) Vehicles removed that require payment of parking fines or proof of valid driver’s license shall only be released upon presentation of proof of compliance, proof of payment, completion of affidavit and payment of applicable fees related to the removal (Vehicle Code § 22651 et seq., Vehicle Code § 22652 et seq., Vehicle Code § 22850.3; Vehicle Code § 22850.5).

(c) A vehicle removed pursuant to Vehicle Code § 14602.6(a) shall be released to the registered owner or his/her agent with proof of current registration, proof of a valid driver’s license and applicable fees paid prior to the end of the 30-day impoundment period under any of the following circumstances:

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1. The vehicle was stolen.
2. If the driver reinstates his/her driver's license or acquires a license and provides proof of proper insurance.
3. Any other circumstance as set forth in Vehicle Code § 14602.6.
4. When there is no remaining community caretaking need to continue impound of the vehicle or the continued impound would not otherwise comply with the Fourth Amendment.

Personnel whose duties include releasing towed vehicles should consult the Vehicle Code under which the vehicle was towed or impounded for any specific requirements prior to release.

Employees who suspect that a vehicle was impounded in error should promptly advise a supervisor. Supervisors should approve, when appropriate, the release of the vehicle without requiring the registered owner or his/her agent to request a hearing, as described in the Vehicle Impound Hearings Policy.

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Vehicle Impound Hearings

503.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a procedure for the requirement to provide vehicle storage or impound hearings pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22852.

503.2 STORED OR IMPOUND HEARING

When a vehicle is stored or impounded by any member of the Westminster Police Department, a hearing will be conducted upon the request of the registered or legal owner of the vehicle or his/her agent (Vehicle Code § 22650(a); Vehicle Code § 22852(a)).

The hearing shall be conducted within 48 hours of the request, excluding weekends and holidays. The hearing officer must be a person other than the person who directed the storage or impound of the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 22852(c)).

503.2.1 HEARING PROCEDURES

The vehicle storage hearing is an informal process to evaluate the validity of an order to store or impound a vehicle. The employee who caused the storage or removal of the vehicle does not need to be present for this hearing.

All requests for a hearing on a stored or impounded vehicle shall be submitted in person, in writing or by telephone within 10 days of the date appearing on the notice (Vehicle Code § 22852(b)). The Traffic Sergeant will generally serve as the hearing officer. The person requesting the hearing may record the hearing at his/her own expense.

The failure of either the registered or legal owner or interested person or his/her agent to request a hearing in a timely manner or to attend a scheduled hearing shall be considered a waiver of and satisfaction of the post-storage hearing requirement (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(e)(2); Vehicle Code § 22852(d)).

Any relevant evidence may be submitted and reviewed by the hearing officer to determine if reasonable grounds have been established for the storage or impound of the vehicle. The initial burden of proof established by a preponderance of the evidence that the storage/impound was based on probable cause rests with the Department.

After consideration of all information, the hearing officer shall determine the validity of the storage or impound of the vehicle in question and then render a decision. The hearing officer shall also consider any mitigating circumstances attendant to the storage that reasonably would warrant the release of the vehicle or a modification or reduction of the period the vehicle is impounded (Vehicle Code §14602.6(b); Vehicle Code § 14602.8(b)).

Aside from those mitigating circumstances enumerated in the Vehicle Code, the registered owner's lack of actual knowledge that the driver to whom the vehicle was loaned was not validly licensed may constitute a mitigating circumstance under Vehicle Code § 14602.6(b) or 14602.8(b), warranting release of the vehicle. This mitigating circumstance exception is not limited to situations

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where the owner made a reasonable inquiry as to the licensed status of the driver before lending the vehicle.

The legislative intent and this department's policy is to prevent unlicensed driving pursuant to Vehicle Code §14602.6. If this purpose is not furthered by the continued impoundment of a vehicle, release is most often appropriate.

(a) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage or impound have been established, the hearing officer shall advise the inquiring party of the decision and that the inquiring party may pursue further civil remedies if desired.

1. If mitigating circumstances are found to be relevant, the hearing officer shall make reasonable adjustments to the impound period, storage or assessment of fees as warranted.

(b) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage or impound have not been established or sufficient mitigating circumstances exist, the vehicle in storage shall be released immediately. Towing and storage fees will be paid at the Department's expense (Vehicle Code § 22852(e)).

(c) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage have not been established or sufficient mitigating circumstances exist, and the vehicle has been released with fees having been paid, the receipt for such fees will be forwarded with a letter to the appropriate Commander. The hearing officer will recommend to the appropriate Commander that the fees paid by the registered or legal owner of the vehicle in question or their agent be reimbursed by the Department.

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Impaired Driving

504.1 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).

504.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department is committed to the safety of the roadways and the community and will pursue fair but aggressive enforcement of California's impaired driving laws.

504.3 INVESTIGATIONS

Officers should not enforce DUI laws to the exclusion of their other duties unless specifically assigned to DUI enforcement. All officers are expected to enforce these laws with due diligence.

The Traffic Sergeant will develop and maintain, in consultation with the prosecuting attorney, report forms with appropriate checklists to assist investigating officers in documenting relevant information and maximizing efficiency. Any DUI investigation will be documented using these forms. Information documented elsewhere on the form does not need to be duplicated in the report narrative. Information that should be documented includes, at a minimum:

(a) The field sobriety tests (FSTs) administered and the results.

(b) The officer's observations that indicate impairment on the part of the individual, and the officer's health-related inquiries that may help to identify any serious health concerns (e.g., diabetic shock).

(c) Sources of additional information (e.g., reporting party, witnesses) and their observations.

(d) Information about any audio and/or video recording of the individual's driving or subsequent actions.

(e) The location and time frame of the individual's vehicle operation and how this was determined.

(f) Any prior related convictions in California or another jurisdiction.

504.4 FIELD TESTS

The Traffic Sergeant should identify standardized FSTs and any approved alternate tests for officers to use when investigating violations of DUI laws.

504.5 CHEMICAL TESTS

A person implies consent to a chemical test or tests, and to providing the associated chemical sample, under any of the following (Vehicle Code § 23612):

(a) The person is arrested for driving a vehicle while under the influence, pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23152.

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(b) The person is under 21 years of age and is arrested by an officer having reasonable cause to believe that the person's blood alcohol content is 0.05 or more (Vehicle Code § 23140).

(c) The person is under 21 years of age and detained by an officer having reasonable cause to believe that the person was driving a vehicle while having a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more (Vehicle Code § 23136).

(d) The person was operating a vehicle while under the influence and proximately caused bodily injury to another person (Vehicle Code § 23153).

If a person withdraws this implied consent, or is unable to withdraw consent (e.g., the person is unconscious), the officer should consider implied consent revoked and proceed as though the person has refused to provide a chemical sample.

504.5.1 CHOICE OF TESTS

Officers shall respect a viable choice of chemical test made by an arrestee, as provided for by law (e.g., breath will not be acceptable for suspected narcotics influence).

A person arrested for DUI has the choice of whether the test is of his/her blood or breath, and the officer shall advise the person that he/she has that choice. If the person arrested either is incapable, or states that he/she is incapable, of completing the chosen test, the person shall submit to the remaining test.

If the person chooses to submit to a breath test and there is reasonable cause to believe that the person is under the influence of a drug or the combined influence of alcohol and any drug, the officer may also request that the person submit to a blood test. If the person is incapable of completing a blood test, the person shall submit to and complete a urine test (Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(2)(C)).

504.5.2 BREATH SAMPLES

The Traffic 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.

Officers 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 Traffic Sergeant.

When the arrested person chooses a breath test, the handling officer shall advise the person that the breath-testing equipment does not retain a sample, and the person may, if desired, provide a blood or urine specimen, which will be retained to facilitate subsequent verification testing (Vehicle Code § 23614).

The officer should also require the person to submit to a blood test if the officer has a clear indication that a blood test will reveal evidence of any drug or the combined influence of an

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alcoholic beverage and any drug. Evidence of the officer's belief shall be included in the officer's report (Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(2)(C)).

504.5.3 BLOOD SAMPLES

Only persons authorized by law to draw blood shall collect blood samples (Vehicle Code § 23158). The blood draw should be witnessed by the assigned officer. No officer, even if properly certified, should perform this task.

Officers should inform an arrestee that if he/she chooses to provide a blood sample, a separate sample can be collected for alternate testing. Unless medical personnel object, two samples should be collected and retained as evidence, so long as only one puncture is required.

The blood sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

If an arrestee cannot submit to a blood draw because he/she has a bleeding disorder or has taken medication that inhibits coagulation, he/she shall not be required to take a blood test. Such inability to take a blood test should not be considered a refusal. However, that arrestee may be required to complete another available and viable test.

504.5.4 URINE SAMPLES

If a urine test will be performed, the arrestee should be promptly transported to the appropriate testing site. The officer shall follow any directions accompanying the urine evidence collection kit.

Urine samples shall be collected and witnessed by an officer or jail staff member of the same sex as the individual giving the sample. The arrestee should be allowed sufficient privacy to maintain his/her dignity, to the extent possible, while still ensuring the accuracy of the sample (Vehicle Code § 23158(i)).

The sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

504.5.5 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS

Officers requesting that a person submit to chemical testing shall provide the person with the mandatory warning pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(1)(D) and Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(4).

504.5.6 PRELIMINARY ALCOHOL SCREENING

Officers may use a preliminary alcohol screening (PAS) test to assist in establishing reasonable cause to believe a person is DUI. The officer shall advise the person that the PAS test is being requested to assist in determining whether the person is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or a combination of the two. Unless the person is under the age of 21, he/she shall be advised that the PAS test is voluntary. The officer shall also advise the person that submitting to a PAS test does not satisfy his/her obligation to submit to a chemical test as otherwise required by law (Vehicle Code § 23612).

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504.5.7 PRELIMINARY ALCOHOL SCREENING FOR A PERSON UNDER AGE 21

If an officer lawfully detains a person under 21 years of age who is driving a motor vehicle and the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person has a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more, the officer shall request that the person take a PAS test to determine the presence of alcohol in the person, if a PAS test device is immediately available. If a PAS test device is not immediately available, the officer may request the person to submit to chemical testing of his/her blood, breath or urine, conducted pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23612 (Vehicle Code § 13388).

If the person refuses to take or fails to complete the PAS test or other chemical test, or if the result of either test reveals a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more, the officer shall proceed to serve the person with a notice of order of suspension pursuant to this policy (Vehicle Code § 13388).

504.6 REFUSALS

When an arrestee refuses to provide a viable chemical sample, officers should:

(a) Advise the arrestee of the requirement to provide a sample (Vehicle Code § 23612).

(b) Audio- and/or video-record the admonishment when it is practicable.

(c) Document the refusal in the appropriate report.

504.6.1 BLOOD SAMPLE WITHOUT CONSENT

A blood sample may be obtained from a person who refuses a chemical test when any of the following conditions exist:

(a) A search warrant has been obtained (Penal Code § 1524).

(b) The officer can articulate that exigent circumstances exist. Exigency does not exist solely because of the short time period associated with the natural dissipation of alcohol or controlled or prohibited substances in the person's bloodstream. Exigency can be established by the existence of special facts such as a lengthy time delay in obtaining a blood sample due to an accident investigation or medical treatment of the person.

504.6.2 FORCED BLOOD SAMPLE

If an arrestee indicates by word or action that he/she will physically resist a blood draw, the officer 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 officer) and attempt to persuade the individual to submit to such a sample without physical resistance.

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1. This dialogue should be recorded on audio and/or video if practicable.

(d) Ensure that the blood sample is taken in a medically approved manner.

(e) Ensure the forced blood draw is recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.

(f) Monitor and ensure that the type and level of force applied appears reasonable under the circumstances:

1. Unless otherwise provided in a warrant, force should generally be limited to handcuffing or similar restraint methods.

2. In misdemeanor cases, if the arrestee becomes violent or more resistant, no additional force will be used and a refusal should be noted in the report.

3. In felony cases, force which reasonably appears necessary to overcome the resistance to the blood draw may be permitted.

(g) Ensure the use of force and methods used to accomplish the collection of the blood sample are documented in the related report.

If a supervisor is unavailable, officers are expected to use sound judgment and perform as a responding supervisor, as set forth above.

504.6.3 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS UPON REFUSAL

Upon refusal to submit to a chemical test as required by law, officers shall personally serve the notice of order of suspension upon the arrestee and take possession of any state-issued license to operate a motor vehicle that is held by that individual (Vehicle Code § 23612(e); Vehicle Code § 23612(f)).

504.7 RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES

The Records Supervisor will ensure that all case-related records are transmitted according to current records procedures and as required by the prosecuting attorney's office.

504.8 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

The Records Supervisor will ensure that all appropriate reports and documents related to administrative license suspensions are reviewed and forwarded to DMV.

Any officer who receives notice of required attendance to an administrative license suspension hearing should promptly notify the prosecuting attorney.

An officer called to testify at an administrative hearing should document the hearing date and DMV file number in a supplemental report. Specific details of the hearing generally should not be included in the report unless errors, additional evidence or witnesses are identified.

504.9 ARREST AND INVESTIGATION

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504.9.1 WARRANTLESS ARREST

In addition to the arrest authority granted to officers pursuant to Penal Code § 836, an officer may make a warrantless arrest of a person that the officer has reasonable cause to believe has been driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or any drug, or under the combined influence of the same when (Vehicle Code § 40300.5):

(a) The person is involved in a traffic accident.

(b) The person is observed in or about a vehicle that is obstructing the roadway.

(c) The person will not be apprehended unless immediately arrested.

(d) The person may cause injury to him/herself or damage property unless immediately arrested.

(e) The person may destroy or conceal evidence of a crime unless immediately arrested.

504.9.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

The officer serving the arrested person with a notice of an order of suspension shall immediately (Vehicle Code § 23612):

(a) Forward a copy of the completed notice of suspension or revocation form and any confiscated driver's license to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

(b) Forward a sworn report to DMV that contains the required information in Vehicle Code § 13380.

(c) Forward the results to the appropriate forensic laboratory if the person submitted to a blood or urine test.

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Traffic Citations

505.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy outlines the responsibility for traffic citations, the procedure for dismissal, correction, and voiding of traffic citations.

505.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Traffic Sergeant shall be responsible for the development and design of all Department traffic citations in compliance with state law and the Judicial Council.

The Records Bureau shall be responsible for the supply and accounting of all traffic citations issued to employees of this department.

505.3 DISMISSAL OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Employees of this department do not have the authority to dismiss a citation once it has been issued. Only the court has the authority to dismiss a citation that has been issued (Vehicle Code § 40500(d)). Any request from a recipient to dismiss a citation shall be referred to the Traffic Bureau Manager. Upon a review of the circumstances involving the issuance of the traffic citation, the Traffic Bureau Manager may request the Operations Commander 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 an officer determine during a court proceeding that a traffic citation should be dismissed in the interest of justice or where prosecution is deemed inappropriate the officer may request the court to dismiss the citation. Upon dismissal of the traffic citation by the court, the officer shall notify his/her immediate supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the dismissal and shall complete any paperwork as directed or required. The citation dismissal shall then be forwarded to the Operations Commander for review.

505.4 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.

505.5 CORRECTION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

When a traffic citation is issued and in need of correction, the officer issuing the citation shall submit the citation and a letter requesting a specific correction to his/her immediate supervisor. 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.

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505.6 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 Records Bureau.

Upon separation from employment with this department, all employees issued traffic citation books shall return any unused citations to the Records Bureau.

505.7 NOTICE OF PARKING VIOLATION APPEAL PROCEDURE

Disposition of notice of parking violation appeals is conducted pursuant to Vehicle Code § 40215.

505.7.1 APPEAL STAGES

Appeals may be pursued sequentially at three different levels (Vehicle Code § 40215; Vehicle Code § 40230):

(a) Administrative reviews are conducted by the Traffic Bureau who will review written/documentary data. Requests for administrative reviews are available at the front desk or Traffic Bureau of the Westminster Police Department. These requests are informal written statements outlining why the notice of parking violation should be dismissed. Copies of documentation relating to the notice of parking violation and the request for dismissal must be mailed to the current mailing address of the processing agency.

(b) If the appellant wishes to pursue the matter beyond administrative review, an administrative hearing may be conducted in person or by written application, at the election of the appellant. Independent referees review the existent administrative file, amendments, and/or testimonial material provided by the appellant and may conduct further investigation or follow-up on their own.

(c) If the appellant wishes to pursue the matter beyond an administrative hearing, a Superior Court review may be presented in person by the appellant after an application for review and designated filing fees have been paid to the Superior Court of California.

505.7.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS

Administrative review or appearance before a hearing examiner will not be provided if the mandated time limits are not adhered to by the violator.

(a) Requests for an administrative review must be postmarked within 21 calendar days of issuance of the notice of parking violation, or within 14 calendar days of the mailing of the Notice of Delinquent Parking Violation (Vehicle Code § 40215(a)).

(b) Requests for administrative hearings must be made no later than 21 calendar days following the notification mailing of the results of the administrative review (Vehicle Code § 40215(b)).

(c) An administrative hearing shall be held within 90 calendar days following the receipt of a request for an administrative hearing, excluding time tolled pursuant to Vehicle Code § 40200 - 40225. The person requesting the hearing may request one continuance, not to exceed 21 calendar days (Vehicle Code § 40215).

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(d) Registered owners of vehicles may transfer responsibility for the violation via timely affidavit of non-liability when the vehicle has been transferred, rented or under certain other circumstances (Vehicle Code § 40209; Vehicle Code § 40210).

505.7.3 COSTS

(a) There is no cost for an administrative review.

(b) Appellants must deposit the full amount due for the citation before receiving an administrative hearing, unless the person is indigent, as defined in Vehicle Code § 40220, and provides satisfactory proof of inability to pay (Vehicle Code § 40215).

(c) An appeal through Superior Court requires prior payment of filing costs, including applicable court charges and fees. These costs will be reimbursed to the appellant in addition to any previously paid fines if appellant's liability is overruled by the Superior Court.

505.8 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.

The following guidelines shall be followed based on the information available:

505.8.1 MISDEMEANOR CITATIONS

COUNTY RESIDENT: Shall be cited into the Juvenile Traffic Court allowing a minimum of five weeks for processing. Only misdemeanor traffic citations (including Vehicle Code § 12500(a)) shall be cited into this court.

OTHER COUNTY RESIDENT: Residents of other counties shall not be cited to the County Juvenile Court, but shall be advised that the appropriate court will contact them by mail. Officers shall write "To be Notified" in the citation court appearance section.

The full name of the juvenile's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) should be written on the back of the citation along with his/her home phone number.

505.8.2 INFRACTION CITATIONS

Juveniles between the ages of 14 and 19 who are issued a citation for an infraction, shall be cited into the County Court in the same manner as for adults. Residency is not a consideration in this case.

Juveniles under the age of 14 shall be cited as stated in the Misdemeanor Citations subsection above.

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Disabled Vehicles

506.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Vehicle Code § 20018 provides that all law enforcement agencies having responsibility for traffic enforcement may develop and adopt a written policy to provide assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles within their primary jurisdiction.

506.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY

When an on-duty officer observes a disabled vehicle on the roadway, the officer should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If that officer 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 officer to respond for assistance as soon as practical.

506.3 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.

506.3.1 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.

506.3.2 RELOCATION OF DISABLED VEHICLES

The relocation of disabled vehicles by members of this department by pushing or pulling a vehicle should only occur when the conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to reduce a hazard presented by the disabled vehicle.

506.3.3 RELOCATION OF DISABLED MOTORIST

The relocation of a disabled motorist should only occur with the person’s consent and should be suggested when conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to mitigate a potential hazard. The department member may stay with the disabled motorist or transport him/her to a safe area to await pickup.

506.4 PUBLIC ACCESS TO THIS POLICY

This written policy is available upon request.

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72-Hour Parking Violations

507.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides procedures for the marking, recording, and storage of vehicles parked in violation of the Westminster City Ordinance regulating 72-hour parking violations and abandoned vehicles under the authority of Vehicle Code § 22669.

507.2 MARKING VEHICLES

Vehicles suspected of being in violation of the City of Westminster 72-Hour Parking Ordinance shall be marked and noted on the Westminster Police Department Marked Vehicle Card. No case number is required at this time.

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. The investigating employee should make a good faith effort to notify the owner of any vehicle subject to towing prior to having the vehicle removed. This may be accomplished by personal contact, telephone or by leaving notice attached to the vehicle at least 24 hours prior to removal.

All Marked Vehicle Cards shall be submitted to the Traffic Bureau for computer data entry.

If a marked vehicle has been moved or the markings have been removed during a 72-hour investigation period, the vehicle shall be marked again for the 72-hour parking violation and a Marked Vehicle Card completed and forwarded to the Traffic Bureau.

Parking citations for the 72-hour parking ordinance shall not be issued when the vehicle is stored for the 72-hour parking violation.

507.2.1 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 72-hour parking violations noted on the Marked Vehicle Cards.

507.2.2 VEHICLE STORAGE

Any vehicle in violation shall be stored by the authorized towing service and a vehicle storage report shall be completed by the officer authorizing the storage of the vehicle.

The storage report form shall be submitted to the Records Bureau immediately following the storage of the vehicle. It shall be the responsibility of the Records Bureau to immediately notify the Stolen Vehicle System (SVS) of the Department of Justice in Sacramento (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(b)). Notification may also be made to the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS)(Vehicle Code § 22854.5).

Within 48 hours of the storage of any such vehicle, excluding weekends and holidays, it shall be the responsibility of the Records Bureau to determine the names and addresses of any individuals

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having an interest in the vehicle through DMV or CLETS computers. Notice to all such individuals shall be sent first-class or certified mail pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22851.3(d).

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Chapter 6 - Investigation Operations

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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 Westminster Police Department to investigate crimes thoroughly and with due diligence, and to evaluate and prepare criminal cases for appropriate clearance or submission to a prosecutor.

600.3 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATION REQUIREMENTS

Suspects who are in custody and subjected to an interrogation shall be given the *Miranda* warning, unless an exception applies. Interview or interrogation of a juvenile shall be in accordance with the Temporary Custody of Juveniles Policy.

600.3.1 AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS

Any custodial interrogation of an individual who is suspected of having committed any violent felony offense should be recorded (audio or video with audio as available) in its entirety. Regardless of where the interrogation occurs, every reasonable effort should be made to secure functional recording equipment to accomplish such recordings.

Consideration should also be given to recording a custodial interrogation, or any investigative interview, for any other offense when it is reasonable to believe it would be appropriate and beneficial to the investigation and is otherwise allowed by law.

No recording of a custodial interrogation should be destroyed or altered without written authorization from the prosecuting attorney and the Detective Bureau supervisor. Copies of recorded interrogations or interviews may be made in the same or a different format as the original recording, provided the copies are true, accurate and complete and are made only for authorized and legitimate law enforcement purposes.

Recordings should not take the place of a thorough report and investigative interviews. Written statements from suspects should continue to be obtained when applicable.

600.3.2 MANDATORY RECORDING OF ADULTS

Any custodial interrogation of an adult who is suspected of having committed any murder shall be recorded in its entirety. The recording should be video with audio if reasonably feasible (Penal Code § 859.5).

This recording is not mandatory when (Penal Code § 859.5):

(a) Recording is not feasible because of exigent circumstances that are later documented in a report.

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(b) The suspect refuses to have the interrogation recorded, including a refusal any time during the interrogation, and the refusal is documented in a report. If feasible, the refusal shall be electronically recorded.

(c) The custodial interrogation occurred in another state by law enforcement officers of that state, unless the interrogation was conducted with the intent to avoid the requirements of Penal Code § 859.5.

(d) The interrogation occurs when no member conducting the interrogation has a reason to believe that the individual may have committed murder. Continued custodial interrogation concerning that offense shall be electronically recorded if the interrogating member develops a reason to believe the individual committed murder.

(e) The interrogation would disclose the identity of a confidential informant or would jeopardize the safety of an officer, the individual being interrogated or another individual. Such circumstances shall be documented in a report.

(f) A recording device fails despite reasonable maintenance and the timely repair or replacement is not feasible.

(g) The questions are part of a routine processing or booking, and are not an interrogation.

(h) The suspect is in custody for murder and the interrogation is unrelated to a murder. However, if any information concerning a murder is mentioned during the interrogation, the remainder of the interrogation shall be recorded.

The Department shall maintain an original or an exact copy of the recording until a conviction relating to the interrogation is final and all appeals are exhausted or prosecution is barred by law (Penal Code § 859.5).

600.4 INITIAL INVESTIGATION

600.4.1 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

An officer 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 officer 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 Watch Commander.
4. Make reasonable attempts to locate, identify and interview all available victims, complainants, witnesses and suspects.

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5. Collect any evidence.
6. Take any appropriate law enforcement action.
7. Complete and submit the appropriate reports and documentation.

(c) If the preliminary determination is that no crime occurred, determine what other action may be necessary, what other resources may be available, and advise the informant or complainant of this information.

600.4.2 CIVILIAN MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

A civilian member assigned to any preliminary investigation is responsible for all investigative steps, except making any attempt to locate, contact or interview a suspect face-to-face or take any enforcement action. Should an initial investigation indicate that those steps are required, the assistance of an officer shall be requested.

600.5 DISCONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATIONS

The investigation of a criminal case or efforts to seek prosecution should only be discontinued if one of the following applies:

(a) All reasonable investigative efforts have been exhausted, no reasonable belief that the person who committed the crime can be identified, and the incident has been documented appropriately.

(b) The 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.

(c) 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.

(d) Suspects have been arrested, there are no other suspects, and further investigation is either not warranted or requested.

(e) Investigation has proven that a crime was not committed (see the Sexual Assault Investigations Policy for special considerations in these cases).

The Domestic Violence, Child Abuse Sexual Assault Investigations, and Senior and Disability Victimization policies may also require an arrest or submittal of a case to a prosecutor.

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, officers should request that computer forensic examiners assist with seizing computers and related evidence. If a forensic examiner is unavailable, officers should take reasonable steps to prepare for such seizure and use the resources that are available.

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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 the 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. Officers should seek legal counsel before any such interception.

600.8 MODIFICATION OF CHARGES FILED

Members are not authorized to recommend to the prosecutor or to any other official of the court that charges on a pending case be amended or dismissed without the authorization of a Commander

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or the Chief of Police. Any authorized request to modify the charges or to recommend dismissal of charges shall be made to the prosecutor.

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Sexual Assault Investigations

602.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the investigation of sexual assaults. These guidelines will address some of the unique aspects of such cases and the effects that these crimes have on the victims.

Mandatory notifications requirements are addressed in the Child Abuse and Senior and Disability Victimization policies.

602.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Sexual assault - Any crime or attempted crime of a sexual nature, to include but not limited to offenses defined in Penal Code § 243.4, Penal Code § 261 et seq., and Penal Code § 285 et seq.

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) - A multidisciplinary team generally comprised of advocates; law enforcement officers; forensic medical examiners, including sexual assault forensic examiners (SAFEs) or sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) if possible; forensic laboratory personnel; and prosecutors. The team is designed to coordinate a broad response to sexual assault victims.

602.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department that its members, when responding to reports of sexual assaults, will strive to minimize the trauma experienced by the victims, and will aggressively investigate sexual assaults, pursue expeditious apprehension and conviction of perpetrators, and protect the safety of the victims and the community.

602.3 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS

Qualified investigators should be available for assignment of sexual assault investigations. These investigators should:

(a) Have specialized training in, and be familiar with, interview techniques and the medical and legal issues that are specific to sexual assault investigations.

(b) Conduct follow-up interviews and investigation.

(c) Present appropriate cases of alleged sexual assault to the prosecutor for review.

(d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and medical personnel as needed.

(e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates and support for the victim.

(f) Participate in or coordinate with SART.

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602.4 REPORTING

In all reported or suspected cases of sexual assault, a report should be written and assigned for follow-up investigation. This includes incidents in which the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated.

602.5 RELEASING INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

In cases where the perpetrator is not known to the victim, and especially if there are multiple crimes where more than one appear to be related, consideration should be given to releasing information to the public whenever there is a reasonable likelihood that doing so may result in developing helpful investigative leads. The Detective Bureau supervisor should weigh the risk of alerting the suspect to the investigation with the need to protect the victim and the public, and to prevent more crimes.

602.6 TRAINING

Subject to available resources, periodic training should be provided to:

(a) Members who are first responders. Training should include:

1. Initial response to sexual assaults.
2. Legal issues.
3. Victim advocacy.
4. Victim’s response to trauma.
5. Proper use and handling of the California standardized SAFE kit (Penal Code § 13823.14).

(b) Qualified investigators, who should receive advanced training on additional topics. Advanced training should include:

1. Interviewing sexual assault victims.
2. SART.
3. Medical and legal aspects of sexual assault investigations.
4. Serial crimes investigations.
5. Use of community and other federal and state investigative resources, such as the Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP).
6. Techniques for communicating with victims to minimize trauma.

602.7 VICTIM INTERVIEWS

The primary considerations in sexual assault investigations, which begin with the initial call to Dispatch, should be the health and safety of the victim, the preservation of evidence, and preliminary interviews to determine if a crime has been committed and to attempt to identify the suspect.

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Whenever possible, a member of SART should be included in the initial victim interviews. An in-depth follow-up interview should not be conducted until after the medical and forensic examinations are completed and the personal needs of the victim have been met (e.g., change of clothes, bathing). The follow-up interview may be delayed to the following day based upon the circumstances. Whenever practicable, the follow-up interview should be conducted by a qualified investigator.

No opinion of whether the case is unfounded shall be included in the report.

Victims shall not be asked or required to take a polygraph examination (34 USC § 10451; Penal Code § 637.4).

Victims should be apprised of applicable victim's rights provisions, as outlined in the Victim and Witness Assistance Policy.

602.7.1 VICTIM RIGHTS

Whenever there is an alleged sexual assault, the assigned officer shall accomplish the following:

(a) Advise the victim in writing of the right to have a victim advocate and a support person of the victim's choosing present at any interview or contact by law enforcement, any other rights of a sexual assault victim pursuant to Penal Code § 680.2, and the right to have a person of the same or opposite gender present in the room during any interview with a law enforcement official unless no such person is reasonably available (Penal Code § 679.04).

(b) If the victim is transported to a hospital for any medical evidentiary or physical examination, the officer shall immediately cause the local rape victim counseling center to be notified (Penal Code § 264.2).

    1. The officer shall not discourage a victim from receiving a medical evidentiary or physical examination (Penal Code § 679.04).

    2. A support person may be excluded from the examination by the officer or the medical provider if his/her presence would be detrimental to the purpose of the examination (Penal Code § 264.2).

602.7.2 VICTIM CONFIDENTIALITY

Officers investigating or receiving a report of an alleged sex offense shall inform the victim, or the victim's parent or guardian if the victim is a minor, that his/her name will become a matter of public record unless the victim requests that his/her name not be made public. The reporting officer shall document in his/her report that the victim was properly informed and shall include any related response made by the victim, or if a minor, any response made by the victim's parent or guardian (Penal Code § 293).

Except as authorized by law, members of this department shall not publicly disclose the name of any victim of a sex crime who has exercised his/her right to confidentiality (Penal Code § 293).

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602.8 COLLECTION AND TESTING OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Whenever possible, a SART member should be involved in the collection of forensic evidence from the victim.

When the facts of the case indicate that collection of biological evidence is warranted, it should be collected regardless of how much time has elapsed since the reported assault.

If a drug-facilitated sexual assault is suspected, urine and blood samples should be collected from the victim as soon as practicable.

Subject to requirements set forth in this policy, biological evidence from all sexual assault cases, including cases where the suspect is known by the victim, should be submitted for testing.

Victims who choose not to assist with an investigation, do not desire that the matter be investigated, or wish to remain anonymous may still consent to the collection of evidence under their control. In these circumstances, the evidence should be collected and stored appropriately.

602.8.1 COLLECTION AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Members investigating a sexual assault offense should take every reasonable step to ensure that DNA testing of such evidence is performed in a timely manner and within the time periods prescribed by Penal Code § 803(g). SAFE kits should be submitted to the crime lab within 20 days after being booked into evidence (Penal Code § 680).

In order to maximize the effectiveness of such testing and identify the perpetrator of any sexual assault, the assigned officer shall ensure that an information profile for the SAFE kit evidence has been created in the California Department of Justice (DOJ) SAFE-T database within 120 days of collection and should further ensure that the results of any such test have been timely entered into and checked against both the DOJ Cal-DNA database and the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) (Penal Code § 680.3).

If the assigned officer determines that a SAFE kit submitted to a private laboratory for analysis has not been tested within 120 days after submission, the officer shall update the SAFE-T database to reflect the reason for the delay in testing. The assigned officer shall continue to update the status every 120 days thereafter until the evidence has been analyzed or the statute of limitations has run (Penal Code § 680.3).

If, for any reason, DNA evidence in a sexual assault case in which the identity of the perpetrator is in issue and is not going to be analyzed within 18 months of the crime, the assigned officer shall notify the victim of such fact in writing no less than 60 days prior to the expiration of the 18-month period (Penal Code § 680).

Additional guidance regarding evidence retention and destruction is found in the Property and Evidence Policy.

602.8.2 DNA TEST RESULTS

A SART member should be consulted regarding the best way to deliver biological testing results to a victim so as to minimize victim trauma, especially in cases where there has been a significant

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delay in getting biological testing results (e.g., delays in testing the evidence or delayed DNA databank hits). Members should make reasonable efforts to assist the victim by providing available information on local assistance programs and organizations as provided in the Victim and Witness Assistance Policy.

(a) Upon receipt of a written request from a sexual assault victim or the victim's authorized designee, members investigating sexual assault cases shall inform the victim of the status of the DNA testing of any evidence from the victim's case (Penal Code § 680).

1. Although such information may be communicated orally, the assigned officer should thereafter follow-up with and retain a copy of confirmation by either written or electronic mail.

2. Absent a written request, no member of this department is required to, but may, communicate with the victim or the victim's authorized designee regarding the status of any DNA testing.

(b) Subject to the commitment of sufficient resources to respond to requests for information, sexual assault victims shall further have the following rights (Penal Code § 680):

1. To be informed if a DNA profile of the assailant was obtained from the testing of the SAFE kit or other crime scene evidence from their case.

2. To be informed if there is a match between the DNA profile of the assailant developed from the evidence and a DNA profile contained in the DOJ Convicted Offender DNA Database, providing that disclosure would not impede or compromise an ongoing investigation.

3. To be informed if the DNA profile of the assailant developed from the evidence has been entered into the DOJ Databank of case evidence.

(c) Provided that the sexual assault victim or the victim's authorized designee has kept the assigned officer informed with regard to current address, telephone number, and email address (if available), any victim or the victim's authorized designee shall, upon request, be advised of any known significant changes regarding the victim's case (Penal Code § 680).

1. Although such information may be communicated orally, the assigned officer should thereafter follow-up with and retain a copy of confirmation by either written or electronic mail.

2. No officer shall be required or expected to release any information which might impede or compromise any ongoing investigation.

602.8.3 STANDARDIZED SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC MEDICAL EVIDENCE KIT

The Property Bureau supervisor should make California standardized sexual assault forensic medical evidence (SAFE) kits available to members who may investigate sexual assault cases. Members investigating a sexual assault should use these SAFE kits when appropriate and follow related usage guidelines issued by the California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center (Penal Code § 13823.14).

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602.9 DISPOSITION OF CASES

If the assigned investigator has reason to believe the case is without merit, the case may be classified as unfounded only upon review and approval of the Detective Bureau supervisor.

Classification of a sexual assault case as unfounded requires the Detective Bureau supervisor to determine that the facts have significant irregularities with reported information and that the incident could not have happened as it was reported. When a victim has recanted his/her original statement, there must be corroborating evidence that the allegations were false or baseless (i.e., no crime occurred) before the case should be determined as unfounded.

602.10 CASE REVIEW

The Detective Bureau supervisor should ensure case dispositions are reviewed on a periodic basis, at least annually, using an identified group that is independent of the investigation process. The reviews should include an analysis of:

- Case dispositions.
- Decisions to collect biological evidence.
- Submissions of biological evidence for lab testing.

The SART and/or victim advocates should be considered for involvement in this audit. Summary reports on these reviews should be forwarded through the chain of command to the Chief of Police.

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Intelligence Files

603.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this order is to establish standard guidelines in record keeping, information system users, proper dissemination of sensitive materials and compliance with the law in regard to maintenance, purging and proper security involved in regard to intelligence files.

603.1.1 INTELLIGENCE FILE DEFINED

An in-house file or electronic database consisting of stored information on the activities and associations of individuals and groups known or suspected to be involved in criminal acts or in the threatening, planning, organizing or financing of criminal acts. More specifically, this information relates to:

(a) Individuals who:

1. are currently involved in or suspected of being involved in the planning, organizing, financing or commission of criminal activities; or are suspected of having threatened, attempted, planned or performed criminal acts; or
2. have established association with known or suspected crime figures.

(b) Organizations, groups and businesses or other locations which:

1. are currently involved in or suspected of being involved in the planning, organizing, financing or commission of criminal activities; or which have threatened, attempted, planned or performed criminal acts; or
2. are operated, controlled, financed, infiltrated or illegally used by crime figures.

603.2 TYPES OF FILES

(a) Permanent files-may include individuals, groups, businesses and organizations that have been positively identified by one or more distinguishing characteristics and is involved in criminal activities. Information relating to crimes having unique modus operandi characteristics my also be given permanent status even though a subject is not identifiable. Generally, permanent files will be retained for 5 years at which time they should be reviewed for continued file acceptability.

(b) Temporary files-may include information pertinent to an investigation but a subject has not been identified, or involvement is questionable. An individual, organization, business or group that is not currently active, but has a history of criminal activity may also be placed in a temporary file. Generally, temporary files should be retained for one year while attempting to identify a subject or corroborate information. If no information is obtained to open a permanent file, the information should be purged and destroyed.

1. CORI information shall not be kept in Intelligence Files.

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(c) Field Interview (FI) File--Intelligence information obtained from FI cards should be forwarded to the bureau responsible for the investigating the criminal activity for which the FI was completed. FI cards completed on individuals that fail to meet the criteria for inclusion in an Intelligence File or are not used in the investigation of criminal activity should not be co-mingled with FIs that are crime predicate and should be purged every two years.

603.3 PHYSICAL SECURITY

Location where equipment/data base is to be kept secure to disallow any non-authorized users from accessing or otherwise altering the system. Intelligence files are stored in the following locations/bureaus depending on type of crime involved;

(a) TARGET for gang related crimes

(b) Narcotics Bureau for drug related crimes

(c) Special Investigations Unit (SIU) for other organized crime information

These bureaus must remain locked when unoccupied. File drawers should remain locked and electronic databases must be secured through the use of assigned passwords. Access to these offices must be restricted to personnel assigned or other personnel requiring assistance from the specific bureau. Personal must insure that items of confidentiality are not left on desk tops, bulletin boards or in waste baskets, without shredders, where outside visitors or maintenance personnel would have access.

603.3.1 AUTHORIZED USERS

Are those persons who work within these assignments, including the Unit Supervisor (Sergeant), assigned Detectives, Police Services Officer, and members of outside agencies assigned to the bureau. The bureau sergeant's immediate supervisor is also considered to be an authorized user.

603.3.2 DATA DISSEMINATION

Recipient of any information from the database must have a need to know and right to know in performance with a law enforcement function. Third-party information shall not be disseminated. The requestor of third-party information should be referred to the original source of the information.

An audit trail shall be established in each file to show who information has been disseminated to. The audit trail may be contained within each file or computerized.

603.3.3 UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE

Authorized users of the T.A.R.G.E.T. Gang File/F.I. Data Base are prohibited from unauthorized disclosure of any and all data in compliance with the policies and procedures as set forth in this document, and any and all governing laws concerning gang intelligence information.

Those persons or agents who violate the policies and procedures set forth may be subject to discipline up to and including termination and may also be subject to violations of applicable laws.

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603.4 OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

The following policies and procedures will cover the updating, maintaining, purging and dissemination of intelligence files.

Authorized users shall maintain data in conformance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations pertaining to the collection, storage and dissemination of criminal intelligence information.

Persons authorized to update or alter files within the system shall be designated by the bureau sergeant and/or the Detective Bureau Lieutenant.

Any personnel with data base update and altering capabilities will also have read-only privileges.

Information to be entered into an intelligence file will be done so at the discretion of the bureau sergeant and/or assigned investigators.

The information input into the gang data base file will be based on the following criteria:

603.4.1 GANG MEMBER SUBMISSION CRITERIA

(a) Subject has admitted gang membership and/or association.

(b) Subject has been arrested with known gang members for offenses consistent with usual gang activity.

(c) Subject has been identified as a gang member by a reliable informant or source, including, but not limited to, any law enforcement agency, Probation, Parole, Jail or Court Records, and/or a tested informant.

(d) Subject has, or is known to have, gang tattoos.

(e) Subject has been seen displaying gang symbols and/or hand signs.

(f) Subject has been seen frequenting gang areas and/or associating with gang members.

(g) Subject has been seen wearing gang clothing (with colors, numbers, or symbols consistent with gang membership).

(h) Gang Detective has reasonable cause to believe subject is a gang member or associate, or is believed to be involved, in gang-related criminal behavior, even though subject's gang has not yet been identified.

*It is imperative that all information being entered into the system is supported by hard-copy documentation including, but not limited to: Field Identification Cards, Crime Reports, Incident Reports, and Parole or Probation records.

603.5 FILE CLASSIFICATION

Information should be classified into one of the following areas:

(a) Sensitive--dissemination should require unit supervisor or designee approval

1. Information pertaining to significant law enforcement cases currently under investigation.

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2. Public Corruption.
3. Informant Identification information.
4. "Criminal Intelligence Reports" which require strict dissemination and release criteria.

(b) Confidential--dissemination should require unit supervisor or designee approval

1. "Criminal Intelligence Reports" not designated as sensitive
2. Information obtained through intelligence unit channels that is not classified as sensitive and is for law enforcement use only

(c) Restricted--dissemination may be authorized by unit investigators

1. Reports that, at an earlier date, were classified sensitive or confidential and the need for high-level security no longer exists
2. Non-confidential information prepared for/by law enforcement agencies

(d) Unrestricted--dissemination may be authorized by unit investigators

1. Information to which, in its original form, the general public has/had direct access
2. News media information dealing with specified criminal categories

603.5.1 FILE REVIEW AND PURGE

All information retained in the system must be in compliance with the law in regard to the proper handling of intelligence files. Any files not updated within a five-year period will be purged on or before the fifth anniversary of the last dated entry.

Subjects incarcerated for long term periods in a State, Federal or Out of County Correctional Institution will not be purged during the duration of their term, and the five-year period will be in suspension until their release from custody, at which time the five-year period will again be resumed.

Reclassification and purging of information should be done on an ongoing basis as documents are reviewed. The entire file should undergo a complete review in a timely manner and on a regular basis. Information stored in the Criminal Intelligence File should be reviewed periodically for reclassification or purging to ensure that:

(a) The file is current, accurate and relevant to the needs and objectives of the Department

(b) Safeguard the individual's right to privacy as guaranteed under federal and state law

(c) Ensure that security classification level remains appropriate

603.5.2 DESTRUCTION OF PURGED MATERIAL

All information purged shall be destroyed in accordance state, local and federal law and/or Department of Justice Guidelines. Purging of the file will include both hard copy and electronic

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information. If information from a file being purged was disseminated to another agency, based on the audit trail, that agency should be notified that the information is being purged and destroyed.

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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 Chief of Police to be responsible for securing and maintaining seized assets and distributing any proceeds realized from any forfeiture proceedings. This includes any time the Westminster Police Department seizes property for forfeiture or when the Westminster Police Department is acting as the fiscal agent pursuant to a multi-agency agreement.

Forfeiture - The process by which legal ownership of an asset is transferred to a government or other authority.

Forfeiture reviewer - The department member assigned by the Chief of Police who is responsible for reviewing all forfeiture cases and for acting as the liaison between the Department and the assigned attorney.

Property subject to forfeiture - The following may be subject to forfeiture:

(a) Property related to a narcotics offense, which includes (Heath and Safety Code § 11470; Health and Safety Code § 11470.1):

1. Property (not including real property or vehicles) used, or intended for use, as a container for controlled substances, materials to manufacture controlled substances, etc.
2. Interest in a vehicle (car, boat, airplane, other vehicle) used to facilitate the manufacture, possession for sale or sale of specified quantities of controlled substances.
3. Money, negotiable instruments, securities or other things of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance, proceeds traceable to an exchange, etc.
4. Real property when the owner is convicted of violating Health and Safety Code § 11366, Health and Safety Code § 11366.5 or Health and Safety Code § 11366.6 (drug houses) when the property was not used as a family residence or for other lawful purposes, or property owned by two or more persons, one of whom had no knowledge of its unlawful use.
5. The expenses of seizing, eradicating, destroying or taking remedial action with respect to any controlled substance or its precursors upon conviction for the unlawful manufacture or cultivation of any controlled substance or its precursors.

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(b) Property related to criminal profiteering (may include gang crimes), to include (Penal Code § 186.2; Penal Code § 186.3):

1. Any property interest, whether tangible or intangible, acquired through a pattern of criminal profiteering activity.

2. All proceeds acquired through a pattern of criminal profiteering activity, including all things of value that may have been received in exchange for the proceeds immediately derived from the pattern of criminal profiteering activity.

Seizure - The act of law enforcement officials taking property, cash or assets that have been used in connection with or acquired by specified illegal activities.

606.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department recognizes that appropriately applied forfeiture laws are helpful to enforce the law, deter crime and reduce the economic incentive of crime. However, the potential for revenue should never compromise the effective investigation of criminal offenses, officer safety or any person's due process rights.

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department that all members, including those assigned to internal or external law enforcement task force operations, shall comply with all state and federal laws pertaining to forfeiture.

606.3 ASSET SEIZURE

Property may be seized for forfeiture as provided in this policy.

606.3.1 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO SEIZURE

The following may be seized upon review and approval of a supervisor and in coordination with the forfeiture reviewer:

(a) Property subject to forfeiture authorized for seizure under the authority of a search warrant or court order.

(b) Property subject to forfeiture not authorized for seizure under the authority of a search warrant or court order when any of the following apply (Health and Safety Code § 11471; Health and Safety Code § 11488):

1. The property subject to forfeiture is legally seized incident to an arrest.

2. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in a violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and the seizing officer can articulate a nexus between the property and the controlled substance offense that would lead to the item being property subject for forfeiture.

Officers aware of assets that may be forfeitable as a result of criminal profiteering or human trafficking should consider contacting the district attorney regarding a court order to protect the assets (Penal Code § 186.6; Penal Code § 236.6).

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Whenever practicable, a search warrant or court order for seizure prior to making a seizure is the preferred method.

A large amount of money standing alone is insufficient to establish the probable cause required to make a seizure.

606.3.2 PROPERTY NOT SUBJECT TO SEIZURE
The following property should not be seized for forfeiture:

(a) Cash and property that does not meet the forfeiture counsel's current minimum forfeiture thresholds should not be seized.

(b) Real property is not subject to seizure, absent exigent circumstances, without a court order (Health and Safety Code § 11471).

(c) A vehicle which may be lawfully driven on the highway if there is a community property interest in the vehicle by a person other than the suspect and the vehicle is the sole vehicle available to the suspect's immediate family (Health and Safety Code § 11470).

(d) Vehicles, boats or airplanes owned by an "innocent owner," such as a common carrier with no knowledge of the suspected offense (Health and Safety Code § 11490).

(e) Any property when the associated activity involves the possession of marijuana or related paraphernalia that is permissible under the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Health and Safety Code § 11362.1).

606.4 PROCESSING SEIZED PROPERTY FOR FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS

When property or cash subject to this policy is seized, the officer 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 officer 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 officer will book seized property as evidence with the notation in the comment section of the property form, "Seized Subject to Forfeiture." Property seized subject to forfeiture should be booked on a separate property form. No other evidence from the case should be booked on this form.

Photographs should be taken of items seized, particularly cash, jewelry and other valuable items.

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Officers who suspect property may be subject to seizure but are not able to seize the property (e.g., the property is located elsewhere, the whereabouts of the property is unknown, it is real estate, bank accounts, non-tangible assets) should document and forward the information in the appropriate report to the forfeiture reviewer.

606.5 MAINTAINING SEIZED PROPERTY

The Property Bureau 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 Chief of Police will appoint an officer as the forfeiture reviewer. Prior to assuming duties, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the forfeiture reviewer should attend a department-approved course on asset forfeiture.

The responsibilities of the forfeiture reviewer include:

(a) Remaining familiar with forfeiture laws, particularly Health and Safety Code § 11469 et seq. and Penal Code § 186.2 et seq. and the forfeiture policies of the forfeiture counsel.

(b) Serving as the liaison between the Department and the forfeiture counsel and ensuring prompt legal review of all seizures.

(c) Making reasonable efforts to obtain annual training that includes best practices in pursuing, seizing and tracking forfeitures.

(d) Ensuring that property seized under state law is not referred or otherwise transferred to a federal agency seeking the property for federal forfeiture as prohibited by Health and Safety Code § 11471.2.

(e) Ensuring that responsibilities, including the designation of a fiscal agent, are clearly established whenever multiple agencies are cooperating in a forfeiture case.

(f) Ensuring that seizure forms are available and appropriate for department use. These should include notice forms, a receipt form and a checklist that provides relevant

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guidance to officers. The forms should be available in languages appropriate for the region and should contain spaces for:

1. Names and contact information for all relevant persons and law enforcement officers involved.
2. Information as to how ownership or other property interests may have been determined (e.g., verbal claims of ownership, titles, public records).
3. A space for the signature of the person from whom cash or property is being seized.
4. A tear-off portion or copy, which should be given to the person from whom cash or property is being seized, that includes the legal authority for the seizure, information regarding the process to contest the seizure and a detailed description of the items seized.

(g) Ensuring that officers who may be involved in asset forfeiture receive training in the proper use of the seizure forms and the forfeiture process. The training should be developed in consultation with the appropriate legal counsel and may be accomplished through traditional classroom education, electronic media, Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) or Department Directives. The training should cover this policy and address any relevant statutory changes and court decisions.

(h) Reviewing each asset forfeiture case to ensure that:

1. Written documentation of the seizure and the items seized is in the case file.
2. Independent legal review of the circumstances and propriety of the seizure is made in a timely manner.
3. Notice of seizure has been given in a timely manner to those who hold an interest in the seized property (Health and Safety Code § 11488.4).
4. Property is promptly released to those entitled to its return (Health and Safety Code § 11488.2).
5. All changes to forfeiture status are forwarded to any supervisor who initiates a forfeiture case.
6. Any cash received is deposited with the fiscal agent.
7. Assistance with the resolution of ownership claims and the release of property to those entitled is provided.
8. Current minimum forfeiture thresholds are communicated appropriately to officers.
9. This policy and any related policies are periodically reviewed and updated to reflect current federal and state statutes and case law.

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(i) Ensuring that a written plan that enables the Chief of Police to address any extended absence of the forfeiture reviewer, thereby ensuring that contact information for other law enforcement officers and attorneys who may assist in these matters is available.

(j) Ensuring that the process of selling or adding forfeited property to the department's regular inventory is in accordance with all applicable laws and consistent with the department's use and disposition of similar property.

(k) Keeping a manual that details the statutory grounds for forfeitures and department procedures related to asset forfeiture, including procedures for prompt notice to interest holders, the expeditious release of seized property, where appropriate, and the prompt resolution of claims of innocent ownership (Heath and Safety Code § 11469).

(l) Providing copies of seized business records to the person or business from whom such records were seized, when requested (Heath and Safety Code §11471).

(m) Notifying the California Franchise Tax Board when there is reasonable cause to believe that the value of seized property exceeds $5,000.00 (Health and Safety Code § 11471.5).

Forfeiture proceeds should be maintained in a separate fund or account subject to appropriate accounting control, with regular reviews or audits of all deposits and expenditures.

Forfeiture reporting and expenditures should be completed in the manner prescribed by the law and City financial directives (Health and Safety Code § 11495).

606.7 DISPOSITION OF FORFEITED PROPERTY

Forfeited funds distributed under Health and Safety Code § 11489 et seq. shall only be used for purposes allowed by law, but in no case shall a peace officer's employment or salary depend upon the level of seizures or forfeitures he/she achieves (Heath and Safety Code § 11469).

The Department may request a court order so that certain uncontaminated science equipment is relinquished to a school or school district for science classroom education in lieu of destruction (Health and Safety Code § 11473; Health and Safety Code § 11473.5).

606.7.1 RECEIVING EQUITABLE SHARES

When participating in a joint investigation with a federal agency, the Westminster Police Department shall not receive an equitable share from the federal agency of all or a portion of the forfeiture proceeds absent either a required conviction under Health and Safety Code § 11471.2 or the flight, death or willful failure to appear of the defendant. This does not apply to forfeited cash or negotiable instruments of $40,000 or more.

606.8 CLAIM INVESTIGATIONS

An investigation shall be made as to any claimant of a vehicle, boat or airplane whose right, title, interest or lien is on the record in the Department of Motor Vehicles or in an appropriate federal agency. If investigation reveals that any person, other than the registered owner, is the legal

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owner, and that ownership did not arise subsequent to the date and time of arrest or notification of the forfeiture proceedings or seizure of the vehicle, boat or airplane, notice shall be made to the legal owner at his/her address appearing on the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles or the appropriate federal agency (Health and Safety Code § 11488.4).

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Informants

608.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use of informants.

608.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Informant - A person who covertly interacts with other individuals or suspects at the direction of, request of, or by agreement with, the Westminster Police Department for law enforcement purposes. This also includes a person agreeing to supply information to the Westminster Police Department for a benefit (e.g., a quid pro quo in the form of a reduced criminal penalty, money).

608.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department recognizes the value of informants to law enforcement efforts and will strive to protect the integrity of the informant process. It is the policy of this department that all funds related to informant payments will be routinely audited and that payments to informants will be made according to the criteria outlined in this policy.

608.3 USE OF INFORMANTS

608.3.1 INITIAL APPROVAL

Before using an individual as an informant, an officer must receive approval from his/her supervisor. The officer shall compile sufficient information through a background investigation and experience with the informant in order to determine the suitability of the individual, including age, maturity and risk of physical harm, as well as any indicators of his/her reliability and credibility.

Members of this department should not guarantee absolute safety or confidentiality to an informant.

608.3.2 JUVENILE INFORMANTS

The use of informants under the age of 13 is prohibited.

Except for the enforcement of laws related to the commercial sale of alcohol, marijuana or tobacco products, a juvenile 13 years of age or older may only be used as an informant with the written consent of each of the following:

(a) The juvenile’s parents or legal guardians

(b) The juvenile’s attorney, if any

(c) The court in which the juvenile’s case is being handled, if applicable (Penal Code § 701.5)

(d) The Chief of Police or the authorized designee

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608.3.3 INFORMANT AGREEMENTS

All informants are required to sign and abide by the provisions of the designated department informant agreement. The officer using the informant shall discuss each of the provisions of the agreement with the informant.

Details of the agreement are to be approved in writing by a supervisor before being finalized with the informant.

608.4 INFORMANT INTEGRITY

To maintain the integrity of the informant process, the following must be adhered to:

(a) The identity of an informant acting in a confidential capacity shall not be withheld from the Chief of Police, Commander, Narcotics Unit supervisor or their authorized designees.

1. Identities of informants acting in a confidential capacity shall otherwise be kept confidential.

(b) Criminal activity by informants shall not be condoned.

(c) Informants shall be told they are not acting as police officers, employees or agents of the Westminster Police Department, and that they shall not represent themselves as such.

(d) The relationship between department members and informants shall always be ethical and professional.

1. Members shall not become intimately involved with an informant.
2. Social contact shall be avoided unless it is necessary to conduct an official investigation, and only with prior approval of the Narcotics Unit supervisor.
3. Members shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities or engage in any private business transaction with an informant.

(e) Officers shall not meet with informants in a private place unless accompanied by at least one additional officer or with prior approval of the Narcotics Unit supervisor.

1. Officers may meet informants alone in an occupied public place, such as a restaurant.

(f) When contacting informants for the purpose of making payments, officers shall arrange for the presence of another officer.

(g) In all instances when department funds are paid to informants, a voucher shall be completed in advance, itemizing the expenses.

(h) Since the decision rests with the appropriate prosecutor, officers shall not promise that the informant will receive any form of leniency or immunity from criminal prosecution.

608.4.1 UNSUITABLE INFORMANTS

The suitability of any informant should be considered before engaging him/her in any way in a covert or other investigative process. Members who become aware that an informant may be unsuitable will notify the supervisor, who will initiate a review to determine suitability. Until a

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determination has been made by a supervisor, the informant should not be used by any member. The supervisor shall determine whether the informant should be used by the Department and, if so, what conditions will be placed on his/her participation or any information the informant provides. The supervisor shall document the decision and conditions in file notes and mark the file “unsuitable” when appropriate.

Considerations for determining whether an informant is unsuitable include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) The informant has provided untruthful or unreliable information in the past.

(b) The informant behaves in a way that may endanger the safety of an officer.

(c) The informant reveals to suspects the identity of an officer or the existence of an investigation.

(d) The informant appears to be using his/her affiliation with this department to further criminal objectives.

(e) The informant creates officer-safety issues by providing information to multiple law enforcement agencies simultaneously, without prior notification and approval of each agency.

(f) The informant engages in any other behavior that could jeopardize the safety of officers or the integrity of a criminal investigation.

(g) The informant commits criminal acts subsequent to entering into an informant agreement.

608.5 INFORMANT FILES

Informant files shall be utilized as a source of background information about the informant, to enable review and evaluation of information provided by the informant, and to minimize incidents that could be used to question the integrity of department members or the reliability of the informant.

Informant files shall be maintained in a secure area within the Narcotics Unit. The Narcotics Unit supervisor or the authorized designee shall be responsible for maintaining informant files. Access to the informant files shall be restricted to the Chief of Police, Commander, Narcotics Unit supervisor or their authorized designees.

The Detective Commander should arrange for an audit using a representative sample of randomly selected informant files on a periodic basis, but no less than one time per year. If the Narcotics Unit supervisor is replaced, the files will be audited before the new supervisor takes over management of the files. The purpose of the audit is to ensure compliance with file content and updating provisions of this policy. The audit should be conducted by a supervisor who does not have normal access to the informant files.

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608.5.1 FILE SYSTEM PROCEDURE

A separate file shall be maintained on each informant and shall be coded with an assigned informant control number. An informant history that includes the following information shall be prepared for each file:

(a) Name and aliases

(b) Date of birth

(c) Physical description: sex, race, height, weight, hair color, eye color, scars, tattoos or other distinguishing features

(d) Photograph

(e) Current home address and telephone numbers

(f) Current employers, positions, addresses and telephone numbers

(g) Vehicles owned and registration information

(h) Places frequented

(i) Briefs of information provided by the informant and his/her subsequent reliability

1. If an informant is determined to be unsuitable, the informant's file is to be marked "unsuitable" and notations included detailing the issues that caused this classification.

(j) Name of the officer initiating use of the informant

(k) Signed informant agreement

(l) Update on active or inactive status of informant

608.6 INFORMANT PAYMENTS

No informant will be told in advance or given an exact amount or percentage for his/her service. The amount of funds to be paid to any informant will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The extent of the informant's personal involvement in the case
- The significance, value or effect on crime
- The value of assets seized
- The quantity of the drugs or other contraband seized
- The informant’s previous criminal activity
- The level of risk taken by the informant

The Narcotics Unit supervisor will discuss the above factors with the Operations Commander and recommend the type and level of payment subject to approval by the Chief of Police.

608.6.1 PAYMENT PROCESS

Approved payments to an informant should be in cash using the following process:

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(a) Payments of $500 and under may be paid in cash from a Narcotics Unit buy/expense fund.

1. The Narcotics Unit supervisor shall sign the voucher for cash payouts from the buy/expense fund.

(b) Payments exceeding $500 shall be made by issuance of a check, payable to the officer who will be delivering the payment.

1. The check shall list the case numbers related to and supporting the payment.
2. A written statement of the informant's involvement in the case shall be placed in the informant's file.
3. The statement shall be signed by the informant verifying the statement as a true summary of his/her actions in the case.
4. Authorization signatures from the Chief of Police and the City Manager are required for disbursement of the funds.

(c) To complete the payment process for any amount, the officer delivering the payment shall complete a cash transfer form.

1. The cash transfer form shall include the following:
   (a) Date
   (b) Payment amount
   (c) Westminster Police Department case number
   (d) A statement that the informant is receiving funds in payment for information voluntarily rendered.
2. The cash transfer form shall be signed by the informant.
3. The cash transfer form will be kept in the informant's file.

608.6.2 REPORTING OF PAYMENTS

Each informant receiving a cash payment shall be advised of his/her responsibility to report the cash to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as income. If funds distributed exceed $600 in any reporting year, the informant should be provided IRS Form 1099 (26 CFR 1.6041-1). If such documentation or reporting may reveal the identity of the informant and by doing so jeopardize any investigation, the safety of officers or the safety of the informant (26 CFR 1.6041-3), then IRS Form 1099 should not be issued.

In such cases, the informant shall be provided a letter identifying the amount he/she must report on a tax return as “other income” and shall be required to provide a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the letter. The completed acknowledgement form and a copy of the letter shall be retained in the informant’s file.

608.6.3 AUDIT OF PAYMENTS

The Narcotics Unit supervisor or the authorized designee shall be responsible for compliance with any audit requirements associated with grant provisions and applicable state and federal law.

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Informants

At least once every six months, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee should conduct an audit of all informant funds for the purpose of accountability and security of the funds. The funds and related documents (e.g., buy/expense fund records, cash transfer forms, invoices, receipts and logs) will assist with the audit process.

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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 (Penal Code § 859.7).

610.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to the policy include:

Eyewitness identification process - Any field identification, live lineup or photographic identification.

Field identification - A live presentation of a single individual to a witness following the commission of a criminal offense for the purpose of identifying or eliminating the person as the suspect.

Live lineup - A live presentation of individuals to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

Photographic lineup - Presentation of photographs to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

610.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will strive to use eyewitness identification techniques, when appropriate, to enhance the investigative process and will emphasize identifying persons responsible for crime and exonerating the innocent.

610.3 INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Members should make a reasonable effort to arrange for an interpreter before proceeding with eyewitness identification if communication with a witness is impeded due to language or hearing barriers.

Before the interpreter is permitted to discuss any matter with the witness, the investigating member should explain the identification process to the interpreter. Once it is determined that the interpreter comprehends the process and can explain it to the witness, the eyewitness identification may proceed as provided for within this policy.

610.4 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION PROCESS AND FORM

The Detective Bureau supervisor shall be responsible for the development and maintenance of an eyewitness identification process for use by members when they are conducting eyewitness identifications.

The process should include appropriate forms or reports that provide (Penal Code § 859.7):

(a) The date, time and location of the eyewitness identification procedure.

(b) The name and identifying information of the witness.

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(c) The name of the person administering the identification procedure.

(d) If applicable, the names of all of the individuals present during the identification procedure.

(e) An instruction to the witness that it is as important to exclude innocent persons as it is to identify a perpetrator.

(f) An instruction to the witness that the perpetrator may or may not be among those presented and that the witness is not obligated to make an identification.

(g) If the identification process is a photographic or live lineup, an instruction to the witness that the perpetrator may not appear exactly as he/she did on the date of the incident.

(h) An instruction to the witness that the investigation will continue regardless of whether an identification is made by the witness.

(i) A signature line where the witness acknowledges that he/she understands the identification procedures and instructions.

(j) A statement from the witness in the witness's own words describing how certain he/she is of the identification or non-identification. This statement should be taken at the time of the identification procedure.

(k) Any other direction to meet the requirements of Penal Code § 859.7, including direction regarding blind or blinded administrations and filler selection.

The process and related forms should be reviewed at least annually and modified when necessary.

610.5 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION

Members are cautioned not to, in any way, influence a witness as to whether any subject or photo presented in a lineup is in any way connected to the case.

Members should avoid mentioning that:

- The individual was apprehended near the crime scene.
- The evidence points to the individual as the suspect.
- Other witnesses have identified or failed to identify the individual as the suspect.

In order to avoid undue influence, witnesses should view suspects or a lineup individually and outside the presence of other witnesses. Witnesses should be instructed to avoid discussing details of the incident or of the identification process with other witnesses.

The eyewitness identification procedure should be audio and video recorded and the recording should be retained according to current evidence procedures. When it is not feasible to make a recording with both audio and visual representations, an audio recording should be made (Penal Code § 859.7).

610.6 DOCUMENTATION

A thorough description of the eyewitness process and the result of any eyewitness identification should be documented in the case report.

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If a photographic lineup is utilized, a copy of the photographic lineup presented to the witness should be included in the case report. In addition, the order in which the photographs were presented to the witness should be documented in the case report.

610.6.1 DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO RECORDINGS
The handling member shall document the reason that a video recording or any other recording of an identification was not obtained (Penal Code § 859.7).

610.6.2 DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO BLIND ADMINISTRATION
If a presentation of a lineup is not conducted using blind administration, the handling member shall document the reason (Penal Code § 859.7).

610.7 PHOTOGRAPHIC LINEUP AND LIVE LINEUP CONSIDERATIONS

When practicable, the member presenting the lineup should not be involved in the investigation of the case or know the identity of the suspect. In no case should the member presenting a lineup to a witness know which photograph or person in the lineup is being viewed by the witness (Penal Code § 859.7). Techniques to achieve this include randomly numbering photographs, shuffling folders, or using a computer program to order the persons in the lineup.

Individuals in the lineup should reasonably match the description of the perpetrator provided by the witness and should bear similar characteristics to avoid causing any person to unreasonably stand out. In cases involving multiple suspects, a separate lineup should be conducted for each suspect. The suspects should be placed in a different order within each lineup (Penal Code § 859.7).

The member presenting the lineup should do so sequentially (i.e., show the witness one person at a time) and not simultaneously. The witness should view all persons in the lineup.

A live lineup should only be used before criminal proceedings have been initiated against the suspect. If there is any question as to whether any criminal proceedings have begun, the investigating member should contact the appropriate prosecuting attorney before proceeding.

610.7.1 OTHER SAFEGUARDS
Witnesses should be asked for suspect descriptions as close in time to the incident as possible and before conducting an eyewitness identification. No information concerning a suspect should be given prior to obtaining a statement from the witness describing how certain he/she is of the identification or non-identification. Members should not say anything to a witness that that may validate or invalidate an eyewitness' identification. In photographic lineups, writings or information concerning any previous arrest of a suspect shall not be visible to the witness (Penal Code § 859.7).

610.8 FIELD IDENTIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS

Field identifications, also known as field elimination show-ups or one-on-one identifications, may be helpful in certain cases, where exigent circumstances make it impracticable to conduct a photo or live lineup identifications. A field elimination show-up or one-on-one identification should not be

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used when independent probable cause exists to arrest a suspect. In such cases a live or photo lineup is the preferred course of action if eyewitness identification is contemplated.

When initiating a field identification, the member should observe the following guidelines:

(a) Obtain a complete description of the suspect from the witness.

(b) Assess whether a witness should be included in a field identification process by considering:

1. The length of time the witness observed the suspect.
2. The distance between the witness and the suspect.
3. Whether the witness could view the suspect's face.
4. The quality of the lighting when the suspect was observed by the witness.
5. Whether there were distracting noises or activity during the observation.
6. Any other circumstances affecting the witness's opportunity to observe the suspect.
7. The length of time that has elapsed since the witness observed the suspect.

(c) If safe and practicable, the person who is the subject of the show-up should not be handcuffed or in a patrol vehicle.

(d) When feasible, members should bring the witness to the location of the subject of the show-up, rather than bring the subject of the show-up to the witness.

(e) The person who is the subject of the show-up should not be shown to the same witness more than once.

(f) In cases involving multiple suspects, witnesses should only be permitted to view the subjects of the show-up one at a time.

(g) The person who is the subject of the show-up should not be required to put on clothing worn by the suspect, to speak words uttered by the suspect or to perform other actions mimicking those of the suspect.

(h) If a witness positively identifies a subject of the show-up as the suspect, members should not conduct any further field identifications with other witnesses for that suspect. In such instances members should document the contact information for any additional witnesses for follow up, if necessary.

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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 Westminster Police Department that is both favorable and material to the current prosecution or defense of a criminal defendant.

612.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will conduct fair and impartial criminal investigations and will provide the prosecution with both incriminating and exculpatory evidence, as well as information that may adversely affect the credibility of a witness. In addition to reporting all evidence of guilt, the Westminster Police Department will assist the prosecution by complying with its obligation to disclose information that is both favorable and material to the defense. The Department will identify and disclose to the prosecution potentially exculpatory information, as provided in this policy.

612.3 DISCLOSURE OF INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION

Officers 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 an officer learns of potentially incriminating or exculpatory information any time after submission of a case, the officer or the handling investigator must prepare and submit a supplemental report documenting such information as soon as practicable. Supplemental reports shall be promptly processed and transmitted to the prosecutor's office.

If information is believed to be privileged or confidential (e.g., confidential informant or attorney-client information, attorney work product), the officer 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 an officer is unsure whether evidence or facts are material, the officer should address the issue with a supervisor.

Supervisors who are uncertain about whether evidence or facts are material should address the issue in a written memo to an appropriate prosecutor. A copy of the memo should be retained in the Department case file.

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612.4 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONNEL INFORMATION

Whenever it is determined that *Brady* information is located in the personnel file of a member of this department who is a material witness in a criminal case, the following procedure shall apply:

(a) In the event that a *Pitchess* motion has not already been filed by the criminal defendant or other party pursuant to Evidence Code § 1043, the prosecuting attorney shall be notified of the potential presence of *Brady* information in the officer's personnel file.

(b) The prosecuting attorney should then be requested to file a *Pitchess* motion in order to initiate an in-camera review by the court.

(c) Any member who is the subject of such a motion shall be notified in writing that a motion has been filed.

(d) The Custodian of Records shall accompany all relevant files during any in-camera inspection and address any issues or questions raised by the court in determining whether any information contained in the files is both material and favorable to the criminal defendant.

(e) If the court determines that there is relevant *Brady* information contained in the files, only that information ordered released will be copied and released to the parties filing the motion.

1. Prior to the release of any information pursuant to this process, the Custodian of Records should request a protective order from the court limiting the use of such information to the involved case and requiring the return of all copies upon completion of the case.

612.5 INVESTIGATING BRADY ISSUES

If the Department receives information from any source that a member may have issues of credibility, dishonesty or has been engaged in an act of moral turpitude or criminal conduct, the information shall be investigated and processed in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

612.6 TRAINING

Department members should receive periodic training on the requirements of this policy.

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Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operations

613.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the use of an unmanned aerial system (UAS) and for the storage, retrieval and dissemination of images and data captured by the UAS.

613.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) - An unmanned aircraft of any type that is capable of sustaining directed flight, whether preprogrammed or remotely controlled (commonly referred to as an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)), and all of the supporting or attached systems designed for gathering information through imaging, recording or any other means.

613.2 POLICY

Unmanned aerial systems may be utilized to enhance the department's mission of protecting lives and property when other means and resources are not available or are less effective. Any use of a UAS will be in strict accordance with constitutional and privacy rights and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.

613.3 PRIVACY

The use of the UAS potentially involves privacy considerations. Absent a warrant or exigent circumstances, operators and observers shall adhere to FAA altitude regulations and shall not intentionally record or transmit images of any location where a person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g., residence, yard, enclosure). Operators and observers shall take reasonable precautions to avoid inadvertently recording or transmitting images of areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Reasonable precautions can include, for example, deactivating or turning imaging devices away from such areas or persons during UAS operations.

613.4 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police will appoint a program coordinator who will be responsible for the management of the UAS program. The program coordinator will ensure that policies and procedures conform to current laws, regulations and best practices and will have the following additional responsibilities:

- Coordinating the FAA Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA) application process and ensuring that the COA is current.
- Ensuring that all authorized operators and required observers have completed all required FAA and department-approved training in the operation, applicable laws, policies and procedures regarding use of the UAS.
- Developing uniform protocol for submission and evaluation of requests to deploy a UAS, including urgent requests made during ongoing or emerging incidents. Deployment of a UAS shall require written authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee, depending on the type of mission.

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- Developing protocol for conducting criminal investigations involving a UAS, including documentation of time spent monitoring a subject.
- Implementing a system for public notification of UAS deployment.
- Developing an operational protocol governing the deployment and operation of a UAS including, but not limited to, safety oversight, use of visual observers, establishment of lost link procedures and secure communication with air traffic control facilities.
- Developing a protocol for fully documenting all missions.
- Developing a UAS inspection, maintenance and record-keeping protocol to ensure continuing airworthiness of a UAS, up to and including its overhaul or life limits.
- Developing protocols to ensure that all data intended to be used as evidence are 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, 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.
- Developing protocols that ensure retention and purge periods are maintained in accordance with established records retention schedules.
- Facilitating law enforcement access to images and data captured by the UAS.
- Recommending program enhancements, particularly regarding safety and information security.
- Ensuring that established protocols are followed by monitoring and providing periodic reports on the program to the Chief of Police.

613.5 USE OF UAS

Only authorized operators who have completed the required training shall be permitted to operate the UAS.

Use of vision enhancement technology (e.g., thermal and other imaging equipment not generally available to the public) is permissible in viewing areas only where there is no protectable privacy interest or when in compliance with a search warrant or court order. In all other instances, legal counsel should be consulted.

UAS operations should only be conducted during daylight hours and a UAS should not be flown over populated areas without FAA approval.

613.6 PROHIBITED USE

The UAS video surveillance equipment shall not be used:

- To conduct random surveillance activities.
- To target a person based solely on actual or perceived characteristics, such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability.

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- To harass, intimidate, or discriminate against any individual or group.
- To conduct personal business of any type.

The UAS shall not be weaponized.

613.7 RETENTION OF UAS DATA

Data collected by the UAS shall be retained as provided in the established records retention schedule.

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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 officers.

614.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department 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 COMMANDER

The operations commander (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 commander 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

Officers should receive authorization from a supervisor before preparing a search warrant application. Once authorization is received, the officer will prepare the affidavit and search warrant, consulting with the applicable prosecuting attorney as needed. If the service of the search warrant meets the definition of a high-risk operation (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy), he/she will also complete the risk assessment form and submit it, along with the warrant affidavit, to the appropriate supervisor and the operations commander for review and classification of risk (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).

614.5 ARREST WARRANTS

When practicable, officers entering a business or residence to serve an arrest warrant will notify a Supervisor, prior to the service of the warrant. If an officer reasonably believes that serving an arrest warrant may pose a higher risk than commonly faced on a daily basis, the officer 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).

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If the warrant is classified as high risk, service will be coordinated by the operations director. If the warrant is not classified as high risk, the supervisor should weigh the risk of entry into a residence to make an arrest against other alternatives, such as arresting the person outside the residence where circumstances may pose a lower risk.

614.6 WARRANT PREPARATION

An officer 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 warrant 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 commander 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 officers deployed.

The member responsible for directing the service should ensure the following as applicable:

(a) When practicable and when doing so does not cause unreasonable risk, video or photographic documentation is made of the condition of the location prior to execution of a search warrant. The images should include the surrounding area and persons present.

(b) The warrant service is audio- and video-recorded when practicable and reasonable to do so.

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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

Officers 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, officers must be mindful that only reasonable force may be used and weapons should be displayed no longer than the officer 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.

Officers 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 commander 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

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- Roles and responsibilities
- Familiarity with equipment
- Rules of engagement
- Asset forfeiture procedures

Any outside agency requesting assistance in the service of a warrant within this jurisdiction should be referred to the operations commander. The commander should review and confirm the warrant, including the warrant location, and should discuss the service with the appropriate supervisor from the other agency. The commander should ensure that members of the Westminster Police Department are utilized appropriately. Any concerns regarding the requested use of Westminster Police Department members should be brought to the attention of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. The actual service of the warrant will remain the responsibility of the agency requesting assistance.

If the operations commander is unavailable, the Watch Commander should assume this role.

If officers intend to serve a warrant outside Westminster Police Department jurisdiction, the operations commander 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.

Officers will remain subject to the policies of the Westminster Police Department when assisting outside agencies or serving a warrant outside Westminster Police Department jurisdiction.

614.11 MEDIA ACCESS

No advance information regarding warrant service operations shall be released without the approval of the Chief of Police. 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 Sergeant should ensure officers 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 officers 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 Westminster Police Department 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 Chief of Police 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

Officers 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 officer 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 officer should also submit information to these resources.

The officer should gather available information that includes, but is not limited to:

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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 officers and others (e.g., making an off-site arrest or detention of the subject of investigation).

615.4.2 RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Officers 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 commander.

The supervisor and operations commander 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. (SWAT)
2. Additional personnel
3. Outside agency assistance
4. Special equipment
5. Medical personnel
6. Persons trained in negotiation

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7. Additional surveillance
8. Canines
9. Property Bureau 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 officer 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 officer 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

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hazardous materials, the potential for multiple dwellings or living spaces, availability of keys/door combinations), including aerial photos, if available, and maps of neighboring yards and obstacles, diagrams and other visual aids

3. Other environmental factors (e.g., nearby venues such as schools and day care centers, proximity of adjacent homes or other occupied buildings, anticipated pedestrian and vehicle traffic at the time of service)

4. Identification of other people who may be present in or around the operation, such as other criminal suspects, innocent third parties, and children

(c) Information from the risk assessment form by attaching a completed copy in the operational plan.

1. The volume or complexity of the information may indicate that the plan includes a synopsis of the information contained on the risk assessment form to ensure clarity and highlighting of critical information.

(d) Participants and their roles.

1. An adequate number of uniformed officers should be included in the operation team to provide reasonable notice of a legitimate law enforcement operation.

2. How all participants will be identified as law enforcement.

(e) Whether deconfliction submissions are current and all involved individuals, groups, and locations have been deconflicted to the extent reasonably practicable.

(f) Identification of all communications channels and call-signs.

(g) Use of force issues.

(h) Contingencies for handling medical emergencies (e.g., services available at the location, closest hospital, closest trauma center).

(i) Plans for detaining people who are not under arrest.

(j) Contingencies for handling children, dependent adults, animals, and other people who might be at the location in accordance with the Child Abuse, Senior and Disability Victimization, Child and Dependent Adult Safety, and Animal Control policies.

(k) Communications plan.

(l) Responsibilities for writing, collecting, reviewing, and approving reports.

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.

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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 commander for officers 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 commander 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 officers 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 WEST COUNTY SWAT PARTICIPATION

If the operations commander determines that West County SWAT participation is appropriate, the commander and the West County SWAT supervisor shall work together to develop a written plan. The West County SWAT supervisor shall assume operational control until all persons at the scene are appropriately detained and it is safe to begin a search. When this occurs, the West County SWAT supervisor shall transfer control of the scene to the handling supervisor. This transfer should be communicated to the officers present.

615.9 MEDIA ACCESS

No advance information regarding planned operations shall be released without the approval of the Chief of Police. Any media inquiries or press release after the fact shall be handled in accordance with the 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 West County SWAT debriefing.

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615.11 TRAINING

The operations commander should ensure officers and West County SWAT team members who participate in operations subject to this policy should receive periodic training including, but not limited to, topics such as legal issues, deconfliction practices, operations planning concepts and reporting requirements.

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Chapter 7 - Equipment

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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 city form. This form is submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor, who shall process it in accordance with current law and current MOU with the WPOA. The supervisor may require a separate written report of the loss or damage.

The supervisor shall direct a memo to the appropriate Division Commander, which shall include the results of his/her investigation and whether the employee followed proper procedures. The supervisor's report shall address whether reasonable care was taken to prevent the loss or damage.

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Upon review by staff and a finding that no misconduct or negligence was involved, repair or replacement may be recommended by the Chief of Police who will then forward the claim to the Finance Department, in accordance with the current MOU.

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

Officers 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 City, it shall be the responsibility of the employee present or the employee responsible for the property to make a verbal report to his/her immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit. The employee shall submit a written report before going off duty or as otherwise directed by the supervisor.

These written reports, accompanied by the supervisor's written report, shall promptly be forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander.

700.5 EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

The purpose of the equipment inventory policy is to establish procedures for tracking of department issued equipment to sworn officers, civilian employees and equipment issued to specific work groups within our agency.

700.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Supervisors shall be responsible for conducting equipment inventory inspections on all subordinate personnel and department owned equipment assigned to their work group.

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(a) Bi-annual equipment inventories shall be conducted within the first two weeks of each new shift or as directed by the Chief of Police. The equipment inventory forms shall be turned into the Professional Standards Unit no later than two weeks after the start of the new shift.

(b) All equipment which contains distinguishable identification marks such as serial numbers shall be accounted for on the equipment inventory list. Supervisors are responsible for ensuring these forms are properly filled out and completed within the two week time frame.

(c) Supervisors shall conduct bi-annual inspections of all equipment issued to their specific unit or bureau (including SWAT, PRO, FSU, PSU and Investigations Unit). These inventory forms shall be turned into the Professional Standards Unit within the first two weeks of the start of a new shift.

(d) All sworn and civilian work unit inventory forms will be kept in the custody of the Professional Standards Unit for a period of three years. After three years these forms will be scanned and kept electronically in the Professional Standards Unit.

(e) The department Range Master or designated member of the range staff shall conduct monthly inspections on all departmentally owned assault weapons, shotguns, less lethal weapons, magazines and ammunition. These inspections will be done to ensure the weapons are functional and accounted for and the daily logs are accurate.

(f) All designated department weapons shall be locked and secured in the department's armory unless being deployed in the field, used for training or sent out for repair. Employees who have purchased their own long rifle and deploy these weapons in the field may store these weapons in the department armory.

700.7 PERSONNEL EQUIPMENT INSPECTIONS

The department issues its employees a variety of items to facilitate their work. Proper and consistent care and maintenance of equipment and uniforms is vitally important.

(a) Personnel inspections will focus on an item's functionality and appearance.

These inspections, with the date of the inspection, should be documented and kept in the employee's supervisor log, along with the supervisor's assessment regarding the condition of the employee's equipment for a period of one year.

(b) If an item is considered to be in unsatisfactory condition, the item's status at the time of the inspection should be documented and appropriate measures taken in order to provide an item in satisfactory condition is provided to the employee as quickly as possible.

(c) Personnel shall be subject to monthly equipment inspections by supervisors. More frequent inspections may be made at a supervisor's discretion. Special attention should be given to safety equipment employees are required to wear on their Saw Browne.

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700.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Supervisors are required to inspect their subordinate's equipment once a month, preferably at the beginning of each month. Supervisors shall document any equipment deemed unsatisfactory condition in the officer's supervisor log.

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Portable Radios

701.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Motorola APX 7000 portable radios shall be issued to all sworn and full-time field personnel. Portable radios shall also be issued to the Watch Commander's Office.

701.2 PORTABLE RADIO POOL

A pool of portable radios will be maintained in the Watch Commanders Office, for use by part-time field personnel and Reserve Police Officers.

(a) When checking out a pool portable radio, the employee must fill out the check-out log and include their portable number when logging on to CAD via dispatch. Have the Watch Commander initial the check-out log.

(b) Portables checked out from the pool shall be turned in at the end of each shift and signed back into the pool on the log. Again, have the Watch Commander initial the log.

(c) At the end of each month, ASB personnel will conduct an inventory to account for each pool portable radio.

701.3 INSPECTION

All personnel issued a portable radio will be required to present it for inspection at the request of a supervisor.

701.3.1 RESPONSIBILITY

Portable radios that are assigned are the responsibility of the employee. Portables may be kept in the employees locker, or be taken home.

701.4 REPAIRS

If repairs to a portable radio are necessary, the radio shall be turned into ASB along with a service repair slip. It will be the responsibility of ASB to have the radio repaired and returned to the employee. Employees having repairs done to their radio should check out a portable radio from the pool in the Watch Commander's Office until theirs is returned from service.

701.5 EQUIPMENT CHANGES

When a portable radio is sent out for service, or anytime an employee is not using their assigned portable radio, they will include their temporary portable number when logging onto CAD via Dispatch. This will allow Communications to identify them in the event they activate their emergency button.

701.6 REPORTING PROCEDURE FOR LOST/STOLEN RADIO EQUIPMENT

All users on the Orange County 800 MHz Countywide Coordinated Communications System (CCCS) shall adhere to the following procedure when reporting lost or stolen radio equipment.

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It is critical to system integrity that missing equipment be reported as soon as possible. If a radio is located after being reported missing, a phone call is all that is necessary to have the radio reactivated.

Below is a step-by-step description of actions required to report, deactivate and reactivate lost or stolen equipment.

(a) As soon as the equipment is determined missing, the user will call the Loma Ridge Supervising Emergency Communications Coordinator at (714) 628-7008. The following information will be requested:

1. Agency Name.
2. Name of person reporting missing equipment.
3. Name of person assigned to the missing equipment.
4. Phone number of person reporting. (In case radio is found.)
5. Equipment type. (Mobile, portable, base station, as detailed as possible.)
6. Radio serial number.
7. Radio ID number.
8. Any other radio identifiers. (Barcode #, engraved numbers, etc.)
9. Agency case number assigned to incident.

(b) If the reported missing equipment is located, the Loma Ridge Emergency Communications Coordinator will be re-contacted (714-628-7008) and the following information will be requested:

1. Agency name.
2. Name of person reporting found equipment.
3. Phone number of person reporting found equipment.
4. Equipment type. (Mobile, portable, base station.)
5. Radio serial number.
6. Radio ID number.
7. Any other radio identifiers. (Barcodes, engravings, etc.)

The found equipment will not be functional until the Loma Ridge Emergency Communications Coordinator contacts the reporting party advising of reactivation. The equipment can then be placed back into normal operation.

Once the missing equipment has been reported to the Loma Ridge Supervising Emergency Communications Coordinator, the on duty Watch Commander will be immediately notified of the

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circumstances surrounding the missing equipment. An Administrative Report shall be completed, as well as the applicable departmental report documenting the involved circumstances.

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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 (PCDs) but is intended to include all mobile telephones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), smart watches, personal video or audio recorders, wireless capable tablets and similar wireless two-way communications and/or portable Internet access devices. PCD use includes, but is not limited to, placing and receiving calls, text messaging, blogging and microblogging, emailing, using video or camera features, utilizing digital applications (i.e., apps), playing games and accessing sites or services on the Internet.

702.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department allows members 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, members are advised and cautioned that the use of a personally owned PCD either on-duty or after duty hours for business-related purposes may subject the member and the member's PCD records to civil or criminal discovery or disclosure under applicable public records laws.

Members who have questions regarding the application of this policy or the guidelines contained herein are encouraged to seek clarification from supervisory personnel.

702.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to any communication accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any PCD issued or funded by the Department/Office and shall have no expectation of privacy in their location should the device be equipped with location detection capabilities (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

702.3.1 CALIFORNIA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY ACT (CALECPA)

No member is authorized to be the sole possessor of a department-issued PCD. Department-issued PCDs can be retrieved, reassigned, accessed or used by any member as directed by a supervisor without notice. Member use of a department-issued PCD and use of a personal PCD at work or for work-related business constitutes specific consent for access for department purposes. Prior to conducting an administrative search of a PCD, supervisors should consult legal counsel to ensure access is consistent with CalECPA (Penal Code § 1546; Penal Code § 1546.1).

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702.4 DEPARTMENT-ISSUED PCD

Depending on a member's assignment and the needs of the position, the Department may, at its discretion, issue 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 a member is expressly authorized by the Chief of Police 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

Members may carry a personally owned PCD while on-duty, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(a) Permission to carry a personally owned PCD may be revoked if it is used contrary to provisions of this policy.

(b) The Department accepts no responsibility for loss of or damage to a personally owned PCD.

(c) The PCD and any associated services shall be purchased, used and maintained solely at the member's expense.

(d) The device should not be used for work-related purposes except in exigent circumstances (e.g., unavailability of radio communications). Members will have a reduced expectation of privacy when using a personally owned PCD in the workplace and have no expectation of privacy with regard to any department business-related communication.

    1. Members may use personally owned PCDs on-duty for routine administrative work as authorized by the Chief of Police.

(e) The device shall not be utilized to record or disclose any business-related information, including photographs, video or the recording or transmittal of any information or material obtained or made accessible as a result of employment with the Department, without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

(f) Use of a personally owned PCD while at work or for work-related business constitutes consent for the Department to access the PCD to inspect and copy data to meet the needs of the Department, which may include litigation, public records retention and release obligations and internal investigations. If the PCD is carried on-duty, members will provide the Department with the telephone number of the device.

(g) All work-related documents, emails, photographs, recordings or other public records created or received on a member's personally owned PCD should be transferred to the Westminster Police Department and deleted from the member's PCD as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than the end of the member's shift.

(h) No member shall bring a personally owned PCD into the jail area without specific, single use, permission from the on-duty watch commander.

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(i) Members are specifically prohibited from photographing or recording the jail areas or any prisoner, inmate, or detainee at any time without specific permission from the on-duty watch commander.

Except with prior express authorization from their supervisor, members are not obligated or required to carry, access, monitor or respond to electronic communications using a personally owned PCD while off-duty. If a member is in an authorized status that allows for appropriate compensation consistent with policy or existing memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreements, or if the member has prior express authorization from his/her supervisor, the member may engage in business-related communications. Should members engage in such approved off-duty communications or work, members entitled to compensation shall promptly document the time worked and communicate the information to their supervisors to ensure appropriate compensation. Members who independently document off-duty department-related business activities in any manner shall promptly provide the Department with a copy of such records to ensure accurate record keeping.

702.6 USE OF PCD

The following protocols shall apply to all PCDs that are carried while on-duty or used to conduct department business:

(a) A PCD shall not be carried in a manner that allows it to be visible while in uniform, unless it is in an approved carrier.

(b) All PCDs in the workplace should be set to silent or vibrate mode.

(c) A PCD may not be used to conduct personal business while on-duty, except for brief personal communications (e.g., informing family of extended hours). Members shall endeavor to limit their use of PCDs to authorized break times, unless an emergency exists.

(d) Members may use a PCD to communicate with other personnel in situations where the use of radio communications is either impracticable or not feasible. PCDs should not be used as a substitute for, as a way to avoid, or in lieu of regular radio communications.

(e) Members are prohibited from taking pictures, audio or video recordings or making copies of any such picture or recording media unless it is directly related to official department business. Disclosure of any such information to any third party through any means, without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee, may result in discipline.

(f) Members will not access social networking sites for any purpose that is not official department business, unless the member is on their authorized break.

(g) Using PCDs to harass, threaten, coerce or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct with any third party is prohibited. Any member having knowledge of such conduct shall promptly notify a supervisor.

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702.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

(a) Ensuring that members under their command are provided appropriate training on the use of PCDs consistent with this policy.

(b) Monitoring, to the extent practicable, PCD use in the workplace and taking prompt corrective action if a member is observed or reported to be improperly using a PCD.

1. An investigation into improper conduct should be promptly initiated when circumstances warrant.
2. Before conducting any administrative search of a member's personally owned device, supervisors should consult with the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

702.8 USE WHILE DRIVING

The use of a PCD while driving can adversely affect safety, cause unnecessary distractions and present a negative image to the public. Officers operating emergency vehicles should restrict the use of these devices to matters of an urgent nature and should, where practicable, stop the vehicle at an appropriate location to use the PCD.

Members who are operating department vehicles that are not authorized emergency vehicles shall not use a PCD while driving unless the device is specifically designed and configured to allow hands-free use. In an emergency, a wireless phone may be used to place an emergency call to the Department or other emergency services agency (Vehicle Code § 23123; Vehicle Code § 23123.5). Hands-free use should be restricted to business-related calls or calls of an urgent nature.

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Vehicle Maintenance

703.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Employees are responsible for assisting in maintaining Department vehicles so that they are properly equipped, properly maintained, properly refueled and present a clean appearance.

703.2 DEFECTIVE VEHICLES

When a department vehicle becomes inoperative or in need of repair that affects the safety of the vehicle, that vehicle shall be removed from service for repair. Proper documentation shall be promptly completed by the employee who first becomes aware of the defective condition, describing the correction needed. The paperwork shall be promptly forwarded to vehicle maintenance for repair.

703.2.1 DAMAGE OR POOR PERFORMANCE

Vehicles that may have been damaged, or perform poorly shall be removed from service for inspections and repairs as soon as practicable.

703.2.2 SEVERE USE

Vehicles operated under severe-use conditions, which include operations for which the vehicle is not designed or that exceed the manufacturer's parameters, should be removed from service and subjected to a safety inspection as soon as practicable. Such conditions may include rough roadway or off-road driving, hard or extended braking, pursuits or prolonged high-speed operation.

703.2.3 REMOVAL OF WEAPONS

All firearms, weapons and control devices shall be removed from a vehicle and properly secured in the department armory prior to the vehicle being released for maintenance, service or repair.

703.3 VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

Certain items shall be maintained in all department vehicles for emergency purposes and to perform routine duties.

703.3.1 PATROL VEHICLES

Officers 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 crime scene barricade Tape
- 1 First aid kit, CPR mask
- 1 Dog catch pole
- 1 Blanket

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- 1 Blood-borne pathogen kit, Incl. protective gloves
- 1 Traffic Safety Vest
- 1 Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Handbook
- 1 Automatic external defibrillator (AED)
- 1 Level III tactical vest (active-shooter vest)
- 1 Shotgun for kinetic energy (bean-bag) rounds
- 1 Set of Stop Sticks
- 1 Fire extinguisher

703.4 VEHICLE REFUELING

Absent emergency conditions or supervisor approval, officers driving patrol vehicles shall not place a vehicle in service that has less than one-quarter tank of fuel. Vehicles shall only be refueled at the authorized location.

703.5 WASHING OF VEHICLES

All units shall be kept clean at all times and weather conditions permitting, shall be washed as necessary to enhance their appearance.

Officers in patrol shall obtain clearance from the dispatcher before responding to the car wash. Only one marked unit should be at the car wash at the same time unless otherwise approved by a supervisor.

Employees using a vehicle shall remove any trash or debris at the end of their shift. Confidential material should be placed in a designated receptacle provided for the shredding of this matter.

703.6 CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE USE

Civilian employees using marked vehicles shall ensure all weapons are removed from vehicles before going into service. Civilian employees shall also prominently display the “out of service” placards or lightbar covers at all times. Civilian employees shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

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Vehicle Use

704.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a system of accountability to ensure department vehicles are used appropriately. This policy provides guidelines for on- and off-duty use of department vehicles and shall not be construed to create or imply any contractual obligation by the City of Westminster to provide assigned take-home vehicles.

704.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department provides vehicles for department-related business and may assign patrol and unmarked vehicles based on a determination of operational efficiency, economic impact to the Department, requirements for tactical deployments and other considerations.

704.2.1 UNDERCOVER VEHICLES

Unmarked units, if not assigned to an individual employee, shall not be used without first obtaining approval from the respective unit supervisor.

704.2.2 DETECTIVE BUREAU VEHICLES

Detectives Division vehicle use is restricted to detective personnel Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM unless approved by a detective supervisor. Detectives Division personnel shall record vehicle usage via the Sign-out Log maintained in the Division. After hour use of Detectives vehicles by personnel not assigned to the Detectives shall be recorded with the Watch Commander on the shift roster.

704.2.3 AUTHORIZED PASSENGERS

Personnel operating department owned vehicles shall not permit persons other than City employees or persons required to be conveyed in the performance of duty or as otherwise authorized to ride as a passenger in their vehicle.

704.2.4 INSPECTIONS

The interior of any vehicle that has been used to transport any person other than an employee should be inspected prior to placing another person in the vehicle and again after the person is removed. This is to ensure that unauthorized items have not been left in the vehicle.

704.2.5 DEFINITIONS

Police Service Officers (PSO) Vehicle - A vehicle owned or leased by the Westminster Police Department, white in color, with an amber lightbar.

Volunteer Vehicle - A vehicle owned or leased by the Westminster Police, white in color, with a "Westminster Police Department Volunteer" decal on the sides. This vehicle has an amber lightbar.

704.3 USE OF VEHICLES

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704.3.1 SHIFT ASSIGNED VEHICLES

Personnel assigned to routine scheduled field duties shall log onto the in-car computer inputting the required information when going on duty. If the vehicle is not equipped with a working in-car computer, they shall notify Dispatch for entry of the vehicle number on the shift roster. If the employee exchanges vehicles during the shift, the employee will advise Dispatch of the new vehicle number.

704.3.2 ALCOHOL OR IMPAIRING DRUGS

Members who have consumed alcohol are prohibited from operating any department vehicle unless it is required by the duty assignment (e.g., task force, undercover work). Regardless of assignment, members may not violate state law regarding vehicle operation while intoxicated.

Members shall not operate a department vehicle if they are impaired by a prescribed, non-prescribed or illegal drug.

If a member is suspected of operating any department vehicle while impaired, a supervisor of at least one rank above the involved member should be present during the field sobriety tests and any subsequent processes.

704.3.3 PARKING

Except when responding to an emergency or when urgent department-related business requires otherwise, members driving department vehicles should obey all parking regulations at all times.

Department vehicles should be parked in assigned stalls. Members shall not park privately owned vehicles in stalls assigned to department vehicles or in other areas of the parking lot that are not so designated unless authorized by a supervisor. Privately owned motorcycles shall be parked in designated areas.

704.3.4 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS

There shall be no modifications, additions or removal of any equipment or accessories without written permission from the respective vehicle manager.

704.3.5 CIVILIAN MEMBER USE

Civilian members using marked emergency vehicles shall ensure that all weapons have been removed before going into service. Civilian members shall prominently display the "out of service" placards or light bar covers at all times. Civilian members shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

A PSO Vehicle or Volunteer Vehicle does not need a placard or the light bar covered when operated by a civilian.

704.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER ASSIGNMENT TO VEHICLES

Department vehicles may be assigned to individual members at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Vehicles may be assigned for on-duty and/or take-home use. Assigned vehicles may be changed at any time. Permission to take home a vehicle may be withdrawn at any time.

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The assignment of vehicles may be suspended when the member is unable to perform his/her regular assignment.

704.4.1 ON-DUTY USE

Vehicle assignments shall be based on the nature of the member's duties, job description and essential functions, and employment or appointment status. Vehicles may be reassigned or utilized by other department members at the discretion of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

704.4.2 UNSCHEDULED TAKE-HOME USE

Circumstances may arise where department vehicles must be used by members to commute to and from a work assignment. Members may take home department vehicles only with prior approval of a supervisor and shall meet the following criteria:

(a) The circumstances are unplanned and were created by the needs of the department.

(b) Other reasonable transportation options are not available.

(c) The member lives within a reasonable distance (generally not to exceed a 60-minute drive time) of the Westminster City limits.

(d) Off-street parking will be available at the member's residence.

(e) Vehicles will be locked when not attended.

(f) All firearms, weapons and control devices will be removed from the interior of the vehicle and properly secured in the residence when the vehicle is not attended, unless the vehicle is parked in a locked garage.

704.4.3 ASSIGNED VEHICLES

Assignment of take-home vehicles shall be based on the nature of the member's duties, job description and essential functions, and employment or appointment status.

Department members shall adhere to the expectations listed in this section, including, but not limited to, how the vehicle shall be used, where it shall be parked when the member is not on-duty, vehicle maintenance responsibilities and member enforcement actions.

Members are cautioned that under federal and local tax rules, personal use of a City vehicle may create an income tax liability for the member. Questions regarding tax rules should be directed to the member's tax adviser.

Criteria for use of take-home vehicles include the following:

(a) Vehicles shall only be used for work-related purposes. If a member is required to travel outside of Orange County, he/she shall receive permission from the Chief of Police or the authorized designee before leaving.

(b) Members may conduct limited personal business within the City of Westminster during the course of a member's normal working hours.

(c) Vehicles may be used to transport the member to and from the member's residence for work-related purposes.

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(d) A member shall not operate a take-home vehicle with a passenger unless necessary for work-related purposes.

(e) Vehicles will not be used when off-duty except:

1. In circumstances when a member has been placed on call by the Chief of Police or Commanders and there is a high probability that the member will be called back to duty.
2. When the member is performing a work-related function during what normally would be an off-duty period, including vehicle maintenance or travelling to or from a work-related activity or function.
3. When the member has received permission from the Chief of Police or Commanders.
4. When the vehicle is being used by the Chief of Police, Commanders or members who are in on-call administrative positions.
5. When the vehicle is being used by on-call investigators.

(f) While operating the vehicle, authorized members will carry and have accessible their duty firearms and be prepared to perform any function they would be expected to perform while on-duty.

(g) The two-way communications radio, MDT and global positioning satellite device, if equipped, must be on and set to an audible volume when the vehicle is in operation.

(h) Unattended vehicles are to be locked and secured at all times.

1. No key should be left in the vehicle except when it is necessary that the vehicle be left running (e.g., continued activation of emergency lights, canine safety, equipment charging).
2. All weapons shall be secured while the vehicle is unattended.
3. All department identification, portable radios and equipment should be secured.

(i) Vehicles are to be parked off-street at the member's residence unless prior arrangements have been made with the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. If the vehicle is not secured inside a locked garage, all firearms and kinetic impact weapons shall be removed and properly secured in the residence (see the Firearms Policy regarding safe storage of firearms at home).

(j) Vehicles are to be secured at the member's residence or the appropriate department facility, at the discretion of the Department when a member will be away (e.g., on vacation) for periods exceeding five calendar days.

1. If the vehicle remains at the residence of the member, the Department shall have access to the vehicle.
2. If the member is unable to provide access to the vehicle, it shall be parked at the Department.

(k) The member is responsible for the care and maintenance of the vehicle.

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(l) Members shall not relinquish control of, nor allow any person to operate the vehicle unless that person is an employee of the City of Westminster. This includes valets or garage attendants.

(m) All requests for take home vehicle reassignments (commonly referred to as a swap) shall be directed to the Chief of Police via the chain of command.

(n) A vehicle inspection may occur at any time. Members have no expectation of privacy in take-home vehicles.

704.4.4 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

When driving a take-home vehicle to and from work outside of the jurisdiction of the Westminster Police Department or while off-duty, an officer shall not initiate enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists (see the Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions and Law Enforcement Authority policies).

Officers may render public assistance when it is deemed prudent (e.g., to a stranded motorist).

Officers driving take-home vehicles shall be armed, appropriately attired and carry their department-issued identification. Officers should also ensure that department radio communication capabilities are maintained to the extent feasible.

704.4.5 MAINTENANCE

Members are responsible for the cleanliness (exterior and interior) and overall maintenance of their assigned vehicles. Cleaning and maintenance supplies will be provided by the Department. Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in discipline and loss of vehicle assignment. The following should be performed as outlined below:

(a) Members shall make daily inspections of their assigned vehicles for service/ maintenance requirements and damage.

(b) It is the member's responsibility to ensure that his/her assigned vehicle is maintained according to the established service and maintenance schedule.

(c) All scheduled vehicle maintenance and car washes shall be performed as necessary at a facility approved by the department supervisor in charge of vehicle maintenance.

(d) The Department shall be notified of problems with the vehicle and approve any major repairs before they are performed.

(e) When leaving the vehicle at the maintenance facility, the member will complete a vehicle repair card explaining the service or repair, and leave it on the seat or dash.

(f) All weapons shall be removed from any vehicle left for maintenance.

(g) Supervisors shall make, at a minimum, monthly inspections of vehicles assigned to members under their command to ensure the vehicles are being maintained in accordance with this policy.

704.5 UNMARKED VEHICLES

Vehicles are assigned to various bureaus and their use is restricted to the respective bureau and the assigned member, unless otherwise approved by a bureau supervisor. Any member operating

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an unmarked vehicle shall record vehicle usage on the sign-out log maintained in the bureau for that purpose. Any use of unmarked vehicles by those who are not assigned to the bureau to which the vehicle is assigned shall also record the use with the Watch Commander on the shift assignment roster.

704.6 DAMAGE, ABUSE AND MISUSE

When any department vehicle is involved in a traffic collision or otherwise incurs damage, the involved member shall promptly notify a supervisor. Any traffic collision report shall be filed with the agency having jurisdiction (see the Traffic Collision Reporting Policy).

Damage to any department vehicle that was not caused by a traffic collision shall be immediately reported during the shift in which the damage was discovered, documented in memorandum format and forwarded to the Watch Commander. An administrative investigation should be initiated to determine if there has been any vehicle abuse or misuse.

704.6.1 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS

No modifications, additions or deletions of any equipment or accessories shall be made to the vehicle without written permission from the for the Assigned Vehicle Program manager.

704.7 VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

Vehicles provided by the department are critical to performing our police mission. Police vehicles are on a replacement cycle; as a result, maintaining the vehicles in optimal condition during their product lifespan directly impacts the safety of both personnel and our citizens. There are two types of vehicle inspections performed by patrol personnel: daily and bi-monthly.

(a) Daily vehicle inspections should be performed by personnel using a police vehicle at the beginning of her/his shift. Officers shall assure all assigned equipment is located in the vehicle and is properly functional.

(b) In addition, the general condition of the vehicle should also be assessed. The following issues should be reviewed by the officer for each unit used each shift; documentation of body damage, maintenance cycling, technology items are functioning and the overall appearance (internal and external) is professional.

(c) Patrol vehicle inspections will occur on a bi-monthly basis by a Watch Commander, or his designee. These inspections are to ensure vehicles are being properly maintained, their equipment is current and functional, and proper documentation is being kept on each vehicle. The vehicle inspections will be documented and will cover items that should be in the trunk and the general condition of the vehicle.

(d) The officer last using a vehicle will be held responsible if any issues are found with a vehicle that have not been documented appropriately. Failure to maintain a department vehicle may result in discipline.

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704.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Supervisors responsible for inspecting the patrol units twice a month will keep a log to indicate which vehicles were inspected, when they were inspected, and if the vehicle passed the inspection. Supervisors can conduct random inspections of patrol units to assure all equipment is accounted for and functioning.

704.9 TAKE HOME VEHICLES

Purpose

This section provides direction regarding the use, while off-duty, of department take home vehicles. Procedures regarding other City owned vehicle uses are specified above in Section 706 of this manual and within the "Vehicle Usage" policy of the City of Westminster Personnel Policy Manual.

Scope

This policy is applicable to all members of the Westminster Police Department who have been assigned a take home vehicle because of their assignment or other specified work related necessity as authorized by the Chief of Police.

Background

The use of take home vehicles is an important element of the Department's ability to ensure police personnel, supervision and resources are readily available in the event of an emergency or major event in or out of the city limits involving Westminster Police Department personnel. Take home vehicles provide the means to respond directly to an incident without first having to divert to the police facility to retrieve a vehicle or other necessary equipment. Allowing police personnel the use of a take home car may also be necessary based upon investigative and/or security needs for the employee.

Definition

"Take Home Vehicle" means a department vehicle authorized for commuting between work and home or authorized off duty use by a department member, or a vehicle secured at a location other than an employee's assigned work location for the purposes of shortening an employee's commute or fulfilling a work related operational necessity.

Criteria for Assignment of Take Home Vehicles

1. The employee's assignment requires potential call-out responsibilities or attendance at police related activities outside normal work hours.

2. The employee's assignment will potentially require immediate responsive action to an emergency call or major incident during off-duty hours.

3. The employee's assignment requires timely response during off-duty hours to handle a police investigation.

Procedures

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Employees of the department authorized to utilize a take home vehicle must adhere to the following guidelines:

A. Assigned employees may use the vehicle to:

1. Commute between their residence and workplace.

2. Conduct limited personal business within Westminster city limits during the course of an employee's normal working hours.

3. Conduct legitimate department related business outside the city limits, including but not limited to attendance at special meetings or other authorized duty after hours.

B. Employees may not use take home vehicles for travel outside Orange County unless specifically authorized to do so by their Bureau Commander or the Chief of Police. Unforeseen circumstances that require travel outside Orange County will require approval from the Chief of Police.

C. When driving a take home vehicle to and from work outside the jurisdiction of the Westminster Police Department, an employee shall not become involved in enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists. Employees may render public assistance, e.g. to a stranded motorist, when deemed prudent.

D. Personnel operating department owned vehicles shall not permit persons other than City employees or persons required to be conveyed in the performance of duty or as otherwise authorized to ride as a passenger in their vehicle.

E. Department employees shall not operate a take home vehicle after having consumed any alcoholic beverage and/or their driving ability may be impaired through the use of prescription or non-prescription drugs.

F. When a take home vehicle is involved in a traffic collision, the involved employee shall promptly notify a supervisor. A traffic collision report shall be filed with the agency having jurisdiction. When a collision involves a department 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 California Highway Patrol should be summoned to handle the investigation. The employee involved in the collision shall complete the City's vehicle accident form. If the employee is incapable, the supervisor shall complete the form.

G. Any damage to a take home vehicle that was not caused by a traffic collision shall be immediately reported during the shift in which the damage was discovered to the employee's immediate supervisor. An administrative investigation will be conducted to determine if there is any vehicle abuse or misuse. If it is determined that misuse or abuse was a result of negligent conduct or operation, appropriate disciplinary action may result.

H. If an employee driving the take home vehicle is suspected of having driven the vehicle while under the influence, that employee must adhere to and comply with the implied consent chemical testing incident to an arrest. If the employee is suspected of having driven the take home vehicle after having consumed alcohol, the employee shall submit to a preliminary Alcohol

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Screening (PAS) test and any other blood and/or breath testing procedures deemed necessary by investigating officials. Whenever possible, a department employee of at least one rank above the employee involved in the collision should be present during the testing process.

I. Take home vehicles are to be left at the police facility during vacations or other periods of leave in excess of five (5) calendar days.

J. Employees assigned a take home car shall not relinquish control of, nor allow any person to operate the vehicle if that person is not an employee of the City of Westminster. This includes prohibition of releasing the vehicle to private valets and garage attendants.

K. Employees assigned a take home vehicle shall be responsible for maintaining the vehicle in proper mechanical working order and insuring the vehicle is maintained in accordance with WPDP&P Sections 704 and 706.6 respectively.

L. All requests for take home vehicle reassignments (commonly referred to as a "Swap") shall be directed to the Chief of Police via the Chain of Command.

M. Take home vehicles are subject to inspection and/or search at any time by a supervisor and no employee assigned to or operating such vehicle shall be entitled to any expectation of privacy with respect to the vehicle or its contents.

N. Take home vehicles shall be locked when not attended.

O. All firearms and other weapons shall be removed from the interior of the vehicle and placed in the trunk or properly secured in the employees residence when the vehicle is not attended (refer to Firearms policy § 312 regarding safe storage of firearms at home).

704.10 ATTIRE AND APPEARANCE

When operating any department vehicle while off-duty, members may dress in a manner appropriate for their intended activity. Whenever in view of or in contact with the public, attire and appearance, regardless of the activity, should be suitable to reflect positively upon the Department.

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Chapter 8 - Support Services

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Crime Analysis

800.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Crime analysis should provide currently useful information to aid operational personnel in meeting their tactical crime control and prevention objectives by identifying and analyzing methods of operation of individual criminals, providing crime pattern recognition, and providing analysis of data from field interrogations and arrests. Crime analysis can be useful to the Department's long range planning efforts by providing estimates of future crime trends and assisting in the identification of enforcement priorities.

800.2 DATA SOURCES

Crime analysis data is extracted from many sources including, but not limited to:

- Crime reports
- Field Interview cards
- Parole and Probation records
- Computer Aided Dispatch data
- Statewide Integrated Traffic Reporting System (SWITRS)

800.3 CRIME ANALYSIS FACTORS

The following minimum criteria should be used in collecting data for Crime Analysis:

- Frequency by type of crime
- Geographic factors
- Temporal factors
- Victim and target descriptors
- Suspect descriptors
- Suspect vehicle descriptors
- Modus operandi factors
- Physical evidence information

800.4 CRIME ANALYSIS DISSEMINATION

For a crime analysis system to function effectively, information should be disseminated to the appropriate units or persons on a timely basis. Information that is relevant to the operational and tactical plans of specific line units should be sent directly to them. Information relevant to the development of the Department's strategic plans should be provided to the appropriate staff units. When information pertains to tactical and strategic plans, it should be provided to all affected units.

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Professional Standards Unit

801.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the roles and responsibilities of the Professional Standards Unit (PSU).

801.2 PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary responsibilites of the Professional Standards Unit are:

(a) Conducting adminstrative investigations

(b) Administration of the IA Pro and Blue Team databases

(c) Oversight, quality control, tracking and routing of all administrative investigations

(d) Maintenance of the Lexipol Policy Manual and Knowledge Management System

(e) Hiring and training of all personnel

(f) Training discipline and remedial training

(g) Management of the Field Training Program

(h) Equipment issue and inventory

(i) Storage, retention, and security of all personnel records including:

1. Personnel files
2. Supervisor Logs
3. Training Records
4. Background Investigations

(j) Risk Management Liaison

(k) Reviewing and releasing information for discovery and PRA requests

(l) Reviewing and processing *Pitchess* motions

(m) Internal audit and inspections of records

(n) Managing and supervising the Westminster Police Range and Safety Training Center

801.3 ADMINISTRATIVE AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS

Primary responsibility for investigating the following internal affairs issues rests with the PSU:

- All citizen complaints (written or otherwise) shall be forwarded to the PSU. The PSU will determine the investigative course of action to take once the complaint has been evaluated. At the discretion of the PSU, other supervisors may be assigned investigative responsibility.
- Incidents involving arrests and/or criminal conduct of Westminster Police Department members.

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- Very complex internal affairs investigations including incidents of a complicated nature that might otherwise extraordinarily tax another supervisor's resources and capabilities.
- Serious policy violations of a sensitive nature or of a newsworthy nature.
- Allegations that involve numerous and/or repeated policy violations and/or issues.
- Any other circumstances at the discretion of the Chief of Police, Command Staff and/or the PSU Commander.

Generally, PSU should conduct investigations of allegations that include:

- Dishonesty
- Criminal misconduct
- Bias/Discrimination
- Domestic Violence
- Insubordination
- Benefit abuse
- Alcohol/substance abuse
- Pattern of neglect of duty
- Retaliation
- Sexual misconduct
- Use of force resulting in an injury
- Theft
- Unbecoming conduct of a serious nature
- Complaint involving a significant number of witnesses and/or evidence
- False Imprisonment
- False arrest
- Complaint likely to involve potential civil liablity
- All complaints arising from civil suits or claims for damages
- Unlawful search
- Any complaint likley to result in significant discipline or termination
- Any other complaint deemed necessary by the Chief of Police

Generally, the chain of command (commander and sergeant who directly supervise the impacted employee) should conduct investigations into allegations that include:

- Unbecoming conduct of a relatively minor nature

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- Discourtesy
- Improper remark
- Minor neglect of duty
- Failure to appear in court
- Failure to qualify with firearm
- Traffic collision
- Procedure complaint
- Any other complaint as directed by the Chief of Police

801.4 OUTSIDE INVESTIGATIONS

External investigators may be used to conduct administrative investigations at the direction of the Chief of Police and/or the City Manager and should generally be assigned to the following types of investigations:

- Anytime there is a perceived conflict in conducting an administrative or internal investigation, the Chief of Police may direct the PSU Commander to contract the investigation to an outside, independent investigator.
- At the discretion of the Chief of Police, any investigation involving a member of the command staff where there is a real or perceived conflict of interest between the assigned investigator and the subject officer
- At the discretion of the City Manager, any investigation where the Chief of Police is the subject officer
- At the discretion of the Chief of Police, any investigation where there is a real or perceived bias

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Dispatch

802.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the basic functions of Dispatch. It addresses the immediate information needs of the Department in the course of its normal daily activities and during emergencies.

802.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to provide 24-hour telephone service to the public for information and for routine or emergency assistance. The Department provides two-way radio capability providing continuous communication between Dispatch and department members in the field.

802.3 DISPATCH SECURITY

The communications function is vital and central to all emergency service operations. The safety and security of Dispatch, its members and its equipment must be a high priority. Special security procedures should be established in a separate operations manual for Dispatch.

Access to Dispatch shall be limited to Dispatch members, the Watch Commander, command staff, department members with a specific business-related purpose and authorized applicants.

802.3.1 IMPROPER RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Radio communications are to be kept brief and made using appropriate radio codes. Sarcasm, inaapropriate comments and "radio horseplay" will not be tolerated.

802.3.2 COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR - RESPONSIBILITES

The Communications Supervisor shall oversee all functions of the Communications Operations and shall be responsible for scheduling dispactch personnel to provide adequate coverage. Additionally, the Supervisor will schedule mandatory and recommended training for dispatch personnel to ensure they remain current in their POST Continued Professional Training (CPT) requirement and use of State and County databases.

802.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

802.4.1 DISPATCH SUPERVISOR

The Chief of Police shall appoint and delegate certain responsibilities to a Dispatch Supervisor. The Dispatch Supervisor is directly responsible to the designated Operations Commander or the authorized designee.

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

(a) Overseeing the efficient and effective operation of Dispatch in coordination with other supervisors.

(b) Scheduling and maintaining dispatcher time records.

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(c) Supervising, training and evaluating dispatchers.

(d) Ensuring the radio and telephone recording system is operational.

1. Recordings shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule and as required by law.

(e) Processing requests for copies of Dispatch information for release.

(f) Maintaining Dispatch database systems.

(g) Maintaining and updating Dispatch procedures manual.

1. Procedures for specific types of crime reports may be necessary. For example, specific questions and instructions may be necessary when talking with a victim of a sexual assault to ensure that his/her health and safety needs are met, as well as steps that he/she may take to preserve evidence.

2. Ensuring dispatcher compliance with established policies and procedures.

(h) Handling internal and external inquiries regarding services provided and accepting personnel complaints in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

(i) Maintaining a current contact list of City personnel to be notified in the event of a utility service emergency.

802.4.2 ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

The Dispatch Supervisor should ensure procedures exist for:

(a) Recording all telephone and radio communications and playback issues.

(b) Storage and retention of recordings.

(c) Security of audio recordings (e.g., passwords, limited access, authorized reviewers, preservation of recordings past normal retention standards).

(d) Availability of current information for dispatchers (e.g., Watch Commander contact, rosters, member tracking methods, member contact, maps, emergency providers, tactical dispatch plans).

(e) Assignment of field members and safety check intervals.

(f) Procurement of external services (e.g., fire suppression, ambulances, aircraft, tow trucks, taxis).

(g) Handling misdirected, silent and hang-up calls.

(h) Radio interoperability issues.

802.4.3 DISPATCHERS

Dispatchers report to the Dispatch Supervisor. The responsibilities of the dispatcher include, but are not limited to:

(a) Receiving and handling all incoming and transmitted communications, including:

1. Emergency 9-1-1 lines.

2. Business telephone lines.

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3. Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)/Text Telephone (TTY) equipment.
4. Radio communications with department members in the field and support resources (e.g., fire department, emergency medical services (EMS), allied agency law enforcement units).
5. Other electronic sources of information (e.g., text messages, digital photographs, video).

(b) Documenting the field activities of department members and support resources (e.g., fire department, EMS, allied agency law enforcement units).

(c) Inquiry and entry of information through Dispatch, department and other law enforcement database systems (CLETS, DMV, NCIC).

(d) Maintaining the current status of members in the field, their locations and the nature of calls for service.

(e) Notifying the Watch Commander or field supervisor of emergency activity, including, but not limited to:

1. Vehicle pursuits.
2. Foot pursuits.
3. Assignment of emergency response.

802.5 CALL HANDLING

This Department provides members of the public with access to the 9-1-1 system for a single emergency telephone number.

When a call for services is received, the dispatcher will reasonably and quickly attempt to determine whether the call is an emergency or non-emergency, and shall quickly ascertain the call type, location and priority by asking four key questions:

- Where?
- What?
- When?
- Who?

If the dispatcher determines that the caller has a hearing and/or speech impairment or disability, he/she shall immediately initiate a connection with the individual via available TDD/TTY equipment or Telephone Relay Service (TRS), as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

If the dispatcher determines that the caller is a limited English proficiency (LEP) individual, the dispatcher should quickly determine whether sufficient information can be obtained to initiate an appropriate response. If language assistance is still needed, the language is known and a language-appropriate authorized interpreter is available in Dispatch, the dispatcher should immediately connect the LEP caller to the authorized interpreter.

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If no authorized interpreter is available or the dispatcher is unable to identify the caller's language, the dispatcher will contact the contracted telephonic interpretation service and establish a three-party call connecting the dispatcher, the LEP individual and the interpreter.

Dispatchers should be courteous, patient and respectful when dealing with the public.

802.5.1 EMERGENCY CALLS

A call is considered an emergency when there is an immediate or potential threat to life or serious property damage, and the timely arrival of public safety assistance is of the utmost importance. When practicable, a person reporting an emergency should not be placed on hold until the dispatcher has obtained all necessary information to ensure the safety of the responding department members and affected individuals.

Emergency calls should be dispatched immediately. The Watch Commander shall be notified of pending emergency calls for service when department members are unavailable for dispatch. An advisement should be made over the radio according to applicable procedures.

802.5.2 NON-EMERGENCY CALLS

A call is considered a non-emergency call when there is no immediate or potential threat to life or property. A person reporting a non-emergency may be placed on hold, if necessary, to allow the dispatcher to handle a higher priority or emergency call.

The reporting person should be advised if there will be a delay in the dispatcher returning to the telephone line or when there will be a delay in the response for service.

802.6 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

The police radio system is for official use only, to be used by dispatchers to communicate with department members in the field. All transmissions shall be professional and made in a calm, businesslike manner, using proper language and correct procedures. Such transmissions shall include, but are not limited to:

(a) Members acknowledging the dispatcher with their radio identification call signs and current location.

(b) Dispatchers acknowledging and responding promptly to all radio transmissions.

(c) Members keeping the dispatcher advised of their status and location.

(d) Member and dispatcher acknowledgements shall be concise and without further comment unless additional information is needed.

The Dispatch Supervisor shall be notified of radio procedure violations or other causes for complaint. All complaints and violations will be investigated and reported to the complainant's supervisor and processed through the chain of command.

802.6.1 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION COMPLIANCE

Westminster Police Department radio operations shall be conducted in accordance with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) procedures and requirements.

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802.6.2 RADIO IDENTIFICATION

Radio call signs are assigned to department members based on factors such as duty assignment, uniformed patrol assignment and/or member identification number. Dispatchers shall identify themselves on the radio with the appropriate station name or number, and identify the department member by his/her call sign. Members should use their call signs 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 department member. Members initiating communication with other law enforcement or support agencies shall use their entire radio call sign, which includes the department station name or number.

802.7 DOCUMENTATION

It shall be the responsibility of Dispatch to document all relevant information on calls for service or self-initiated activity. Dispatchers shall attempt to elicit, document and relay as much information as possible to enhance the safety of the member and assist in anticipating conditions that may be encountered at the scene. Desirable information would include, at a minimum:

- Incident control number.
- Date and time of request.
- Name and address of the reporting person, if possible.
- Type of incident reported.
- Involvement of weapons, drugs and/or alcohol.
- Location of incident reported.
- Identification of members assigned as primary and backup.
- Time of dispatch.
- Time of the responding member’s arrival.
- Time of member’s return to service.
- Disposition or status of reported incident.

802.8 CONFIDENTIALITY

Information that becomes available through Dispatch may be confidential or sensitive in nature. All members of Dispatch shall treat information that becomes known to them as confidential and release that information in accordance with the Protected Information Policy.

Automated data, such as Department of Motor Vehicle records, warrants, criminal history information, records of internal police files or medical information, shall only be made available to authorized law enforcement personnel.

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802.9 TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

Dispatchers shall receive training consistent with minimum standards established by POST (Penal Code § 13510).

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Property and Evidence

803.1 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 identifies those persons authorized to remove and/or destroy property.

803.2 DEFINITIONS

Property - Includes all items of evidence, items taken for safekeeping, found property and items booked for destruction.

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 (e.g., Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150 (mentally ill persons))

Found property - Includes property found by an employee or citizen that has no apparent evidentiary value and where the owner cannot be readily identified or contacted.

803.3 PROPERTY HANDLING

Any employee who first comes into possession of any property shall retain such property in his/her possession until it is properly tagged and placed in the designated property locker or storage room along with the property form. Care shall be taken to maintain the chain of custody for all evidence.

Where ownership can be established as to found property with no apparent evidentiary value, such property may be released to the owner without the need for booking. The property form must be completed to document the release of property not booked and the owner shall sign the form acknowledging receipt of the items.

803.3.1 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 tag describing each item of property separately, listing all serial numbers, owner’s name, finder's name, and other identifying information or markings.

(b) Mark each item of evidence's taped seal with the booking employee’s initials, the date booked and case number using the appropriate method so as not to deface or damage the value of the property.

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(c) Complete an evidence/property tag and attach it to each package or envelope in which the property is stored.

(d) The original property tag shall be submitted with the case report. A copy shall be placed with the property in the temporary property locker or with the property if property is stored somewhere other than a property locker.

(e) When the property is too large to be placed in a locker, use the bulk locker room (key can be found in the Watch Commander's office) or the outside booking area near the incoming bike racks.

803.3.2 NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

All narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be booked separately using a separate property tag. Paraphernalia as defined by Health and Safety Code § 11364 shall also be booked separately.

803.3.3 EXPLOSIVES

Officers who encounter a suspected explosive device shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor or the Watch Commander. The bomb squad will be called to handle explosive-related incidents and will be responsible for the handling, storage, sampling and disposal of all suspected explosives.

Any firework or incendiary items shall be released into the custody of the appropriate governmental agency. If said device is of evidentiary value to an ongoing criminal investigation, approval shall be obtained from the Watch Commander prior to booking, following all established department guidelines.. Email notification shall also be made to the Property Division describing the nature and location of the item.

803.3.4 EXCEPTIONAL HANDLING

Certain property items require a separate process. The following items shall be processed in the described manner:

(a) Bodily fluids such as blood or semen stains shall be air dried prior to booking.

(b) License plates found not to be stolen or connected with a known crime, should be released directly to the Evidence Technician, or placed in the designated container for return to the Department of Motor Vehicles. No formal property booking process is required.

(c) All bicycles and bicycle frames require a property record. Property tags will be securely attached to each bicycle or bicycle frame. The property tag should include the serial number, make and model of the bicycle. The property may be released directly to the Evidence Technician, or placed in the bicycle storage area until a Evidence Technician can log the property.

(d) Cash in excess of $100.00 shall be counted in the presence of a supervisor and the money envelope initialed by the booking officer and the supervisor. All cash will be double verified by either the property division personnel or one property person and an investigator. Both parties will date and initial the amount on the property tag.

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City property, unless connected to a known criminal case, should be released directly to the appropriate City 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.

803.3.5 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Officers seizing any closed alcoholic beverage container either as evidence, for safekeeping, as abandoned, or for any other purpose must book the beverage(s) into the Property Division. Alcoholic beverage within closed containers shall not be destroyed in the field. Upon receipt, destruction/disposition of all closed/sealed alcoholic beverages shall be the responsibility of Property Division staff in compliance with the law and department policies pertaining to property destruction/release/disposition.

Officers seizing any open container(s) of alcoholic beverages during enforcement action(s) may destroy such beverages by placing them within trash receptacles and/or pouring the contents out, but only after capturing necessary evidentiary information associated with the enforcement action:

- The type of alcohol (brand names)
- Photographs (if necessary)
- Quantity
- Whether it was cold to the touch or not
- Condensation on the container (if any)

Officers disposing of alcoholic beverages by way of pouring out the contents in a gutter, on grass, or street/alleyways must consider that such disposition may not be a positive practice conducive to enhancing quality of life issues. Such a practice may even create problematic issues (e.g., odor, health considerations, hazardous conditions).

Officers are encouraged to dispose of open containers of alcohol in trash receptacles whenever possible, being mindful of the various quality of life issues that may be impacted otherwise.

Officers still reserve the option of booking any container of alcohol in instances that may warranted it (e.g., more serious crimes being investigated, for DNA/print analysis purposes).

803.3.6 RELINQUISHED FIREARMS

Individuals who relinquish firearms pursuant to the provisions of Penal Code § 29850 shall be issued a receipt that describes the firearm, the serial number or other identification of the firearm at the time of relinquishment (Penal Code § 29810).

Relinquished firearms shall be retained for 30 days, after which time they may be destroyed, retained, sold or otherwise transferred, unless (Penal Code § 29810):

(a) A certificate is issued by a judge of a court of record or the District Attorney stating the firearms shall be retained; or

(b) The convicted person provides written notice of an intent to appeal the conviction that necessitated the relinquishment; or

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(c) The Automated Firearms System indicates that the firearm was reported lost or stolen.

1. In such event, the firearm shall be restored to the lawful owner as soon as it is no longer needed as evidence, the lawful owner has identified the weapon and provided proof of ownership, and the Department has complied with the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 et seq.

The Evidence Technician shall ensure the Records Supervisor is notified of the relinquished firearm for purposes of updating the Automated Firearms System and the disposition of the firearm for purposes of notifying the California Department of Justice (DOJ) (See the Records Bureau Policy).

803.4 PACKAGING OF PROPERTY

Certain items require special consideration and shall be booked separately as follows:

(a) Narcotics and dangerous drugs

(b) Firearms (ensure they are unloaded and booked separately from ammunition)

(c) Property with more than one known owner

(d) Paraphernalia as described in Health and Safety Code § 11364

(e) Fireworks

(f) Contraband

(g) Currency/cash

803.4.1 PACKAGING CONTAINER

Employees shall package all property, except narcotics and dangerous drugs in a suitable package available for its size. Handgun boxes should be used to package knives, and syringe tubes should be used to package syringes and needles.

A property tag shall be securely attached to the outside of all items or group of items packaged together.

803.4.2 PACKAGING NARCOTICS

The officer 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.

Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be packaged in an envelope of appropriate size available in the report room. The booking officer shall initial the sealed envelope and the initials covered with cellophane tape. Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall not be packaged with other property.

A completed property tag shall be attached to the outside of the container. The chain of evidence shall be recorded on the back of this tag.

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803.5 RECORDING OF PROPERTY

The Evidence Technician receiving custody of evidence or property shall record his/her signature, the date and time the property was received and where the property will be stored on the property control card.

A property number shall be obtained for each item or group of items. This number shall be recorded on the property tag and the property control card.

Any changes in the location of property held by the Westminster Police Department shall be noted in the property logbook.

803.6 PROPERTY CONTROL

Each time the Evidence Technician receives property or releases property to another person, he/she shall enter this information on the property control card. Officers desiring property for court shall contact the Evidence Technician at least one day prior to the court day.

803.6.1 RESPONSIBILITY OF OTHER PERSONNEL

Every time property is released or received, an appropriate entry on the property tag shall be completed to maintain the chain of possession. No property or evidence is to be released without first receiving written authorization from a supervisor, detective or authorized property bureau personnel.

Request for analysis for items other than narcotics or drugs shall be completed via the online Orange County Sheriff's Department work request website (WRCS). This request may be filled out any time after booking of the property or evidence.

803.6.2 TRANSFER OF EVIDENCE TO CRIME LABORATORY

The transporting employee will check the evidence out of property, indicating the date and time on the property tag and the request for laboratory analysis.

The property clerk releasing the evidence must complete the required information on the property tag and related evidence documents. The lab forms will be transported with the property to the examining laboratory. Upon delivering the item involved, the Property Clerk will record the delivery time on both copies, and obtain the signature of the employee to whom it was delivered. The lab request will remain documented through the online system.

803.6.3 STATUS OF PROPERTY

Each person receiving property will make the appropriate entry to document the chain of evidence. Temporary release of property to officers for investigative purposes, or for court, shall be noted on the property control card, stating the date, time and to whom released.

The Evidence Technician shall obtain the signature of the person to whom property is released, and the reason for release. Any employee receiving property shall be responsible for such property until it is properly returned to property or properly released to another authorized person or entity.

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The return of the property should be recorded on the property control card, indicating date, time, and the person who returned the property.

803.6.4 AUTHORITY TO RELEASE PROPERTY
The Detective Bureau shall authorize the disposition or release of all evidence and property coming into the care and custody of the Department.

803.6.5 RELEASE OF PROPERTY
All reasonable attempts shall be made to identify the rightful owner of found property or evidence not needed for an investigation.

Release of property shall be made upon receipt of an authorized release form, listing the name and address of the person to whom the property is to be released. The release authorization shall be signed by the authorizing supervisor or detective and must conform to the items listed on the property form or must specify the specific item(s) to be released. Release of all property shall be documented on the property form.

With the exception of firearms and other property specifically regulated by statute, found property and property held for safekeeping shall be held for a minimum of 90 days. During such period, property personnel shall attempt to contact the rightful owner by telephone and/or mail when sufficient identifying information is available. Property not held for any other purpose and not claimed within 90 days after notification (or receipt, if notification is not feasible) may be auctioned to the highest bidder at a properly published public auction. If such property is not sold at auction or otherwise lawfully claimed, it may thereafter be destroyed (Civil Code § 2080.6). The final disposition of all such property shall be fully documented in related reports.

A Evidence Technician shall release the property upon proper identification being presented by the owner for which an authorized release has been received. A signature of the person receiving the property shall be recorded on the original property form. After release of all property entered on the property control card, the card shall be forwarded to the Records Bureau for filing with the case. If some items of property have not been released, the property card will remain with the Property Bureau. Upon release, the proper entry shall be documented in the Property Log.

Under no circumstances shall any firearm, magazine, or ammunition be returned to any individual unless and until such person presents valid identification and written notification from the California Department of Justice that conforms to the provisions of Penal Code § 33865.

The Property Bureau Supervisor should also make reasonable efforts to determine whether the person is the subject of any court order preventing the person from possessing a firearm and, if so, the firearm should not be released to the person while the order is in effect.

The Department is not required to retain any firearm, magazine, or ammunition longer than 180 days after notice has been provided to the owner that such items are available for return. At the expiration of such period, the firearm, magazine, or ammunition may be processed for disposal in accordance with applicable law (Penal Code § 33875).

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803.6.6 DISPUTED CLAIMS TO PROPERTY

Occasionally more than one party may claim an interest in property being held by the Department, and the legal rights of the parties cannot be clearly established. Such property shall not be released until one party has obtained a valid court order or other undisputed right to the involved property.

All parties should be advised that their claims are civil and in extreme situations, legal counsel for the Department may wish to file an interpleader to resolve the disputed claim (Code of Civil Procedure § 386(b)).

803.6.7 CONTROL OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

The Property Division will be responsible for the storage, control and destruction of all narcotics and dangerous drugs coming into the custody of this department, including paraphernalia as described in Health and Safety Code § 11364.

803.6.8 RELEASE OF FIREARM IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MATTERS

Within five days of the expiration of a restraining order issued in a domestic violence matter that required the relinquishment of a firearm or ammunition, the Evidence Technician shall return the weapon or ammunition to the owner if the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 and Penal Code § 33855 are met, unless the firearm or ammunition is determined to be stolen, evidence in a criminal investigation, or the individual is otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm (Family Code § 6389(g); Penal Code § 33855).

803.6.9 RELEASE OF FIREARMS AND WEAPONS IN MENTAL ILLNESS MATTERS

Firearms and other deadly weapons confiscated from an individual detained for an evaluation by a mental health professional or subject to the provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100 or Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103 shall be released or disposed of as follows:

(a) If a petition for a hearing regarding the return of a firearm or a weapon has been initiated pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102(c), the firearm or weapon shall be released or disposed of as provided by an order of the court. If the court orders a firearm returned, the firearm shall not be returned unless and until the person presents valid identification and written notification from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) that conforms to the provisions of Penal Code § 33865.

(b) If no petition has been initiated pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102(c) and the firearm or weapon is not retained as evidence, the Department shall make the firearm or weapon available for return. No firearm will be returned unless and until the person presents valid identification and written notification from the California DOJ that conforms to the provisions of Penal Code § 33865.

(c) Unless the person contacts the Department to facilitate the sale or transfer of the firearm to a licensed dealer pursuant to Penal Code § 33870, firearms not returned should be sold, transferred, destroyed, or retained as provided in Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102.

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803.6.10 RELEASE OF FIREARMS IN GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDER MATTERS
Firearms and ammunition that were taken into temporary custody or surrendered pursuant to a gun violence restraining order shall be returned to the restrained person upon the expiration of the order and in accordance with the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 et seq. (Penal Code § 18120).

If the restrained person who owns the firearms or ammunition does not wish to have the firearm or ammunition returned, he/she is entitled to sell or transfer title to a licensed dealer, provided that the firearms or ammunition are legal to own or possess and the restrained person has right to title of the firearms or ammunition (Penal Code § 18120).

If a person other than the restrained person claims title to the firearms or ammunition surrendered pursuant to Penal Code § 18120 and the Westminster Police Department determines him/her to be the lawful owner, the firearms or ammunition shall be returned in accordance with the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 et seq. (Penal Code § 18120).

Firearms and ammunition that are not claimed are subject to the requirements of Penal Code § 34000.

803.7 DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY

All property not held for evidence in a pending criminal investigation or proceeding, and held for six months or longer where the owner has not been located or fails to claim the property, may be disposed of in compliance with existing laws upon receipt of proper authorization for disposal. The Evidence Technician shall request a disposition or status on all property which has been held in excess of 120 days, and for which no disposition has been received from a supervisor or detective.

803.7.1 EXCEPTIONAL DISPOSITIONS
The following types of property shall be destroyed or disposed of in the manner, and at the time prescribed by law, unless a different disposition is ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction:

- Weapons declared by law to be nuisances (Penal Code § 29300; Penal Code § 18010; Penal Code § 32750)
- Animals, birds, and related equipment that have been ordered forfeited by the court (Penal Code § 599a)
- Counterfeiting equipment (Penal Code § 480)
- Gaming devices (Penal Code § 335a)
- Obscene matter ordered to be destroyed by the court (Penal Code § 312)
- Altered vehicles or component parts (Vehicle Code § 10751)
- Narcotics (Health and Safety Code § 11474 et seq.)
- Unclaimed, stolen, or embezzled property (Penal Code § 1411)
- Destructive devices (Penal Code § 19000)
- Sexual assault evidence (Penal Code § 680)

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803.7.2 UNCLAIMED MONEY

If found or seized money is no longer required as evidence and remains unclaimed after three years, the Department shall cause a notice to be published each week for a period of two consecutive weeks in a local newspaper of general circulation (Government Code § 50050). Such notice shall state the amount of money, the fund in which it is held and that the money will become the property of the agency on a designated date not less than 45 days and not more than 60 days after the first publication (Government Code § 50051).

Any individual item with a value of less than $15.00, or any amount if the depositor/owner's name is unknown, which remains unclaimed for a year or by order of the court, may be transferred to the general fund without the necessity of public notice (Government Code § 50055).

If the money remains unclaimed as of the date designated in the published notice, the money will become the property of this department to fund official law enforcement operations. Money representing restitution collected on behalf of victims shall either be deposited into the Restitution Fund or used for purposes of victim services.

803.7.3 RETENTION OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

The Property Bureau 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 and Attorney General

(d) Any sexual assault victim

(e) The Detective Bureau supervisor

Biological evidence shall be retained for either a minimum period that has been established by law (Penal Code § 1417.9) or that has been established by the Property Bureau Supervisor, or until the expiration of any imposed sentence that is related to the evidence, whichever time period is greater. Following the retention period, notifications should be made by certified mail and should inform the recipient that the evidence will be destroyed after a date specified in the notice unless a motion seeking an order to retain the sample is filed and served on the Department within 180 days of the date of the notification. A record of all certified mail receipts shall be retained in the appropriate file. Any objection to, or motion regarding, the destruction of the biological evidence should be retained in the appropriate file and a copy forwarded to the Detective Bureau supervisor.

Biological evidence related to a homicide shall be retained indefinitely and may only be destroyed with the written approval of the Chief of Police and the head of the applicable prosecutor’s office.

Biological evidence or other crime scene evidence from an unsolved sexual assault should not be disposed of prior to expiration of the statute of limitations and shall be retained as required in Penal Code § 680. Even after expiration of an applicable statute of limitations, the Detective Bureau supervisor should be consulted and the sexual assault victim shall be notified at least 60 days

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prior to the disposal (Penal Code § 680). Reasons for not analyzing biological evidence shall be documented in writing (Penal Code § 680.3).

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Records Bureau

804.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for the operational functions of the Westminster Police Department Records Bureau. The policy addresses department file access and internal requests for case reports.

804.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to maintain department records securely, professionally, and efficiently.

804.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

804.3.1 RECORDS SUPERVISOR

The Chief of Police shall appoint and delegate certain responsibilities to a Records Supervisor. The Records Supervisor shall be directly responsible to the Professional Standards Unit Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the Records Supervisor include but are not limited to:

(a) Overseeing the efficient and effective operation of the Records Bureau.

(b) Scheduling and maintaining Records Bureau time records.

(c) Supervising, training, and evaluating Records Bureau staff.

(d) Maintaining and updating a Records Bureau procedure manual.

(e) Ensuring compliance with established policies and procedures.

(f) Supervising the access, use, and release of protected information (see the Protected Information Policy).

(g) Establishing security and access protocols for case reports designated as sensitive, where additional restrictions to access have been implemented. Sensitive reports may include but are not limited to:

1. Homicides.
2. Cases involving department members or public officials.
3. Any case where restricted access is prudent.

804.3.2 RECORDS BUREAU

The responsibilities of the Records Bureau include but are not limited to:

(a) Maintaining a records management system for case reports.

1. The records management system should include a process for numbering, identifying, tracking, and retrieving case reports.

(b) Entering case report information into the records management system.

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1. Modification of case reports shall only be made when authorized by a supervisor.

(c) Providing members of the Department with access to case reports when needed for investigation or court proceedings.

(d) Maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local regulations regarding reporting requirements of crime statistics. This includes reporting statistical data to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) for:

1. All officer-involved shootings and incidents involving use of force resulting in serious bodily injury (Government Code § 12525.2).
2. Suspected hate crimes (Penal Code § 13023).
3. Complaints of racial bias against officers (Penal Code § 13012; Penal Code § 13020).
4. Civilian complaints made against officers (Penal Code § 832.5; Penal Code § 13012).
5. Stop data required by Government Code § 12525.5 and 11 CCR 999.226.
   (a) The reported information must not contain personally identifiable information of the person stopped or other information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code § 12525.5 (11 CCR 999.228).

(e) Maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local regulations regarding criminal history reports and auditing.

(f) Identifying missing case reports and notifying the responsible member's supervisor.

(g) Updating the Automated Firearms System to reflect any firearms relinquished to the Department and the subsequent disposition to the DOJ pursuant to Penal Code § 34010 (Penal Code § 29810).

(h) Entering into the Automated Firearms System information about each firearm that has been reported stolen, lost, found, recovered, held for safekeeping, surrendered in relation to a private party firearms transaction or registration, relinquished pursuant to a court order, or under observation, within seven calendar days of the precipitating event (Penal Code § 11108.2).

(i) Maintaining compliance with the state and DOJ reporting requirements regarding the number of transfers of individuals to immigration authorities and offenses that allowed for the transfers (Government Code § 7284.6(c)(2)).

(j) Transmitting data to the Joint Regional Information Exchange System on any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes.

804.3.3 RECORDS BUREAU PROCEDURE MANUAL

The Records Supervisor should establish procedures that address:

(a) Identifying by name persons in reports.

(b) Classifying reports by type of incident or crime.

(c) Tracking reports through the approval process.

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(d) Assigning alpha-numerical records to all arrest records.

(e) Managing a warrant and wanted persons file.

804.4 DETERMINATION OF FACTUAL INNOCENCE

In any case where a person has been arrested by officers of the Westminster Police Department and no accusatory pleading has been filed, the person arrested may petition the Department to destroy the related arrest records. Petitions should be forwarded to the Professional Standards Unit Supervisor. The Professional Standards Unit Supervisor should promptly contact the prosecuting attorney and request a written opinion as to whether the petitioner is factually innocent of the charges (Penal Code § 851.8). Factual innocence means the accused person did not commit the crime.

Upon receipt of a written opinion from the prosecuting attorney affirming factual innocence, the Professional Standards Unit Supervisor should forward the petition to the Detective Bureau Supervisor and the City Attorney for review. After such review and consultation with the City Attorney, the Detective Bureau Supervisor and the Professional Standards Unit Supervisor shall decide whether a finding of factual innocence is appropriate.

Upon determination that a finding of factual innocence is appropriate, the Professional Standards Unit Supervisor shall ensure that the arrest record and petition are sealed for later destruction and the required notifications are made to the California DOJ and other law enforcement agencies (Penal Code § 851.8).

The Professional Standards Unit Supervisor should respond to a petition with the Department's decision within 45 days of receipt. Responses should include only the decision of the Department, not an explanation of the analysis leading to the decision.

804.5 FILE ACCESS AND SECURITY

The security of files in the Records Bureau must be a high priority and shall be maintained as mandated by state or federal law. All case reports including but not limited to initial, supplemental, follow-up, evidence, and any other reports related to a police department case, including field interview (FI) cards, criminal history records, and publicly accessible logs, shall be maintained in a secure area within the Records Bureau, accessible only by authorized members of the Records Bureau. Access to case reports or files when Records Bureau staff is not available may be obtained through the Watch Commander.

The Records Bureau will also maintain a secure file for case reports deemed by the Chief of Police as sensitive or otherwise requiring extraordinary access restrictions.

804.6 ORIGINAL CASE REPORTS

Generally, original case reports shall not be removed from the Records Bureau. Should an original case report be needed for any reason, the requesting department member shall first obtain authorization from the Records Supervisor.

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All original case reports to be removed from the Records Bureau shall be photocopied and the photocopy retained in the file location of the original case report until the original is returned to the Records Bureau. The photocopied report shall be shredded upon return of the original report to the file.

804.7 CONFIDENTIALITY

Records Bureau staff has access to information that may be confidential or sensitive in nature. Records Bureau staff shall not access, view, or distribute, or allow anyone else to access, view, or distribute any record, file, or report, whether in hard copy or electronic file format, or any other confidential, protected, or sensitive information except in accordance with the Records Maintenance and Release and Protected Information policies and the Records Bureau procedure manual.

804.8 ARREST WITHOUT FILING OF ACCUSATORY PLEADING

The Operations Commander should ensure a process is in place for when an individual is arrested and released and no accusatory pleading is filed so that the following occurs (Penal Code § 849.5; Penal Code § 851.6):

(a) The individual is issued a certificate describing the action as a detention.

(b) All references to an arrest are deleted from the arrest records of the Department and the record reflects only a detention.

(c) The California DOJ is notified.

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Restoration of Firearm Serial Numbers

805.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The primary purpose for restoring firearm serial numbers is to determine the prior owners or origin of the item from which the number has been recovered. Thus, property can be returned to rightful owners or investigations can be initiated to curb illegal trade of contraband firearms. The purpose of this plan is to develop standards, methodologies, and safety protocols for the recovery of obliterated serial numbers from firearms and other objects using procedures that are accepted as industry standards in the forensic community. All personnel who are involved in the restoration of serial numbers will observe the following guidelines. This policy complies with Penal Code § 11108.9.

805.2 PROCEDURE

Any firearm coming into the possession of the Westminster Police Department as evidence, found property, etc., where the serial numbers have been removed or obliterated will be processed in the following manner:

805.2.1 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.

805.2.2 PROPERTY BOOKING PROCEDURE

Any employee taking possession of a firearm with removed/obliterated serial numbers shall book the firearm into property following standard procedures. The employee booking the firearm shall indicate on the property form that serial numbers have been removed or obliterated.

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805.2.3 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY
The Evidence Technician receiving a firearm when the serial numbers have been removed or obliterated shall arrange for the firearm to be transported to the crime lab for restoration and maintain the chain of evidence.

805.2.4 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.

805.2.5 FIREARM TRACE
After the serial number has been restored (or partially restored) by the criminalistics laboratory, the handling investigator 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.

805.3 BULLET AND CASING IDENTIFICATION
Exemplar bullets and cartridge cases from the firearm, depending upon acceptance criteria and protocol, may be submitted to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) which uses the Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) technology to search the national database and compare with ballistic evidence recovered from other crime scenes.

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Records Maintenance and Release

806.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance on the maintenance and release of department records. Protected information is separately covered in the Protected Information Policy.

806.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department is committed to providing public access to records in a manner that is consistent with the California Public Records Act (Government Code § 6250 et seq.).

806.3 CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief of Police shall designate a Custodian of Records. The responsibilities of the Custodian of Records include but are not limited to:

(a) Managing the records management system for the Department, including the retention, archiving, release, and destruction of department public records.

(b) Maintaining and updating the department records retention schedule including:

1. Identifying the minimum length of time the Department must keep records.
2. Identifying the department bureau responsible for the original record.

(c) Establishing rules regarding the inspection and copying of department public records as reasonably necessary for the protection of such records (Government Code § 6253).

(d) Identifying records or portions of records that are confidential under state or federal law and not open for inspection or copying.

(e) Establishing rules regarding the processing of subpoenas for the production of records.

(f) Ensuring a current schedule of fees for public records as allowed by law is available (Government Code § 6253).

(g) Determining how the department's website may be used to post public records in accordance with Government Code § 6253.

(h) Ensuring that all department current standards, policies, practices, operating procedures, and education and training materials are posted on the department website in accordance with Penal Code § 13650.

(i) Ensuring that public records posted on the Department website meet the requirements of Government Code § 6253.10 including but not limited to posting in an open format where a record may be retrieved, downloaded, indexed, and searched by a commonly used internet search application.

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(j) Ensuring that a list and description, when applicable, of enterprise systems (as defined by Government Code § 6270.5) is publicly available upon request and posted in a prominent location on the Department's website.

806.4 PROCESSING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS

Any department member who receives a request for any record shall route the request to the Custodian of Records or the authorized designee.

806.4.1 REQUESTS FOR RECORDS

Any member of the public, including the media and elected officials, may access unrestricted records of this department, during regular business hours by submitting a written and signed request that reasonably describes each record sought and paying any associated fees (Government Code § 6253).

The processing of requests for any record is subject to the following (Government Code § 6253):

(a) The Department is not required to create records that do not exist.

(b) Victims of an incident or their authorized representative shall not be required to show proof of legal presence in the United States to obtain department records or information. If identification is required, a current driver's license or identification card issued by any state in the United States, a current passport issued by the United States or a foreign government with which the United States has a diplomatic relationship or current Matricula Consular card is acceptable (Government Code § 6254.30).

(c) Either the requested record or the reason for non-disclosure will be provided promptly, but no later than 10 days from the date of request, unless unusual circumstances preclude doing so. If more time is needed, an extension of up to 14 additional days may be authorized by the Custodian of Records or the authorized designee. If an extension is authorized, the Department shall provide the requester written notice that includes the reason for the extension and the anticipated date of the response.

1. When the request does not reasonably describe the records sought, the Custodian of Records shall assist the requester in making the request focused and effective in a way to identify the records or information that would be responsive to the request including providing assistance for overcoming any practical basis for denying access to the records or information. The Custodian of Records shall also assist in describing the information technology and physical location in which the record exists (Government Code § 6253.1).

2. If the record requested is available on the department website, the requester may be directed to the location on the website where the record is posted. If the requester is unable to access or reproduce the record, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided.

(d) Upon request, a record shall be provided in an electronic format utilized by the Department. Records shall not be provided only in electronic format unless specifically requested (Government Code § 6253.9).

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(e) When a record contains material with release restrictions and material that is not subject to release restrictions, the restricted material shall be redacted and the unrestricted material released.

1. A copy of the redacted release should be maintained in the case file for proof of what was actually released and as a place to document the reasons for the redactions. If the record is audio or video, a copy of the redacted audio/video release should be maintained in the department-approved media storage system and a notation should be made in the case file to document the release and the reasons for the redacted portions.

(f) If a record request is denied in whole or part, the requester shall be provided a written response that includes the statutory exemption for withholding the record or facts that the public interest served by nondisclosure outweighs the interest served by disclosure (Government Code § 6255). The written response shall also include the names, titles or positions of each person responsible for the denial.

806.5 RELEASE RESTRICTIONS

Examples of release restrictions include:

(a) Personal identifying information, including an individual's photograph; Social Security and driver identification numbers; name, address, and telephone number; and medical or disability information that is contained in any driver license record, motor vehicle record, or any department record, including traffic collision reports, are restricted 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; 18 USC § 2722).

(b) Social Security numbers (Government Code § 6254.29).

(c) Personnel records, medical records, and similar records that would involve an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy except as allowed by law (Government Code § 6254; Penal Code § 832.7; Penal Code § 832.8; Evidence Code § 1043 et seq.).

1. Peace officer personnel records that are deemed confidential shall not be made public or otherwise released to unauthorized individuals or entities absent a valid court order.

2. The identity of any officer subject to any criminal or administrative investigation shall not be released without the consent of the involved officer, prior approval of the Chief of Police, or as required by law.

(d) Victim information that may be protected by statutes, including victims of certain crimes who have requested that their identifying information be kept confidential, victims who are minors, and victims of certain offenses (e.g., sex crimes or human trafficking (Penal Code § 293)). Addresses and telephone numbers of a victim or a witness to any arrested person or to any person who may be a defendant in a criminal action shall not be disclosed, unless it is required by law (Government Code § 6254; Penal Code § 841.5).

1. Victims of certain offenses (e.g., domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, elder and dependent adult abuse) or their

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representatives shall be provided, upon request and without charge, one copy of all incident report face sheets, one copy of all incident reports, or both, pursuant to the requirements and time frames of Family Code § 6228.

2. Victims of sexual assault, upon written request, shall be provided a free copy of the initial crime report regardless of whether the report has been closed. Personal identifying information may be redacted (Penal Code § 680.2(b)).

(e) Video or audio recordings created during the commission or investigation of the crime of rape, incest, sexual assault, domestic violence, or child abuse that depicts the face, intimate body part, or voice of a victim of the incident except as provided by Government Code § 6254.4.5.

(f) Information involving confidential informants, intelligence information, information that would endanger the safety of any person involved, or information that would endanger the successful completion of the investigation or a related investigation. This includes analysis and conclusions of investigating officers (Evidence Code § 1041; Government Code § 6254).

1. Absent a statutory exemption to the contrary or other lawful reason to deem information from reports confidential, information from unrestricted agency reports shall be made public as outlined in Government Code § 6254(f).

(g) Local criminal history information including but not limited to arrest history and disposition, and fingerprints shall only be subject to release to those agencies and individuals set forth in Penal Code § 13300.

1. All requests from criminal defendants and their authorized representatives (including attorneys) shall be referred to the District Attorney, City Attorney, or the courts pursuant to Penal Code § 1054.5.

(h) Certain types of reports involving but not limited to child abuse and molestation (Penal Code § 11167.5), elder and dependent abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15633), and juveniles (Welfare and Institutions Code § 827).

(i) Sealed autopsy and private medical information concerning a murdered child with the exceptions that allow dissemination of those reports to law enforcement agents, prosecutors, defendants, or civil litigants under state and federal discovery laws (Code of Civil Procedure §130).

(j) Information contained in applications for licenses to carry firearms or other files that indicates when or where the applicant is vulnerable or which contains medical or psychological information (Government Code § 6254).

(k) Traffic collision reports (and related supplemental reports) shall be considered confidential and subject to release only to the California Highway Patrol, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), other law enforcement agencies, and those individuals and their authorized representatives set forth in Vehicle Code § 20012.

(l) Any record created exclusively in anticipation of potential litigation involving this department (Government Code § 6254).

(m) Any memorandum from legal counsel until the pending litigation has been adjudicated or otherwise settled (Government Code § 6254.25).

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(n) Records relating to the security of the department's electronic technology systems (Government Code § 6254.19).

(o) A record of a complaint, or the investigations, findings, or dispositions of that complaint if the complaint is frivolous, as defined by Code of Civil Procedure § 128.5, or if the complaint is unfounded (Penal Code § 832.7 (b)(9)).

(p) Any other record not addressed in this policy shall not be subject to release where such record is exempt or prohibited from disclosure pursuant to state or federal law, including but not limited to provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege (Government Code § 6254).

(q) Information connected with juvenile court proceedings or the detention or custody of a juvenile. Federal officials may be required to obtain a court order to obtain certain juvenile information (Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.9; Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.95; Welfare and Institutions Code § 831).

806.6 SUBPOENAS AND DISCOVERY REQUESTS

Any member who receives a subpoena duces tecum or discovery request for records should promptly contact a supervisor and the Custodian of Records for review and processing. While a subpoena duces tecum may ultimately be subject to compliance, it is not an order from the court that will automatically require the release of the requested information.

Generally, discovery requests and subpoenas from criminal defendants and their authorized representatives (including attorneys) should be referred to the District Attorney, City Attorney or the courts.

All questions regarding compliance with any subpoena duces tecum or discovery request should be promptly referred to legal counsel for the Department so that a timely response can be prepared.

806.7 RELEASED RECORDS TO BE MARKED

Each page of any written record released pursuant to this policy should be stamped in a colored ink or otherwise marked to indicate the department name and to whom the record was released.

Each audio/video recording released should include the department name and to whom the record was released.

806.8 SEALED RECORD ORDERS

Sealed record orders received by the Department shall be reviewed for appropriate action by the Custodian of Records. The Custodian of Records shall seal such records as ordered by the court. Records may include but are not limited to a record of arrest, investigation, detention, or conviction. Once the record is sealed, members shall respond to any inquiry as though the record did not exist (Penal Code § 851.8; Welfare and Institutions Code § 781).

When an arrest record is sealed pursuant to Penal Code § 851.87, Penal Code § 851.90, Penal Code § 851.91, Penal Code § 1000.4, or Penal Code § 1001.9, the Records Supervisor shall

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ensure that the required notations on local summary criminal history information and police investigative reports are made. Sealed records may be disclosed or used as authorized by Penal Code § 851.92.

806.8.1 SEALED JUVENILE ARREST RECORDS
Upon receiving notice from a probation department to seal juvenile arrest records pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 786.5, the Records Supervisor should ensure that the records are sealed within 60 days of that notice and that the probation department is notified once the records have been sealed (Welfare and Institutions Code § 786.5).

806.9 SECURITY BREACHES

The Records Supervisor shall ensure notice is given anytime there is a reasonable belief an unauthorized person has acquired either unencrypted personal identifying information or encrypted personal information along with the encryption key or security credential stored in any Department information system (Civil Code § 1798.29).

Notice shall be given as soon as reasonably practicable to all individuals whose information may have been acquired. The notification may be delayed if the Department determines that notification will impede a criminal investigation or any measures necessary to determine the scope of the breach and restore the reasonable integrity of the data system.

For the purposes of this requirement, personal identifying information includes an individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of the following:

- Social Security number
- Driver license number, California identification card number, tax identification number, passport number, military identification number, or other unique identification number issued on a government document commonly used to verify the identity of a specific individual
- Account number or credit or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code or password that would permit access to an individual's financial account
- Medical information
- Health insurance information
- A username or email address, in combination with a password or security question and answer that permits access to an online account
- Information or data collected by Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology
- Unique biometric data
- Genetic data

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806.9.1 FORM OF NOTICE

(a) The notice shall be written in plain language, be consistent with the format provided in Civil Code § 1798.29 and include, to the extent possible, the following:

1. The date of the notice.
2. Name and contact information for the Westminster Police Department.
3. A list of the types of personal information that were or are reasonably believed to have been acquired.
4. The estimated date or date range within which the security breach occurred.
5. Whether the notification was delayed as a result of a law enforcement investigation.
6. A general description of the security breach.
7. The toll-free telephone numbers and addresses of the major credit reporting agencies, if the breach exposed a Social Security number or a driver license or California identification card number.

(b) The notice may also include information about what the Westminster Police Department has done to protect individuals whose information has been breached and may include information on steps that the person whose information has been breached may take to protect him/herself (Civil Code § 1798.29).

(c) When a breach involves an online account, and only a username or email address in combination with either a password or security question and answer that would permit access to an online account, and no other personal information has been breached (Civil Code § 1798.29):

1. Notification may be provided electronically or in another form directing the person to promptly change either his/her password or security question and answer, as applicable, or to take other appropriate steps to protect the online account with the Department in addition to any other online accounts for which the person uses the same username or email address and password or security question and answer.
2. When the breach involves an email address that was furnished by the Westminster Police Department, notification of the breach should not be sent to that email address but should instead be made by another appropriate medium as prescribed by Civil Code § 1798.29.

806.9.2 MANNER OF NOTICE

(a) Notice may be provided by one of the following methods (Civil Code § 1798.29):

1. Written notice.
2. Electronic notice if the notice provided is consistent with the provisions regarding electronic records and signatures set forth in 15 USC § 7001.
3. Substitute notice if the cost of providing notice would exceed $250,000, the number of individuals exceeds 500,000 or the Department does not have

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sufficient contact information. Substitute notice shall consist of all of the following:

(a) Email notice when the Department has an email address for the subject person.

(b) Conspicuous posting of the notice on the department's webpage for a minimum of 30 days.

4. Notification to major statewide media and the California Information Security Office within the California Department of Technology.

(b) If a single breach requires the Department to notify more than 500 California residents, the Department shall electronically submit a sample copy of the notification, excluding any personally identifiable information, to the Attorney General.

806.10 RELEASE OF AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDINGS RELATED TO CRITICAL INCIDENTS

Video and audio recordings related to critical incidents shall be released upon a proper public record request and subject to delayed release, redaction, and other release restrictions as provided by law (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

For purposes of this section, a video or audio recording relates to a critical incident if it depicts an incident involving the discharge of a firearm at a person by an officer, or depicts an incident in which the use of force by an officer against a person resulted in death or in great bodily injury (as defined by Penal Code § 243(f)(4)) (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

The Custodian of Records should work as appropriate with the Chief of Police or the Professional Standards Unit supervisor in determining what recordings may qualify for disclosure when a request for a recording is received and if the requested recording is subject to delay from disclosure, redaction, or other release restrictions.

806.10.1 DELAY OF RELEASE

Disclosure of critical incident recordings during active criminal or administrative investigations may be delayed as follows if disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation, such as by endangering the safety of a witness or a confidential source:

(a) Disclosure may be delayed up to 45 days from the date the Department knew or reasonably should have known about the incident.

(b) Delay of disclosure may continue after the initial 45 days and up to one year if the Department demonstrates that disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation.

(c) Any delay of disclosure longer than one year must be supported by clear and convincing evidence that disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

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806.10.2 NOTICE OF DELAY OF RELEASE

When there is justification to delay disclosure of a recording, the Custodian of Records shall provide written notice to the requester as follows (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)):

(a) During the initial 45 days, the Custodian of Records shall provide the requester with written notice of the specific basis for the determination that disclosure would substantially interfere with the investigation. The notice shall also include the estimated date for the disclosure.

(b) When delay is continued after the initial 45 days, the Custodian of Records shall promptly provide the requester with written notice of the specific basis for the determination that the interest in preventing interference with an active investigation outweighs the public interest in the disclosure, and the estimated date for the disclosure. The Custodian of Records should work with the Chief of Police in reassessing the decision to continue withholding a recording and notify the requester every 30 days.

Recordings withheld shall be disclosed promptly when the specific basis for withholding the recording is resolved.

806.10.3 REDACTION

If the Custodian of Records, in consultation with the Chief of Police or authorized designee, determines that specific portions of the recording may violate the reasonable expectation of privacy of a person depicted in the recording, the Department should use redaction technology to redact portions of recordings made available for release. The redaction should not interfere with the viewer's ability to fully, completely, and accurately comprehend the events captured in the recording, and the recording should not otherwise be edited or altered (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

If any portions of a recording are withheld to protect the reasonable expectation of privacy of a person depicted in the recording, the Custodian of Records shall provide in writing to the requester the specific basis for the expectation of privacy and the public interest served (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

806.10.4 RECORDINGS WITHHELD FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

If the reasonable expectation of privacy of a person depicted in the recording cannot adequately be protected through redaction, and that interest outweighs the public interest in disclosure, the Department may withhold the recording from the public, except that the recording, either redacted or unredacted, shall be disclosed promptly, upon request, to any of the following (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)):

(a) The person in the recording whose privacy is to be protected, or his/her authorized representative.

(b) If the person is a minor, the parent or legal guardian of the person whose privacy is to be protected.

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(c) If the person whose privacy is to be protected is deceased, an heir, beneficiary, designated immediate family member, or authorized legal representative of the deceased person whose privacy is to be protected.

If the Department determines that this disclosure would substantially interfere with an active criminal or administrative investigation, the Custodian of Records shall provide the requester with written notice of the specific basis for the determination and the estimated date of disclosure (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)).

The Department may continue to delay release of the recording from the public for 45 days with extensions as provided in this policy (Government Code § 6254(f)(4)(A)).

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Protected Information

807.1 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 Westminster Police Department. 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 Maintenance and Release Policy.

807.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Protected information - Any information or data that is collected, stored or accessed by members of the Westminster Police Department and is subject to any access or release restrictions imposed by law, regulation, order or use agreement. This includes all information contained in federal, state or local law enforcement databases that is not accessible to the public.

807.2 POLICY

Members of the Westminster Police Department will adhere to all applicable laws, orders, regulations, use agreements and training related to the access, use, dissemination and release of protected information.

807.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Records Division Manager coordinate the use of protected information.

The responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to:

(a) Ensuring member compliance with this policy and with requirements applicable to protected information, including requirements for the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system, National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS),Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) records and California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS).

(b) Developing, disseminating and maintaining procedures that adopt or comply with the U.S. Department of Justice's current Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Policy.

(c) Developing, disseminating and maintaining any other procedures necessary to comply with any other requirements for the access, use, dissemination, release and security of protected information.

(d) Developing procedures to ensure training and certification requirements are met.

(e) Resolving specific questions that arise regarding authorized recipients of protected information.

(f) Ensuring security practices and procedures are in place to comply with requirements applicable to protected information.

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807.4 ACCESS TO PROTECTED INFORMATION

Protected information shall not be accessed in violation of any law, order, regulation, user agreement, Westminster Police Department policy or training. Only those members who have completed applicable training and met any applicable requirements, such as a background check, may access protected information, and only when the member has a legitimate work-related reason for such access.

Unauthorized access, including access for other than a legitimate work-related purpose, is prohibited and may subject a member to administrative action pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy and/or criminal prosecution.

807.4.1 PENALTIES FOR MISUSE OF RECORDS

It is a misdemeanor to furnish, buy, receive or possess Department of Justice criminal history information without authorization by law (Penal Code § 11143).

Authorized persons or agencies violating state regulations regarding the security of Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) maintained by the California Department of Justice may lose direct access to CORI (11 CCR 702).

807.5 RELEASE OR DISSEMINATION OF PROTECTED INFORMATION

Protected information may be released only to authorized recipients who have both a right to know and a need to know.

A member who is asked to release protected information that should not be released should refer the requesting person to a supervisor or to the Records Supervisor 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 Records Bureau to ensure proper documentation of the release (see the Records Maintenance and Release Policy).

807.5.1 TRANSMISSION GUIDELINES

Protected information, such as restricted Criminal Justice Information (CJI), which includes Criminal History Record Information (CHRI), should not be transmitted via unencrypted radio. When circumstances reasonably indicate that the immediate safety of officers, other department members, or the public is at risk, only summary information may be transmitted.

In cases where the transmission of protected information, such as Personally Identifiable Information, is necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose, and utilization of an encrypted radio channel is infeasible, a MDT or department-issued cellular telephone should be utilized when practicable. If neither are available, unencrypted radio transmissions shall be subject to the following:

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- Elements of protected information should be broken up into multiple transmissions, to minimally separate an individual's combined last name and any identifying number associated with the individual, from either first name or first initial.
- Additional information regarding the individual, including date of birth, home address, or physical descriptors, should be relayed in separate transmissions.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit broadcasting warrant information.

807.5.2 REVIEW OF CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD

Individuals requesting to review their own California criminal history information shall be referred to the Department of Justice (Penal Code § 11121).

Individuals shall be allowed to review their arrest or conviction record on file with the Department after complying with all legal requirements regarding authority and procedures in Penal Code § 11120 through Penal Code § 11127 (Penal Code § 13321).

807.6 SECURITY OF PROTECTED INFORMATION

The Chief of Police 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 Chief of Police and appropriate authorities.

807.6.1 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).

807.7 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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807.8 CALIFORNIA RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT

Members shall not release personal information from any agency database for the purpose of investigation or enforcement of any program compiling data on individuals based on religious belief, practice, affiliation, national origin or ethnicity (Government Code § 8310.3).

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Computers and Digital Evidence

808.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for the seizure and storage of computers, personal communications devices (PCDs) digital cameras, digital recorders and other electronic devices that are capable of storing digital information; and for the preservation and storage of digital evidence. All evidence seized and/or processed pursuant to this policy shall be done so in compliance with clearly established Fourth Amendment and search and seizure provisions.

808.2 SEIZING COMPUTERS AND RELATED EVIDENCE

Computer equipment requires specialized training and handling to preserve its value as evidence. Officers should be aware of the potential to destroy information through careless or improper handling, and utilize the most knowledgeable available resources. When seizing a computer and accessories the following steps should be taken:

(a) Photograph each item, front and back, specifically including cable connections to other items. Look for a phone line or cable to a modem for Internet access.

(b) Do not overlook the possibility of the presence of physical evidence on and around the hardware relevant to the particular investigation such as fingerprints, biological or trace evidence, and/or documents.

(c) If the computer is off, do not turn it on.

(d) If the computer is on, do not shut it down normally and do not click on anything or examine any files.

1. Photograph the screen, if possible, and note any programs or windows that appear to be open and running.
2. Disconnect the power cable from the back of the computer box or if a portable notebook style, disconnect any power cable from the case and remove the battery).

(e) Label each item with case number, evidence sheet number, and item number.

(f) Handle and transport the computer and storage media (e.g., tape, discs, memory cards, flash memory, external drives) with care so that potential evidence is not lost.

(g) Lodge all computer items in the Property Room. Do not store computers where normal room temperature and humidity is not maintained.

(h) At minimum, officers should document the following in related reports:

1. Where the computer was located and whether or not it was in operation.
2. Who was using it at the time.
3. Who claimed ownership.

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4. If it can be determined, how it was being used.

(i) In most cases when a computer is involved in criminal acts and is in the possession of the suspect, the computer itself and all storage devices (hard drives, tape drives, and disk drives) should be seized along with all media. Accessories (printers, monitors, mouse, scanner, keyboard, cables, software and manuals) should not be seized unless as a precursor to forfeiture.

808.2.1 BUSINESS OR NETWORKED COMPUTERS

If the computer belongs to a business or is part of a network, it may not be feasible to seize the entire computer. Cases involving networks require specialized handling. Officers should contact a certified forensic computer examiner for instructions or a response to the scene. It may be possible to perform an on-site inspection, or to image the hard drive only of the involved computer. This should only be done by someone specifically trained in processing computers for evidence.

808.2.2 FORENSIC EXAMINATION OF COMPUTERS

If an examination of the contents of the computer's hard drive, or floppy disks, compact discs, or any other storage media is required, forward the following items to a computer forensic examiner:

(a) Copy of report(s) involving the computer, including the Evidence/Property sheet.

(b) Copy of a consent to search form signed by the computer owner or the person in possession of the computer, or a copy of a search warrant authorizing the search of the computer hard drive for evidence relating to investigation.

(c) A listing of the items to search for (e.g., photographs, financial records, e-mail, documents).

(d) An exact duplicate of the hard drive or disk will be made using a forensic computer and a forensic software program by someone trained in the examination of computer storage devices for evidence.

808.3 SEIZING DIGITAL STORAGE MEDIA

Digital storage media including hard drives, floppy discs, CD's, DVD's, tapes, memory cards, or flash memory devices should be seized and stored in a manner that will protect them from damage.

(a) If the media has a write-protection tab or switch, it should be activated.

(b) Do not review, access or open digital files prior to submission. If the information is needed for immediate investigation request the Property Bureau to copy the contents to an appropriate form of storage media.

(c) Many kinds of storage media can be erased or damaged by magnetic fields. Keep all media away from magnetic devices, electric motors, radio transmitters or other sources of magnetic fields.

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(d) Do not leave storage media where they would be subject to excessive heat such as in a parked vehicle on a hot day.

(e) Use plastic cases designed to protect the media, or other protective packaging, to prevent damage.

808.4 SEIZING PCDS

Personal communication devices such as cell phones, PDAs or other hand-held devices connected to any communication network must be handled with care to preserve evidence that may be on the device including messages, stored data and/or images.

(a) Officers should not attempt to access, review or search the contents of such devices prior to examination by a forensic expert. Unsent messages can be lost, data can be inadvertently deleted and incoming messages can override stored messages.

(b) Do not turn the device on or off. The device should be placed in a solid metal container such as a paint can or in a faraday bag, to prevent the device from sending or receiving information from its host network.

(c) When seizing the devices, also seize the charging units and keep them plugged in to the chargers until they can be examined. If the batteries go dead all the data may be lost.

808.5 DIGITAL EVIDENCE RECORDED BY OFFICERS

Officers handling and submitting recorded and digitally stored evidence from digital cameras and audio or video recorders will comply with these procedures to ensure the integrity and admissibility of such evidence.

808.5.1 COLLECTION OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE

Once evidence is recorded it shall not be erased, deleted or altered in any way prior to submission. All photographs taken will be preserved regardless of quality, composition or relevance. Video and audio files will not be altered in any way.

808.5.2 SUBMISSION OF DIGITAL MEDIA

The following are required procedures for the submission of digital media used by cameras or other recorders:

(a) The recording media (smart card, compact flash card or any other media) shall be brought to the Property Bureau as soon as possible for submission into evidence.

(b) Officers are not authorized to review or copy memory cards. The evidence technicians are the only employees authorized to copy and/or distribute digital media made from the memory cards.

(c) As soon as possible following the collection of evidence, the camera operator is to remove the memory card from their digital camera and place the card into a plastic

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carrier. The card and carrier are then to be placed into a zip-lock type baggie. The camera operator shall write their name and the related case number on the outside of the baggie before placing in the film drop box along with the evidence form.

(d) Evidence technicians will make a copy of the memory card using appropriate storage media. Once they have verified that the images properly transferred to the storage media, the technicians will erase the memory card for re-use. The storage media will be marked as the original.

(e) Officers requiring a copy of the digital files must request a copy on the evidence form when submitted to evidence.

808.5.3 DOWNLOADING OF DIGITAL FILES

Digital information such as video or audio files recorded on devices using internal memory must be downloaded to storage media. The following procedures are to be followed:

(a) Files should not be opened or reviewed prior to downloading and storage.

(b) Where possible, the device should be connected to a computer and the files accessed directly from the computer directory or downloaded to a folder on the host computer for copying to the storage media.

808.5.4 PRESERVATION OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE

(a) Only evidence technicians are authorized to copy original digital media that is held as evidence. The original digital media shall remain in evidence and shall remain unaltered.

(b) Digital images that are enhanced to provide a better quality photograph for identification and investigative purposes must only be made from a copy of the original media.

(c) If any enhancement is done to the copy of the original, it shall be noted in the corresponding incident report.

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Animal Control

809.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for interacting with animals and responding to calls for service that involve animals.

809.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to be responsive to the needs of the community regarding animal-related issues. This includes enforcing local, state and federal laws relating to animals and appropriately resolving or referring animal-related problems, as outlined in this policy.

809.3 ANIMAL CONTROL RESPONSIBILITIES

Animal control services are generally the primary responsibility of Animal Control and include:

(a) Animal-related matters during periods when Animal Control is available.

(b) Ongoing or persistent animal nuisance complaints. Such complaints may be scheduled, if reasonable, for handling during periods that Animal Control is available for investigation and resolution.

(c) Follow-up on animal-related calls, such as locating owners of injured animals.

809.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members who respond to or assist with animal-related calls for service should evaluate the situation to determine the appropriate actions to control the situation.

Due to the hazards of handling animals without proper training and equipment, responding members generally should not attempt to capture or pick up any animal, but should keep the animal under observation until the arrival of appropriate assistance.

Members may consider acting before the arrival of such assistance when:

(a) There is a threat to public safety.

(b) An animal has bitten someone. Members should take measures to confine the animal and prevent further injury.

(c) An animal is creating a traffic hazard.

(d) An animal is seriously injured.

(e) The owner/handler of an animal has been arrested or is incapacitated. In such circumstances, the member should find appropriate placement for the animal.

1. This is only necessary when the arrestee is expected to be in custody for a time period longer than would reasonably allow him/her to properly care for the animal.

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2. With the owner's consent, locating appropriate placement may require contacting relatives or neighbors to care for the animal.
3. If no person can be found or the owner does not or cannot give consent, the animal should be taken to a designated animal care facility.

809.5 DECEASED ANIMALS

When a member becomes aware of a deceased animal, all reasonable attempts should be made to preliminarily determine if the death of the animal is related to criminal activity.

Deceased animals on public property should be removed, sealed in a plastic bag, and properly disposed of by the responding member.

Members should not climb onto or under any privately owned structure for the purpose of removing a deceased animal.

When handling deceased animals, members should attempt to identify and notify the owner of the final disposition of the animal.

809.6 INJURED ANIMALS

When a member becomes aware of an injured domesticated animal, all reasonable attempts should be made to contact an owner or responsible handler. If an owner or responsible handler cannot be located, the animal should be taken to a veterinarian and notice shall be given to the owner pursuant to the requirements of Penal Code § 597.1.

809.6.1 VETERINARY CARE

The injured animal should be taken to a veterinarian as follows:

(a) During normal business hours, the animal should be taken to an authorized veterinary care clinic.

(b) If after normal business hours, the animal should be taken to the authorized Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Services Clinic.

(c) An exception to the above exists when the animal is an immediate danger to the community or the owner of the animal is identified and takes responsibility for the injured animal.

Each incident shall be documented and, at minimum, include the name of the reporting party and veterinary hospital and/or person to whom the animal is released.

If Animal Control is not available, the information will be forwarded for follow-up.

809.6.2 INJURED WILDLIFE

Injured wildlife should be referred to the Department of Fish and Wildlife or the Marine Mammal Center as applicable.

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809.6.3 RESCUE OF ANIMALS IN VEHICLES

If an animal left unattended in a vehicle appears to be in distress, members may enter the vehicle for the purpose of rescuing the animal. Members should (Penal Code § 597.7(d)):

(a) Make a reasonable effort to locate the owner before entering the vehicle.

(b) Take steps to minimize damage to the vehicle.

(c) Refrain from searching the vehicle or seizing items except as otherwise permitted by law.

(d) Leave notice on or in the vehicle identifying the location where the animal has been taken and the name and Department of the member involved in the rescue.

(e) Make reasonable efforts to contact the owner or secure the vehicle before leaving the scene.

(f) Take the animal to an animal care facility, a place of safekeeping or, if necessary, a veterinary hospital for treatment.

809.7 ANIMAL CRUELTY COMPLAINTS

Laws relating to the cruelty to animals should be enforced, including but not limited to Penal Code § 597 et seq. (cruelty to animals, failure to care for animals).

(a) An investigation should be conducted on all reports of animal cruelty.

(b) Legal steps should be taken to protect an animal that is in need of immediate care or protection from acts of cruelty.

809.8 ANIMAL BITE REPORTS

Members investigating an animal bite should obtain as much information as possible for follow-up with the appropriate health or animal authorities. Efforts should be made to capture or otherwise have the animal placed under control. Members should attempt to identify and notify the owner of the final disposition of the animal.

809.9 STRAY DOGS

If a stray dog has a license or can otherwise be identified, the owner should be contacted, if possible. If the owner is contacted, the dog should be released to the owner and a citation may be issued, if appropriate. If a dog is taken into custody, it shall be transported to the appropriate animal care facility.

Members shall provide reasonable treatment to animals in their care (e.g., food, water, shelter).

809.10 DANGEROUS ANIMALS

In the event responding members cannot fulfill a request for service because an animal is difficult or dangerous to handle, the Watch Commander will be contacted to determine available resources, including requesting the assistance of animal control services from an allied agency.

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809.11 PUBLIC NUISANCE CALLS RELATING TO ANIMALS

Members should diligently address calls related to nuisance animals (e.g., barking dogs), as such calls may involve significant quality-of-life issues.

809.12 DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS

When it is necessary to use a firearm to euthanize a badly injured animal or stop an animal that poses an imminent threat to human safety, the Firearms Policy shall be followed. A badly injured animal shall only be euthanized with the approval of a supervisor.

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Chapter 9 - Custody

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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 Westminster Police Department 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 should not be permitted in any department temporary holding facility or lockup unless neccessary for booking purposes or it is authorized by a supervisor that they be placed in the designated juvenile holding cell.

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 Westminster Police Department prior to being released or transported to a housing or other type of facility.

900.1.2 VERMIN CONTROL

Vermin-infested prisoners should not be brought into the Temporary Holding Facility. It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to transfer such prisoners directly to Orange County Jail whenever possible.

In the event a vermin-infested prisoner goes unnoticed, the Watch Commander shall be notified. The Watch Commander, or his designee, will be responsible for notifying the Professional Standards Unit that the infected cell needs sanitation by city janitorial staff.

Under no circumstances should a vermin-infested prisoner be placed in a cell with other inmates.

900.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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.

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900.3 GENERAL CRITERIA AND SUPERVISION

No adult should be in temporary custody for longer than six hours, unless investigative needs require that the adult be held longer and with approval from the Watch Commander. Under no circumstances shall an adult be held in temporary custody longer than 24 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 Westminster Police Department, but should be transported to a jail facility, a medical facility, or another type of facility as appropriate. These include:

(a) Any individual who is unconscious or has been unconscious while being taken into custody or while being transported.

(b) Any individual who has a medical condition, including pregnancy, that may require medical attention, supervision, or medication while he/she is in temporary custody.

(c) Any individual who is seriously injured.

(d) Individuals who are a suspected suicide risk (see the Mental Illness Commitments Policy).

1. If the officer taking custody of an individual believes that he/she may be a suicide risk, the officer shall ensure continuous direct supervision until evaluation, release, or a transfer to an appropriate facility is completed (15 CCR 1030).

(e) Individuals who are obviously in crisis, as defined in the Crisis Intervention Incidents Policy.

(f) Individuals who are under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or any substance to the degree that may require medical attention, or who have ingested any substance that poses a significant risk to their health, whether or not they appear intoxicated.

(g) Any individual who has exhibited extremely violent or continuously violent behavior including behavior that results in the destruction of property or demonstrates an intent to cause physical harm to him/herself or others (15 CCR 1053; 15 CCR 1055).

(h) Any individual who claims to have, is known to be afflicted with, or displays symptoms of any communicable disease that poses an unreasonable exposure risk (15 CCR 1051).

(i) Any individual with a prosthetic or orthopedic device where removal of the device would be injurious to his/her health or safety.

(j) Any individual who is obviously developmentally disabled (15 CCR 1057).

(k) Any individual who appears to be a danger to him/herself or others due to a mental disorder, or who appears gravely disabled (15 CCR 1052).

(l) Any individual who needs restraint beyond the use of handcuffs or shackles for security reasons (15 CCR 1058).

(m) Any individual obviously suffering from drug or alcohol withdrawal (15 CCR 1213).

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Officers 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 (15 CCR 1027).

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 (15 CCR 1027).

Absent exigent circumstances, such as a medical emergency or a violent subject, members should not enter the cell of a person of the opposite sex unless a member of the same sex as the person in custody is present (Penal Code § 4021).

No individual in custody shall be permitted to supervise, control or exert any authority over other individuals in custody.

900.3.3 STAFFING PLAN

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure a staffing plan is prepared and maintained, indicating assigned personnel and their duties. The plan should ensure that at least one member who meets the training standards established by the Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) for general fire- and life-safety and is trained in fire- and life-safety procedures relating specifically to the facility is on-duty at all times (15 CCR 1028).

The staffing plan shall be available for biennial review by CSA staff. The review and recommendations of the CSA biennial review shall be forwarded to the City, as required by 15 CCR 1027.

900.4 INITIATING TEMPORARY CUSTODY

The officer 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 officer should specifically ask if the individual is contemplating suicide and evaluate him/her for obvious signs or indications of suicidal intent.

The receiving officer should ask the arresting officer if there is any statement, indication or evidence surrounding the individual's arrest and transportation that would reasonably indicate the individual is at risk for suicide or critical medical care. If there is any suspicion that the individual

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may be suicidal, he/she shall be transported to the appropriate mental health facility or evaluated by a mental health professional.

The officer should promptly notify the Watch Commander of any conditions that may warrant immediate medical attention or other appropriate action. The Watch Commander shall determine whether the individual will be placed in a cell, immediately released or transported to jail or other facility.

900.4.1 PRISONERS WITH PROSTHETIC OR ORTHOPEDIC DEVICES

Unless posing an immediate threat to security, or immediate risk of bodily harm to any officer or PSO Jailer, prisoners shall be allowed to retain necessary prosthetic and orthopedic appliances while in custody in the Temporary Holding Facility. Refer to Penal Code § 2656 as a reference.

900.4.2 EMERGENCY MEDICAL ATTENTION

The PSO Jailer should complete the Westminster Police Intake Health Screening form (WPD-194) on all prisoners brought into the Temporary Holding Facility. As part of the health screen prisoners should be checked for medical and mental health problems and developmental disabilities. If emergency medical assistance is needed, the PSO Jailer should request the Orange County Fire Authority Paramedics and notify the Watch Commander. Prisoners requiring emergency medical services should be transported to local a hospital by paramedics.

Any prisoner transported to a hospital by ambulance should be accompanied by an officer. A PSO Jailer should not accompany prisoners unless directed to do so by the Watch Commander.

900.4.3 SCREENING AND PLACEMENT

The officer responsible for an individual in custody shall (15 CCR 1050):

- (a) Advise the Watch Commander of any significant risks presented by the individual (e.g., suicide risk, health risk, violence).
- (b) Evaluate the following issues against the stated risks in (a) to determine the need for placing the individual in a single cell:
  1. Consider whether the individual may be at a high risk of being sexually abused based on all available known information (28 CFR 115.141), or whether the person is facing any other identified risk.
  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.

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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.

900.4.4 CONSULAR NOTIFICATION

Consular notification may be mandatory when certain foreign nationals are arrested. The Operations Commander 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. 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:

(a) Notify the country's nearest embassy or consulate of the arrest or detention by fax or telephone.

(b) Tell the individual that this notification has been made and inform him/her without delay that he/she may communicate with consular officers.

(c) Forward any communication from the individual to his/her consular officers without delay.

(d) Document all notifications to the embassy or consulate and retain the faxed notification and any fax confirmation for the individual's file.

2. If the country is not on the mandatory notification list and the individual requests that his/her consular officers be notified, then:

(a) Notify the country's nearest embassy or consulate of the arrest or detention by fax or telephone.

(b) Forward any communication from the individual to his/her consular officers without delay.

900.5 SAFETY, HEALTH AND OTHER PROVISIONS

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900.5.1 TEMPORARY CUSTODY LOGS

Any time an individual is in temporary custody at the Westminster Police Department, 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 (15 CCR 1027; 15 CCR 1027.5).

(e) Any medical and other screening requested and completed.

(f) Any emergency situations or unusual incidents.

(g) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors.

(h) Date and time of release from the Westminster Police Department.

The Watch Commander 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 Watch Commander 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 jail staff should ensure that there is an adequate supply of clean blankets.

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(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 (15 CCR 1220). At least one member who has current certification in basic first aid and CPR should be on-duty at all times.

Should a person in custody be injured or become ill, appropriate medical assistance should be sought. A supervisor should 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 an officer.

Those who require medication while in temporary custody should not be at the Westminster Police Department. They should be released or transferred to another facility as appropriate.

900.5.4 ORTHOPEDIC OR PROSTHETIC APPLIANCE

Subject to safety and security concerns, individuals shall be permitted to retain an orthopedic or prosthetic appliance. However, if the member supervising the individual has probable cause to believe the possession of the appliance presents a risk of bodily harm to any person or is a risk to the security of the facility, the appliance may be removed from the individual unless its removal would be injurious to his/her health or safety.

Whenever a prosthetic or orthopedic appliance is removed, the Watch Commander shall be promptly apprised of the reason. It shall be promptly returned when it reasonably appears that any risk no longer exists (Penal Code § 2656; 15 CCR 1207).

900.5.5 TELEPHONE CALLS

Immediately upon being booked and, except where physically impossible, no later than three hours after arrest, an individual in custody has the right to make at least three completed calls to an attorney, bail bondsman, and a relative or other person (Penal Code § 851.5). Additional calls may be made as reasonable and necessary (15 CCR 1067). In providing further access to a telephone beyond that required by Penal Code § 851.5, legitimate law enforcement interests such as officer safety, effect on ongoing criminal investigations and logistics should be balanced against the individual’s desire for further telephone access.

(a) Telephone calls may be limited to local calls, except that long-distance calls may be made by the individual at his/her own expense.

1. The 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).

2. The provisions of Penal Code § 851.5 concerning this issue shall be posted in bold, block type in a conspicuous place within the facility.

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(b) The individual should be given sufficient time to contact whomever he/she desires and to make any necessary arrangements, including child or dependent adult care, or transportation upon release.

1. Telephone calls are not intended to be lengthy conversations. The member assigned to monitor or process the individual may use his/her judgment in determining the duration of the calls.

2. Within three hours of the arrest, the member supervising the individual should inquire whether the individual is a custodial parent with responsibility for a minor child, and notify the individual that he/she may make two additional telephone calls to a relative or other person for the purpose of arranging for the care of minor children (Penal Code § 851.5).

(c) Calls between an individual in temporary custody and his/her attorney shall be deemed confidential and shall not be monitored, eavesdropped upon or recorded (Penal Code § 851.5(b)(1); 15 CCR 1068).

900.5.6 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

Subject to available resources, safety and security, the religious beliefs and needs of all individuals in custody should be reasonably accommodated (15 CCR 1072). Requests for religious accommodation should generally be granted unless there is a compelling security or safety reason and denying the request is the least restrictive means available to ensure security or safety. The responsible supervisor should be advised any time a request for religious accommodation is denied.

Those who request to wear headscarves or simple head coverings for religious reasons should generally be accommodated absent unusual circumstances. Head coverings shall be searched before being worn.

Individuals wearing headscarves or other approved coverings shall not be required to remove them while in the presence of or while visible to the opposite sex if they so desire. Religious garments that substantially cover the individual's head and face may be temporarily removed during the taking of any photographs.

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. This restriction does not include electronic control devices or OC spray. They should be properly secured outside of the secure area. An exception may occur only during emergencies, upon approval of a supervisor.

All perimeter doors to secure areas shall be kept locked at all times, except during routine cleaning, when no individuals in custody are present or in the event of an emergency, such as an evacuation.

900.5.8 REPORTING PHYSICAL HARM OR SERIOUS THREAT OF PHYSICAL HARM

In addition to a custody log entry, any incident that results in physical harm or serious threat of physical harm to a member, person in custody or any other person shall be documented as stated in the Use of Force or On-Duty Injuries policies, or other applicable reporting process. A copy of all

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reports generated regarding the above circumstances shall be submitted as soon as reasonably practicable. The Watch Commander will retain a record of these reports for inspection purposes (15 CCR 1044).

900.5.9 ATTORNEYS AND BAIL BONDSMEN

(a) An attorney may visit at the request of the individual in custody or a relative (Penal Code § 825).

(b) Attorneys and bail bondsmen who need to interview an individual in custody should do so inside a secure interview room.

(c) The individual in custody as well as the attorney or bail bondsman should be searched for weapons prior to being admitted to the interview room and at the conclusion of the interview.

(d) Attorneys must produce a current California Bar card as well as other matching appropriate identification.

(e) Interviews between attorneys and their clients shall not be monitored or recorded (15 CCR 1068).

900.5.10 DISCIPLINE

Discipline will not be administered to any individual in custody at this facility. Any individual in custody who repeatedly fails to follow directions or facility rules should be transported to the appropriate jail, mental health facility or hospital as soon as practicable. Such conduct should be documented and reported to the receiving facility (15 CCR 1081).

900.6 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES

Individuals in custody may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. Unless an individual presents a heightened risk, handcuffs should generally be removed when the person is in a cell.

The use of restraints, other than handcuffs or leg hobble restraints, generally should not be used for individuals in temporary custody at the Westminster Police Department 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

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person must be documented on the property inventory form. 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 Watch Commander shall be notified whenever an individual alleges that there is a shortage or discrepancy regarding his/her property. The Watch Commander shall attempt to prove or disprove the claim.

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 (15 CCR 1027.5).

1. Safety checks should be at varying times.
2. All safety checks shall be logged.
3. The safety check should involve questioning the individual as to his/her well-being.
4. Individuals who are sleeping or apparently sleeping should be awakened.
5. Requests or concerns of the individual should be logged.

900.8.1 USE OF SOBERING CELL

Inmates who are to be held in the Temporary Holding Facility and who present a threat to their own safety or the safety of others due to their state of intoxication should be placed in a sobering cell until their condition allows for continued processing.

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The following guidelines apply when placing any inmate in a sobering cell (15 CCR 1056):

(a) Placement of an inmate into the cell requires approval of the Watch Commander.

(b) A cell log shall be initiated every time an inmate is placed in the cell. The log shall be maintained for the entire time the inmate is housed in the cell.

(c) A safety check consisting of direct visual observation sufficient to assess the inmate's well-being and behavior shall occur at least once every 30 minutes. Each safety check shall be documented in the cell log. Supervisors shall check the logs for completeness every two hours and document this action on the cell log.

(d) Under no circumstances shall an inmate be held in a sobering cell for more than six hours without being evaluated by qualified medical personnel to ensure that the inmate does not have an urgent medical issue.

(e) Inmates will be removed from the cell when they no longer pose a threat to their own safety and the safety of others, and are able to continue processing.

900.9 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH, OR SERIOUS INJURY

The Operations Commander will ensure procedures are in place to address any suicide attempt, death or serious injury of any individual in temporary custody at the Westminster Police Department. The procedures should include the following:

(a) Immediate request for emergency medical assistance if appropriate

(b) Immediate notification of the Watch Commander, Chief of Police and Detective Commander

(c) Notification of the spouse, next of kin or other appropriate person

(d) Notification of the appropriate prosecutor

(e) Notification of the City Attorney

(f) Notification of the Coroner

(g) Evidence preservation

(h) In-custody death reviews (15 CCR 1046)

(i) Notification to the Attorney General within 10 days of any death in custody including any reasonably known facts concerning the death (Government Code § 12525)

900.10 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.

(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.

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(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 Westminster Police Department 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, officers should be alert to inappropriate physical or verbal contact and take appropriate action as necessary.

(i) Transfers between facilities or other entities, such as a hospital, should be accomplished with a custodial escort of the same sex as the person being transferred to assist with his/her personal needs as reasonable.

900.10.1 FORM REQUEST FOR PETITION TO SEAL RECORDS

Upon request, a detained arrestee released from custody shall be provided with the appropriate Judicial Council forms to petition the court to have the arrest and related records sealed (Penal Code § 851.91).

The Department shall display the required signage that complies with Penal Code § 851.91 advising an arrestee of the right to obtain the Judicial Council forms.

900.11 ASSIGNED ADMINISTRATOR

The Operations Commander will ensure any reasonably necessary supplemental procedures are in place to address the following issues (15 CCR 1029):

(a) General security

(b) Key control

(c) Sanitation and maintenance

(d) Emergency medical treatment (15 CCR 1200)

(e) Escapes

(f) Evacuation plans

(g) Fire- and life-safety, including a fire suppression pre-plan as required by 15 CCR 1032

(h) Disaster plans

(i) Building and safety code compliance

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(j) Civil and other disturbances including hostage situations

(k) Periodic testing of emergency equipment

(l) Emergency suspension of Title 15 regulations and notice to the Board of State and Community Corrections as required in 15 CCR 1012

(m) Inspections and operations reviews

(n) Any other applicable requirements under 15 CCR 1029

Annual review and evaluation of security measures including internal and external security measures, sanitation, safety and maintenance (15 CCR 1280).

These supplemental procedures shall be reviewed and updated no less than every two years and shall be available to all members (15 CCR 1029).

900.12 TRAINING

Department members should be trained and familiar with this policy and any supplemental procedures.

Department members responsible for supervising adults in temporary custody shall complete the Corrections Officer Core Course or eight hours of specialized training within six months of assignment. Such training shall include but not be limited to the following (15 CCR 1024):

(a) Applicable minimum jail standards

(b) Jail operations liability

(c) Inmate segregation

(d) Emergency procedures and planning, fire safety, and life safety.

(e) Suicide prevention

Eight hours of refresher training shall be completed once every two years (15 CCR 1024).

The Training Sergeant shall maintain records of all such training in the member’s training file.

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DETENTION CENTER PROTOCOL

901.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Detention Center Protocol is to provide employees with the protocol to safely and efficiently process (book) and secure arrestees in the Detention Center. Officers should adhere to the following protocols when booking and securing arrestees. The Detention Center is currently open as a Temporary Holding Facility where arrestees should not be held in excess of 6 hours, unless unavoidable circumstances exist, at which point arrestees shall be offered a meal. Under no circumstances shall an arrestee be held longer than 24 hours.

(See Title 15 Article 1 Section 1006 for further details)

901.2 ENTERING JAIL SALLY PORT

Enter the driveway between the police department building and the parking structure. Stop next to the podium at each gate so your vehicle will activate the traffic loop otherwise the gate will not open when activated by the Click2open. Click2open operates on the following frequencies:

a. Sally port gate #1- White T/A

b. Sally port gate #2- Green T/A

c. Sally port roll up door- White T/A

On standard bookings officers should park in one of the four marked stalls at the west end of the sally port. Officers shall secure their weapons in the trunk of their vehicle prior to removing any prisoners. (Gun lockers will be available in the near future) Officers are to use the appropriate booking room door to enter the Detention Center. The doors will be labeled- Sobering Cell, Male Booking, Female / Juvenile.

If officers have an uncooperative prisoner they may stop in front of the sobering cell door in the driveway to facilitate a more direct access to the sobering cell. Once the prisoner is secure officers must move their vehicle into a marked stall or out of the sally port. Access to the jail sally port is intended as ONE WAY vehicle traffic only.

901.3 ENTERING DETENTION CENTER

a. Officers shall request Watch Commander or Supervisor escort when bringing in uncooperative or combative arrestees.

b. Officers with "NON-Secure" juvenile arrestees shall take their arrestee to the non-secure juvenile cells across from the Watch Commander's office, via employee glass door entrance.

c. Officers with adult male, female, or secure juvenile arrestees must secure their weapon(s) and then escort their arrestee into the appropriate uncuff cell.

(Weapons include: explosive device, firearm, baton, ASP or knife)

(Tasers are permitted in the Detention Center)

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d. The jailer or arresting officer will then complete the "Intake Screening" form #PD-197, revised 9/2011 for both juvenile and adult arrestees. The intake screening form is to promote a safe jail environment. It is there to help prevent the spread of communicable disease, suicide attempts, and assaults based on beliefs or criminal association. Title 15 trained personnel (supervisor or jailer) must sign off on the intake screening form before arrestees may be placed in a cell with other prisoners.

e. At no time are arrestees allowed in the carpeted Control Center (D129), Staff restroom, rear Storage Room(D136), Dormitory(D119) or anywhere in the common areas of the jail while un-escorted by an officer or jail staff.

901.4 SEGREGATION

a. Cells #D133, D134 and D135 are dedicated for Females or Secure Juveniles.

b. At no time shall female adult arrestees, juvenile arrestees, or male adult arrestees be in visual or audible contact with each other while either of the parties is not escorted by an officer or jail staff. For example: Segregated parties may come within visual or audible contact with each other while in passing, so long as one of the parties is being escorted by an officer or jail staff. If communication is attempted by any of the parties, the escorting officer must terminate the communication and move to a segregated area.

901.5 ARRESTEE SEARCH AND PROPERTY STORAGE/SEIZURE

a. Officers should have their cuffed arrestee face the service counter and then perform a booking search. Officers shall remove all lose items, bulky jackets/ sweatshirts, shoes, jewelry, hair clips, or anything that may constitute a hazard. The items should be placed on the service counter. (Smelly shoes may be placed in the large clear tote at the entrance to each un-cuff cell, and then the tote may be placed outside the outside un-cuff cell door. Make sure outside door is secure upon re-entry)

b. The jailer is responsible for inventorying and placing arrestee property in numbered grey property tote. Totes are to be stored in corresponding lockers in the main hallway. The storage room and lockers are to remain unlocked.

c. If no jailer is on duty the arresting officer is responsible for step "b."

d. The arresting officer is responsible for all illegal contraband found during the booking search. (charges if applicable, collection, packaging and booking)

e. If solo, officers may choose to secure their arrestee to the cuff bar and then enter the control center to continue the booking process. If booking is not necessary, officers may transfer their arrestee to a holding cell, preferably Group Holding Cell #D118, unless otherwise needed for investigative, safety, gender or age segregation purposes.

f. Internal jail door keys (green wrist band attached) may be located in the drawer immediately to the right of the touch screen controls.

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(The Jail staff restroom key is attached to an orange wristband)

901.6 BOOKING PROCESS

Jailer On Duty-

a. The on-duty jailer is in charge of the jail when a supervisor is not present.

b. The arresting officer is responsible for the county booking declaration and/or citation if necessary.

c. The on-duty jailer is responsible for all other booking paperwork.

d. The arresting officer shall present arrestee's property to the jailer in a manner where the jailer can clearly identify who the property belongs to. (identify with arrestee names and DOB if jailer is not in immediate presence)

Jailer NOT On Duty-

a. The arresting officer is responsible for all necessary booking paper work. The "Intake Screening" form must be approved by Title 15 trained personnel (supervisor or jailer) before a detainee may be placed among the jail population.

b. Alliance Entry- Go to "Officers," then click "Jail Professional Standards Unit," then click "ADD " (top center button), enter "warrant" or "street booking" in Inmate Status drop-down, "type" button leave plank, then enter DR#. Click on "name" tab and then enter or select arrestee's name, which will also populate arrest report later. Get Alliance auto-generated Booking# which is located on the upper left corner of the page. (Retain Booking# because it is needed for inmate phone system)

c. Jail Log- Log-on to WPD Portal www.brewer.westminster-ca.gov , go to "Detention Center" and then enter arrestee into automated jail log (Self explanatory). All juvenile arrestees must also be entered on the hand written "Secure" or "Non-Secure" Detention Log located in the Watch Commander's office.

d. Inmate Phones- Click on inmate phone system hyperlink at the top of the jail log "Inmate Phone Professional Standards Unit" and then log in. (first initial, last name, lower case, then "0" plus your 3 digit ID# (example- jdoe 0111). Enter your arrestee's name, Alliance booking # (with no spaces or hyphen) and the (3) 5 minute free telephone calls. (Follow "step by step" guide for detailed instructions).

Inmate Phone System Re-boot: If inmate phones go down, the system is easily re-booted. Get the master key from W/C office, go to room #162 (across hallway from employee elevator) go to north wall and unplug the 2 wires with large red ribbon on them. Keep unplugged for 45 seconds and then plug back in.

e. Booking Photograph-

Go to camera area and have the arrestee place his/her feet on the blue footprints on the floor in front of the gray background. Tell the subject to stand still and look straight ahead at the

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camera. Log onto the camera computer terminal on the counter top (Utilize normal user name and password) Double-click on the "Hunter Smartshot" icon.

1. To get started delete the date/time (i.e. 12152012_1830) in the "Session Name" column and then type in your arrestee's last name, first name and PD case number in its place (i.e. Doe, John 12-01234) and then click "Start Session."

2. An orange box will appear and automatically track / focus on the subject's face. Within this orange box, the horizontal blue line should line up with the subject's eyes and the head should be within the four vertical green lines. Use the mouse and click on the black camera icon in the upper left hand corner to capture the facial photo. This is the only time the camera automatically tracks the subject's head.

3. Have subject turn and face to his left for "Right Profile" (right cheek) photo. If needed, click and grab the orange box and place it on the subject's head. Click on the black camera icon to capture the subject's right profile photo.

4. Have subject turn around and face the other way for "Left Profile" (left cheek) photo. If needed, click and grab orange box and place it on subject's head. Click on the black camera icon to capture the subject's left profile photo.

5. For scars, marks, tattoos "ScarsMarks," click and grab the orange box and move to any part of the upper body and arms for tattoos. You can enlarge the box to cover large tattoos. Click on black camera icon to capture the photos.

6. Click "Review" at the lower right hand corner to see all photos.

7. You must click "Save" at the lower right hand corner in order to save all booking photos in the file server.

8. Click "Okay" to get out.

9. Log off the computer.

10. Jailer will transfer your photos into Alliance Jail record at a later time.

Note: All arrestees must be photographed at some point prior to release or transfer.

f. DNA Collection-

The arresting officer must collect a DNA sample on all qualified arrests unless otherwise specified by the arrestee's CII printout

Warrant Retrieval/Teletypes- Go to Terminal #8230. Log onto ELETE, icon is on computer desktop, click and log in. Username is first initial and last name. (If you cannot remember your password, e-mail or contact Sonia Kelly or Marc Contreras) As soon as you gain access onto ELETE, Terminal #8230 will automatically print out all files (F11) sent down from dispatch, regardless who they are for. Go through the printouts and retrieve your teletypes or warrants, and place the teletypes not related to you in the "In box" next to the printer. Contact Dispatch if you need a second copy of your warrant.

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g. Fingerprint Live Scan- All trained personnel shall use the Live Scan system when it is applicable. The jailer will be the primary user of the Live Scan equipment. If there is no jailer on duty the arresting officer is responsible for the Live Scan requirements.

Adult Arrestees:

1. All adult arrestees whose identification can be verified through an ID, officer recognition, or other means, and will be transported to O.C.J., Live Scanning is not required.

2. All adult arrestees who will be transported to any felony booking facility other than O.C.J. shall be Live Scan fingerprinted.

3. All adult arrestees whose identification cannot be verified through an ID, officer recognition, or other means, shall be Live Scan fingerprinted at WPD.

4. All adult arrestees who are arrested for a misdemeanor and will either be cited and released or released per any PC 849 section shall be Live Scan fingerprinted at WPD.

5. If Live Scan is not operational and there is an arrestee who is to be cited and released and ID can be verified (as listed above), the officer shall check the "booking required" box on the citation, and obtain an ink rolled right thumb print on the back of the white and yellow copies of the citation prior to release.

Juvenile Arrestees:

1. All juvenile arrestees whose identity can be verified through an ID, parent, guardian or school official, and will be transported to Orange County Juvenile Hall do not need to be Live Scan fingerprinted.

2. All juvenile arrestees being released to a parent or guardian from WPD shall be Live Scan fingerprinted.

901.7 SAFETY CHECKS

1. Arresting Officers, Jail PSO's and Watch Commanders are responsible for performing and logging "direct visual observation" Safety Checks on all detainees housed in the Detention Center.

2. Sobering Cell- A "direct visual observation" safety check must be performed and logged at least once every 30 minutes.

3. All Other Cells- A "direct visual observation" safety check must be performed and logged at least once every 60 minutes.

4. A safety check consists of a direct visual observation of the detainee to ensure that the detainee is breathing, not under distress, and does not need assistance. Looking directly through glass or clear object is acceptable. Viewing a detainee through the aid of a camera or electronic device does not constitute a "direct visual observation."

5. The "Safety Check" log is on the automated "Detention Center" jail log. The viewing and documentation of the safety checks will be performed by clicking on the "Safety Check" box

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(far right of the detainee information). The observing officer will select their name in the drop down which will automatically time stamp the check. The officer should then record any notes, ie: "sleeping on side, snoring," or "moved from safety cell to group holding, no assist needed," etc.

The Safety Check box will display "View" in blue letters when the detainee is 0-30 minutes into a 60 minute safety check period. (0-15 for Sobering Cell)

The Safety Check box will display "In (x) Mins" in blue letters when the detainee is 30-59 minutes into a 60 minute safety check period. (15-29 for Sobering Cell)

The Safety Check box will display "Due Now" in red letters when the detainee is 60+ minutes from the last safety check. (30+ for Sobering Cell)

Safety check time stamps and comments may only be performed from a terminal within the Detention Center. The Jail Log and Safety Checks may be viewed from any terminal in the building.

6. On duty Jailers are responsible for completing the Safety Check Log.

7. If no Jailers are on duty the arresting officer is responsible for completing his/her detainee's safety checks while in the Detention Center.

8. Arresting officers must notify the Watch Commander when leaving a detainee unsupervised in the Detention Center longer than when the next Safety Check would be required. Once notified, the Watch Commander becomes responsible for all required safety checks unless otherwise relieved.

i. Automation Failure-

1. In the event of computer failure one Jail/Safety Check log with be completed for each detainee.

2. Paper Jail/Safety Check logs will be maintained on a clip board in the key drawer in the jail control center.

3. Completed handwritten Jail/Safety Check logs shall be turned into the Jailer's or Records Bureau inbox upon the release or transfer of the detainee.

4. Jailers are responsible for turning paper logs into the Records Bureau.

901.8 OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

The on duty Jailer, Facility Supervisor or Watch Commander are responsible for ensuring that all appropriate log entries are made. He/she is also responsible for performing a prisoner count at least every 4 hours and check it against the log, when there are persons in custody.

The Watch Commander is responsible for periodic checks to make sure logs and safety checks are being performed as required.

The Records Bureau is responsible for maintaining and making jail logs available for inspection by facility administrators.

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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 Westminster Police Department facility. Such items can pose a serious risk to the safety and security of department members, individuals in custody, contractors and the public.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit the otherwise lawful collection of evidence from an individual in custody.

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

An officer 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 an officer of the same sex as the person being searched. If an officer of the same sex is not reasonably available, a witnessing officer should be present during the search.

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902.4 SEARCHES AT POLICE FACILITIES

Custody searches shall be conducted on all individuals in custody, upon entry to the Westminster Police Department facilities. Except in exigent circumstances, the search should be conducted by a member of the same sex as the individual being searched. If a member of the same sex is not available, a witnessing member must be present during the search.

Custody searches should also be conducted any time an individual in custody enters or re-enters a secure area, or any time it is reasonably believed that a search is necessary to maintain the safety and security of the facility.

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 Westminster Police Department 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. Any amount equal to or greater than $500.00 requires supervisor verification. 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.

Any member assigned to work in the jail shall record all booking and release money counts. This includes any property inventories. The recording of booking and release money counts is to insure accurate tabulations are obtained, and to capture prisoner confirmation of such counts at the time of booking and release. Each member shall be responsible for maintaining his/her own recordings until the media is either full or placed into evidence/safekeeping.

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At no time is a member expected to jeopardize his/her safety in order to activate a recorder or change the recording media. However, the recorder should be activated in required situations as soon as practicable.

902.5 STRIP SEARCHES

No individual in temporary custody at any Westminster Police Department facility shall be subjected to a strip search unless there is reasonable suspicion based upon specific and articulable facts to believe the individual has a health condition requiring immediate medical attention or is concealing a weapon or contraband. Factors to be considered in determining reasonable suspicion include, but are not limited to:

(a) The detection of an object during a custody search that may be a weapon or contraband and cannot be safely retrieved without a strip search.

(b) Circumstances of a current arrest that specifically indicate the individual may be concealing a weapon or contraband.

1. A felony arrest charge or being under the influence of a controlled substance should not suffice as reasonable suspicion absent other facts.

(c) Custody history (e.g., past possession of contraband while in custody, assaults on department members, escape attempts).

(d) The individual's actions or demeanor.

(e) Criminal history (i.e., level of experience in a custody setting).

No transgender or intersex individual shall be searched or examined for the sole purpose of determining the individual's genital status. If the individual's genital status is unknown, it may be determined during conversations with the person, by reviewing medical records, or as a result of a broader medical examination conducted in private by a medical practitioner (28 CFR 115.115).

902.5.1 STRIP SEARCH PROCEDURES

Strip searches at Westminster Police Department facilities shall be conducted as follows (28 CFR 115.115; Penal Code § 4030):

(a) Written authorization from the Watch Commander shall be obtained prior to the strip search.

(b) All members involved with the strip search shall be of the same sex as the individual being searched, unless the search is conducted by a medical practitioner.

(c) All strip searches shall be conducted in a professional manner under sanitary conditions and in a secure area of privacy so that it cannot be observed by those not participating in the search. The search shall not be reproduced through a visual or sound recording.

(d) Whenever possible, a second member of the same sex should also be present during the search, for security and as a witness to the finding of evidence.

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(e) Members conducting a strip search shall not touch the breasts, buttocks or genitalia of the individual being searched.

(f) The primary member conducting the search shall prepare a written report to include:

1. The facts that led to the decision to perform a strip search.
2. The reasons less intrusive methods of searching were not used or were insufficient.
3. The written authorization for the search, obtained from the Watch Commander.
4. The name of the individual who was searched.
5. The name and sex of the members who conducted the search.
6. The name, sex and role of any person present during the search.
7. The time and date of the search.
8. The place at which the search was conducted.
9. A list of the items, if any, that were recovered.
10. The facts upon which the member based his/her belief that the individual was concealing a weapon or contraband.

(g) No member should view an individual's private underclothing, buttocks, genitalia or female breasts while that individual is showering, performing bodily functions or changing clothes, unless he/she otherwise qualifies for a strip search. However, if serious hygiene or health issues make it reasonably necessary to assist the individual with a shower or a change of clothes, a supervisor should be contacted to ensure reasonable steps are taken to obtain the individual's consent and/or otherwise protect his/her privacy and dignity.

(h) If the individual has been arrested for a misdemeanor or infraction offense, the written authorization from the Watch Commander shall include specific and articulable facts and circumstances upon which the reasonable suspicion determination for the search was made.

(i) A copy of the written authorization shall be retained and made available upon request to the individual or the individual's authorized representative. A record of the time, date, place of the search, the name and sex of the person conducting the search, and a statement of the results of the search shall also be retained and made available upon request to the individual or the individual’s authorized representative.

902.5.2 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE FIELD STRIP SEARCHES

A strip search may be conducted in the field only with Watch Commander authorization and only in exceptional circumstances, such as when:

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(a) There is probable cause to believe that the individual is concealing a weapon or other dangerous item that cannot be recovered by a more limited search.

(b) There is probable cause to believe that the individual is concealing controlled substances or evidence that cannot be recovered by a more limited search, and there is no reasonable alternative to ensure the individual cannot destroy or ingest the substance during transportation.

These special-circumstance field strip searches shall only be authorized and conducted under the same restrictions as the strip search procedures in this policy, except that the Watch Commander authorization does not need to be in writing.

902.6 PHYSICAL BODY CAVITY SEARCH

Physical body cavity searches shall be subject to the following (Penal Code § 4030):

(a) No individual shall be subjected to a physical body cavity search without written approval of the Watch Commander and only upon a search warrant. A copy of any search warrant and the results of the physical body cavity search shall be included with the related reports and made available, upon request, to the individual or authorized representative (except for those portions of the warrant ordered sealed by a court).

(b) Only a physician, nurse practitioner, registered nurse, licensed vocational nurse or Emergency Medical Technician Level II licensed to practice in California may conduct a physical body cavity search.

(c) Except for the physician or licensed medical personnel conducting the search, persons present must be of the same sex as the individual being searched. Only the necessary department members needed to maintain the safety and security of the medical personnel shall be present.

(d) Privacy requirements, including restricted touching of body parts and sanitary condition requirements, are the same as required for a strip search.

(e) All such searches shall be documented, including:

1. The facts that led to the decision to perform a physical body cavity search of the individual.
2. The reasons less intrusive methods of searching were not used or were insufficient.
3. The Watch Commander’s approval.
4. A copy of the search warrant.
5. The time, date and location of the search.
6. The medical personnel present.
7. The names, sex and roles of any department members present.

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8. Any contraband or weapons discovered by the search.

(f) Copies of the written authorization and search warrant shall be retained and shall be provided to the individual who was searched or other authorized representative upon request. A record of the time, date, place of the search, the name and sex of the person conducting the search and a statement of the results of the search shall also be retained and made available upon request to the individual or the individual's authorized representative.

902.7 TRAINING

The Training Sergeant 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.

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Prison Rape Elimination

903.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for complying with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and the implementing regulation that establishes standards (PREA Rule) to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse, harassment and retaliation against detainees or prisoners in the Westminster Police Department Temporary Holding Facilities (28 CFR 115.111).

903.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Intersex - A person whose sexual or reproductive anatomy or chromosomal pattern does not seem to fit typical definitions of male or female. Intersex medical conditions are sometimes referred to as disorders of sex development (28 CFR 115.5).

Sexual abuse - Any of the following acts, if the detainee does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence or is unable to consent or refuse:

- 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 detainee, prisoner or resident:

- Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight
- Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva or anus
- Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse or gratify sexual desire
- Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties, or where the staff member, contractor or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse or gratify sexual desire
- Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties, or where the staff member, contractor or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse or gratify sexual desire

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- Any attempt, threat or request by a staff member, contractor or volunteer to engage in the activities described above
- Any display by a staff member, contractor or volunteer of his/her uncovered genitalia, buttocks or breast in the presence of a detainee, prisoner or resident
- Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor or volunteer (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 detainee, prisoner or resident that are directed toward another; repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a detainee, prisoner or resident by a staff member, contractor or volunteer, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures (28 CFR 115.6).

Transgender - A person whose gender identity (i.e., internal sense of feeling male or female) is different from the person's assigned sex at birth (28 CFR 115.5).

903.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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 Westminster Police Department will take immediate action to protect detainees and prisoners who are reasonably believed to be subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.162).

903.3 PREA COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police 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 Westminster Police Department Temporary Holding Facilities (28 CFR 115.111). The PREA Coordinator's responsibilities shall include:

(a) Developing and maintaining procedures to comply with the PREA Rule.

(b) Ensuring that any contract for the confinement of detainees or prisoners includes the requirement to adopt and comply with applicable PREA and the PREA Rule, including the obligation to provide incident-based and aggregated data, as required in 28 CFR 115.187 (28 CFR 115.112).

(c) Developing a staffing plan to provide adequate levels of staffing and video monitoring, where applicable, in order to protect detainees and prisoners from sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.113). 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.

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(d) Developing methods for staff to privately report sexual abuse and sexual harassment of detainees and prisoners (28 CFR 115.151).

(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, detainee and prisoner access to victim advocacy services if the detainee or prisoner is transported for a forensic examination to an outside hospital that offers such services.

(g) Ensuring that detainees and prisoners with limited English proficiency and disabilities have an equal opportunity to understand and benefit from efforts to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment. This includes, as appropriate, access to interpreters and written materials in formats or through methods that provide effective communication to those with disabilities (e.g., limited reading skills, intellectual, hearing or vision disabilities) (28 CFR 115.116).

1. The agency shall not rely on other detainees or prisoners for assistance except in limited circumstances where an extended delay in obtaining an interpreter could compromise the detainee's or prisoner's safety, the performance of first-response duties under this policy, or the investigation of a prisoner's allegations of sexual abuse, harassment or retaliation.

(h) Publishing on the department's website:

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1. Information on how to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment on behalf of a detainee or prisoner (28 CFR 115.154).
2. A protocol describing the responsibilities of the Department 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 detainees or prisoners overnight (28 CFR 115.193).

(k) Ensuring contractors or others who work in the Temporary Holding Facility are informed of the agency's zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment (28 CFR 115.132).

903.4 REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

Detainees or 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 detainees or prisoners or staff for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment
- Staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to sexual abuse or sexual harassment

During intake the Department shall notify all detainees and prisoners of the zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and of at least one way to report abuse or harassment to a public or private entity that is not part of the Department and that is able to receive and immediately forward detainee or prisoner reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency officials. This allows the detainee or prisoner to remain anonymous (28 CFR 115.132; 28 CFR 115.151).

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903.4.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Department members shall accept reports from detainees, prisoners and third parties and shall promptly document all reports (28 CFR 115.151).

All members shall report immediately to the Watch Commander any knowledge, suspicion or information regarding:

(a) An incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that occurs in the Temporary Holding Facility.

(b) Retaliation against detainees or the member who reports any such incident.

(c) Any neglect or violation of responsibilities on the part of any department member that may have contributed to an incident or retaliation (28 CFR 115.161).

No member shall reveal any information related to a sexual abuse report to anyone other than to the extent necessary to make treatment and investigation decisions.

903.4.2 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Watch Commander 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 Watch Commander shall also report the allegation as required under mandatory reporting laws and department policy.

Upon receiving an allegation that a detainee or prisoner was sexually abused while confined at another facility, the Watch Commander shall notify the head of the facility or the appropriate office of the agency where the alleged abuse occurred. The notification shall be made as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours after receiving the allegation. The Watch Commander shall document such notification (28 CFR 115.163).

If an alleged detainee or prisoner victim is transferred from the Temporary Holding Facility to a jail, prison or medical facility, the Department shall, as permitted by law, inform the receiving facility of the incident and the prisoner's potential need for medical or social services, unless the prisoner requests otherwise (28 CFR 115.165).

903.5 INVESTIGATIONS

The 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).

903.5.1 FIRST RESPONDERS

The first officer to respond to a report of sexual abuse or sexual assault shall (28 CFR 115.164):

(a) Separate the parties.

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(b) Establish a crime scene to preserve and protect any evidence. Identify and secure witnesses until steps can be taken to collect any evidence.

(c) If the abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence, request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, including, as appropriate, washing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, urinating, defecating, smoking, drinking or eating.

(d) If the abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence, ensure that the alleged abuser does not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, including, as appropriate, washing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, urinating, defecating, smoking, drinking or eating.

If the first responder is not an officer the responder shall request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence and should then notify a law enforcement staff member (28 CFR 115.164).

903.5.2 INVESTIGATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Investigators shall (28 CFR 115.171):

(a) Gather and preserve direct and circumstantial evidence, including any available physical and biological evidence and any available electronic monitoring data.

(b) Interview alleged victims, suspects and witnesses.

(c) Review any prior complaints and reports of sexual abuse involving the suspect.

(d) Conduct compelled interviews only after consulting with prosecutors as to whether compelled interviews may be an obstacle for subsequent criminal prosecution.

(e) Assess the credibility of the alleged victim, suspect or witness on an individual basis and not by the person's status as a detainee or a member of the Westminster Police Department.

(f) Document in written reports a description of physical, testimonial, documentary and other evidence, the reasoning behind any credibility assessments, and investigative facts and findings.

(g) Refer allegations of conduct that may be criminal to the District Attorney for possible prosecution, including any time there is probable cause to believe a detainee or prisoner sexually abused another detainee or prisoner in the Temporary Holding Facility (28 CFR 115.178).

(h) Cooperate with outside investigators and remain informed about the progress of any outside investigation.

903.5.3 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Administrative investigations shall include an effort to determine whether staff actions or failures to act contributed to the abuse. The departure of the alleged abuser or victim from the employment

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or control of this department shall not be used as a basis for terminating an investigation (28 CFR 115.171).

903.5.4 SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS
No detainee or prisoner who alleges sexual abuse shall be required to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth-telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such an allegation (28 CFR 115.171(e)).

Detainee or prisoner victims of sexual abuse shall receive timely, unimpeded access to emergency medical treatment. Treatment services shall be provided to the victim without financial cost and regardless of whether the victim names the abuser or cooperates with any investigation arising out of the incident (28 CFR 115.182).

903.5.5 CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS
All completed investigations shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police, or if the allegations may reasonably involve the Chief of Police, to the City Manager. The Chief of Police or City Manager 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 detainees or prisoners and reported to any relevant licensing bodies (28 CFR 115.177). The Chief of Police shall take appropriate remedial measures and consider whether to prohibit further contact with detainees or prisoners by a contractor or volunteer.

903.6 RETALIATION PROHIBITED

All detainees, prisoners and members who report sexual abuse or sexual harassment or who cooperate with sexual abuse or sexual harassment investigations shall be protected from retaliation (28 CFR 115.167). If any other individual who cooperates with an investigation expresses a fear of retaliation, appropriate measures shall be taken to protect that individual.

The Watch Commander or the authorized designee shall employ multiple protection measures, such as housing changes or transfers for detainee or prisoner victims or abusers, removal of alleged abusers from contact with victims, and emotional support services for detainees, prisoners or members who fear retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment or for cooperating with investigations.

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The Watch Commander or the authorized designee shall identify a staff member to monitor the conduct and treatment of detainees, prisoners or members who have reported sexual abuse and of detainees or prisoners who were reported to have suffered sexual abuse. The staff member shall act promptly to remedy any such retaliation. In the case of detainees or prisoners, such monitoring shall also include periodic status checks.

903.7 REVIEWS AND AUDITS

903.7.1 INCIDENT REVIEWS

An incident review shall be conducted at the conclusion of every sexual abuse investigation, unless the allegation has been determined to be unfounded. The review should occur within 30 days 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 Chief of Police and the PREA Coordinator. The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall implement the recommendations for improvement or shall document the reasons for not doing so (28 CFR 115.186).

903.7.2 DATA REVIEWS

The facility shall conduct an annual review of collected and aggregated incident-based sexual abuse data. The review should include, as needed, data from incident-based documents, including reports, investigation files and sexual abuse incident reviews (28 CFR 115.187).

The purpose of these reviews is to assess and improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training. An annual report shall be prepared that includes (28 CFR 115.188):

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(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 Chief of Police 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 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 Westminster Police Department 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).

903.8 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).

903.9 TRAINING

All employees, volunteers and contractors who may have contact with detainees or prisoners shall receive department-approved training on the prevention and detection of sexual abuse and sexual harassment within this facility. The Training Sergeant 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 the right of detainees and prisoners to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and from retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or harassment.
- The dynamics of sexual abuse and harassment in confinement settings, including which detainees and prisoners are most vulnerable.
- The right of detainees, prisoners and staff members to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and from retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or harassment.

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- Detecting and responding to signs of threatened and actual abuse.
- Communicating effectively and professionally with all detainees and prisoners.
- Compliance with relevant laws related to mandatory reporting of sexual abuse to outside authorities.

Investigators assigned to sexual abuse investigations shall also receive training in conducting such investigations in confinement settings. Training should include (28 CFR 115.134):

- Techniques for interviewing sexual abuse victims.
- Proper use of *Miranda* and *Garrity* warnings.
- Sexual abuse evidence collection in confinement settings.
- Criteria and evidence required to substantiate a case for administrative action or prosecution referral.

The Training Sergeant shall maintain documentation that employees, volunteers, contractors and investigators have completed required training and that they understand the training. This understanding shall be documented through individual signature or electronic verification.

All current employees and volunteers who may have contact with detainees or prisoners shall be trained within one year of the effective date of the PREA standards. The agency shall provide annual refresher information to all such employees and volunteers to ensure that they understand the current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies and procedures.

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Chapter 10 - Personnel

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Recruitment and Selection

1000.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides a framework for employee recruiting efforts and identifying job-related standards for the selection process. This policy supplements the rules that govern employment practices for the Westminster Police Department and that are promulgated and maintained by the Personnel Department.

1000.2 POLICY

In accordance with applicable federal, state, and local law, the Westminster Police Department provides equal opportunities for applicants and employees regardless of actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law. The Department does not show partiality or grant any special status to any applicant, employee, or group of employees unless otherwise required by law.

The Department will recruit and hire only those individuals who demonstrate a commitment to service and who possess the traits and characteristics that reflect personal integrity and high ethical standards.

1000.3 RECRUITMENT

The Professional Standards Unit Commander should employ a comprehensive recruitment and selection strategy to recruit and select employees from a qualified and diverse pool of candidates.

The strategy should include:

(a) Identification of racially and culturally diverse target markets.

(b) Use of marketing strategies to target diverse applicant pools.

(c) Expanded use of technology and maintenance of a strong internet presence. This may include an interactive department website and the use of department-managed social networking sites, if resources permit.

(d) Expanded outreach through partnerships with media, community groups, citizen academies, local colleges, universities, and the military.

(e) Employee referral and recruitment incentive programs.

(f) Consideration of shared or collaborative regional testing processes.

The Professional Standards Unit Commander shall avoid advertising, recruiting and screening practices that tend to stereotype, focus on homogeneous applicant pools or screen applicants in a discriminatory manner.

The 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.

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1000.4 SELECTION PROCESS

The Department shall actively strive to identify a diverse group of candidates who have in some manner distinguished themselves as being outstanding prospects. Minimally, the Department should employ a comprehensive screening, background investigation, and selection process that assesses cognitive and physical abilities and includes review and verification of the following:

(a) A comprehensive application for employment (including previous employment, references, current and prior addresses, education, military record)

1. The personnel records of any applicant with prior peace officer experience in this state shall be requested from the appropriate law enforcement agency and reviewed prior to extending an offer of employment (Penal Code § 832.12).

2. This includes review of prior law enforcement employment information maintained by POST (Penal Code § 13510.9).

(b) Driving record

(c) Reference checks

(d) Employment eligibility, including U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 and acceptable identity and employment authorization documents consistent with Labor Code § 1019.1. This required documentation should not be requested until a candidate is hired. This does not prohibit obtaining documents required for other purposes.

(e) Information obtained from public internet sites

(f) Financial history consistent with the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) (15 USC § 1681 et seq.)

(g) Local, state, and federal criminal history record checks

(h) Lie detector test (when legally permissible) (Labor Code § 432.2)

(i) Medical and psychological examination (may only be given after a conditional offer of employment)

(j) Review board or selection committee assessment

1000.4.1 VETERAN'S PREFERENCE

Qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who receive a passing score on an entrance examination shall be ranked in the top rank of any resulting eligibility list. The veteran's preference shall also apply to a widow or widower of a veteran or a spouse of a 100 percent disabled veteran (Government Code § 18973.1).

1000.5 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

Every candidate shall undergo a thorough background investigation to verify his/her personal integrity and high ethical standards, and to identify any past behavior that may be indicative of the candidate's unsuitability to perform duties relevant to the operation of the Westminster Police Department (11 CCR 1953).

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The narrative report and any other relevant background information shall be shared with the psychological evaluator. Information shall also be shared with others involved in the hiring process if it is relevant to their respective evaluations (11 CCR 1953).

1000.5.1 NOTICES

Background investigators shall ensure that investigations are conducted and notices provided in accordance with the requirements of the FCRA and the California Investigative Consumer Reporting Agencies Act (15 USC § 1681d; Civil Code § 1786.16).

1000.5.2 STATE NOTICES

If information disclosed in a candidate's criminal offender record information (CORI) is the basis for an adverse employment decision, a copy of the CORI shall be provided to the applicant (Penal Code § 11105).

1000.5.3 REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Due to the potential for accessing unsubstantiated, private, or protected information, the Professional Standards Unit Commander shall not require candidates to provide passwords, account information, or access to password-protected social media accounts (Labor Code § 980).

The Professional Standards Unit Commander should consider utilizing the services of an appropriately trained and experienced third party to conduct open source, internet-based searches, and/or review information from social media sites to ensure that:

(a) The legal rights of candidates are protected.

(b) Material and information to be considered are verified, accurate, and validated.

(c) The Department fully complies with applicable privacy protections and local, state, and federal law.

Regardless of whether a third party is used, the Professional Standards Unit Commander should ensure that potentially impermissible information is not available to any person involved in the candidate selection process.

1000.5.4 DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING

The background investigator shall summarize the results of the background investigation in a narrative report that includes sufficient information to allow the reviewing authority to decide whether to extend a conditional offer of employment. The report shall not include any information that is prohibited from use, including that from social media sites, in making employment decisions. The report and all supporting documentation shall be included in the candidate's background investigation file (11 CCR 1953).

1000.5.5 RECORDS RETENTION

The background report and all supporting documentation shall be maintained for a minimum of four years and in accordance with the established records retention schedule (Government Code § 12946; 11 CCR 1953).

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1000.5.6 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION UPDATE

A background investigation update may, at the discretion of the Chief of Police, be conducted in lieu of a complete new background investigation on a peace officer candidate who is reappointed within 180 days of voluntary separation from the Westminster Police Department, or who is an interim police chief meeting the requirements contained in 11 CCR 1953(f).

1000.6 DISQUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

As a general rule, performance indicators and candidate information and records shall be evaluated by considering the candidate as a whole, and taking into consideration the following:

- Age at the time the behavior occurred
- Passage of time
- Patterns of past behavior
- Severity of behavior
- Probable consequences if past behavior is repeated or made public
- Likelihood of recurrence
- Relevance of past behavior to public safety employment
- Aggravating and mitigating factors
- Other relevant considerations

A candidate's qualifications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, using a totality-of-the-circumstances framework.

1000.7 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

All candidates shall meet the minimum standards required by state law (Government Code § 1029; Government Code § 1031; Penal Code § 13510.1; 11 CCR 1950 et seq.). Candidates will be evaluated based on merit, ability, competence, and experience, in accordance with the high standards of integrity and ethics valued by the Department and the community. The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) developed a Job Dimensions list, which is used as a professional standard in background investigations.

Validated, job-related, and nondiscriminatory employment standards shall be established for each job classification and shall minimally identify the training, abilities, knowledge, and skills required to perform the position's essential duties in a satisfactory manner. Each standard should include performance indicators for candidate evaluation. The Personnel Department should maintain validated standards for all positions.

1000.7.1 STANDARDS FOR OFFICERS

Candidates shall meet the minimum standards established by POST or required by state law (Government Code § 1029; Government Code § 1031; 11 CCR 1950 et seq.):

(a) Free of any felony convictions

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(b) Citizen of the United States, or permanent resident eligible for and has applied for citizenship

(c) At least 21 years of age except as provided by Government Code § 1031.4

(d) Fingerprinted for local, state, and national fingerprint check

(e) Good moral character as determined by a thorough background investigation (11 CCR 1953)

(f) High school graduate, passed the GED or other high school equivalency test, or obtained a two-year, four-year, or advanced degree from an accredited or approved institution

(g) Free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition, including bias against race or ethnicity, gender, nationality, religion, disability, or sexual orientation which might adversely affect the exercise of police powers (11 CCR 1954; 11 CCR 1955)

(h) Candidates must also satisfy the POST selection requirements, including (11 CCR 1950 et seq.):

1. Reading and writing ability assessment (11 CCR 1951)
2. Oral interview to determine suitability for law enforcement service (11 CCR 1952)

(i) POST certification that has not been revoked, denied, or voluntarily surrendered pursuant to Penal Code § 13510.8(f)

(j) Not identified in the National Decertification Index of the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training or similar federal government database that reflects revoked certification for misconduct or reflects misconduct that would result in a revoked certification in California.

In addition to the above minimum POST required standards, candidates may be subjected to additional standards established by the Department (Penal Code § 13510(d)).

1000.7.2 STANDARDS FOR DISPATCHER

Candidates shall satisfy the POST selection requirements, including (11 CCR 1956):

(a) A verbal, reasoning, memory, and perceptual abilities assessment (11 CCR 1957)

(b) An oral communication assessment (11 CCR 1958)

(c) A medical evaluation (11 CCR 1960)

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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 Westminster Police Department 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 actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law.

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.

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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.

1002.3.1 RESERVE OFFICER EVALUATIONS
Reserve officer evaluations are covered under the Reserve Officers Policy.

1002.4 FULL TIME PROBATIONARY PERSONNEL

Civilian personnel are on probation for 18 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 personnel are on probation for 18 months before being eligible for certification as permanent employees. Probationary officers 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
The evaluation form shall include standards appropriate to the employee’s rank. Clear explanations of each performance standard will be made available for review by raters and employees. In each standard, the following ratings shall be made:

Met or Exceeded Standard

- A “**Yes**” rating indicates that the employee’s overall performance during the rating period was acceptable or better.
- A “**No**” rating indicates that the employee’s consistent or notably repeated performance was unacceptable and required training, discipline or other actions to bring performance to an acceptable level. This rating should reflect ongoing or continual performance deficiencies, rather than a single or rare instances. For

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example, an employee who was counseled on a small number of occasions for inadequate written work would not likely justify a “No” rating for the “Written Communication” standard. An employee who was placed in a Performance Improvement Program (PIP) to rectify a continued writing deficiency would be rated “No”. Any “No” rating requires an explanation describing the deficiency along with the actions taken to correct it.

- A “**UTE**” (unable to evaluate) rating indicates that the rater was unable to evaluate the employee’s performance, either due to absence or the employee’s assignment did not include that standard. In cases where the rater did not personally supervise the employee’s performance, the rater shall seek input from other supervisors and list them in the "Supervised by" section.

1002.5.2 DOCUMENTED EVENTS

Commendations During this Rating Period - Include a brief description of all formal commendations the employee received, including the source and date. Example: “Officer Smith was commended by a city councilman for his work on a city charity event.”

Formal Discipline Imposed During this Rating Period - Include a brief description of all formal disciplinary measures imposed. Example: “Officer Smith received a written reprimand for an at-fault, on-duty traffic collision which resulted in $5,600 in damage to his patrol car.”

Supervisory Log Entries During this Rating Period - Raters shall review the supervisory log to ensure that each entry was signed by the employee, that the entry included an admonition that the entry does not constitute discipline, and that the employee was entitled to submit a response. It is important to recognize that log entries should not be used as “informal discipline.” They are used only to document supervisory actions related to employee performance not rising to the level of a formal commendation or disciplinary action. During review, raters shall ensure that log entries are properly purged as required by policy. Example: “Sergeant Jones reviewed WPD Policy 340.5.5 ATTENDANCE with Officer Smith on July 17, 2018.”

Work Statistics During this Rating Period - The purpose of this section is to document work performed related to the employee’s specific work assignment.

Supporting Comments - A space for supporting written comments is provided to allow explanations as required or when the rater feels further explanation of a rating is necessary for clarity. Raters shall avoid subjective statements and instead, provide objective information, supported by documentation whenever possible.

Policy Reviews - This documents discussion of critical policies to ensure employee familiarity and ensured they have been provided copies.

Annual evaluations provide supervisors an opportunity to discuss career goals and performance concerns with their subordinate employees. A feedback form shall be given each rated employee to help structure these discussions. Participation by the employee is optional but positively encouraged.

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1002.5.3 NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

When an officer is rated as needing improvement in performance with regard to certain subcategories, the supervising sergeant and Department commander should work with the employee to devise a plan designed to address and remediate the performance issue. In all cases where an overall needs improvement rating is given to an employee, the supervisor will prepare a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) designed to improve the areas of the employee's performance that have been identified as needing improvement.

The Performance Improvement Plan shall include specific areas of concern and specific goals to be achieved.

All Performance Improvement Plans require monthly written feedback to the employee from the supervisor and should include weekly meetings with the supervisor for the purpose of providing verbal feedback, training and mentoring.

A critical element of a sergeant's performance evaluation should be the skill with which he or she evaluates officers, the degree to which he or she effectively works with command staff to remediate performance issues or document attempts at doing so, and the success with which officers under his or her command achieve career enhancement and advancement goals.

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.

1002.6.1 DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT FORM

At the time of each employee's annual evaluation, the reviewing supervisor shall require the employee to read the City and Department harassment and discrimination policies. Following such policy review, the supervisor shall provide the employee a form to be completed and returned by the employee certifying the following:

(a) That the employee understands the harassment and discrimination policies.

(b) Whether any questions the employee has have been sufficiently addressed.

(c) That the employee knows how and where to report harassment policy violations.

(d) Whether the employee has been the subject of, or witness to, any conduct that violates the discrimination or harassment policy which has not been previously reported.

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The completed form should be returned to the supervisor (or other authorized individual if the employee is uncomfortable returning the form to the presenting supervisor) within one week.

The employee’s completed answers shall be attached to the evaluation. If the employee has expressed any questions or concerns, the receiving supervisor or other authorized individual shall insure that appropriate follow up action is taken.

1002.7 EVALUATION REVIEW

After the supervisor finishes the discussion with the employee, the signed performance evaluation is forwarded to the rater's supervisor (Commander). The Commander shall review the evaluation for fairness, impartiality, uniformity, and consistency. The Commander shall evaluate the supervisor on the quality of ratings given.

1002.8 EVALUATION DISTRIBUTION

Copies of the last three (3) years performance evaluations of the applicable employee shall be maintained in the employee's personnel file (located in PSU). City Hall Human Resources shall maintain all copies of an employee's performance evaluations during their employment with the city. A copy will also be given to the employee.

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Grievance Procedure

1005.1 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.

1005.2 GRIEVANCE RECORDS

At the conclusion of the grievance process, all documents pertaining to the process shall be forwarded to Professional Standards Unit for inclusion into a secure file for all written grievances. A second copy of the written grievance will be maintained by the City Manager's office to monitor the grievance process.

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Anti-Retaliation

1007.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy prohibits retaliation against members who identify workplace issues, such as fraud, waste, abuse of authority, gross mismanagement or any inappropriate conduct or practices, including violations that may pose a threat to the health, safety or well-being of members.

This policy does not prohibit actions taken for nondiscriminatory or non-retaliatory reasons, such as discipline for cause.

These guidelines are intended to supplement and not limit members' access to other applicable remedies. Nothing in this policy shall diminish the rights or remedies of a member pursuant to any applicable federal law, provision of the U.S. Constitution, law, ordinance or memorandum of understanding.

1007.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department has a zero tolerance for retaliation and is committed to taking reasonable steps to protect from retaliation members who, in good faith, engage in permitted behavior or who report or participate in the reporting or investigation of workplace issues. All complaints of retaliation will be taken seriously and will be promptly and appropriately investigated.

1007.3 RETALIATION PROHIBITED

No member may retaliate against any person for engaging in lawful or otherwise permitted behavior; for opposing a practice believed to be unlawful, unethical, discriminatory or retaliatory; for reporting or making a complaint under this policy; or for participating in any investigation related to a complaint under this or any other policy.

Retaliation includes any adverse action or conduct, including but not limited to:

- Refusing to hire or denying a promotion.
- Extending the probationary period.
- Unjustified reassignment of duties or change of work schedule.
- Real or implied threats or other forms of intimidation to dissuade the reporting of wrongdoing or filing of a complaint, or as a consequence of having reported or participated in protected activity.
- Taking unwarranted disciplinary action.
- Spreading rumors about the person filing the complaint or about the alleged wrongdoing.
- Shunning or unreasonably avoiding a person because he/she has engaged in protected activity.

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1007.3.1 RETALIATION PROHIBITED FOR REPORTING VIOLATIONS
An officer shall not be retaliated against for reporting a suspected violation of a law or regulation of another officer to a supervisor or other person in the Department who has the authority to investigate the violation (Government Code § 7286(b)).

1007.4 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, Chief of Police or the City Director of Human Services.

Members shall act in good faith, not engage in unwarranted reporting of trivial or minor deviations or transgressions, and make reasonable efforts to verify facts before making any complaint in order to avoid baseless allegations. Members shall not report or state an intention to report information or an allegation knowing it to be false, with willful or reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the information or otherwise act in bad faith.

Investigations are generally more effective when the identity of the reporting member is known, thereby allowing investigators to obtain additional information from the reporting member. However, complaints may be made anonymously. All reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the reporting member's identity. However, confidential information may be disclosed to the extent required by law or to the degree necessary to conduct an adequate investigation and make a determination regarding a complaint. In some situations, the investigative process may not be complete unless the source of the information and a statement by the member is part of the investigative process.

1007.5 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 Chief of Police 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.

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(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.

1007.6 COMMAND STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief of Police 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.

1007.7 WHISTLE-BLOWING

California law protects members who (Labor Code § 1102.5; Government Code § 53296 et seq.):

(a) Report a violation of a state or federal statute or regulation to a government or law enforcement agency, including the member's supervisor or any other member with the authority to investigate the reported violation.

(b) Provide information or testify before a public body if the member has reasonable cause to believe a violation of law occurred.

(c) Refuse to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute or regulation.

(d) File a complaint with a local agency about gross mismanagement or a significant waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety. Members shall exhaust all available administrative remedies prior to filing a formal complaint.

(e) Are family members of a person who has engaged in any protected acts described above.

Members are encouraged to report any legal violations through the chain of command (Labor Code § 1102.5).

Members who believe they have been the subject of retaliation for engaging in such protected behaviors should promptly report it to a supervisor. Supervisors should refer the complaint to the Professional Standards Unit for investigation pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy.

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1007.7.1 DISPLAY OF WHISTLE-BLOWER LAWS

The Department shall display a notice to members regarding their rights and responsibilities under the whistle-blower laws, including the whistle-blower hotline maintained by the Office of the Attorney General (Labor Code § 1102.8).

1007.8 RECORDS RETENTION AND RELEASE

The Records Supervisor shall ensure that documentation of investigations is maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedules.

1007.9 TRAINING

The policy should be reviewed with each new member.

All members should receive periodic refresher training on the requirements of this policy.

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Reporting of Employee Convictions

1009.1 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.

1009.2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONVICTIONS, OUTSTANDING WARRANTS AND RESTRAINING ORDERS

California and federal law prohibit individuals convicted of, or having an outstanding warrant for, certain offenses and individuals subject to certain court orders from lawfully possessing a firearm. Such convictions and court orders often involve allegations of the use or attempted use of force or threatened use of a weapon on any individual in a domestic relationship (e.g., spouse, cohabitant, parent, child) (18 USC § 922; Penal Code § 29805).

All members are responsible for ensuring that they have not been disqualified from possessing a firearm by any such conviction or court order and shall promptly report any such conviction or court order to a supervisor, as provided in this policy.

1009.3 OTHER CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND COURT ORDERS

Government Code § 1029 prohibits any person convicted of a felony from being a peace officer in the State of California. This prohibition applies regardless of whether the guilt was established by way of a verdict, guilty, or nolo contendere plea.

Convictions of certain violations of the Vehicle Code and other provisions of law may also place restrictions on an employee's ability to fully perform the duties of the job.

Outstanding warrants as provided in Penal Code § 29805 also place restrictions on a member's ability to possess a firearm.

Moreover, while legal restrictions may or may not be imposed by statute or by the courts upon conviction of any criminal offense, criminal conduct by members of this department may be inherently in conflict with law enforcement duties and the public trust.

1009.4 REPORTING PROCEDURE

All members of this department and all retired officers with an identification card issued by the Department shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor (or the Chief of Police in the case of retired officers) in writing of any past or current criminal arrest, outstanding warrant or conviction regardless of whether or not the matter is currently on appeal and regardless of the penalty or sentence, if any.

All members and all retired officers with an identification card issued by the Department shall further promptly notify their immediate supervisor (or the Chief of Police in the case of retired

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officers) in writing if the member or retiree becomes the subject of a domestic violence restraining order or similar court order or becomes the subject of an outstanding warrant.

Any member whose criminal conviction unduly restricts or prohibits that member from fully and properly performing his/her duties may be disciplined including, but not limited to, being placed on administrative leave, reassignment and/or termination. Any effort to remove such disqualification or restriction shall remain entirely the responsibility of the member on his/her own time and expense.

Any member failing to provide prompt written notice pursuant to this policy shall be subject to discipline.

1009.5 PROCEDURE FOR RELIEF

Pursuant to Penal Code § 29855, a peace officer may petition the court for permission to carry a firearm following a conviction under state law. Federal law, however, does not provide for any such similar judicial relief and the granting of a state court petition under Penal Code § 29855 will not relieve one of the restrictions imposed by federal law. Therefore, relief for any employee falling under the restrictions imposed by federal law may only be obtained by expungement of the conviction. Employees shall seek relief from firearm restrictions on their own time and through their own resources.

Pursuant to Family Code § 6389(h), an individual may petition the court for an exemption to any restraining order, which would thereafter permit the individual to carry a firearm or ammunition as a part of the individual's employment. Relief from any domestic violence or other restriction shall also be pursued through the employee’s own resources and on the employee’s own time.

Pending satisfactory proof of relief from any legal restriction imposed on an employee’s duties, the employee may be placed on administrative leave, reassigned, or disciplined. The Department may, but is not required to return an employee to any assignment, reinstate any employee, or reverse any pending or imposed discipline upon presentation of satisfactory proof of relief from any legal restriction set forth in this policy.

1009.5.1 NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Professional Standards Unit Supervisor shall submit within 30 days of final disposition a notice to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) of a felony conviction or Government Code § 1029 reason that disqualifies any current peace officer employed by this department or any former peace officer if this department was responsible for the investigation (11 CCR 1003).

The Professional Standards Unit Supervisor shall submit within 30 days a notice to POST of any appointment, termination, reinstatement, name change, or status change regarding any peace officer, reserve peace officer, public safety dispatcher, and records supervisor employed by this department (11 CCR 1003).

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Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace

1011.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear and uniform guidelines regarding drugs and alcohol in the workplace (41 USC § 8103).

1011.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide a drug- and alcohol-free workplace for all members.

1011.3 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.

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 Watch Commander or appropriate supervisor as soon as the member is aware that the member 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, the member shall be immediately removed and released from work (see the Work Restrictions section in this policy).

1011.3.1 USE OF MEDICATIONS

Members should not use 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 the member's 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 the member's abilities, without a written release from the member's physician.

1011.4 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.

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.

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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).

1011.5 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 Personnel Department, 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.

1011.6 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.

1011.7 SCREENING TESTS

A supervisor may require an employee to submit to a screening 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 the employee's ability to perform duties safely and efficiently.

(b) The employee discharges a firearm in the performance of the employee's duties (excluding training or authorized euthanizing of an animal).

(c) The employee discharges a firearm issued by the Department while off-duty, resulting in injury, death, or substantial property damage.

(d) The employee drives a motor vehicle in the performance of the employee's duties and becomes involved in an incident that results in bodily injury, death, or substantial damage to property.

1011.7.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The supervisor shall prepare a written record documenting the specific facts that led to the decision to require 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.

(b) The result of the test is not admissible in any criminal proceeding against the employee.

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(c) The employee may refuse the test, but refusal may result in dismissal or other disciplinary action.

1011.7.2 SCREENING TEST REFUSAL
An employee may be subject to disciplinary action if the employee:

(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 the employee took the controlled substance as directed, pursuant to a current and lawful prescription issued in the employee's name.

1011.8 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).

1011.9 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 in the member's confidential medical file in accordance with the Personnel Records Policy.

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Sick Leave

1013.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidance regarding the use and processing of sick leave. The accrual and terms of use of sick leave for eligible employees are detailed in the City personnel manual or applicable collective bargaining agreement.

This policy is not intended to cover all types of sick or other leaves. For example, employees may be entitled to additional paid or unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons as provided for in the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (29 USC § 2601 et seq.), the California Family Rights Act, leave for victims of crime or abuse, or for organ or bone marrow donor procedures (29 CFR 825; Government Code § 12945.2; Labor Code § 230.1; Labor Code § 1510).

1013.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to provide eligible employees with a sick leave benefit.

1013.3 USE OF SICK LEAVE

Sick leave is intended to be used for qualified absences. Sick leave is not considered vacation. Abuse of sick leave may result in discipline, denial of sick leave benefits, or both.

Employees on sick leave shall not engage in other employment or self-employment or participate in any sport, hobby, recreational activity or other activity that may impede recovery from the injury or illness (see Outside Employment Policy).

Qualified appointments should be scheduled during a member’s non-working hours when it is reasonable to do so.

1013.3.1 ILLNESS OCCURRING DURING VACATION

Employees who become ill or sustain an injury while on vacation may have such time charged against his or her earned sick leave provided:

(a) Immediately upon return to duty, the employee submits to his or her immediate supervisor or on duty Watch Commander a written request for sick leave, accompanied by a certificate and/or statement from his or her attending physician confirming the dates on which the illness or injury occurred.

(b) With the immediate supervisor or on duty Watch Commander's approval, the employee shall complete a PTNR and such time shall be entered on the departmental payroll form as sick leave.

1013.3.2 NOTIFICATION

All members should notify the Watch Commander or appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work and no less than one hour before the start of their scheduled shifts. If, due to an emergency, a member is unable to contact the supervisor, every

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effort should be made to have a representative for the member contact the supervisor (Labor Code § 246).

When the necessity to be absent from work is foreseeable, such as planned medical appointments or treatments, the member shall, whenever possible and practicable, provide the Department with no less than 30 days' notice of the impending absence (Labor Code § 246).

Upon return to work, members are responsible for ensuring their time off was appropriately accounted for, and for completing and submitting the required documentation describing the type of time off used and the specific amount of time taken.

1013.4 EXTENDED ABSENCE

Members absent from duty for more than three consecutive days may be required to furnish a statement from a health care provider supporting the need to be absent and/or the ability to return to work. Members on an extended absence shall, if possible, contact their supervisor at specified intervals to provide an update on their absence and expected date of return.

Nothing in this section precludes a supervisor from requiring, with cause, a health care provider's statement for an absence of three or fewer days after the first three days of paid sick leave are used in a 12-month period.

1013.5 CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL RECORDS

All employees' medical information shall be considered confidential. As to each individual disclosure, the contents of the medical information shall not be revealed to others, without the employee's prior expressed written authorization.

1013.6 REQUIRED NOTICES

The Director of Human Resources shall ensure:

(a) Written notice of the amount of paid sick leave available is provided to employees as provided in Labor Code § 246.

(b) A poster is displayed in a conspicuous place for employees to review that contains information on paid sick leave as provided in Labor Code § 247.

1013.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

(a) Monitoring and regularly reviewing the attendance of those under their command to ensure that the use of sick leave and absences is consistent with this policy.

(b) Attempting to determine whether an absence of four or more days may qualify as family medical leave and consulting with legal counsel or the Personnel Department as appropriate.

(c) Addressing absences and sick leave use in the member's performance evaluation when excessive or unusual use has:

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1. Negatively affected the member's performance or ability to complete assigned duties.
2. Negatively affected department operations.

(d) When appropriate, counseling members regarding excessive absences and/or inappropriate use of sick leave.

(e) Referring eligible members to an available employee assistance program when appropriate.

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Communicable Diseases

1015.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines to assist in minimizing the risk of department members contracting and/or spreading communicable diseases.

1015.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Communicable disease - A human disease caused by microorganisms that are present in and transmissible through human blood, bodily fluid, tissue, or by breathing or coughing. These diseases commonly include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV), HIV and tuberculosis.

Exposure - When an eye, mouth, mucous membrane or non-intact skin comes into contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, or when these substances are injected or infused under the skin; when an individual is exposed to a person who has a disease that can be passed through the air by talking, sneezing or coughing (e.g., tuberculosis), or the individual is in an area that was occupied by such a person. Exposure only includes those instances that occur due to a member's position at the Westminster Police Department. (See the exposure control plan for further details to assist in identifying whether an exposure has occurred.)

1015.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department is committed to providing a safe work environment for its members. Members should be aware that they are ultimately responsible for their own health and safety.

1015.3 EXPOSURE CONTROL OFFICER

The Chief of Police will assign a person as the Exposure Control Officer (ECO). The ECO shall develop an exposure control plan that includes:

(a) Exposure-prevention and decontamination procedures.

(b) Procedures for when and how to obtain medical attention in the event of an exposure or suspected exposure.

(c) The provision that department members will have no-cost access to the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g., gloves, face masks, eye protection, pocket masks) for each member's position and risk of exposure.

(d) Evaluation of persons in custody for any exposure risk and measures to separate them (15 CCR 1051; 15 CCR 1207).

(e) Compliance with all relevant laws or regulations related to communicable diseases, including:

1. Responding to requests and notifications regarding exposures covered under the Ryan White law (42 USC § 300ff-133; 42 USC § 300ff-136).

2. Bloodborne pathogen mandates including (8 CCR 5193):

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(a) Sharps injury log.

(b) Needleless systems and sharps injury protection.

3. Airborne transmissible disease mandates including (8 CCR 5199):

(a) Engineering and work practice controls related to airborne transmissible diseases.

(b) Distribution of appropriate personal protective equipment to minimize exposure to airborne disease.

4. Promptly notifying the county health officer regarding member exposures (Penal Code § 7510).

5. Establishing procedures to ensure that members request exposure notification from health facilities when transporting a person that may have a communicable disease and that the member is notified of any exposure as required by Health and Safety Code § 1797.188.

6. Informing members of the provisions of Health and Safety Code § 1797.188 (exposure to communicable diseases and notification).

(f) Provisions for acting as the designated officer liaison with health care facilities regarding communicable disease or condition exposure notification. The designated officer should coordinate with other department members to fulfill the role when not available. The designated officer shall ensure that the name, title and telephone number of the designated officer is posted on the Department website (Health and Safety Code § 1797.188).

The ECO should also act as the liaison with the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) and may request voluntary compliance inspections. The ECO shall annually review and update the exposure control plan and review implementation of the plan (8 CCR 5193).

1015.4 EXPOSURE PREVENTION AND MITIGATION

1015.4.1 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

All members are expected to use good judgment and follow training and procedures related to mitigating the risks associated with communicable disease. This includes, but is not limited to (8 CCR 5193):

(a) Stocking disposable gloves, antiseptic hand cleanser, CPR masks or other specialized equipment in the work area or 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.

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(e) Using an appropriate barrier device when providing CPR.

(f) Using a face mask or shield if it is reasonable to anticipate an exposure to an airborne transmissible disease.

(g) Decontaminating non-disposable equipment (e.g., flashlight, control devices, clothing and portable radio) as soon as possible if the equipment is a potential source of exposure.

1. Clothing that has been contaminated by blood or other potentially infectious materials shall be removed immediately or as soon as feasible and stored/decontaminated appropriately.

(h) Handling all sharps and items that cut or puncture (e.g., needles, broken glass, razors, knives) cautiously and using puncture-resistant containers for their storage and/or transportation.

(i) Avoiding eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics or lip balm, or handling contact lenses where there is a reasonable likelihood of exposure.

(j) Disposing of biohazardous waste appropriately or labeling biohazardous material properly when it is stored.

1015.4.2 IMMUNIZATIONS

Members who could be exposed to HBV due to their positions may receive the HBV vaccine and any routine booster at no cost (8 CCR 5193).

1015.5 POST EXPOSURE

1015.5.1 INITIAL POST-EXPOSURE STEPS

Members who experience an exposure or suspected exposure shall:

(a) Begin decontamination procedures immediately (e.g., wash hands and any other skin with soap and water, flush mucous membranes with water).

(b) Obtain medical attention as appropriate.

(c) Notify a supervisor as soon as practicable.

1015.5.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The supervisor on-duty shall investigate every exposure or suspected exposure that occurs as soon as possible following the incident. The supervisor shall ensure the following information is documented (8 CCR 5193):

(a) Name and Social Security number of the member exposed

(b) Date and time of the incident

(c) Location of the incident

(d) Potentially infectious materials involved and the source of exposure (e.g., identification of the person who may have been the source)

(e) Work being done during exposure

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(f) How the incident occurred or was caused

(g) PPE in use at the time of the incident

(h) Actions taken post-event (e.g., clean-up, notifications)

The supervisor shall advise the member that disclosing the identity and/or infectious status of a source to the public or to anyone who is not involved in the follow-up process is prohibited. The supervisor should complete the incident documentation in conjunction with other reporting requirements that may apply (see the Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting Policy).

1015.5.3 MEDICAL CONSULTATION, EVALUATION AND TREATMENT

Department members shall have the opportunity to have a confidential medical evaluation immediately after an exposure and follow-up evaluations as necessary (8 CCR 5193).

The ECO should request a written opinion/evaluation from the treating medical professional that contains only the following information:

(a) Whether the member has been informed of the results of the evaluation.

(b) Whether the member has been notified of any medical conditions resulting from exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials which require further evaluation or treatment.

No other information should be requested or accepted by the ECO.

1015.5.4 COUNSELING

The Department shall provide the member, and his/her family if necessary, the opportunity for counseling and consultation regarding the exposure (8 CCR 5193).

1015.5.5 SOURCE TESTING

Testing a person for communicable diseases when that person was the source of an exposure should be done when it is desired by the exposed member or when it is otherwise appropriate (8 CCR 5193). Source testing is the responsibility of the ECO. If the ECO is unavailable to seek timely testing of the source, it is the responsibility of the exposed member's supervisor to ensure testing is sought.

Source testing may be achieved by:

(a) Obtaining consent from the individual.

(b) Complying with the statutory scheme of Health and Safety Code § 121060. This includes seeking consent from the person who was the source of the exposure and seeking a court order if consent is not given.

(c) Testing the exposed member for evidence of a communicable disease and seeking consent from the source individual to either access existing blood samples for testing or for the source to submit to testing (Health and Safety Code § 120262).

(d) Taking reasonable steps to immediately contact the County Health Officer and provide preliminary information regarding the circumstances of the exposure and the status

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of the involved individuals to determine whether the County Health Officer will order testing (Penal Code § 7510).

(e) Under certain circumstances, a court may issue a search warrant for the purpose of HIV testing a person when the exposed member qualifies as a crime victim (Penal Code § 1524.1).

Since there is the potential for overlap between the different manners in which source testing may occur, the ECO is responsible for coordinating the testing to prevent unnecessary or duplicate testing.

The ECO should seek the consent of the individual for testing and consult the City Attorney to discuss other options when no statute exists for compelling the source of an exposure to undergo testing if he/she refuses.

1015.6 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.

1015.7 TRAINING

All members shall participate in training regarding communicable diseases commensurate with the requirements of their position. The training (8 CCR 5193):

(a) Shall be provided at the time of initial assignment to tasks where an occupational exposure may take place and at least annually after the initial training.

(b) Shall be provided whenever the member is assigned new tasks or procedures affecting his/her potential exposure to communicable disease.

(c) Should provide guidance on what constitutes an exposure, what steps can be taken to avoid an exposure and what steps should be taken if a suspected exposure occurs.

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Smoking and Tobacco Use

1017.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes limitations on smoking and the use of tobacco products by members and others while on-duty or while in Westminster Police Department facilities or vehicles.

For the purposes of this policy, smoking and tobacco use includes, but is not limited to, any tobacco product, such as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, tobacco pouches and chewing tobacco, as well as any device intended to simulate smoking, such as an electronic cigarette or personal vaporizer.

1017.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department recognizes that tobacco use is a health risk and can be offensive to others.

Smoking and tobacco use also presents an unprofessional image for the Department and its members. Therefore smoking and tobacco use is prohibited by members and visitors in all department facilities, buildings and vehicles, and as is further outlined in this policy (Government Code § 7597; Labor Code § 6404.5).

1017.3 SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

Smoking and tobacco use by members is prohibited anytime members are in public view representing the Westminster Police Department.

It shall be the responsibility of each member to ensure that no person under his/her supervision smokes or uses any tobacco product inside City facilities and vehicles.

1017.4 ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS

No person shall use tobacco products within 20 feet of a main entrance, exit or operable window of any public building (including any department facility), or buildings on the campuses of the University of California, California State University and California community colleges, whether present for training, enforcement or any other purpose (Government Code § 7596 et seq.).

1017.4.1 NOTICE

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should ensure that proper signage is posted at each entrance to the Department facility (Labor Code § 6404.5).

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Personnel Complaints

1019.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the reporting, investigation and disposition of complaints regarding the conduct of members of the Westminster Police Department. This policy shall not apply to any questioning, counseling, instruction, informal verbal admonishment or other routine or unplanned contact of a member in the normal course of duty, by a supervisor or any other member, nor shall this policy apply to a criminal investigation.

1019.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department 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 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.

1019.3 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.

1019.3.1 COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATIONS

Personnel complaints shall be classified in one of the following categories:

Informal - A matter in which the Watch Commander is satisfied that appropriate action has been taken by a supervisor of rank greater than the accused member.

Formal - A matter in which a supervisor determines that further action is warranted. Such complaints may be investigated by a supervisor of rank greater than the accused member or referred to the Professional Standards Unit, depending on the seriousness and complexity of the investigation.

Incomplete - A matter in which the complaining party either refuses to cooperate or becomes unavailable after diligent follow-up investigation. At the discretion of the assigned supervisor or the Professional Standards Unit, such matters may be further investigated depending on the seriousness of the complaint and the availability of sufficient information.

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1019.3.2 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.

1019.4 AVAILABILITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLAINTS

1019.4.1 COMPLAINT FORMS

Personnel complaint forms will be maintained in a clearly visible location in the public area of the police facility and be accessible through the department website. Forms may also be available at other City facilities.

Personnel complaint forms in languages other than English may also be provided, as determined necessary or practicable.

1019.4.2 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.

A complainant shall be provided with a copy of the complaining party's statement at the time it is filed with the Department (Penal Code § 832.7).

1019.4.3 AVAILABILITY OF WRITTEN PROCEDURES

The Department shall make available to the public a written description of the investigation procedures for complaints (Penal Code § 832.5).

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1019.5 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 shall be documented and tracked in IAPro.

On an annual basis, the Department should audit IAPro and send an audit report to the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

1019.6 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Allegations of misconduct will be administratively investigated as follows.

1019.6.1 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 Chief of Police or the authorized designee may direct that another supervisor investigate any complaint.

A supervisor who becomes aware of alleged misconduct shall take reasonable steps to prevent aggravation of the situation.

The responsibilities of supervisors include but are not limited to:

(a) Ensuring that upon receiving or initiating any formal complaint, a complaint form is completed.

  1. The original complaint form will be directed to the Watch Commander of the accused member, via the chain of command, who will take appropriate action and/or determine who will have responsibility for the investigation.

  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 Commander or the Chief of Police, who will initiate appropriate action.

(b) Responding to all complainants in a courteous and professional manner.

(c) Resolving those personnel complaints that can be resolved immediately.

  1. Follow-up contact with the complainant should be made within 24 hours of the Department receiving the complaint.

  2. If the matter is resolved and no further action is required, the supervisor will note the resolution on a complaint form and forward the form to the Watch Commander.

(d) Ensuring that upon receipt of a complaint involving allegations of a potentially serious nature, the Watch Commander and the Chief of Police are notified via the chain of command as soon as practicable.

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(e) Promptly contacting the Personnel Department and the Watch Commander for direction regarding their roles in addressing a complaint that relates to sexual, racial, ethnic or other forms of prohibited harassment or discrimination.

(f) Forwarding unresolved personnel complaints to the Watch Commander, who will determine whether to contact the complainant or assign the complaint for investigation.

(g) Informing the complainant of the investigator's name and the complaint number within three days after assignment.

(h) Investigating a complaint as follows:

1. Making reasonable efforts to obtain names, addresses and telephone numbers of witnesses.

2. When appropriate, ensuring immediate medical attention is provided and photographs of alleged injuries and accessible uninjured areas are taken.

(i) Ensuring that the procedural rights of the accused member are followed (Government Code § 3303 et seq.).

(j) Ensuring interviews of the complainant are generally conducted during reasonable hours.

1019.6.2 PRE-DISPOSITION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PROCESS

In limited circumstances, a Pre-Disposition Settlement Agreement (PDSA) may be utilized to reduce the resources necessary to conclude an administrative investigation. A PDSA may be considered when the following conditions are met:

- The nature of the violation is a non-serious policy violation which, if founded, would result in suspension of less than 100 hours.
- The full nature and scope of the incident is reasonably known and no further investigative action is warranted to determine what occurred.*
- The employee voluntarily acknowledges the violation, is amenable to discipline, and waives their right to appeal the discipline.

A PDSA is <u>not</u> appropriate in violations which:

- Involve suspected dishonesty (potential Brady violations)
- Involve the use of alcohol or intoxicants
- Include allegations of discrimination, harassment or retaliation
- Involve progressive discipline
- Involve multiple employees

*** Important:** A PDSA does not relieve an investigating officer from conducting adequate preliminary inquiry to determine the full scope of an incident.

When the above requirements are met, the investigator will seek concurrence from the Chief of Police and determine a proposed level of discipline. Discipline may optionally include remedial

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education or training requirements as appropriate. If approved, the employee will be offered a Pre-Disposition Settlement Agreement by memo from the Chief or Police. The memo will contain the following:

(a) The following statement:
"Our initial inquiry of your actions indicates you violated the below policy(s). Based on your stated willingness to participate in a pre-disposition settlement agreement (PDSA) process, I propose to conclude this investigation with imposition of the listed discipline. Your participation is voluntary and you will in no way be penalized for declining to participate. Your memo or statements will be used as the basis of the case findings and discipline as proposed. I recommend that you consult your legal representative before proceeding. Your acceptance of this agreement constitutes a waiver of your statutory rights to appeal the imposition of discipline. Should you wish to accept the proposed discipline, you may opt to either submit a memo which clearly and specifically accepts responsibility for the indicated violation(s) or participate in a recorded administrative interview with or without a representative."

(b) A list of policy violations involved.

(c) The proposed discipline.

(d) Instructions to complete the proposed settlement agreement or advise the investigating supervisor within 10 business days.

An unsigned settlement agreement for the proposed discipline will be attached to the memo. If the employee chooses to participate, and provides an acceptable interview or memo, the abbreviated investigation format will include:

- A brief description of the evidence and facts of the case.
- Either the employee’s original memo or interview summary stating responsibility for the violation (with a copy of the recorded interview when applicable).
- A signed settlement agreement for the proposed discipline.

Completion of the investigation and approvals should be prioritized and discipline imposed at the earliest opportunity to reduce the impact of the employee remaining under investigation.

If at any point, an employee declines to participate or complete the PDSA process, the standard investigative interview will be conducted. The final discipline imposed shall not penalize the employee for not participating in the PDSA process and should be consistent with the original offer, unless new facts support a variance. Any subsequent investigation will indicate that a PDSA was offered and the initial offer of discipline.

1019.6.3 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Whether conducted by a supervisor or a member of the Professional Standards Unit, the following applies to members covered by the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act (POBR) (Government Code § 3303):

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(a) Interviews of an accused member shall be conducted during reasonable hours and preferably when the member is on-duty. If the member is off-duty, he/she shall be compensated.

(b) Unless waived by the member, interviews of an accused member shall be at the Westminster Police Department or other reasonable and appropriate place.

(c) No more than two interviewers should ask questions of an accused member.

(d) Prior to any interview, a member shall be informed of the nature of the investigation, the name, rank and command of the officer in charge of the investigation, the interviewing officers and all other persons to be present during the interview.

(e) All interviews shall be for a reasonable period and the member's personal needs should be accommodated.

(f) No member should be subjected to offensive or threatening language, nor shall any promises, rewards or other inducements be used to obtain answers.

(g) Any member refusing to answer questions directly related to the investigation may be ordered to answer questions administratively and may be subject to discipline for failing to do so.

1. A member should be given an order to answer questions in an administrative investigation that might incriminate the member in a criminal matter only after the member has been given a *Lybarger* advisement. Administrative investigators should consider the impact that compelling a statement from the member may have on any related criminal investigation and should take reasonable steps to avoid creating any foreseeable conflicts between the two related investigations. This may include conferring with the person in charge of the criminal investigation (e.g., discussion of processes, timing, implications).

2. No information or evidence administratively coerced from a member may be provided to anyone involved in conducting the criminal investigation or to any prosecutor.

(h) The interviewer should record all interviews of members and witnesses. The member may also record the interview. If the member has been previously interviewed, a copy of that recorded interview shall be provided to the member prior to any subsequent interview.

(i) All members subjected to interviews that could result in discipline have the right to have an uninvolved representative present during the interview. However, in order to maintain the integrity of each individual’s statement, involved members shall not consult or meet with a representative or attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed.

(j) All members shall provide complete and truthful responses to questions posed during interviews.

(k) No member may be requested or compelled to submit to a polygraph examination, nor shall any refusal to submit to such examination be mentioned in any investigation (Government Code § 3307).

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No investigation shall be undertaken against any officer solely because the officer has been placed on a prosecutor's *Brady* list or the name of the officer may otherwise be subject to disclosure pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland*. However, an investigation may be based on the underlying acts or omissions for which the officer has been placed on a *Brady* list or may otherwise be subject to disclosure pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland* (Government Code § 3305.5).

1019.6.4 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.

Evidence - Evidence (e.g., recordings, photos, documents) related to each allegation should be detailed in this section.

Facts - This is the chronological and detailed section about the circumstances of the case (who, what , when, why , and how).

Findings - List the allegations separately, including applicable policy sections, with a brief summary of the evidence relevant to each allegation. A separate recommended finding should be provided for each allegation. Each allegation will be classified with the applicable disposition (Unfounded, Exonerated, Not Sustained, or Sustained).

Conclusion - A recommendation regarding further action or disposition should be provided.

1019.6.5 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 (Penal Code § 832.8).

Exonerated - When the investigation discloses that the alleged act occurred but that the act was justified, lawful and/or proper.

Not sustained - When the investigation discloses that there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.

Sustained - A final determination by an investigating agency, commission, board, hearing officer, or arbitrator, as applicable, following an investigation and opportunity for an administrative appeal pursuant to Government Code § 3304 and Government Code § 3304.5 that the actions of an officer were found to violate law or department policy (Penal Code § 832.8).

If an investigation discloses misconduct or improper job performance that was not alleged in the original complaint, the investigator shall take appropriate action with regard to any additional allegations.

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1019.6.6 COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATIONS

Generally, investigations involving personnel complaints or other alleged misconduct should be completed within 90 days. If such an investigation will require longer than 90 days, the assigned investigator should receive written approval from the Deputy Chief of Chief of Police. Supervisors should ensure that the investigations involving employees who have been placed on inactive duty are expedited.

Every investigator or supervisor assigned to investigate a personnel complaint or other alleged misconduct shall proceed with due diligence in an effort to complete the investigation within one year from the date of discovery by an individual authorized to initiate an investigation (Government Code § 3304).

In the event that an investigation cannot be completed within one year of discovery, the assigned investigator or supervisor shall ensure that an extension or delay is warranted within the exceptions set forth in Government Code § 3304(d) or Government Code § 3508.1. The assigned investigator or supervisor shall ensure that within 30 days of the final disposition of the complaint, the complainant is provided written notification of the disposition (Penal Code § 832.7(e)).

1019.6.7 NOTICE TO COMPLAINANT OF INVESTIGATION STATUS

The member conducting the investigation should provide the complainant with periodic updates on the status of the investigation, as appropriate.

1019.7 ADMINISTRATIVE SEARCHES

Assigned lockers, storage spaces and other areas, including desks, offices and vehicles, may be searched as part of an administrative investigation upon a reasonable suspicion of misconduct.

Such areas may also be searched any time by a supervisor for non-investigative purposes, such as obtaining a needed report, radio or other document or equipment.

Lockers and storage spaces may only be administratively searched in the member's presence, with the member’s consent, with a valid search warrant or where the member has been given reasonable notice that the search will take place (Government Code § 3309).

1019.7.1 DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

An employee may be compelled to disclose personal financial information under the following circumstances (Government Code § 3308):

(a) Pursuant to a state law or proper legal process

(b) Information exists that tends to indicate a conflict of interest with official duties

(c) If the employee is assigned to or being considered for a special assignment with a potential for bribes or other improper inducements

1019.8 ASSIGNMENT TO 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 Department,

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the Chief of Police 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.

When a complaint of misconduct is of a serious nature or when circumstances practically dictate that it would impose an unreasonable risk to the Department, the employee, other employees or the public, the decision to place the employee on inactive duty rest solely with the Chief of Police. At the direction of the Chief of Police, a supervisor may assign the accused employee to inactive duty pending completion of the investigation or the filing of administrative charges.

1019.8.1 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

An employee placed on administrative leave may be subject to the following guidelines:

(a) Under such circumstances, an employee placed on administrative leave shall continue to receive regular pay and benefits pending the imposition of any discipline

(b) An employee placed on administrative leave may be required by a supervisor to relinquish any badge, departmental identification, assigned weapon(s) and any other departmental equipment

(c) An employee placed on administrative leave may be ordered to refrain from taking any action as a departmental employee or in an official capacity. The employee shall be required to continue to comply with all policies and lawful orders of a supervisor

(d) An employee placed on administrative leave may be temporarily reassigned to a different shift (generally normal business hours) during the pendency of the investigation and the employee may be required to remain available for contact at all times during such shift and report as ordered

(e) It shall be the responsibility of the assigning supervisor to promptly notify the employee's Division Commander and the Chief of Police

(f) At such time as any employee placed on administrative leave is returned to full and regular duty, the employee shall be returned to their regularly assigned shift with all badges, identification card and other equipment returned

1019.9 MAINTAINING LOCAL RECORDS PROHIBITED

Once a personnel complaint or other administrative investigation has been completed, the assigned investigator shall insure that all printed, electronic or other copies outside of the IA Pro/ Blue Team database are permanently deleted. The purpose of this section is to insure that the only copies of a personnel complaint or administrative investigation are contained solely within the IAPro/Blue Team database.

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1019.10 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

Where a member is accused of potential criminal conduct, a separate supervisor or investigator shall be assigned to investigate the criminal allegations apart from any administrative investigation. Any separate administrative investigation may parallel a criminal investigation.

The Chief of Police shall be notified as soon as practicable when a member is accused of criminal conduct. The Chief of Police may request a criminal investigation by an outside law enforcement agency.

A member accused of criminal conduct shall be advised of his/her constitutional rights (Government Code § 3303(h)). The member should not be administratively ordered to provide any information in the criminal investigation.

No information or evidence administratively coerced from a member may be provided to anyone involved in conducting the criminal investigation or to any prosecutor.

The Westminster Police Department may release information concerning the arrest or detention of any member, including an officer, that has not led to a conviction. No disciplinary action should be taken until an independent administrative investigation is conducted.

1019.11 POST-ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Upon completion of a formal investigation, an investigation report should be forwarded to the Chief of Police through the chain of command. Each level of command should review the report and include his/her comments in writing before forwarding the report. The Chief of Police may accept or modify any classification or recommendation for disciplinary action.

1019.11.1 DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon receipt of any completed personnel investigation, the Commander of the involved member shall review the entire investigative file, the member's personnel file and any other relevant materials.

The Commander may make recommendations regarding the disposition of any allegations and the amount of discipline, if any, to be imposed.

Prior to forwarding recommendations to the Chief of Police, the Commander may return the entire investigation to the assigned investigator or supervisor for further investigation or action.

When forwarding any written recommendation to the Chief of Police, the Commander shall include all relevant materials supporting the recommendation. Actual copies of a member's existing personnel file need not be provided and may be incorporated by reference.

1019.11.2 CHIEF OF POLICE RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon receipt of any written recommendation for disciplinary action, the Chief of Police shall review the recommendation and all accompanying materials. The Chief of Police may modify any recommendation and/or may return the file to the Commander for further investigation or action.

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Once the Chief of Police is satisfied that no further investigation or action is required by staff, the Chief of Police shall determine the amount of discipline, if any, that should be imposed. In the event disciplinary action is proposed, the Chief of Police shall provide the member with a pre-disciplinary procedural due process hearing (*Skelly*) by providing written notice of the charges, proposed action and reasons for the proposed action. Written notice shall be provided within one year from the date of discovery of the misconduct (Government Code § 3304(d)). The Chief of Police shall also provide the member with:

(a) Access to all of the materials considered by the Chief of Police in recommending the proposed discipline.

(b) An opportunity to respond orally or in writing to the Chief of Police within five days of receiving the notice.

1. Upon a showing of good cause by the member, the Chief of Police may grant a reasonable extension of time for the member to respond.

2. If the member elects to respond orally, the presentation may be recorded by the Department. Upon request, the member shall be provided with a copy of the recording.

Once the member has completed his/her response or if the member has elected to waive any such response, the Chief of Police shall consider all information received in regard to the recommended discipline. The Chief of Police 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 Chief of Police has issued a written decision, the discipline shall become effective.

1019.11.3 NOTICE OF FINAL DISPOSITION TO THE COMPLAINANT

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure that the complainant is notified of the disposition (i.e., sustained, not sustained, exonerated, unfounded) of the complaint (Penal Code § 832.7(f)).

1019.11.4 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The disposition of any civilian's complaint shall be released to the complaining party within 30 days of the final disposition. This release shall not include what discipline, if any, was imposed (Penal Code § 832.7(f)).

1019.12 PRE-DISCIPLINE EMPLOYEE RESPONSE

The pre-discipline process is intended to provide the accused employee with an opportunity to present a written or oral response to the Chief of Police 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) This Skelly 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 Skelly response is not designed to accommodate the presentation of testimony or witnesses.

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(c) The employee may suggest that further investigation could be conducted or the employee may offer any additional information or mitigating factors for the Chief of Police to consider.

(d) In the event that the Chief of Police elects to cause further investigation to be conducted, the employee shall be provided with the results of such subsequent investigation prior to the imposition of any discipline.

(e) The employee may thereafter have the opportunity to further respond orally or in writing to the Chief of Police on the limited issues of information raised in any subsequent materials.

(f) Once the employee has completed his/her Skelly response or, if the employee has elected to waive any such response, the Chief of Police shall consider all information received in regard to the recommended discipline. Once the Chief of Police determines that discipline will be imposed, a timely written decision shall be provided to the employee within 30 days, imposing, modifying or rejecting the recommended discipline. In the event of a termination, the final notice of discipline shall also inform the employee of the reason for termination and the process to receive all remaining fringe and retirement benefits.

(g) Once the Chief of Police has issued a written decision, the discipline shall become effective.

1019.13 RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS PRIOR TO DISCIPLINE

In the event that a member tenders a written resignation or notice of retirement prior to the imposition of discipline, it shall be noted in the file. The tender of a resignation or retirement by itself shall not serve as grounds for the termination of any pending investigation or discipline (Penal Code § 13510.8).

1019.14 POST-DISCIPLINE APPEAL RIGHTS

Non-probationary employees have the right to appeal a suspension without pay, punitive transfer, demotion, reduction in pay or step, or termination from employment. The employee has the right to appeal using the procedures established by any collective bargaining agreement, Memorandum of Understanding and/or personnel rules.

In the event of punitive action against an employee covered by the POBR, the appeal process shall be in compliance with Government Code § 3304 and Government Code § 3304.5.

During any administrative appeal, evidence that an officer has been placed on a *Brady* list or is otherwise subject to *Brady* restrictions may not be introduced unless the underlying allegations of misconduct have been independently established. Thereafter, such *Brady* evidence shall be limited to determining the appropriateness of the penalty (Government Code § 3305.5).

1019.15 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES AND OTHER MEMBERS

At-will and probationary employees and those members other than non-probationary employees may be released from employment for non-disciplinary reasons (e.g., failure to meet standards)

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without adherence to the procedures set forth in this policy or any right to appeal. However, any probationary officer subjected to an investigation into allegations of misconduct shall be entitled to those procedural rights, as applicable, set forth in the POBR (Government Code § 3303; Government Code § 3304).

At-will, probationary employees and those other than non-probationary employees subjected to discipline or termination as a result of allegations of misconduct shall not be deemed to have acquired a property interest in their position, but shall be given the opportunity to appear before the Chief of Police or authorized designee for a non-evidentiary hearing for the sole purpose of attempting to clear their name or liberty interest. There shall be no further opportunity for appeal beyond the liberty interest hearing and the decision of the Chief of Police shall be final.

1019.16 RETENTION OF PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION FILES

All personnel complaints shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule and as described in the Personnel Records Policy.

1019.17 WRITTEN REPRIMANDS

Any employee wishing to formally appeal a written reprimand must submit a written request to his/her Division Commander within ten days of receipt of the written reprimand. The Division Commander will then assign the appeal to an uninvolved supervisor of at least one rank above the rank of the supervisor issuing the original written reprimand.

Absent a written stipulation to the contrary, the employee will be provided with an evidentiary hearing before the assigned, uninvolved supervisor within 30 days. The decision of the assigned, uninvolved supervisor to sustain, modify or dismiss the written reprimand shall be considered final.

1019.18 ALTERNATIVES TO DISCIPLINE

At the discretion of the Chief of Police, alternative actions in lieu of discipline may be authorized. This can include additional training, community service, memorandums or other alternatives that address the issue.

1019.19 ADVERSE ACTION

No adverse action (e.g., letter of reprimand, suspension, removal from assignment, suspension, demotion, termination) shall be taken against any employee based upon any unproven internal investigation.

1019.20 REVISITING COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS

The mere fact that a different result is reached about a disciplinary matter in another forum (i.e. civil proceedings) is in and of itself no reason to change the Department's decision regarding an investigation. The decision to change any original disciplinary decision should only be made when there is new evidence presented warranting such additional review, or when there is

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evidence that the original investigation was materially flawed and that flawed investigation led the department to make an inappropriate finding.

1019.21 TRACKING REMEDIAL TRAINING

If remedial actions are ordered as the result of poor performance or conduct, the Professional Standards Unit is responsible for monitoring progress and ensuring completion. The completion or failure to complete the remediation shall be documented by the Professional Standards Unit in the appropriate IA Pro case file.

1019.22 CONSISTENCY IN ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCIPLINE

To build consistency into decision making on accountability and discipline, specific criteria will be used to determine the appropriate level of discipline. The criteria includes:

(a) The severity of the offense

(b) The employee's disciplinary history

(c) The employee's past performance record

(d) The employee's length of service

(e) Our past practice of dealing with similar infractions

(f) The level of remorse expressed by the officer

(g) Whether warnings were given

(h) The impact of the employee's conduct on the organization

(i) The status of the employee (line/supervisor/manager)

(j) Mitigating factors like an apology or a mistake committed while performing an action based on good intentions

(k) Aggravating factors like an intentional bad act

1019.23 REQUIRED REPORTING TO POST

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall notify POST on the appropriate POST form within 10 days of certain officer personnel events, including but not limited to (Penal Code § 13510.9):

(a) Termination or separation from employment or appointment. Separation from employment or appointment includes any involuntary termination, resignation, or retirement.

    1. A POST affidavit-of-separation form shall be executed and maintained by the Department and submitted to POST as required by Penal Code § 13510.9.

(b) Events that could affect an officer’s POST certification, such as:

    1. Complaints, charges, or allegations of misconduct

    2. Findings of civilian review boards

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3. Final dispositions of any investigations
4. Civil judgments or court findings based on conduct, or settlement of a civil claim against an officer or the Westminster Police Department based on allegations of conduct by an officer

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall be responsible for providing POST access to or duplication of investigation documentation (e.g., physical or documentary evidence, witness statements, analysis, conclusions) for up to two years after reporting of the disposition of an investigation (Penal Code § 13510.9).

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Seat Belts

1021.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of seat belts and child restraints. This policy will apply to all members operating or riding in department vehicles (Vehicle Code § 27315.5).

1021.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Child restraint system - An infant or child passenger restraint system that meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and Regulations set forth in 49 CFR 571.213.

1021.2 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.

1021.3 TRANSPORTING SUSPECTS, PRISONERS OR ARRESTEES

Suspects, prisoners and arrestees should be in a seated position and secured in the rear seat of any department vehicle with a prisoner restraint system or, when a prisoner restraint system is not available, by seat belts provided by the vehicle manufacturer. The prisoner restraint system is not intended to be a substitute for handcuffs or other appendage restraints.

Prisoners in leg restraints shall be transported in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

1021.4 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department that members use safety and child restraint systems to reduce the possibility of death or injury in a motor vehicle collision.

1021.5 TRANSPORTING CHILDREN

Children under the age of 8 shall be transported in compliance with California's child restraint system requirements (Vehicle Code § 27360; Vehicle Code § 27363).

Rear seat passengers in a cage-equipped vehicle may have reduced clearance, which requires careful seating and positioning of seat belts. Due to this reduced clearance, and if permitted by law, children and any child restraint system may be secured in the front seat of such vehicles provided this positioning meets federal safety standards and the vehicle and child restraint system manufacturer's design and use recommendations. In the event that a child is transported in the

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front seat of a vehicle, the seat should be pushed back as far as possible and the passenger-side airbag should be deactivated. If this is not possible, members should arrange alternate transportation when feasible. A child shall not be transported in a rear-facing child restraint system in the front seat in a vehicle that is equipped with an active frontal passenger airbag (Vehicle Code § 27363).

1021.6 VEHICLES MANUFACTURED WITHOUT SEAT BELTS

Vehicles manufactured and certified for use without seat belts or other restraint systems are subject to the manufacturer's operator requirements for safe use.

1021.7 VEHICLE AIRBAGS

In all vehicles equipped with airbag restraint systems, the system will not be tampered with or deactivated, except when transporting children as written elsewhere in this policy. All equipment installed in vehicles equipped with airbags will be installed as per the vehicle manufacturer specifications to avoid the danger of interfering with the effective deployment of the airbag device.

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Body Armor

1023.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide law enforcement officers with guidelines for the proper use of body armor.

1023.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to maximize officer safety through the use of body armor in combination with prescribed safety procedures. While body armor provides a significant level of protection, it is not a substitute for the observance of officer safety procedures.

1023.2.1 USE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR

(a) Officers shall only wear agency-approved body armor.

(b) Officers shall wear body armor anytime they are in a situation they could reasonably be expected to take an enforcement action.

(c) Officers 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 an officer is taking part in Department range training.

(e) An officer 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.

1023.3 ISSUING, OVERSIGHT, AND INSPECTION OF SOFT BODY ARMOR

The Professional Standards Unit (PSU) Sergeant shall ensure that body armor is issued to all officers and that the body armor meets or exceeds the standards of the National Institute of Justice when issued.

Body armor shall be issued when an officer begins service at the Westminster Police Department, and shall be replaced when the body armor becomes worn or damaged to the point that its effectiveness or functionality has been compromised.

The Professional Standards Unit Sergeant should also:

(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 officers about the safety benefits of wearing body armor.

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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.

1023.4 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 officer 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.

1023.5 EXTERNAL VEST CARRIERS

The department has authorized employee's to purchase and wear the Safariland modified external outer carrier (part#MTBY-LP-). Patrol officers who choose this option must wear it in combination with the approved navy blue 5-11 performance polo, with the department patches affixed to each shoulder (polo purchased at the officer's expense) and 5-11 pants (issued by the department). The external vest carriers may have up to six customizable pouches. The external vest carrier must also have the following:

(a) A black name tape with the officer's first initial and last name affixed to the right breast area (supplied by the department)

(b) A Velcro patch with "POLICE" affixed to the middle of the back

Prior to wearing the external vest carrier, officers must demonstrate weapons proficiency to a department rangemaster while wearing the external vest carrier.

Each officer is responsible for the care and maintenance of their external vest carrier. Just like any other piece of equipment or uniform, officers must insure their external vest carrier is free from, rips, tears, and fading and maintained to project a professional image.

1023.5.1 CONSIDERATIONS

Placement of equipment on the external vest carriers is up to the preference of each employee within the following guidelines:

(a) Consideration shold be given to placing the equipment where it is easily accessible and consitent with prior training and experience

(b) For safety reasons, Tasers are not allowed on the same side of the body as a firearm (WPD P&P Section390.2)

(c) Primary duty weapons shall not be carried on the external vest carrier

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(d) If the employee elects to carry aback-up gun on the vest, it must be concealed and in an holster designed to prevent its loss or unintentional operation

(e) Back-up guns may not be carried directly above, below or adjacent to a Taser holster. This is to prevent weapon confusion

(f) Firearms are never permitted to be carried in a Taser holster

(g) While wearing the external vest carrier, officers must carry, at a minimum, the same equipment they are required to carry without a external vest carrier

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Personnel Records

1025.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs maintenance and access to personnel records. Personnel records include any file maintained under an individual member's name.

1025.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to maintain personnel records and preserve the confidentiality of personnel records pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of California (Penal Code § 832.7).

1025.3 DEPARTMENT FILE

The department file shall be maintained as a record of a person’s employment/appointment with this department. The department file should contain, at a minimum:

(a) Personal data, including photographs, marital status, names of family members, educational and employment history, or similar information. A photograph of the member should be permanently retained.

(b) Election of employee benefits.

(c) Personnel action reports reflecting assignments, promotions, and other changes in employment/appointment status. These should be permanently retained.

(d) Original performance evaluations. These should be permanently retained.

(e) Discipline records, including copies of sustained personnel complaints (see the Personnel Complaints Policy).

1. Disciplinary action resulting from sustained internally initiated complaints or observation of misconduct shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and at least four years (Government Code § 12946).

2. Disciplinary action resulting from a sustained civilian's complaint involving misconduct shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and at least 15 years (Penal Code § 832.5).

3. A civilian’s complaint involving misconduct that was not sustained shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and at least five years (Penal Code § 832.5).

(f) Adverse comments such as supervisor notes or memos may be retained in the department file after the member has had the opportunity to read and initial the comment (Government Code § 3305).

1. Once a member has had an opportunity to read and initial any adverse comment, the member shall be given the opportunity to respond in writing to the adverse comment within 30 days (Government Code § 3306).

2. Any member response shall be attached to and retained with the original adverse comment (Government Code § 3306).

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3. If a member refuses to initial or sign an adverse comment, at least one supervisor should note the date and time of such refusal on the original comment and the member should sign or initial the noted refusal. Such a refusal, however, shall not be deemed insubordination, nor shall it prohibit the entry of the adverse comment into the member's file (Government Code § 3305).

(g) Commendations and awards.

(h) Any other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

1025.4 SUPERVISOR LOGS

Supervisor logs may be separately maintained internally by a member's supervisor for the purpose of completing timely performance evaluations. Supervisor logs may contain supervisor comments, notices to correct and other materials that are intended to serve as a foundation for the completion of timely performance evaluations. Supervisor logs do not constitute discipline. All supervisor log entries should be referenced in the employee's annual performance evaluation. Once the permanent performance evaluation form has been made final, the respective log entries and/or duplicate copies may be purged in accordance with this policy.

A supervisor log entry shall be completed on WPD Form PD-109 and approved by a commander prior to being issued to an employee. All materials intended for this interim file shall be provided to the employee prior to being placed in the file in accordance with Government Code § 3305 and Government Code § 3306.

1025.5 TRAINING FILE

An individual training file shall be maintained by the Training Sergeant for each member. Training files will contain records of all training; original or photocopies of available certificates, transcripts, diplomas and other documentation; and education and firearms qualifications. Training records may also be created and stored remotely, either manually or automatically (e.g., Daily Training Bulletin (DTB) records).

(a) The involved member is responsible for providing the Training Sergeant or immediate supervisor with evidence of completed training/education in a timely manner.

(b) The Training Sergeant or supervisor shall ensure that copies of such training records are placed in the member’s training file.

1025.6 INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILE

Internal affairs files shall be maintained under the exclusive control of the Professional Standards Unit in conjunction with the office of the Chief of Police. Access to these files may only be approved by the Chief of Police or the Professional Standards Unit supervisor.

These files shall contain the complete investigation of all formal complaints of member misconduct, regardless of disposition (Penal Code § 832.12). Investigations of complaints that result in the

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following findings shall not be placed in the member's file but will be maintained in the internal affairs file:

(a) Not sustained

(b) Unfounded

(c) Exonerated

Investigation files arising out of sustained civilian's complaints involving misconduct shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and for a period of at least 15 years. Investigations that resulted in other than a sustained finding may not be used by the Department to adversely affect an employee's career (Penal Code § 832.5).

Investigation files arising out of internally generated complaints shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and for at least four years (Government Code § 12946).

Investigation files arising out of a civilian complaint involving misconduct that was not sustained shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and for at least five years (Penal Code § 832.5).

1025.7 MEDICAL FILE

A medical file shall be maintained separately from all other personnel records and shall contain all documents relating to the member's medical condition and history, including but not limited to:

(a) Materials relating to a medical leave of absence, including leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

(b) Documents relating to workers' compensation claims or the receipt of short- or long-term disability benefits.

(c) Fitness-for-duty examinations, psychological and physical examinations, follow-up inquiries and related documents.

(d) Medical release forms, doctor's slips and attendance records that reveal a member's medical condition.

(e) Any other documents or materials that reveal the member's medical history or medical condition, including past, present or future anticipated mental, psychological or physical limitations.

1025.8 SECURITY

Personnel records should be maintained in a secured location and locked either in a cabinet or access-controlled room. Personnel records maintained in an electronic format should have adequate password protection.

Personnel records are subject to disclosure only as provided in this policy, the Records Maintenance and Release Policy or according to applicable discovery procedures.

Nothing in this policy is intended to preclude review of personnel records by the City Manager, City Attorney or other attorneys or representatives of the City in connection with official business.

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1025.8.1 REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE

Any member receiving a request for a personnel record shall promptly notify the Custodian of Records or other person charged with the maintenance of such records.

Upon receipt of any such request, the responsible person shall notify the affected member as soon as practicable that such a request has been made (Evidence Code § 1043).

The responsible person shall further ensure that an appropriate response to the request is made in a timely manner, consistent with applicable law. In many cases, this may require assistance of available legal counsel.

All requests for disclosure that result in access to a member's personnel records shall be logged in the corresponding file.

1025.8.2 RELEASE OF PERSONNEL INFORMATION

Personnel records shall not be disclosed except as allowed by law (Penal Code § 832.7; Evidence Code § 1043) (See also Records Maintenance and Release Policy).

Any person who maliciously, and with the intent to obstruct justice or the due administration of the laws, publishes, disseminates, or otherwise discloses the residence address or telephone number of any member of this department may be guilty of a misdemeanor (Penal Code § 146e).

The Department may release any factual information concerning a disciplinary investigation if the member who is the subject of the investigation (or the member's representative) publicly makes a statement that is published in the media and that the member (or representative) knows to be false. The disclosure of such information, if any, shall be limited to facts that refute any such false statement (Penal Code § 832.7).

1025.8.3 RELEASE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT GANG INFORMATION

Information relating to the termination of an officer from this department for participation in a law enforcement gang shall be disclosed to another law enforcement agency that is conducting a pre-employment background investigation except where specifically prohibited by law (Penal Code § 13670).

1025.9 MEMBERS' ACCESS TO THEIR PERSONNEL RECORDS

Any member may request access to the member's own personnel records during the normal business hours of those responsible for maintaining such files. Any member seeking the removal of any item from the member's personnel records shall file a written request to the Chief of Police through the chain of command. The Department shall remove any such item if appropriate, or within 30 days provide the member with a written explanation of why the contested item will not be removed. If the contested item is not removed from the file, the member's request and the written response from the Department shall be retained with the contested item in the member's corresponding personnel record (Government Code § 3306.5).

Members may be restricted from accessing files containing any of the following information:

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(a) An ongoing internal affairs investigation to the extent that it could jeopardize or compromise the investigation pending final disposition or notice to the member of the intent to discipline.

(b) Confidential portions of internal affairs files that have not been sustained against the member.

(c) Criminal investigations involving the member.

(d) Letters of reference concerning employment/appointment, licensing, or issuance of permits regarding the member.

(e) Any portion of a test document, except the cumulative total test score for either a section of the test document or for the entire test document.

(f) Materials used by the Department for staff management planning, including judgments or recommendations concerning future salary increases and other wage treatments, management bonus plans, promotions and job assignments, or other comments or ratings used for department planning purposes.

(g) Information of a personal nature about a person other than the member if disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the other person's privacy.

(h) Records relevant to any other pending claim between the Department and the member that may be discovered in a judicial proceeding.

1025.10 RETENTION AND PURGING

Unless provided otherwise in this policy, personnel records shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

(a) During the preparation of each member’s performance evaluation, all personnel complaints and disciplinary actions should be reviewed to determine the relevancy, if any, to progressive discipline, training and career development. Each supervisor responsible for completing the member's performance evaluation should determine whether any prior sustained disciplinary file should be retained beyond the required period for reasons other than pending litigation or other ongoing legal proceedings.

(b) If a supervisor determines that records of prior discipline should be retained beyond the required period, approval for such retention should be obtained through the chain of command from the Chief of Police.

(c) If, in the opinion of the Chief of Police, a personnel complaint or disciplinary action maintained beyond the required retention period is no longer relevant, all records of such matter may be destroyed in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

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1025.11 RELEASE OF PERSONNEL RECORDS AND RECORDS RELATED TO CERTAIN INCIDENTS, COMPLAINTS, AND INVESTIGATIONS OF OFFICERS

Personnel records and records related to certain incidents, complaints, and investigations of officers shall be released pursuant to a proper request under the Public Records Act and subject to redaction and delayed release as provided by law.

The Custodian of Records should work as appropriate with the Chief of Police or the Professional Standards Unit supervisor in determining what records may qualify for disclosure when a request for records is received and if the requested record is subject to redaction or delay from disclosure.

For purposes of this section, a record includes (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(3):

- All investigation reports.
- Photographic, audio, and video evidence.
- Transcripts or recordings of interviews.
- Autopsy reports.
- All materials compiled and presented for review to the District Attorney or to any person or body charged with determining whether to file criminal charges against an officer in connection with an incident, whether the officer's action was consistent with law and department policy for purposes of discipline or administrative action, or what discipline to impose or corrective action to take.
- Documents setting forth findings or recommending findings.
- Copies of disciplinary records relating to the incident, including any letters of intent to impose discipline, any documents reflecting modifications of discipline due to the *Skelly* or grievance process, and letters indicating final imposition of discipline or other documentation reflecting implementation of corrective action.

Unless a record or information is confidential or qualifies for delayed disclosure as provided by Penal Code § 832.7(b)(8) or other law, the following records (hereinafter qualifying records) shall be made available for public inspection no later than 45 days from the date of a request (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(1)):

(a) Records relating to the report, investigation, or findings of:

1. The discharge of a firearm at another person by an officer.
2. The use of force against a person resulting in death or in great bodily injury (as defined by Penal Code § 243(f)(4)) by an officer.
3. A sustained finding involving a complaint that alleges unreasonable or excessive force.
4. A sustained finding that an officer failed to intervene against another officer using force that is clearly unreasonable or excessive.

(b) Records relating to an incident where a sustained finding was made by the Department or oversight agency regarding:

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1. An officer engaged in sexual assault of a member of the public (as defined by Penal Code § 832.7(b)).
2. Dishonesty of an officer relating to the reporting, investigation, or prosecution of a crime, or directly relating to the reporting of, or investigation of misconduct by, another officer, including but not limited to any false statements, filing false reports, destruction, falsifying, or concealing of evidence, or perjury.
3. An officer engaged in conduct including but not limited to verbal statements, writings, online posts, recordings, and gestures involving prejudice or discrimination against a person on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or military and veteran status.
4. An officer made an unlawful arrest or conducted an unlawful search.

Qualifying records will be made available regardless of whether the officer resigns before the Department or an oversight agency concludes its investigation (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(3)).

A record from a separate and prior investigation or assessment of a separate incident shall not be released unless it is independently subject to disclosure (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(4)).

When an investigation involves multiple officers, the Department shall not release information about allegations of misconduct or the analysis or disposition of an investigation of an officer unless it relates to a sustained finding of a qualified allegation as provided by Penal Code § 832.7(b)(5). However, factual information about the action of the officer during an incident or the statements of an officer shall be released if the statements are relevant to a finding of the qualified allegation against another officer that is subject to release (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(5)).

1025.11.1 REDACTION

The Custodian of Records, in consultation with the Chief of Police or authorized designee, shall redact the following portions of qualifying records made available for release (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(6)):

(a) Personal data or information (e.g., home address, telephone number, identities of family members) other than the names and work-related information of officers

(b) Information that would compromise the anonymity of whistleblowers, complainants, victims, and witnesses

(c) Confidential medical, financial, or other information where disclosure is prohibited by federal law or would cause an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy that clearly outweighs the strong public interest in records about possible misconduct and use of force

(d) Where there is a specific, articulable, and particularized reason to believe that disclosure of the record would pose a significant danger to the physical safety of the officer or another person

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Additionally, a record may be redacted, including redacting personal identifying information, where, on the facts of the particular case, the public interest served by not disclosing the information clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosing it (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(7)).

1025.11.2 DELAY OF RELEASE

Unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Police, the Custodian of Records should consult with a supervisor familiar with the underlying investigation to determine whether to delay disclosure of qualifying records due to any of the following conditions (Penal Code § 832.7):

(a) Active criminal investigations

1. Disclosure may be delayed 60 days from the date the misconduct or use of force occurred or until the District Attorney determines whether to file criminal charges, whichever occurs sooner.
2. After the initial 60 days, delay of disclosure may be continued if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with a criminal enforcement proceeding against an officer or against someone other than an officer who engaged in misconduct or used the force.

(b) Filed criminal charges

1. When charges are filed related to an incident in which misconduct occurred or force was used, disclosure may be delayed until a verdict on those charges is returned at trial or, if a plea of guilty or no contest is entered, the time to withdraw the plea has passed.

(c) Administrative investigations

1. Disclosure may be delayed until:

(a) There is a determination from the investigation whether the misconduct or use of force violated law or department policy, but no longer than 180 days after the date of the department's discovery of the misconduct or use of force or allegation of misconduct or use of force

1025.11.3 NOTICE OF DELAY OF RECORDS

When there is justification for delay of disclosure of qualifying records, the Custodian of Records shall provide written notice of the reason for any delay to a requester as follows (Penal Code § 832.7):

(a) Provide the specific basis for the determination that the interest in delaying disclosure clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure. The notice shall also include the estimated date for the disclosure of the withheld information.

(b) When delay is continued beyond the initial 60 days because of criminal enforcement proceedings against anyone, at 180-day intervals provide the specific basis that disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with a criminal enforcement proceeding and the estimated date for disclosure.

1. Information withheld shall be disclosed when the specific basis for withholding the information is resolved, the investigation or proceeding is no longer active, or

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no later than 18 months after the date of the incident, whichever occurs sooner, unless:

(a) When the criminal proceeding is against someone other than an officer and there are extraordinary circumstances to warrant a continued delay due to the ongoing criminal investigation or proceeding, then the Department must show by clear and convincing evidence that the interest in preventing prejudice to the active and ongoing criminal investigation or proceeding outweighs the public interest for prompt disclosure of records about misconduct or use of force by officers.

In cases where an action to compel disclosure is brought pursuant to Government Code § 6258, the Department may justify delay by filing an application to seal the basis for withholding if disclosure of the written basis itself would impact a privilege or compromise a pending investigation (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(8)).

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Lead Civilian Program

1026.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the Lead Civilian program is to define the role and duty assignment of the Lead Civilian and to establish procedures for the selection of the Lead Civilian position.

The Lead Civilian Position will assist the department in expanding supervisory capacity as well as achieving police professionalism and providing a valuable experience for individual career development.

It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to use the Lead Civilian position to supplement and assist with supervision throughout the department according to need, as determined by the Chief of Police.

1026.1.1 LEAD CIVILIAN DEFINED

A. Lead Civilian is a voluntary, non-civil service special assignment designated to supplement civilian supervision and to provide assistance with a broad range of supervisory duties.

(1) A Lead Civilian may be assigned/delegated a wide variety of supervisory responsibilities appropriate to their level of authority, experience, and aptitude. The ultimate responsibility for supervisory matters, however, shall remain with the manager or supervisor to whom the Lead Civilian has been assigned.

(2) The Lead Civilian assignment does not relieve the individual from any other job duties or responsibilities, which may be associated with their particular assignment.

(3) A Lead Civilian may be assigned to the Operations or Services Division. A civilian may choose to give up his/her Lead Civilian position and transfer to another division or assignment. If that civilian chooses to give up his/her Lead Civilian position they will lose status pay as defined in section 1027.2.1 of this policy

1026.1.2 LEVEL OF AUTHORITY

A. In the absence of a supervisor, the Lead Civilian shall serve as the immediate supervisor of their assigned unit/detail and assume supervisory authority and responsibility.

(1) Subordinate personnel shall comply with the lawful orders of a Lead Civilian in accordance with Departmental Policy section 200.3.3. Subordinate personnel are defined as all civilian classifications with the exception of civilian supervisor.

(2) Exceptions:

a. Lead Civilians are subordinate to all Sergeants regardless of their bureau,

division or duty assignment.

b. Lead Civilians shall not perform any tasks specifically assigned or limited to civilian supervisors.

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B. Unless otherwise regulated by Departmental Policy, Rules, and Regulations, or by the direction of a superior civilian, a Lead Civilian shall have the authority to:

Approve unit related work.

Assist in deployment and scheduling.

Organize unit work and tasking.

Supplement a civilian supervisor when staffing is limited and/or when operational workload necessitates it.

Perform other supervisory tasks/special assignments as delegated by their supervisor or higher authority.

C. Lead Civilians may assist in the investigation of minor personnel misconduct and citizen complaints of service at the direction of the civilian supervisor, Sergeant or Lieutenant investigating the complaint.

1026.1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The supervisory duties/assignments of a Lead Civilian shall be determined by the Team/Detail, Division, District, or Commander to which they are assigned.

The ultimate responsibility for the quality of work and supervisory actions of a Lead Civilian rests with the Commander to which they are assigned.

1026.1.4 LEAD CIVILIAN SELECTION PROCESS

A. A candidate for assignment as a Lead Civilian must possess the following minimum

qualifications:

(1) Completion of three years experience as a civilian specialist with specific experience in that field of work, two of which shall be with the City of Westminster.

(2) Demonstrated leadership ability and decision making skills based on sound judgment, current law enforcement practices and departmental standards.

(3) Demonstrated working knowledge of departmental policies, procedures, rules and regulations, state and local criminal laws.

(4) Possess a working knowledge and understanding of the Chief's Policing Philosophy.

(5) Demonstrated sound judgment, an understanding of decision-making principles and a history of exhibiting self-control.

(6) Demonstrated interpersonal skills in working effectively with fellow employees, members of the community and outside agency personnel.

(7) Consistently display a positive attitude, be hard working and highly motivated.

(8) Demonstrated ethical behavior in professional affairs.

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(9) Have not received any "Needs Improvements" ratings in any evaluations over a period of two consecutive years.

B. Desirable Characteristics of Lead Civilians:

(1) Status as a Civilian Trainer

(2) 60 college units or an AA Degree

C. Selection:

A Lead Civilian may be selected from a current civilian supervisor eligibility list, or, a prior Lead Civilian who gave up his/her status while in good standing, or, from a list of qualified Lead Civilian candidates.

(1) Assignment from a current civilian supervisor eligibility list.

a. A Bureau Commander may select a candidate from the current civilian supervisor eligibility list.

(2) Qualified candidates will submit a standard resume and participate in 2 written examinations. Candidates must pass both tests to continue in the selection process.

a. Candidates will be required to submit a standard resume specific to the qualifications of the position of Lead Civilian (5 pages maximum). The resume component will be used by the Chief of Police in the selection process.

b. Lead civilian testing may include written exam(s), assessment center evaluations, practical exercises and oral examinations as determined by the Chief of Police.

c. A list of qualified Lead Civilian candidates will be established in which the Chief of Police has the pick of the list. This list will be valid for one year with the option to extend the list at six (6) month intervals at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

1026.1.5 LEAD CIVILIAN ASSIGNMENT-TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. Removal from the Lead Civilian Assignment

(1) The Bureau Commander may remove the Lead Civilian assignment from an civilian whenever there is evidence that the civilian is unable or unwilling to competently perform the duties of the assignment or received discipline which would involve removal from the program as part of the punishment.

a. A civilian may appeal their removal from the Lead Civilian assignment via a written memorandum submitted to the Chief of Police via the chain of command. The final arbitrator of the removal will be the Chief of Police. There are no appeals beyond the Chief of Police and the removal of a Lead Civilian assignment will not be subject to the Civil Service, Personnel Board or Arbitration review process.

b. The loss of the Lead Civilian status pay shall occur with their removal from the Lead Civilian position.

B. Relinquishment of Assignment

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(1) A civilian may surrender their Lead Civilian assignment, without prejudice, by notifying their Bureau Commander via memorandum.

(2) The loss of the Lead Civilian status pay shall occur with their resignation from the Lead Civilian position.

C. Seniority

(1) The seniority of a Lead Civilian (for scheduling and other such purposes) shall be determined by the total amount of time, regardless of broken service, served by a civilian while assigned as a Lead Civilian.

(2) If two or more Lead Civilian candidates are assigned to the Lead Civilian position on the same date, seniority will be based on whichever candidate has the most time as a civilian, typically based upon badge number, to establish seniority as a Lead Civilian.

(3) Those previous lead civilian(s) who decide to return to the division and fill a vacant Lead Civilian Position would receive the status pay increase, only after being selected and have met the criteria for selection. There is no bumping rights provision and each selection will be at the discretion of the Chief of Police or Division Commander.

(4) Any civilian who decides to remove themselves from the Lead Civilian Position because of reasons not defined above will lose the status pay increase.

D. Pay

(1) Lead Civilian pay is defined in the current Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the WPOA.

E. Rotation

(1) The Lead Civilian position is not subject to the rotation policy as listed in policy section 1029 of this manual.

F. Training

(1) Civilians obtaining the Lead Civilian special assignment should attend and successfully complete the POST Supervisory course within 1 year of appointment.

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Corporal Program

1027.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the Corporal program is to define the role and duty assignment of the Corporal and to establish procedures for the selection of the Corporal position. The Corporal Position will assist the department in expanding supervisory capacity as well as achieving police professionalism and providing a valuable experience for individual career development. It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to use the Corporal position to supplement and assist with supervision throughout the department according to need, as determined by the Chief of Police.

1027.1.1 CORPORAL DEFINED

A. The Corporal position is an Operations Division based special assignment.

B. Corporal is a voluntary, non-civil service special assignment designated to supplement police supervision and to provide assistance with a broad range of supervisory duties.

(1) A Corporal may be assigned/delegated a wide variety of supervisory responsibilities appropriate to their level of authority, experience, and aptitude. The ultimate responsibility for supervisory matters, however, shall remain with the Sergeant to whom the Corporal has been assigned.

(2) The Corporal assignment does not relieve the individual from any other job duties or responsibilities, which may be associated with their particular assignment or duty as a Police Officer.

(3) A Corporal may only be assigned to the Operations Division. Corporals will not be assigned to any special assignment positions such as (Detectives, Administration, Narcotics or Special Investigations Unit). An officer may choose to give up his/her Corporal position and transfer to another division or assignment.

If that officer chooses to give up his/her Corporal position they will lose status pay as defined in section 1028.2.1 of this policy. Upon returning to the Corporal program the officer would have to retest for the position.

1027.1.2 LEVEL OF AUTHORITY

A. The Corporal shall be considered a supervisor.

(1) Subordinate personnel shall comply with the lawful orders of a Corporal in accordance with Departmental Policy section 200.3.3. Subordinate personnel are defined as all sworn line-level Officers and all civilian classifications with the exception of civilian supervisor.

(2) Exceptions:

a. Corporals are subordinate to all Sergeants regardless of their Bureau, Division or duty assignment.

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b. Corporals shall not perform any tasks specifically assigned or limited to Sergeants (e.g., certain use of force investigations and reports as outlined.)

B. Unless otherwise regulated by Departmental Policy, Rules, and Regulations, or by the direction of a superior officer, a Corporal shall have the authority to:

Approve Police Reports

Assist in Deployment and Scheduling

Organize Briefings and Trainings

Serve as a Field Supervisor or Watch Commander.

Perform other supervisory tasks/special assignments as delegated by their Sergeant or higher authority.

C. Corporals may assist in the investigation of minor personnel misconduct and citizen complaints of service at the direction of the Sergeant or Lieutenant investigating the complaint.

1027.1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES
The ultimate responsibility for the quality of work and supervisory actions of a Corporal rests with the Commander to which they are assigned.

1027.2 CORPORAL SELECTION PROCESS

A. A candidate for assignment as a Corporal must possess the following minimum qualifications: (1) Completion of three years experience as a Police Officer, two of which shall be as a Westminster Police Officer. (2) Demonstrated leadership ability and decision making skills based on sound judgment, current law enforcement practices and departmental standards. (3) Demonstrated working knowledge of departmental policies, procedures, rules and regulations, state and local criminal laws. (4) Possess a working knowledge and understanding of the Chief's Policing Philosophy. (5) Demonstrated sound judgment, an understanding of decision-making principles and a history of exhibiting self-control. (6) Demonstrated interpersonal skills in working effectively with fellow employees, members of the community and outside agency personnel. (7) Consistently display a positive attitude, be hard working and highly motivated. (8) Demonstrated ethical behavior in professional affairs. (9) Have not received any "Needs Improvements" ratings in any evaluations over a period of two consecutive years. B. Desirable Characteristics of Corporals: (1) Status as a Field Training Officer (2) 60 college units or an AA Degree C. Selection: A Corporal may be selected from a current Police Sergeant Eligibility list or a prior Corporal who gave up his/her status while in good standing, or, from a list of qualified Corporal candidates. (1) Assignment from a current Sergeant's eligibility list. a. A Bureau Commander may select a candidate from the current Sergeant Eligibility list. (2) Testing: a. Candidates will be required to submit a standard resume specific to the qualifications of the position of Corporal (5 pages maximum). The resume component will be used by the Chief of Police in the selection process. b. Corporal testing may include written exam(s), assessment center evaluations, practical exercises and oral examinations as determined by the Chief of Police. c. A list of qualified Corporal candidates will be established

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in which the Chief of Police has the pick of the list. This list will be valid for one year with the option to extend the list at six (6) month intervals at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

1027.2.1 CORPORAL ASSIGNMENTS-TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. Removal from the Corporal Assignment (1) The Bureau Commander may remove the Corporal assignment from an officer whenever there is evidence that the officer is unable or unwilling to competently perform the duties of the assignment or received discipline which would involve removal from the program as part of the punishment. (2) The Bureau Commander may remove the Corporal assignment from an officer whenever the Corporal assignment position(s) have been reduced in number or discontinued for any reason by the Chief of Police. a. An officer may appeal their removal from the Corporal assignment via a written memorandum submitted to the Chief of Police via the chain of command. The final arbitrator of the removal will be the Chief of Police. There are no appeals beyond the Chief of Police and the removal of a Corporal assignment will not be subject to the Civil Service, Personnel Board or Arbitration review process. b. The loss of the Corporal status pay shall occur with their removal from the Corporal position. B. Relinquishment of Assignment (1) An officer may surrender their Corporal assignment, without prejudice, by notifying their Bureau Commander via memorandum. (2) The loss of the Corporal status pay shall occur with their resignation from the Corporal position. C. Seniority (1) The seniority of a Corporal (for scheduling and other such purposes) shall be determined by the date of their assignment to Corporal with the City of Westminster. (2) If two or more corporal candidates are assigned to the Corporal position on the same date, seniority will be based on whichever candidate has the most time as an officer, based upon their hire date as a police officer with the City of Westminster. If two or more Corporals share the same hire date, seniority will then be determined alphabetically according to last name (in accordance with WPDP&P Section 401.4(c). (3) Those officer(s) who decide to return to the Patrol Division and fill a vacant Corporal Position would receive the status pay increase, only after being selected and have met the criteria for selection. There is no bumping rights provision and each selection will be at the discretion of the Chief of Police or Division Commander. (4) Any officer who decides to remove themselves from Corporal Position because of reasons not defined above will lose the status pay increase. (5) Any reductions in authorized Corporal positions which are currently staffed will be done in order of seniority, starting with the least senior Corporal. D. Pay (1) Corporal pay is defined in the current Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the WPOA. E. Rotation (1) The Corporal position is not subject to the rotation policy as listed in policy section 1029 of this manual. F. Training (1) Officers obtaining the Corporal special assignment should attend and successfully complete the POST Supervisory course within 1 year of appointment.

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Special and Collateral Assignments

1028.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to balance the needs of the community and the Department with an attempt to achieve the following:

(a) Provide eligible officers with an opportunity to compete for regularly rotated positions within the Department

(b) Provide the opportunity to gain experience at different positions

(c) Increase expertise among patrol officers and field training officers

(d) Alleviate the problem of creating "career positions"

(e) Expose sergeants to career expansion through varied work assignments

Special assignments and collateral assignments in the Department are critical to our collective success in achieving our mission and the delivery of services to our community. These positions function in support of field operations and expand on the fine work our patrol officers and support staff capture when responding to crimes. Special assignments and collateral assignments are not promotions.

1028.2 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS DEFINED

There are four categories of special assignments:

Category 1 - Investigations

- General Detective
- Narcotics Detective
- Gang Detective
- Special Investigations Detective
- Robbery/Homicide Detective
- Family Protection Detective
- Fraud Detective
- Task Force Detective
- Traffic Investigator
- Professional Standards Investigator

Category 2 - Specialist

- Motor Officers
- School Resource Officer
- K-9 Officer

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- Homeless Liaison Officer
- Military Liaison Officer (MLO)

Category 3 - Field Training Officer

Category 4 - Corporal (as described in the Corporal Program Policy)

1028.3 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The minimum requirements for applicants of special assignments and collateral assignments are:

(a) The sworn applicant must be off probation; and

(b) Must have an aggregate of three years of experience as a sworn police officer with this department or another law enforcement agency at the time of application (only for the Category 1 assignments).

(c) Must have achieved an "Meets or Exceeds Standards" overall rating on all performance evaluations in last 18 months.

1028.4 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT - TESTING AND SELECTION

Special assignment testing and selection will be conducted as needed to accommodate staffing issues and other unforeseen circumstances.

The Chief of Police reserves the right to select an authorized company to administer the testing process. The testing process administered by the authorized company will be considered all inclusive and the test results will be sent directly to the City of Westminster Human Resources Department for certification.

The Human Resources Department will certify all processes, materials and scoring.

1028.4.1 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT TESTING PROCESS

Category 1 - Investigations

(a) Submit an application as determined by the City's Human Resources Division

(b) Written Detective Test (Traffic Investigator and Professional Standards Investigator are exempt from the written test)

(c) External Oral Board

Category 2 - Specialist

(a) Submit an application as determined by the City's Human Resources Division

(b) External Oral Board

Category 3 - Field Training Officer

(a) Submit an application as determined by the City's Human Resources Division

(b) External Oral Board

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1028.4.2 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT SELECTION

All processes, materials and scoring will be certified by the Human Resources Department. The Human Resources Department will provide the Chief of Police a ranked list of all the applicants who pass the selection process, including the top five scoring applicants to be selected from. Once a selection is made and a vacancy of the top five arises, applicants from the lower score rankings rise up in numerical order to fill the vacancy.

> For example: Officers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 are in the top five. Officer 1 is chosen. The ranked list then replenishes from the next highest finisher to complete a new list of the top five. Officers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 are now in the top five for the next selection and so on.

The first officer selected will have first choice of the open special assignments for that specific category of the testing cycle (e.g., Category 1; Detective, Gang Detective). The second officer selected will choose from the remaining open positions in that specific category and so on.

Officers who are selected may opt out of accepting any remaining available assignments, and may instead choose to remain on the eligibility list in anticipation of another assignment opening during that cycle.

The eligibility list is active for one (1) year, unless exhausted or canceled earlier.The Chief may elect to extend the eligibility list for a period of up to six (6) months with approval of the Human Resource Director or his/her designee.

1028.5 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT PROBATION PERIOD

Any officer chosen for a special assignment will serve a one year probationary period in the assignment.

1028.6 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT ROTATION

All Category 1 and Category 2 special assignments will serve for the duration of five (5) years.

All Category 1 and Category 2 special assignments will return to patrol operations at the end of their tour of duty for a period of six (6) months before they can be appointed to another special assignment in any category.

1028.7 LATERAL TRANSFERS IN SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Lateral transfers within special assignments will only apply to Category 1 (Investigations). Detectives can be reassigned within the division at the discretion of the Chief of Police. All anticipated lateral transfers should take place prior to the special assignment announcement to allow applicants a clear indication of what positions would be available in the next testing cycle. A lateral transfer cannot be used to exceed the five (5) year duration of a special assignment unless an extension is granted.

There shall be no lateral transfers among Category 2 and Category 3 positions.

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1028.8 EXTENSION IN SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

Special assignment extensions may be granted by the Chief of Police in one year increments. All extensions shall be documented and copies sent to the Human Resources Department for retention.

1028.9 COLLATERAL ASSIGNMENTS DEFINED

Collateral assignments are considered extra duty positions and are neither promotions nor special assignments. Collateral assignments are broken into Category 1 and Category 2:

Category 1 - SWAT

- West County SWAT Officer
- Crisis Negotiator
- Tactical Dispatcher

Category 2 - Operational

- Trauma or Peer Support
- Bike Detail
- Press Information Officer
- Honor Guard
- Range Master
- Explorer Advisor
- Terrorism Liaison Officer
- Tactical Skills Trainer

1028.10 COLLATERAL ASSIGNMENTS - TESTING AND SELECTION

Collateral assignments will be tested and selected as needed throughout the year.

1028.10.1 TESTING

Category 1

- Submit an application as determined by the City's Human Resources Division.
- Complete the defined outside selection process in accordance with the West County SWAT policies and procedures

Category 2

- Submit an application as determined by the City's Human Resources Division
- Outside Oral Board

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1028.10.2 COLLATERAL ASSIGNMENT SELECTION
For Category 1 assignments, the Chief of Police will select from the list and submit the name(s) to the 5-city consortium panel for consideration.

For Category 2 collateral assignments, the Chief of Police will make the final selection and has discretion of the list.

The eligibility list is active for one (1) year, unless exhausted or canceled earlier.The Chief may elect to extend the eligibility list for a period of up to six (6) months with approval of the Human Resource Director or his/her designee.

1028.11 COLLATERAL ASSIGNMENT ROTATION
All Category 1 and Category 2 collateral assignments will serve at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

1028.12 SUPERVISOR SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT
Supervisor Special Assignment positions are identified within Detectives, Traffic, and the Professional Standards Unit. The minimum requirements for supervisory applicants of special assignments and collateral assignments are:

(a) The sworn supervisor applicant must be off probation.

(b) Must have two years of supervisor experience as a sworn supervisor.

(c) Meets the eligibility for a sworn POST Supervisory Certificate.

(d) Must have achieved an "Meets or Exceeds Standards" overall rating on all performance evaluations in last 18 months.

(e) If there are no applicants that meet this two years supervisor experience time requirement, the assignment will be open to any supervisor meeting the other listed requirements.

1028.12.1 TESTING
Testing Process:

(a) Submit an application as determined by the City's Human Resources Division

(b) External Oral Board

1028.12.2 SELECTION
All processes, materials and scoring will be certified by the Human Resources Department. The Human Resources Department will provide the Chief of Police a list of applicants to select from. The Chief of Police shall have choice of the list.

1028.12.3 PROBATION PERIOD
Any supervisor chosen for a special assignment will serve a one year probationary period in the assignment.

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1028.12.4 LATERAL TRANSFERS IN SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS
Lateral supervisor transfers within special assignments will only apply to detective supervisors and with the approval of the Chief of Police.

1028.12.5 ROTATION
Supervisor special assignment positions in Detectives, Traffic, and the Professional Standards Unit will serve for the duration of three (3) years. Extensions may be granted by the Chief of Police in one year increments. All extensions shall be documented and copies sent to the Human Resources Department for retention.

1028.13 SUPERVISOR COLLATERAL ASSIGNMENTS
The lieutenant/commander responsible for the collateral assignments will notify all sergeants of any opening. The lieutenant/commander will conduct a candidate review on each applicant and present the information to the command staff. The command staff will make a recommendation to the Chief of Police who will make the final selection. The Chief of Police shall have choice of the list.

1028.14 APPLICATIONS FOR MULTIPLE ASSIGNMENTS
Any officer who wishes to apply for multiple positions in multiple categories within the same testing cycle must participate in each respective testing component of the position applied for.

1028.15 COMPENSATION
All employees selected for special and collateral assignments will be compensated at a rate in accordance with the provisions in the most current MOU.

1028.16 MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITY
The lieutenant/commander responsible for the special assignment or collateral assignment will ensure that all members qualified for the position are notified of the selection process.

The lieutenant/commander of the Professional Standards Unit will be responsible for notifying all qualified members who are out on long term leave (e.g. military leave, FMLA, Injury On Duty, Administrative Time Off) of the special assignment or collateral assignment selection process.

1028.17 MANAGERS
Management positions are exempt from this policy.

1028.18 RETENTION OF APPLICATIONS
Any application for a special or collateral assignment will be retained indefinitely in an electronic format by the Professional Standards Unit. The original copy will be forwarded to Human Resources Department for filing.

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Employee Commendations

1029.1 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.

1029.2 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 officers may commend uniformed officers 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.

1029.3 COMMENDABLE ACTIONS

A meritorious or commendable act by an employee of this department may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Superior handling of a difficult situation by an employee
- Conspicuous bravery or outstanding performance by any employee of the Department
- Any action or performance that is above and beyond the typical duties of an employee

1029.3.1 COMMENDATION INCIDENT REPORT

It is the responsibility of supervisors and managers to recognize outstanding acts or deeds performed by personnel within their command. When police personnel perform acts which merit special attention by the department, supervisors shall prepare a Commendation Incident Report to document the commendation of the employee. This commendation shall contain the following:

(a) Employee name, division, and assignment at the date and time of the commendation

(b) A brief account of the commendable action shall be documented on the form with report numbers, as appropriate

(c) Signature of the commending supervisor

Completed reports shall be forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander for his/her review. The Division Commander shall sign and forward the reports to the Chief of Police for his/her review. The Chief will give provide the commendation to his Administrative Assistant. The Administrative Assistant will route the original to the recipient, prepare one copy to be given to his/her immediate supervisor and another copy to be given to PSU to be filed in the recipient's personnel file.

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1029.3.2 LETTERS OF COMMENDATION RECEIVED BY THE CHIEF

The Chief's office will prepare an acknowledgment of receipt for the Chief's signature and forward it to the sender of the commendation. The commendation will be sent to the immediate supervisor of the recipient.

The recipient's supervisor will either:

(a) write a commendation memo and attach the original letter or (b) write comments on the commendation letter itself. In either instance, the commendation will then be forwarded up the chain of command. Each supervisor, sergeant and/or lieutenant will make a note on the memo and forward it to the Chief's office. The Chief will note the contents and give it to his Administrative Assistant. The Administrative Assistant will give the original to the recipient and one copy will be given to his/her immediate supervisor. Another copy will be given to PSU to be filed in the recipient's personnel file.

If the Chief of Police believes the commendation is deserving of higher recognition, he/she will have the Administrative Assistant prepare a "Command Commendation" and will take it to the Management Team for signatures. The Administrative Assistant will give the original Command Commendation to the recipient and one copy will be given to his/her immediate supervisor. An additional copy will be given to PSU to be filed in the recipient's personnel file.

1029.3.3 LETTERS OF COMMENDATIONS RECEIVED BY OTHERS

Letters of commendation received by anyone other than the office of the Chief of Police shall be forwarded to the Chief's office and the procedure above will be followed.

1029.3.4 COMMAND COMMENDATION

There are times Westminster Police Officers and employees go above and beyond those actions that merit a regular commendation. In those instances, the Chief of Police will issue a COMMAND COMMENDATION CERTIFICATE for their dedication to duty which exemplifies the highest standards of the Westminster Police Department. Supervisors may also bring such instances to the attention of the Chief of Police.

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Department Medals and Awards

1030.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to describe this Department's procedure for the review and awarding of Medal of Valor, Medal of Courage and Medal of Merit, and the manner in which department ribbons are awared and displayed on the employee's uniform. It is the policy of the Westminster Police Department to recognize specific acts of bravery, courage, community service, and performance. Such recognition shall result in the presentation of distinguished service medals or awards as outlined in this policy.

1030.2 DEFINITIONS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS: The following distinguished service awards are awarded annual based upon nominations and review by the awards committee. These honors are only awarded if the circumstances rise to the level described in the definition. There is no requirement to award these medals annual.

ANNUAL AWARDS: These awards are given each calendar year. The recipients are selected based upon nominations that have been reviewed by the awards committee.

AWARD RIBBONS: Award ribbons are awarded based upon the accomplishments as defined below. Employees who qualify for each ribbon as defined can apply for these ribbons through their Commander/Professional Standards Unit.

1030.2.1 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

MEDAL OF VALOR: This medal and accompanying uniform ribbon will be awarded only to sworn members of the Westminster Police Department who knowingly place their life at risk while performing an act of extreme heroism (performed on/off duty) above and beyond the normal call of duty when confronted with the immediate peril of death or great bodily injury to one's self or others. This medal may be awarded posthumously.

MEDAL OF COURAGE: This medal and accompanying uniform ribbon will be awarded to members of the Westminster Police Department who demonstrate outstanding/exceptional work, exhibit a high degree of courage, initiative and professionalism in a dangerous situation, which may result in the apprehension of a dangerous felon or the saving of a life under unusual conditions, not meeting the criteria of the Medal of Valor while serving the community.

MEDAL OF MERIT: This medal and accompanying uniform ribbon will be awarded to members of the Westminster Police Department who demonstrate outstanding individual performance on a specific incident that benefits the Westminster Police Department or the Westminster community.

THE POLICE CROSS: This medal and plaque will be awarded to members of the Westminster Police Department who, upon their retirement, have demonstrated a career of outstanding individual performance which has promoted the good name of the Westminster Police Department throughout the community and beyond or has significantly advanced the police department

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operations. This award will be selected at the discretion of the current Chief of Police. No more than two honorees each year can receive this honor.

LIFE SAVING MEDAL: This medal and accompanying uniform ribbon will be awarded to members of the Westminster Police Department who, while serving in an official capacity, distinguish themselves conspicuously by providing life saving efforts to a person who, without immediate assistance, would be in eminent risk of death. (This award does not require the victim to survive the incident.)

COMMUNITY SERVICE MEDAL: This medal and accompanying uniform ribbon will be awarded to members of the Westminster Police Department who demonstrate the highest level of service to the community through a significant Problem Oriented Policing project or similar community based project that exemplifies the department's philosophy of Area Command and community based policing. Evaluation and input of this award can include input from the community or organization involved in a specific project.

ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARD: This medal and accompanying police department citation is awarded by the Chief of Police to members of the community who, at great risk to their own safety, intervened to prevent the completion of a criminal act in progress, or have demonstrated their commitment to public safety throughout the community through crime prevention activities.

1030.2.2 AWARD RIBBONS

SERVICE AWARD: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to employees who have served consecutive years of service with Westminster Police Department. Ribbon and attachments shall be as follows:

- 5 years consecutive service shall be denoted by a solid blue ribbon. No attachment is authorized;
- 10 years consecutive service shall be denoted by a 5/16" silver star attachment placed in the center of the ribbon;
- 15 years consecutive service shall be denoted by two 5/16" silver star attachments placed on the ribbon bar evenly spaced;
- 20 years consecutive service shall be denoted by three 5/16" silver star attachments placed on the ribbon bar evenly spaced;
- 25 years consecutive service shall be denoted by four 5/16" silver star attachments placed on the ribbon bar evenly spaced;
- 30 years consecutive service shall be denoted by one 5/16" gold star attachment placed centered on the ribbon.

Each additional five years will qualify for an additional 5/16” gold star attachment placed on the ribbon bar evenly spaced. The uniform ribbon may be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

SWAT/CNT: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to members of the Westminster Police Department who have served a minimum of five years of aggregate service on the Westminster/

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West County SWAT Team. This includes members of the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT). The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

MADD (25 DUI ARRESTS): This honor, ribbon and pin will be awarded to any officer who, for the calendar year, has accumulated 25-49 DUI arrests in accordance with the criteria set forth by MADD. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

MADD (50 DUI ARRESTS): This honor, ribbon and pin will be awarded to any officer who, for the calendar year, has accumulated 50-99 DUI arrests in accordance with the criteria set forth by MADD. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

MADD CENTURY AWARD (100 DUI ARRESTS): This honor, ribbon and pin will be awarded to any officer who, for the calendar year, has accumulated 100 or more DUI arrests in accordance with the criteria set forth by MADD. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

NOTE: Officers shall only display their highest level of achievement related to the MADD award.

FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to any officer who successfully attends and completes the FBI National Academy. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

SHERMAN BLOCK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (SLI): This honor and ribbon will be awarded to any officer who successfully attends and completes the SLI course. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

POST COMMAND COLLEGE: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to any officer who successfully attends and completes Command College. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

DRUCKER EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to any officer who successfully attends and completes the Drucker School of Management ELI course at Claremont Graduate University. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

AUTO THEFT (10851): This honor, ribbon, and pin will be awarded to any officer who meets the criteria set forth by the Department of California Highway Patrol. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

BOLSA FREEDOM DEMONSTRATIONS: This ribbon will be awarded to any employee who was present during the Bolsa demonstrations/riot in 1999 and actively engaged in the civil disorder in which large groups of people behaved in a violent and uncontrolled way, lashing out in a public display of violence, resulting in damage to property and/or people. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

LOS ANGELES RIOT: This ribbon will be awarded to any officer who was present during the Los Angeles riot in 1992 and actively engaged in the civil disorder in which large groups of people behaved in a violent and uncontrolled way, lashing out in a public display of violence, resulting

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in damage to property and/or people. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

POST CERTIFICATIONS: The officer shall only wear the single highest certification level achieved by POST.

MARKSMAN AWARD: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to any officer who qualifies during a scheduled annual department range session with a score of 333-347. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

SHARPSHOOTER AWARD: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to any officer who qualifies during a scheduled annual department range session with a score of 348-358. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

EXPERT AWARD: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to any officer who qualifies during a scheduled annual department range session with a score of 359-369. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

TOP SHOT: This honor and ribbon will be awarded to the officer who qualifies during a scheduled annual Department range session and obtains the highest score overall. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events. If the officer's score places him/her in the expert award and top shot category, he/she shall wear the top shot award.

FIELD TRAINING OFFICER: This honor and accompanying ribbon will be awarded to an officer who has successfully completed Field Training Officer School, has actively participated in the Field Training Program and has been assigned to operations for a minimum period of three years. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: This honor and accompanying ribbon will be awarded to an officer who has been assigned to one of the following special assignments for a minimum period of three years:

- Detectives
- Motors
- K-9
- Mall
- PSU

The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

HONOR GUARD: This honor and accompanying ribbon will be awarded to an officer who has served on the Honor Guard for a minimum period of three years. The Honor Guard was established in 2005, therefore the minimum three-year period must be from 2005 to the present. The uniform ribbon shall be worn in class "A" uniform on a ribbon bar for specific events.

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Note: Only one uniform ribbon may be worn by each officer. This ribbon should be the highest ribbon awarded based upon their annual qualification. Multiple shooting ribbons shall never been worn.

1030.3 NOMINATIONS

Nominations for distinguished service and annual awards shall be made by any member of the Department who may have witnessed or has knowledge of a noteworthy act(s) that deserves recognition. Nominations shall contain the date, time, place and a detailed account of the act(s) performed.

Employees shall forward nominations to the Commander in charge of the awards committee in a timely fashion and no later than December 31st of each calendar year.

1030.4 SELECTION AND PRESENTATION

(a) The Award Review Committee will convene to consider those nominated for distinguished service awards. The Support Services Commander will chair the committee. Members of the committee will be comprised of a lieutenant, a sergeant, a police officer, an investigator, a dispatcher, and two fulltime professional staff members.. One of the committee members shall be a WPOA Board member.

1. The Chief of Police shall select a Commander to select the members of the committee. Selections shall be based on availability and a desire to serve in such a capacity.

(b) The committee shall convene each year to review and discuss each nomination. A simple majority vote will determine who will be recommended to the Chief of Police for an award.

(c) Those selected to receive recognition according to this policy will be presented their awards at a time and location determined by the Chief of Police. The employee's personnel file will also note the award nomination and/or receipt.

1. No limitation will be placed on the number of awards that maybe presented to an individual. However, only one award will be authorized per individual as a result of conduct originating from the same circumstances.

(d) Posthumous Awards

1. The next of kin is entitled to receive the Medal of Valor earned by a member of the Westminster Police Department. The next of kin in order of precedence is widow/widower, eldest child, father or mother, (if a mutual agreement of the parents does not exist, the parent named as insurance beneficiary shall receive the award) eldest sibling, eldest grandchild.

(e) The actions of the committee are confidential and shall be reported only to the Chief of Police.

1030.5 AUTHORITY

Only the Chief of Police shall have the authority to issue any award outlined in this policy.

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1030.6 UNIFORM AWARD BARS

Service ribbons that have been awarded to employees shall be worn with class "A" uniforms. Each employee is responsible for submitting an application, marking the ribbons for which they qualify to their Commander. Employees must supply documentation or another valid form of proof that a specific has been earned. The Commander will verify the employee qualifies for the ribbon and submit the application to the Professional Standards Unit, who will issue the uniform ribbons to each employee.

1030.6.1 PRECEDENCE OF AWARDS

Precedence

(a) Westminster Police Department awards will be given precedence in the order listed.

(b) Only ribbon bars are authorized to be worn on the class "A" uniform. Medals will not be worn at any time.

(c) Ribbon bars shall be worn in order of precedence from top down and from the wearer's right to left, directly above the officer's nameplate and right breast pocket.

(d) Multiple ribbon bars will be worn centered on the right breast pocket to a maximum of three across; e.g. a fourth ribbon bar will be centered above the bottom parallel row of three ribbon bars. Officers with a significant number of ribbons (10 or more) are allowed to expand the number of ribbons in their complete row to four ribbons. There is no limit to the number of ribbons that may be worn.

(e) All ribbons shall be worn on the class "A" uniform when attending an event, function, funeral, awards ceremony, or as directed by the Chief of Police.

(f) If an officer received the Medal of Valor from a previous law enforcement agency the officer is authorized to wear the authorized Westminster Police Department Medal of Valor ribbon bar on the uniform.

(g) All other awards awarded to an individual from a previous law enforcement agency are only to be worn when approved by the Chief of Police.

Order of Precedence

(a) Medal of Valor

(b) Medal of Courage

(c) Medal of Merit

(d) Life Saving Medal

(e) Community Service Medal

(f) Meritorious Service Award

(g) SWAT/CNT Service

(h) All other departmental awards in no particular order:

1. MADD 25 ("2" and "5" goes on ribbon)
2. MADD 50 ("5" and "0" goes on ribbon)

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3. MADD 100 Century Award ("1", "0", and "0" goes on ribbon)
4. FBI National Academy
5. Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute
6. POST Command College
7. Auto Theft (10851 pin)
8. Bolsa Freedom Demonstrations
9. Los Angeles Riot
10. POST Certificate
11. Shooting - Marksman “M” (“M” goes on ribbon)
12. Shooting - Sharpshooter “S” (“S” goes on ribbon)
13. Shooting - Expert “E” (“E” goes on ribbon)
14. Top Shot
15. Officer of the Year
16. Investigator of the Year
17. Supervisor of the Year
18. Civilian Employee of the Year

1030.6.2 RELEVANT TERMS
Relevant Terms

(a) Award: An all-inclusive term covering any decoration, medal, badge, ribbon bar, or attachment awarded to an individual.

(b) Medal: An Award issued to an individual for performance of certain duties, acts or services, consisting of a medallion hanging from a suspension ribbon of distinctive colors.

(c) Ribbon Bar: A portion of the suspension ribbon of a medal, worn in lieu of the medal. Ribbon bars are also authorized for certain awards which have no medals; e.g. MADD, Officer of the Year, National Academy, Civilian Employee of the Year, Part Time Employee of the Year, etc.

(d) Attachment: A star worn on the ribbon bar designating multiple awards; e.g., A service ribbon will be worn for the initial award. A silver 5/16” star will be worn on the service ribbon in lieu of each subsequent award. The 5/16” stars are worn with one point of the star pointing up and evenly spaced on the ribbon. Up to four silver stars can be worn on a ribbon. After four silver stars, a gold star is worn on the service ribbon in lieu of the 6th award (5th silver star.) The gold 5/16” star will be worn with one point of the star pointing up and evenly spaced on the service ribbon.

(e) SWAT/CNT: SWAT/CNT pins shall be worn in class “A” uniform with ribbons and shall be placed 1/8” above the top of the ribbon bar.

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1030.6.3 MILITARY AWARDS/DECORATIONS

Uniformed employees of the Westminster Police Department, including both sworn and civilian, who are active military reservists or veterans of the United States Armed Forces, whether active or reserve, including the California National Guard, State Military Reserve, or Naval Militia, will be authorized to wear ribbons earned while serving in the United States Armed Forces, in accordance with the provisions of the Military and Veterans Code, Division 3, Chapter 2, Section 648 (b) and the following restrictions:

(a) Military ribbons are to be worn on class “A” uniform only.

(b) Military ribbons are to be worn in lieu of department issued awards. There shall be no mixing or combining of military ribbons and department issued awards.

(c) Only military ribbons may be worn. Military medals and badges (shooting badges, jump wings, dive badge, etc.) are not authorized.

(d) Military ribbons are authorized only during the following time periods (Pursuant to Military and Veterans Code, Division 3, Chapter 2, Section 648 (b)):

1. The business week prior to Veterans Day
2. The day of Veterans Day
3. The business day immediately following Veterans Day
4. The business week prior to memorial Day
5. The day of Memorial Day
6. The business day immediately following Memorial Day

(e) The placement of military ribbons on the class “A” uniform shall be in accordance with department policies related to department awards. Order of precedence for military ribbons shall be in accordance with the current military regulations or orders.

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Fitness for Duty

1031.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

All officers 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 officers of this department remain fit for duty and able to perform their job functions (Government Code § 1031).

1031.2 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) It shall be the responsibility of each member of this department to maintain good physical condition sufficient to safely and properly perform essential duties of their position.

(b) Each member of this department shall perform his/her respective duties without physical, emotional, and/or mental constraints.

(c) During working hours, all employees are required to be alert, attentive, and capable of performing his/her assigned responsibilities.

(d) Any employee who feels unable to perform his/her duties shall promptly notify a supervisor. In the event that an employee believes that another employee is unable to perform his/her duties, such observations and/or belief shall be promptly reported to a supervisor.

1031.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) A supervisor observing an employee, or receiving a report of an employee who is perceived to be, unable to safely perform his/her duties due to a physical or mental condition shall take prompt and appropriate action in an effort to resolve the situation.

(b) Whenever feasible, the supervisor should attempt to ascertain the reason or source of the problem and in all cases a preliminary evaluation should be made in an effort to determine the level of inability of the employee to perform his/her duties.

(c) In the event the employee appears to be in need of immediate medical or psychiatric treatment, all reasonable efforts should be made to provide such care.

(d) In conjunction with the Watch Commander or employee's available Commander, a determination should be made whether or not the employee should be temporarily relieved from his/her duties.

(e) The Chief of Police shall be promptly notified in the event that any employee is relieved from duty.

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1031.4 NON-WORK RELATED CONDITIONS

Any employee suffering from a non-work related condition which warrants a temporary relief from duty may be required to use sick leave or other paid time off (PTO) in order to obtain medical treatment or other reasonable rest period.

1031.5 WORK RELATED CONDITIONS

Any employee suffering from a work related condition which warrants a temporary relief from duty shall be required to comply with personnel rules and guidelines for processing such claims.

Upon the recommendation of the Watch Commander or unit supervisor and concurrence of a Commander, any employee whose actions or use of force in an official capacity result in death or serious injury to another may be temporarily removed from regularly assigned duties and/or placed on paid administrative leave for the wellbeing of the employee and until such time as the following may be completed:

(a) A preliminary determination that the employee's conduct appears to be in compliance with policy and, if appropriate.

(b) The employee has had the opportunity to receive necessary counseling and/or psychological clearance to return to full duty.

1031.6 PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

(a) Whenever circumstances reasonably indicate that an employee is unfit for duty, the Chief of Police may serve that employee with a written order to undergo a physical and/or psychological examination in cooperation with Personnel Department to determine the level of the employee’s fitness for duty. The order shall indicate the date, time and place for the examination.

(b) The examining physician or therapist will provide the Department with a report indicating that the employee is either fit for duty or, if not, listing any functional limitations which limit the employee's ability to perform job duties. If the employee places his/her condition at issue in any subsequent or related administrative action/grievance, the examining physician or therapist may be required to disclose any and all information which is relevant to such proceeding (Civil Code § 56.10(c)(8)).

(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.

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Any failure to comply with such an order and any failure to cooperate with the examining physician or therapist may be deemed insubordination and shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

(f) Once an employee has been deemed fit for duty by the examining physician or therapist, the employee will be notified to resume his/her duties.

1031.7 LIMITATION ON HOURS WORKED

Absent emergency operations members should not work more than:

- 16 hours in one day (24 hour) period or
- 30 hours in any 2 day (48 hour) period or
- 84 hours in any 7 day (168 hour) period

Except in very limited circumstances members should have a minimum of 8 hours off between shifts. Supervisors should give consideration to reasonable rest periods and are authorized to deny overtime or relieve to off-duty status any member who has exceeded the above guidelines.

Limitations on the number of hours worked apply to shift changes, shift trades, rotation, holdover, training, general overtime and any other work assignments.

1031.8 APPEALS

An employee who is separated from paid employment or receives a reduction in salary resulting from a fitness for duty examination shall be entitled to an administrative appeal as outlined in the Personnel Complaints Policy.

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Meal Periods and Breaks

1033.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy regarding meals and breaks, insofar as possible shall conform to the policy governing all City employees that has been established by the City Manager.

1033.1.1 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. The primary purpose of a meal period is for meals and employees shall not engage in any activity not normally acceptable during regular duty (e.g., sleeping, online gaming, use of alcohol). Employees should be cognizant of public perception of their activity, location and duration of the meal period.

Uniformed patrol and traffic officers shall coordinate with the Communications Center prior to taking a meal period. After receiving authorization for a meal period the employee has up to 10 minutes of travel time to notify Dispatch over the air of the exact location of the meal period. If the employee has not notified Dispatch of his/her location, the dispatcher will request the employee confirm the final location. The employee can use "Code7 B" to identify his/her home as the meal location. The employee will have 45 minutes for the actual meal period. Employees are to remain in uniform during the meal period, monitor their radios and be available to promptly respond to calls for service as needed.

The time spent for the meal period shall not exceed the authorized time allowed. Employees shall not combine their meal period with their authorized break time. No more than three uniformed patrol/traffic personnel (two officers and one supervisor) are allowed to eat at the same location during the same meal period. The meal location must be within one mile of the City boundary, unless authorized by the Watch Commander, and should not take place during the last hour of the shift.

1033.1.2 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.

Field officers will take their breaks in their assigned areas, subject to call and shall monitor their radios. When field officers take their breaks away from their vehicles, they shall do so only with the knowledge and clearance of the Communications Center.

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Lactation Break Policy

1034.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable accommodations to employees desiring to express breast milk for the employee's infant child (29 USC § 207 and Labor Code §§ 1030-1032).

1034.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide, in compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, reasonable break time and appropriate facilities to accommodate any employee desiring to express breast milk for her nursing infant child (29 USC § 207 and Labor Code § 1030).

1034.3 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. Such breaks, if feasible, should be taken at the same time as the employee's regularly scheduled rest or meal periods.

While a reasonable effort will be made to provide additional time beyond authorized breaks, any such time exceeding regularly scheduled and paid break time will be unpaid (Labor Code § 1030).

Employees desiring to take a lactation break shall notify Dispatch or a supervisor prior to taking such a break. Such breaks may be reasonably delayed if they would seriously disrupt department operations (Labor Code § 1032).

Once a lactation break has been approved, the break should not be interrupted except for emergency or exigent circumstances.

1034.4 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 shielded from view and free from intrusion from co-workers and the public (29 USC § 207 and Labor Code § 1031).

Employees occupying such private areas shall either secure the door or otherwise make it clear to others that the area is occupied with a need for privacy. All other employees should avoid interrupting an employee during an authorized break, except to announce an emergency or other urgent circumstance.

Authorized lactation breaks for employees assigned to the field may be taken at the nearest appropriate private area.

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1034.5 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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Time Card Procedures

1035.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Payroll records are submitted to Services on a bi-weekly basis for the payment of wages.

1035.1.1 RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLETION OF PAYROLL RECORDS

Employees are responsible for the accurate and timely submission of payroll records for the payment of wages.

1035.1.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS

All employees are paid on a bi-weekly basis usually on Wednesday with certain exceptions such as holidays. Time sheets shall be completed and submitted to Administration no later than 10:00 a.m. on the Thursday before the end of the pay period, unless specified otherwise. This allows the Administrative Secretary to log the hours in preparation for the close of the pay-period at the close of the business day on the following Friday (except for early payroll periods). Any overtime worked or other adjustments to the time sheets should be reported to her prior to her submission of the time sheets at that time.

Time sheets must be completed in black or blue ink and verified with a supervisor's signature.

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Overtime Compensation Requests

1037.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

All personnel of this agency must be mindful of and exercise fiscal responsibility in the use of public funds and resources. Overtime pay requires particular attention because it constitutes a sizable expenditure of agency revenue that is provided at premium rates. Without adequate controls, unplanned expenditures can create budget overruns and divert resources from key operational areas. Therefore, it is the policy of this agency to effectively manage the use of overtime and that of each employee to use overtime in a responsible and judicious manner.

Non-exempt salaried employees who work authorized overtime will be compensated 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 in accordance with this policy.

1037.2 OVERTIME REQUEST PRE-APPROVAL

Employees must obtain advanced supervisor approval prior to working any overtime, except: 1. When responding to a criminal subpoena arising from regular police duties. 2. When an emergency precludes advanced approval. 3. To continue field processing a traffic accident that creates a road hazard. 4. To complete an essential phase(s) of an investigation when deferment would adversely affect the case or jeopardize evidence. 5. When employee must remain on duty until relieved by competent authority. 6. When assignment involves the safety of persons or property, such as a fire, accident, or other disaster. 7. When working any other authorized assignment as approved by a supervisor or governed by separate MOU, including grant funded overtime. 8. Scheduled and approved off-duty training.

1037.2.1 EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBILITY

Employees shall complete the requests immediately after working the overtime and turn them in to their immediate supervisor or the Watch Commander. Employees submitting overtime cards for on-call pay when off duty shall submit cards to the Watch Commander the first day after returning for work.

1037.2.2 SUPERVISORS RESPONSIBILITY/OVERTIME MANAGEMENT

The supervisor who verifies the overtime earned shall verify that the overtime was worked before approving the request.

1. No task or function should be performed on overtime by agency personnel that could otherwise be performed during regular work hours. Overtime should be used only when necessary and when other alternatives are not feasible or cost effective.

2. Supervisors shall establish and hold personnel responsible for a level of performance during standard work hours that minimizes the need for overtime and/or the need for additional personnel.

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3. Only overtime required to meet vital service demands of the department should be authorized. Special requests must be authorized by the Bureau Commander.

4. All overtime in excess of 4 hours requires written justification by the approving supervisor on the back of the overtime slip or in a memorandum. The justification should include the activity, circumstances of the need and justification for the duration.

5. All task and functions that require the use of overtime shall be routinely evaluated in terms of their cost-effectiveness. Alternatives to the use of premium paid overtime to accomplish these tasks or program objectives shall be evaluated and implemented where appropriate.

6. Sergeants, Corporals and Watch Commanders and designated civilian supervisors are the personnel primarily responsible for authorizing and managing overtime.

7. The Chief of Police, or their designee, must approve overtime request designed to fill an ongoing personnel vacancy or meet an usually high, yet foreseeable workload (i.e., personnel vacancies critical to the departments operations, authorized positions left unfilled when vacated permanently or for extended and indefinite periods of time).

8. Supervisors shall take measures and issue directives where it's possible to reduce or limit the demand for overtime. This includes but is not limited to supervisory efforts to perform the following:

A. Assign non-emergency service requests received near end of watch to oncoming shift personnel.

B. Use Reserve Officers and other part-time employees where feasible to offset temporary personnel shortages/vacancies and meet specialized needs.

C. Anticipate and manage workload requirements where reasonable to best utilize standard duty hours.

D. Manage and coordinate vacation, CTO, and other time off to minimize manpower deficiencies.

E. Ensure that officers who make arrests late in their shifts receive available assistance to process prisoners as quickly as possible.

F. Ensure that agency overtime policy, rules and regulations and the particulars of any labor agreement are consistently adhered to by agency personnel as they relate to overtime and/or court appearances, on call, training, holiday leave, vacations and related matters.

1037.3 ACCOUNTING FOR OVERTIME WORKED

Employees are to record the actual time worked in an overtime status. In some cases, the Memorandum of Understanding provides that a minimum number of hours will be paid, (e.g., two hours for Court, four hours for outside overtime). The supervisor will enter the actual time worked.

1037.3.1 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 officer,

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the Watch Commander or other approving supervisor may require each employee to include the reason for the variation on the back of the overtime payment request.

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Outside Employment

1039.1 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 Chief of Police prior to engaging in any outside employment. Approval of outside employment shall be at the discretion of the Chief of Police in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

1039.1.1 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.

1039.2 OBTAINING APPROVAL

No member of this department may engage in any outside employment without first obtaining prior written approval of the Chief of Police. 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 Chief of Police 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 (Penal Code § 70(e)(3)).

1039.2.1 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 Chief of Police within ten days of the date of denial.

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If the employee's appeal is denied, the employee may file a grievance pursuant to the procedure set forth in the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

1039.2.2 REVOCATION/SUSPENSION OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT PERMITS
Any outside employment permit may be revoked or suspended under the following circumstances:

(a) Should an employee's performance at this department decline to a point where it is evaluated by a supervisor as needing improvement to reach an overall level of competency, the Chief of Police may, at his or her discretion, revoke any previously approved outside employment permit(s). That revocation will stand until the employee's performance has been reestablished at a satisfactory level and his/her supervisor recommends reinstatement of the outside employment permit

(b) Suspension or revocation of a previously approved outside employment permit may be included as a term or condition of sustained discipline

(c) If, at any time during the term of a valid outside employment permit, an employee's conduct or outside employment conflicts with the provisions of department policy, the permit may be suspended or revoked

(d) When an employee is unable to perform at a full duty capacity due to an injury or other condition, any previously approved outside employment permit may be subject to similar restrictions as those applicable to the employee's full time duties until the employee has returned to a full duty status

1039.3 PROHIBITED OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT
Consistent with the provisions of Government Code § 1126, the Department expressly reserves the right to deny any Outside Employment Application submitted by an employee seeking to engage in any activity which:

(a) Involves the employee's use of departmental time, facilities, equipment or supplies, the use of the Department badge, uniform, prestige or influence for private gain or advantage

(b) Involves the employee's receipt or acceptance of any money or other consideration from anyone other than this department for the performance of an act which the employee, if not performing such act, would be required or expected to render in the regular course or hours of employment or as a part of the employee's duties as a member of this department

(c) Involves the performance of an act in other than the employee's capacity as a member of this department that may later be subject directly or indirectly to the control, inspection, review, audit or enforcement of any other employee of this department

(d) Involves time demands that would render performance of the employee's duties for this department less efficient

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1039.3.1 OUTSIDE SECURITY AND PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT

Consistent with the provisions of Penal Code § 70, and because it would further create a potential conflict of interest, no member of this department may engage in any outside or secondary employment as a private security guard, private investigator or other similar private security position.

Any private organization, entity or individual seeking special services for security or traffic control from members of this department must submit a written request to the Chief of Police in advance of the desired service. Such outside extra duty overtime assignments will be assigned, monitored and paid through the Department.

(a) The applicant will be required to enter into an indemnification agreement prior to approval.

(b) The applicant will further be required to provide for the compensation and full benefits of all employees requested for such outside security services.

(c) Should such a request be approved, any employee working outside overtime shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. The officer(s) shall wear the departmental uniform/identification.
2. The officer(s) shall be subject to the rules and regulations of this department.
3. No officer 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 officer may engage in outside employment as a peace officer for any other public agency without prior written authorization of the Chief of Police.

1039.3.2 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.

1039.4 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.

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1039.4.1 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

Employees approved for outside employment expressly agree that their personal financial records may be requested and reviewed/audited for potential conflict of interest (Government Code § 3308; Government Code § 1126). Prior to providing written approval for an outside employment position, the Department may request that an employee provide his/her personal financial records for review/audit in order to determine whether a conflict of interest exists. Failure of the employee to provide the requested personal financial records could result in denial of the off-duty work permit. If, after approving a request for an outside employment position, the Department becomes concerned that a conflict of interest exists based on a financial reason, the Department may request that the employee provide his/her personal financial records for review/audit. If the employee elects not to provide the requested records, his/her off-duty work permit may be revoked pursuant to the Revocation/Suspension of Outside Employment Permits section of this policy.

1039.5 CHANGES IN OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT STATUS

If an employee terminates his or her outside employment during the period of a valid permit, the employee shall promptly submit written notification of such termination to the Chief of Police through channels. Any subsequent request for renewal or continued outside employment must thereafter be processed and approved through normal procedures set forth in this policy.

Employees shall also promptly submit in writing to the Chief of Police any material changes in outside employment including any change in the number of hours, type of duties, or demands of any approved outside employment. Employees who are uncertain whether a change in outside employment is material are advised to report the change.

1039.6 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 Chief of Police whether such outside employment should continue.

In the event the Chief of Police 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 City'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.

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(c) The employee's failure to make timely notice of their intentions to their supervisor.

When the disabled member returns to full duty with the Westminster Police Department, a request (in writing) may be made to the Chief of Police to restore the permit.

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Funeral Policy

1040.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This Department is concerned and actively involved whenever a member, including reserves, whether on or off duty, expires. It is the policy of this Department to provide:

(a) A military type funeral for current regular and reserve officers of the Department who suffered an on duty or off duty death, as a final tribute for their service to the community. Services for retired regular and reserve officers may be provided at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

(b) All possible and appropriate assistance, support, and service to survivors of an active duty regular or reserve officer who suffered an on duty or off duty death.

The Department shall participate in the funeral service in a manner that is mutually agreed upon by the family and Department. The family may decline any departmental involvement if they desire.

The Division Commander shall have overall responsibility for the coordination, logistical, and operational aspects of providing the funeral services desired and for providing assistance to the member's family as needed.

When it is determined that a uniformed funeral is desired or appropriate, the Division Commander shall notify other departmental members and will delegate duties and responsibilities as the need dictates. Consideration should be given to implementation of the Incident Command System and activation of the Emergency Operations Center.

1040.2 NOTIFICATION

Upon receiving information that a Department employee has died, the Watch Commander shall immediately notify the Chief of Police. If police radio transmissions must be used, the name of the deceased officer should not be mentioned.

It shall be the Division Commander's responsibility to arrange notification to next-of-kin as necessary. The employee's personnel file should be checked for an emergency/death notification form prior to the notification. The Division Commander may consider any of the following to assist as part of the notification team:

(a) Department Chaplain(s) or a representative of the deceased's religious faith or church.

(b) Supervisor or close friend(s) of the officer.

(c) Chief of Police or other designated Department Representative(s).

The Division Commander should also have the Departments Trauma Support Team activated to respond to the Department or scene to assist fellow employees.

Notification to the spouse or close relation shall be made in person whenever possible. In certain instances, the Division Commander may designate others to make notification. Whenever impractical due to distance or lengthy time delays, the Division Commander may designate

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another police department to make the immediate notification so that the death is not learned of through a premature media release.

The Chief of Police will notify the City Manager. The Mayor and other members of a jurisdiction's political body should be notified only after appropriate family members have been notified. The person responsible for the death notification must have knowledge about how the death occurred. It is also important to make the notification as soon as possible to avoid inappropriate and insensitive notification from sources outside of the Department.

Once notification has been made, and while still with the family member, the person(s) who made the notification may find it necessary or appropriate to:

- Contact other family members, as requested by first member notified
- Assist in getting children in the home, help, care, and if necessary, alternate lodging
- Arrange for someone to stay with notified family member after the notification person leaves
- Inform family member of Department person to contact if any needs or questions develop

The Chief of Police or Division Commander will also coordinate the notification of department personnel and arrange a "Crisis/Information" meeting as appropriate to the circumstances. Notification should not be conducted over radio channels or via mobile digital terminal.

1040.3 ASSISTANCE TO FAMILY

The emotional nature of a funeral service, particularly one associated with the death of a law enforcement officer, demands the utmost compassion and sensitivity on behalf of Department personnel. The welfare of the bereaved family is of primary concern. While the Department is interested in assisting these families during this difficult period and can provide many helpful services, we must also recognize the private and very personal nature of a funeral service. It is, therefore, important that in our desire to help, we do not unwittingly impose our services on the family.

It is within our scope and responsibility to assist the family of a deceased member of this Department with funeral arrangements.

When requested by the family, the Department shall assist in all funeral arrangements. It shall further notify any concerned organization of the completed funeral arrangements. A liaison may be assigned to be the principal contact person for the family. Whenever necessary and possible, the Division Commander shall provide transportation for relatives arriving at airports or other places within the county when other suitable transportation is not available.

Also, the Division Commander or his designee shall be a liaison with City Personnel to assist the family in settling the employee's city affairs and, at the family's request, shall:

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(a) Provide the family with a preliminary estimate of benefits to be received or available: final paycheck, sick leave/vacation payoff, retirement benefits, life insurance, medical insurance, deferred compensation, social security and credit union. This should be done in conjunction with the Department liaison as soon as possible. See Section 1041.8 for details.

(b) Ensure that the family receives the final paycheck and is made aware of all benefits to be received, how long it will take to receive them; and who the contact person is for each benefit.

(c) Ensure that the city employee life insurance carrier is notified and that the claim is processed as soon as possible.

(d) Ask family of employee (spouse and minor children) if they wish to stay on the city's health plan. Explain the cost to remain and the number of years available.

(e) Follow up one month later to determine if the family has heard from retirement system and the life insurance carrier.

(f) Coordinate survivor benefits with all appropriate departments and other organizations.

(g) Obtain copies of Certified Death Certificates (minimum 10).

All collected and donated funds for the member's family shall be coordinated between the Chief of Police and the Westminster Police Officers' Association for proper recording and safekeeping. A trust fund may be established if requested by the family.

1040.4 PRE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Depending on whether the deceased was a sworn (active or retired) member and whether the demise was an off duty or on duty death, the Division Commander shall be responsible, prior to the member's funeral, for the following as appropriate:

(a) Consideration of activating I.C.S. and/or E.O.C. depending on scale.

(b) Offer the family a uniformed honor guard service, a conventional service, or, if the deceased has served in the active military, a full military service. The responsibility for coordinating a full military service would be given to the appropriate branch of the military. Offer the family an honor guard for the casket in the funeral home during viewing hours for non military services. The Division Commander shall arrange for the honor guard and relief's.

(c) Secure a flag through the mortuary.

(d) Arrange for an adequate audio system at the chapel if it is deemed necessary because of an anticipated overflow crowd.

(e) Determine, with the funeral director, the cortege route and submit this information and the appropriate length of the cortege to the Traffic Division.

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(f) Coordinate clearance at all major intersections and freeway ramps along the cortege route with all concerned police departments and the Highway Patrol. Notify other law enforcement agencies of the funeral arrangements.

(g) Request outside assistance with traffic, parking, dispatch and patrol if required.

(h) Coordinate with Regional Air Support if a helicopter fly over is to be conducted.

(i) Collect department issued property and the employee's personal effects and examine the contents before release to the family.

(j) Liaison with the news media.

(k) Thank you letters to agencies that assisted.

1040.5 DRESS UNIFORM

The dress uniform shall be worn at all funerals by on-duty personnel. Off duty or retired personnel are not required to be in uniform. Department notices made prior to the funeral shall direct personnel if certain uniform restrictions are requested.

The badge shall have a black elastic strip which shall be uniformly installed. No other type of equipment shall be showing, (pens, citation books, etc.) from any pocket of the uniform.

1040.5.1 HONOR GUARD UNIFORM

The gun belt is not worn when acting as an honor guard member at funerals or religious ceremonies. White gear, consisting of belt, cord, and gloves shall be worn. Personnel shall wear designated head gear and tie. Head gear shall not be worn while inside the church.

1040.6 LOGISTICAL PLANNING/UNIFORMED CEREMONIES FOR FUNERALS

When planning a funeral for a deceased member of this Department where a uniformed ceremony is desired or appropriate, it can be anticipated that large numbers of personnel, including other law enforcement agencies, will attend, particularly if the death was duty related. Certain logistical and operational concerns, therefore, must be addressed.

After determining funeral locations, parking and traffic control must be established. The Chief of Police should be briefed regarding family concerns and wishes. Information concerning other officials or dignitaries attending should also be discussed. Seating for the Chief of Police, Division Commander and City officials in the service should be prearranged and reserved. This would, most appropriately, be near the front section of the church or funeral home.

Following the services, an appropriate location should be designated for the ranking officer and party to await the procession of the coffin to the funeral hearse. The procession (cortege) should normally consist of a motorcycle escort or one radio car, the hearse, family limousine(s), ranking officer's vehicle, police vehicles, followed by the rest of the procession. A marked police unit shall be the last vehicle in the procession.

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If the cemetery is some distance from the funeral home or church, consideration of the size and speed of the procession is important. Delays and inconvenience to private citizens should be minimized wherever possible. This is a legitimate operational concern and can be accomplished through explicit instructions to the escort vehicles or by placing an officer in the funeral hearse.

An appropriate location for the Chief of Police and Division Commander during the graveside ceremony should be designated and made known to them.

In the event of a rifle honor guard, the family members should be reminded of the volley of shots so as not to startle them.

Prior to the services, ascertain who is to receive the American flag on behalf of the family at the conclusion of the graveside ceremony.

Upon completion of the graveside ceremony, the Chief of Police shall receive from the pallbearers the national colors and present them to the family of the deceased.

1040.7 PALLBEARER TEAM

In a non military service, it shall be the family's preference whether the pallbearers and honorary pallbearers will be selected from family, friends, or co workers. In any instance, personnel acting as pallbearers should all be in uniform or all in civilian clothing.

The leader is selected by the Division Commander and will be responsible for selection of the six member team. Family preferences, if any, shall be given first consideration in the appointment of the team members. The leader will also be responsible for training of the team.

(a) The team members will wear no headgear during the services at the church/chapel.

(b) The team will form three members on each side, forming a corridor to the church/chapel.

(c) Upon the arrival of the hearse, the team will accept the casket and follow the honor guard into the church/chapel, placing the casket on the stand and then taking their seats.

(d) After the service, the team does not pass in review of the casket, but will remain in the church/chapel until everyone exits. They will again take the casket and follow the honor guard back to the hearse.

(e) The team will ride in the first police unit behind the staff cars.

(f) Upon arrival at the graveside, the team will wear headgear and will again accept the casket from the hearse and follow the honor guard to the graveside and place the casket on the stand. The team will then face the casket and remain at attention throughout the ceremonies, following the commands of the coordinator through taps.

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1040.8 FUNERAL CEREMONY

The military aspect of the funeral will usually begin at one of the following places: church/chapel, cemetery gates or graveside. It may begin at any designated place and begins when the honor guard receives the body.

1040.8.1 PROCESSION ORDER

Upon the arrival of the hearse and family vehicles, the coordinator will call the detachment of officers to attention.

The pallbearers will receive the casket from the hearse and the coordinator will order the detachment to "Present Arms". All officers will render the hand salute and hold this position until the casket and family passes into the church/chapel at which time the coordinator will order the detachment to "Order Arms".

Procession into the church/chapel should be:

- Minister/chaplain
- Honor Guard
- Pallbearers with casket
- Family
- W.P.D. personnel

Procession out of the church/chapel should be:

- Firing team (the firing team will leave immediately for the cemetery).
- All outside officers
- All others in attendance
- W.P.D. personnel
- Minister/chaplain
- Honor Guard
- Pallbearers
- Family

As the minister/chaplain exits the church/chapel, the coordinator will call the detachment to attention. As the casket comes into view, the coordinator will order the detachment to "Present Arms". All officers will render a hand salute until the casket is placed in the hearse, at which time the "Order Arms" command will be given, followed by an order to dismiss.

1040.8.2 CEMETERY SERVICE

All officers will, upon arrival at the cemetery, assume their positions in formation near the graveside. Formation positions will be determined by the coordinator prior to service.

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The coordinator will call the detachment to attention as the pallbearers remove the casket from the hearse.

The procession to the graveside should be:

- Minister/Chaplain
- Honor Guard
- Pallbearers with casket
- Family

As the procession approaches the detachment of officers, the coordinator will give the command to "Present Arms", at which time the uniformed personnel will render the hand salute until the casket has been placed at the graveside and the command is given to "Order Arms".

The command to stand at "Parade Rest" will then be given. Officers will remain in this position during the graveside services. After the minister/chaplain finishes, the coordinator will call the detachment to attention and then give the order to "Present Arms" while the firing team fires the twenty one gun salute and the bugler(s) play taps. Upon completion of taps, the order will be given to "Order Arms".

The pallbearers will then fold the flag and present it to the Chief of Police who will then present it to the designated family member. The coordinator at this time will dismiss the detachment.

1040.8.3 MOVEMENT OF CASKET AT MILITARY FUNERALS

(a) At a military funeral, uniformed personnel shall:

1. INDOORS - Stand at attention, remove headgear unless serving as a pallbearer.
2. OUTDOORS - With or without headgear, stand at attention, render hand salute as casket passes, or upon order of honor guard commander.

(b) Civilian attired personnel shall:

1. INDOORS Stand at attention, remove headgear, if worn.
2. OUTDOORS Remove headgear, if worn, stand at attention with right hand or headgear over heart.

1040.9 DEATH BENEFITS

A variety of benefits are generally available, but application must be made to a number of different agencies or organizations in order to obtain them. The attached list is some of the most common benefits, but this list should not be considered to be all inclusive.

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On Duty Injuries

1041.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance regarding the timely reporting of occupational diseases, psychiatric injuries and work-related injuries.

1041.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Occupational disease or work-related injury - An injury, disease or psychiatric injury arising out of employment (Labor Code § 3208; Labor Code § 3208.3; Labor Code § 3212 et seq.).

1041.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department will address occupational diseases and work-related injuries appropriately, and will comply with applicable state workers' compensation requirements (Labor Code § 3200 et seq.).

1041.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

1041.3.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor learning of any occupational disease or work-related injury should ensure the member receives medical care as appropriate.

For work-related accidents, injuries or illness not requiring professional medical care, an administrative report and Report of Injury forms shall be completed. Forms with instructions for completion provided by Risk Management are kept in the Watch Commander's office. When an accident, injury, or illness is reported initially on the Report of Injury forms and the employee subsequently requires professional medical care, the State of California 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. Supervisors shall ensure that required documents regarding workers' compensation are completed and forwarded promptly through the chain of command. Any related Citywide disease- or injury-reporting protocol shall also be followed.

Supervisors shall determine whether the Major Incident Notification and Illness and Injury Prevention policies apply and take additional action as required.

Every injured employee must be provided with a Claim for Workers' Compensation Form (DWC-1) within 24 hours, regardless of the nature of illness or injury.

1041.3.2 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Any member sustaining any occupational disease or work-related injury shall report such event as soon as practicable, but within 24 hours, to a supervisor, and shall seek medical care when appropriate.

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1041.3.3 COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES
The Commander who receives a report of an occupational disease or work-related injury should review the report for accuracy and determine what additional action should be taken. The report shall then be forwarded to the Chief of Police, the City's risk management entity, and the Professional Standards Unit Commander to ensure any required Division of Occupational Health and Safety Administration (Cal/OSHA) reporting is made as required in the illness and injury prevention plan identified in the Illness and Injury Prevention Policy.

1041.3.4 CHIEF OF POLICE RESPONSIBILITIES
The Chief of Police shall review and forward copies of the report to the Personnel Department. Copies of the report and related documents retained by the Department shall be filed in the member's confidential medical file.

1041.4 OTHER DISEASE OR INJURY

Diseases and injuries caused or occurring on-duty that do not qualify for workers' compensation reporting shall be documented on the designated report of injury form, which shall be signed by a supervisor. A copy of the completed form shall be forwarded to the appropriate Commander through the chain of command and a copy sent to the Professional Standards Unit Commander.

Unless the injury is extremely minor, this report shall be signed by the affected member, indicating that he/she desired no medical attention at the time of the report. By signing, the member does not preclude his/her ability to later seek medical attention.

1041.5 SETTLEMENT OFFERS

When a member sustains an occupational disease or work-related injury that is caused by another person and is subsequently contacted by that person, his/her agent, insurance company or attorney and offered a settlement, the member shall take no action other than to submit a written report of this contact to his/her supervisor as soon as possible.

1041.5.1 NO SETTLEMENT WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL
No less than 10 days prior to accepting and finalizing the settlement of any third-party claim arising out of or related to an occupational disease or work-related injury, the member shall provide the Chief of Police with written notice of the proposed terms of such settlement. In no case shall the member accept a settlement without first providing written notice to the Chief of Police. The purpose of such notice is to permit the City to determine whether the offered settlement will affect any claim the City may have regarding payment for damage to equipment or reimbursement for wages against the person who caused the disease or injury, and to protect the City's right of subrogation, while ensuring that the member's right to receive compensation is not affected.

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Return to Work Policy

1042.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the purpose of this policy to establish the authority for temporary light-duty assignments and procedures for granting temporary light-duty to eligible officers and civilian personnel within this agency.

1042.2 POLICY

Temporary light-duty assignments, when available, are for officers and other eligible personnel in this agency, who, because of injury, illness or disability, are unable to perform their regular assignments but who are capable of performing alternative duty assignments. Therefore, it is the policy of this agency that eligible personnel be given a reasonable opportunity to work in temporary light-duty assignments where available and consistent with this policy.

1042.3 ELIGIBLE PERSONNEL

Any full-time sworn or civilian member of this law enforcement agency suffering from medically certified injury, illness or disability requiring treatment of a licensed health care provider and who, because of injury, illness or disability, is temporarily unable to perform their regular assignment but is capable of performing alternative assignments. Eligibility is contingent upon a prognosis that does not exclude the employee's return to his/her former position.

1042.4 PROCEDURES

(a) Temporary light-duty positions are limited in number and variety. Therefore, personnel who are injured or otherwise disabled on-duty shall be given preference in assignment to temporary light-duty over those employees whose injury or disability occurs off duty; and assignments may be changed at any time, if the Chief of Police or his designee deems it in the best interest of the employee or the department.

(b) This policy in no way affects the privileges of the Family and Medical Leave Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, or other federal or state law.

(c) Assignment to light-duty shall not affect an employee's pay classification, pay increases, promotions, retirement benefits or other employee benefits such as special assignment pay or collateral assignments such as SWAT, HNT, Trauma Support, etc.

(d) No specific position with this agency shall be established for use as a temporary light-duty assignment, nor shall any existing position be designated or utilized exclusively for personnel on temporary light-duty.

(e) Light-duty assignments are strictly temporary and normally should not exceed ninty days in duration. Personnel who are not capable of returning to their regular duty assignment shall present a request for extension of temporary light-duty status, with

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supporting documentation, to the Chief of Police or his designee; or, pursue other options as provided by employment provisions of this agency or state or federal law.

(f) Depending upon the nature and extent of the disability, an officer on temporary light-duty may be prohibited or restricted from wearing the departmental uniform, duty weapon, or otherwise limited in employing police powers as determined by the Chief of Police or his designee.

(g) Officers may not refuse light-duty assignments that are consistent with the recommendations of an attending physician or certified health care provider, although officers may protest such assignments through established grievance procedures.

(h) Light-duty assignments shall not be made for disciplinary purposes.

(i) When employees are assigned to temporary light-duty, the department may alter the employees work hours and days off to accommodate department needs.

1042.4.1 TEMPORARY LIGHT-DUTY ASSIGNMENTS

(a) Temporary light-duty assignments may be drawn from a range of technical and administrative areas that include but are not limited to: desk assignments, clerical functions, administrative functions, report taking, investigations, and dispatch.

(b) Decisions on temporary light-duty assignments shall be made based upon the availability of an appropriate assignment given the employee's knowledge, skills and abilities; availability of light-duty assignments, and the physical limitations imposed on the employee.

(c) Every effort will be made to place the employee into positions consistent with their rank and pay classification. However, when appropriate, personnel may be assigned to positions designated for personnel of lower rank or pay classification. Employees will retain the pay classification and benefits of the position held prior to their assignment to temporary light-duty.

1042.4.2 REQUESTS FOR AND ASSIGNMENT TO TEMPORARY LIGHT-DUTY

(a) Requests by employees for temporary light-duty assignments shall be submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. The request should be supported by documentation of a treating physician or licensed health care provider.

(b) This agency may require the employee to submit to an independent medical examination by a health provider of the agencies choosing.

(c) An employee who has not requested temporary light-duty may be recommended for such assignment by request of the employee's immediate supervisor or Division Commander. Notice of the proposed light-duty assignment and justification for the recommendation shall be provided to the employee. Employees may challenge the proposed reassignment using established grievance procedures.

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(d) As a condition of continued assignment to temporary light-duty, officers shall be required to submit to medical assessments of their condition as deemed necessary by the Chief of Police or his designee, and provide periodic status reports from their treating physician.

1042.5 PREGNANT OFFICERS

Pregnant officers are eligible for temporary light-duty as available and appropriate to their physical capabilities and health.

When appropriate light-duty positions are unavailable, pregnant officers may pursue other forms of medical, disability or family leave (FMLA) as provided by this agency or state or federal law.

Pregnant officers shall be permitted to continue working on regular duty or temporary light-duty assignments until such time as a physician recommends that work be curtailed.

1042.6 SUPERVISORY DUTIES

(a) Supervisors shall obtain a physician's note from the employee that specifically describes physical activities or tasks that are restricted for medical reasons. The documentation is to be given to the employee's supervisor prior to reassignment to temporary light-duty.

(b) The supervisor shall prepare a light-duty conditions memorandum containing any limitations, restrictions, and other physician instructions deemed necessary for the continued well being of the employee. The memorandum shall be signed and dated by the employee, who will be expected to comply with all expressed instructions.

(c) Officers assigned to temporary light-duty will be the responsibility of the supervisor of the unit to which they are assigned.

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Personal Appearance Standards

1043.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to project uniformity and neutrality toward the public and other members of the department, employees shall maintain their personal hygiene and appearance to project a professional image appropriate for this department and for their assignment.

1043.2 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 Chief of Police has granted exception.

1043.2.1 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.

1043.2.2 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.

1043.2.3 SIDEBURNS

Sideburns shall not extend below the bottom of the outer ear opening (the top of the earlobes) and shall be trimmed and neat.

1043.2.4 FACIAL HAIR

Facial hair other than sideburns, mustaches and eyebrows shall not be worn, unless authorized by the Chief of Police or his or her designee.

1043.2.5 FINGERNAILS

Fingernails extending beyond the tip of the finger can pose a safety hazard to officers or others. For this reason, fingernails shall be trimmed so that no point of the nail extends beyond the tip of the finger.

1043.2.6 JEWELRY

For the purpose of this policy, jewelry refers to rings, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, wristwatches, and tie tacks or tie bars. Jewelry shall present a professional image and may not create a safety concern for the department member or others. Jewelry that depicts racial, sexual, discriminatory, gang-related, or obscene language is not allowed.

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(a) Necklaces shall not be visible above the shirt collar.

(b) Earrings shall be small and worn only in or on the earlobe.

(c) One ring or ring set may be worn on each hand of the department member. No rings should be of the type that would cut or pose an unreasonable safety risk to the member or others during a physical altercation, if the member is assigned to a position where that may occur.

(d) One small bracelet, including a bracelet identifying a medical condition, may be worn on one arm.

(e) Wristwatches shall be conservative and present a professional image.

(f) Tie tacks or tie bars worn with civilian attire shall be conservative and present a professional image.

1043.2.7 UNDERGARMENTS

Appropriate undergarments are required. Undergarments are inappropriate if they are visibly exposed or fail to adequately conceal private areas of the body.

1043.3 TATTOOS

Employees may display markings including tattoos, body art, branding, or scarification while on-duty or representing the department in an official capacity on arms or legs. Employees shall not visibly display markings on the following body parts/areas:

(a) Head

(b) Neck

(c) Ears

(d) Mouth

(e) Scalp

(f) Face

(g) Hands (exception: wedding band tattoo on ring finger)

Any tattoo, brand, or mutilation on the head, neck, scalp, face, or hand must be covered by a uniform, business attire, or neutral-colored skin patch while on duty. Tattoos, brands, or mutilations that are “inappropriate,” as determined by any member of the Command Staff, must also be covered at all times. “Inappropriate” may include, but is not limited to marks that depict sexually explicit acts or other obscene material; or advocate discrimination against gender, gender identity, race, religion, ethnicity or national origin; or other protected class; or advocate or promote gang, supremacist, or extremist group affiliation; or drug use is also prohibited.

Employees may appeal this decision with the Chief of Police, but compliance with the issued directive is required until said appeal can be heard.

Memorialization of an employee’s involvement in any significant work-related event (e.g., officer-involved shooting, significant use of force, response to any riotous event, etc.) is prohibited.

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No group, station, shift, assignment, team, or other collection of employees, may display the same markings if members of the Command Staff view the theme message, content, or mere existence as a group marking to conflict with our mission, professional image, or otherwise in violation with any other part of this policy.

Employees are encouraged to consider the impact of such group tattoos on their image, testimony in official proceedings, and our role as an unbiased law enforcement organization.

Current employees are encouraged to submit designs for new markings to members of the Command Staff via the Chain of Command when there is doubt about compliance with this policy.

1043.4 BODY PIERCING OR ALTERATION

Body piercing or alteration to any area of the body visible in any authorized uniform or attire that is a deviation from normal anatomical features and which is not medically required is prohibited. Such body alteration includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Tongue splitting or piercing.

(b) The complete or transdermal implantation of any material other than hair replacement.

(c) Abnormal shaping of the ears, eyes, nose or teeth

(d) Branding or scarification.

1043.5 MAKEUP

If makeup is worn it shall be light to moderate in application. The colors shall be neutral. Bright and/or very dark lipsticks and eye shadows are not appropriate.

1043.5.1 FRAGRANCES

Fragrances such as perfume, colognes, lotions, etc. shall be applied in moderate amounts. Their use may be restricted or prohibited by a supervisor if deemed to be excessive or offensive to other employees or citizens.

1043.6 EXEMPTIONS

Members who seek cultural (e.g., culturally protected hairstyles) or other exemptions to this policy that are protected by law should generally be accommodated (Government Code § 12926). A member with an exemption may be ineligible for an assignment if the individual accommodation presents a security or safety risk. The Chief of Police should be advised any time a request for such an accommodation is denied or when a member with a cultural or other exemption is denied an assignment based on a safety or security risk.

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Uniform Regulations

1045.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The uniform policy of the Westminster Police Department is established to ensure that uniformed officers will be readily identifiable to the public through the proper use and wearing of department uniforms. Employees should also refer to the following associated policies:

Department Owned and Personal Property

Body Armor

Personal Appearance Standards

The Uniform and Equipment Specifications manual is maintained and periodically updated by the Chief of Police or his/her designee. That manual should be consulted regarding authorized equipment and uniform specifications.

The Westminster Police Department will provide uniforms for all employees required to wear them in the manner, quantity and frequency agreed upon in the respective employee group's collective bargaining agreement.

1045.2 WEARING AND CONDITION OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

Police 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 (Penal Code § 13655).

(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.

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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 Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

1. Wrist watch
2. Wedding ring, class ring, or other ring of tasteful design. A maximum of one ring/ set may be worn on each hand
3. Medical alert bracelet

1045.2.1 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) Officers working specialized assignments may be excused from the possession and display requirements when directed by their Commander.

1045.3 UNIFORM CLASSES

1045.3.1 CLASS A UNIFORM

The Class A uniform is to be worn on special occasions such as funerals, graduations, ceremonies, or as directed. The Class A uniform is required for all sworn personnel. The Class A uniform includes the standard issue uniform with:

(a) Long sleeve shirt with tie

(b) Polished shoes

Boots with pointed toes are not permitted.

1045.3.2 CLASS B UNIFORM

All officers will possess and maintain a serviceable Class B uniform at all times.

The Class B uniform will consist of the same garments and equipment as the Class A uniform with the following exceptions:

(a) The long or short sleeve shirt may be worn with the collar open. No tie is required

(b) A white, navy blue or 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

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(e) Approved all black unpolished shoes may be worn

(f) Boots with pointed toes are not permitted

1045.3.3 CLASS C UNIFORM

The Class C uniform may be established to allow field personnel cooler clothing during the summer months or special duty. The Chief of Police will establish the regulations and conditions for wearing the Class C Uniform and the specifications for the Class C Uniform.

1045.3.4 SPECIALIZED UNIT UNIFORMS

The Chief of Police may authorize special uniforms to be worn by officers in specialized units such as Canine Team, SWAT, Bicycle Patrol, Motor Officers and other specialized assignments.

1045.3.5 FOUL WEATHER GEAR

The Uniform and Equipment Specifications lists the authorized uniform jacket and rain gear.

(a) Beanie – Shall be a Department-approved model in accordance with the current uniform matrix which is a 5.11 black skull-cap design (black for SWAT). The beanie may be worn in a professional manner only with the Class ‘B’ or Class ‘C’ uniform. Beanies are to only be worn during the winter season, night shift and/or night cover shift, until the hours of 0630, unless authorized by the watch commander. The Winter season shall be defined by the dates of the current Calendar year Winter season. Beanies will be purchased at the employee’s expense.

1045.4 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 Chief of Police. 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 Chief of Police.

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(f) Flag Pin - A flag pin may be worn, centered above the nameplate.

(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 Chief of Police may authorize exceptions.

1045.4.1 MOURNING BADGE

Uniformed employees shall wear a black mourning band across the uniform badge whenever a law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty. The following mourning periods will be observed:

(a) An officer of this department - From the time of death until midnight on the 14th day after the death.

(b) An officer 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 officer.

(d) National Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15th) - From 0001 hours until 2359 hours.

(e) As directed by the Chief of Police.

1045.5 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 Chief of Police or designee when the employee's assignment or current task is not conducive to the wearing of such clothing.

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(f) No item of civilian attire may be worn on duty that would adversely affect the reputation of the Westminster Police Department or the morale of the employees.

1045.5.1 OFF DUTY ATTIRE WHILE IN VIEW OF PUBLIC IN THE DEPARTMENT
Appropriate attire shall be worn off duty while in the department and in public view. Public view may include the areas downstairs while certain events are ongoing (i.e. Citizen Academy, SARB, Explorer meetings, etc.) The following items shall not be worn in view of the public:

(a) Swimsuit, tube tops, or halter-tops.

(b) Spandex type pants or sheer clothing.

(c) Short shorts or short skirts.

(d) Clothing with distasteful printed slogans, buttons or pins.

(e) Other clothing reasonably determined by a supervisor to be unsuitable or inappropriate.

1045.6 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, ENDORSEMENTS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Unless specifically authorized by the Chief of Police, Westminster Police Department employees may not wear any part of the uniform, be photographed wearing any part of the uniform, utilize a department badge, patch or other official insignia, or cause to be posted, published, or displayed, the image of another employee, or identify himself/herself as an employee of the Westminster Police Department to do any of the following (Government Code §§ 3206 and 3302):

(a) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any political campaign or initiative.

(b) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any social issue, cause, or religion.

(c) Endorse, support, or oppose, any product, service, company or other commercial entity.

(d) Appear in any commercial, social, or non-profit publication, or any motion picture, film, video, public broadcast, or any website.

1045.7 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.

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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).

1045.7.1 RETIREE BADGES

The Chief of Police may issue identification in the form of a badge, insignia, emblem, device, label, certificate, card or writing that clearly states the person has honorably retired from the Westminster Police Department. This identification is separate and distinct from the identification authorized by Penal Code § 25455 and referenced in the Retired Officer CCW Endorsement Policy in this manual.

A badge issued to an honorably retired peace officer that is not affixed to a plaque or other memento will have the words “Honorably Retired” clearly visible on its face. A retiree shall be instructed that any such badge will remain the property of the Westminster Police Department and will be revoked in the event of misuse or abuse (Penal Code § 538d).

1045.8 UNAUTHORIZED UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES

Westminster Police Department employees may not wear any uniform item, accessory or attachment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications or by the Chief of Police or designee.

Westminster Police Department 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 Chief of Police or designee.

1045.8.1 PREGNANCY

Sworn and civilian female employees shall consult with supervisors for appropriate attire during pregnancy.

1045.8.2 COURT ATTIRE

Employees shall appear either in Class B uniform or appropriate business attire. For male employees they shall wear coat, slacks, dress shirt, and tie. Female employees shall wear a dress, suit, pantsuit, skirt or slacks and blouse.

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Police Aides/Part Time Employees

1047.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Aides and part-time employees work under direct supervision, perform a variety of routine and progressively more advanced tasks in an apprenticeship program in preparation for a career in law enforcement.

1047.2 AIDE AND PART-TIME EMPLOYEE SUPERVISION

Supervisor(s) within the division aides are assigned will be responsible for their direct supervision. The Training Sergeant will be responsible for their individual assignments throughout the Department. He/she will also monitor the training provided for all aides and part-time employees, and review all decisions affecting job assignments,status for compensation and performance evaluations.

1047.2.1 PROGRAM ADVISORS

The Training Sergeant may select individual officers to serve as advisors for police aides. These officers will serve as mentors for each aide. Aides will bring special requests, concerns, and suggestions to their program advisor for advice or direction before contacting the Training Sergeant. One advisor may be designated as the Coordinator's assistant to lead scheduled meetings and training sessions involving the aides. Multiple aides may be assigned to each program advisor. Program advisors are not intended to circumvent the established chain of command. Any issues that may be a concern of the individual's supervisor should be referred back to the Training Sergeant.

1047.3 ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

Newly hired aides and part-time employees will receive an orientation of the organization and facilities before reporting to their first assignment. Training sessions will be scheduled as needed to train aides and part-time employees for as many assignments as possible. In addition to job-specific training, information will be offered to prepare aides and part-time employees to compete successfully in the police officer selection process, as well as the academy training, if desired. All training will focus on improving job performance, as well as preparation to become police officers, if desired. These meetings will also offer an opportunity to receive continuous feedback.

1047.4 AIDE/PART-TIME EMPLOYEE UNIFORMS

Each aide and part-time employee will be provided two uniforms meeting the specifications described in the Uniform Manual for civilian employees.

1047.5 ROTATION OF ASSIGNMENTS (AIDES)

Rotating job assignments should occur on a regular basis to enhance the career development for each aide. Department needs and concerns will take precedence over individual considerations with the final decision resting with the PSU Commander.

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In general, senior aides will be assigned to positions requiring more technical skill or responsibility, as well as serving to train other aides for new assignments or those newly hired.

1047.6 RIDE-ALONG PROCEDURES

All aides and part-time employees are authorized to participate in the Ride-Along Program on their own time and as approved by their immediate supervisor and the appropriate Watch Commander. Applicable waivers must be signed in advance of the ride-along. Aides shall wear their uniform while participating on a ride-along.

1047.7 PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

Performance evaluations for all aides and part-time employees shall be completed monthly during their first year on probation. Upon successful completion of probation, aides and part-time employees will be evaluated on a yearly basis to assess their current job performance.

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Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships

1049.1 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.

1049.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Business relationship - Serving as an employee, independent contractor, compensated consultant, owner, board member, shareholder, or investor in an outside business, company, partnership, corporation, venture or other transaction, where the Department employee's annual interest, compensation, investment or obligation is greater than $250.

Conflict of interest - Any actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest in which it reasonably appears that a department employee's action, inaction or decisions are or may be influenced by the employee's personal or business relationship.

Nepotism - The practice of showing favoritism to relatives over others in appointment, employment, promotion or advancement by any public official in a position to influence these personnel decisions.

Personal relationship - Includes marriage, cohabitation, dating or any other intimate relationship beyond mere friendship.

Public official - A supervisor, officer or employee vested with authority by law, rule or regulation or to whom authority has been delegated.

Relative - An employee's parent, stepparent, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, child (natural, adopted or step), sibling or grandparent.

Subordinate - An employee who is subject to the temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority of a supervisor.

Supervisor - An employee who has temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority over the actions, decisions, evaluation and/or performance of a subordinate employee.

1049.2 RESTRICTED DUTIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

The Department will not prohibit all personal or business relationships between employees. However, in order to avoid nepotism or other inappropriate conflicts, the following reasonable restrictions shall apply (Government Code § 12940):

(a) 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.

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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.

These prohibitions will remain in effect throughout the relationship and will extend two years after the termination of the supervisor/subordinate relationship.

1049.2.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

Prior to entering into any personal or business relationship or other circumstance which the employee knows or reasonably should know could create a conflict of interest or other violation of this policy, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, next highest level of supervisor.

Whenever any employee is placed in circumstances that would require the employee to take enforcement action or provide official information or services to any relative or individual with whom the employee is involved in a personal or business relationship, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, immediate supervisor. In the event that no uninvolved supervisor is immediately available, the employee shall promptly notify dispatch to have another uninvolved employee either relieve the involved employee or minimally remain present to witness the action.

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1049.2.2 SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

Upon being notified of, or otherwise becoming aware of any circumstance that could result in or constitute an actual or potential violation of this policy, a supervisor shall take all reasonable steps to promptly mitigate or avoid such violations whenever possible. Supervisors shall also promptly notify the Chief of Police of such actual or potential violations through the chain of command.

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Department Badges

1051.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Westminster Police Department badge and uniform patch as well as the likeness of these items and the name of the Westminster Police Department are property of the Department and their use shall be restricted as set forth in this policy.

1051.2 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.

1051.2.1 FLAT BADGE

Sworn officers, with the written approval of the Chief of Police 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) An officer may sell, exchange, or transfer the flat badge he/she purchased to another officer within the Westminster Police Department with the written approval of the Chief of Police.

(b) Should the flat badge become lost, damaged, or otherwise removed from the officer's control, he/she shall make the proper notifications as outlined in the Department Owned and Personal Property Policy.

(c) An honorably retired officer 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.

1051.2.2 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).

(a) Non-sworn personnel shall not display any department badge except as a part of his/her uniform and while on duty, or otherwise acting in an official and authorized capacity.

(b) Non-sworn personnel shall not display any department badge or represent him/herself, on or off duty, in such a manner which would cause a reasonable person to believe that he/she is a sworn peace officer.

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1051.2.3 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.

1051.3 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 Chief of Police.

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.

1051.4 PERMITTED USE BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS

The likeness of the department badge shall not be used without the expressed authorization of the Chief of Police 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 Westminster Police Department. The following modifications shall be included:

1. The text on the upper and lower ribbons is replaced with the name of the employee association.
2. The badge number portion displays the acronym of the employee association.

(b) The likeness of the department badge for endorsement of political candidates shall not be used without the expressed approval of the Chief of Police.

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Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments

1053.1 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, City rules, current memorandums of understanding or collective bargaining agreements. For example, nothing in this policy affects the obligation of the Department to engage in a good faith, interactive process to consider reasonable accommodations for any employee with a temporary or permanent disability that is protected under federal or state law.

1053.2 POLICY

Subject to operational considerations, the Westminster Police Department 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.

1053.3 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 California Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code § 12940 et seq.) shall be treated equally, without regard to any preference for a work-related injury.

No position in the Westminster Police Department 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 Chief of Police 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.

1053.4 PROCEDURE

Employees may request a temporary modified-duty assignment for short-term injuries or illnesses.

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Employees seeking a temporary modified-duty assignment should submit a written request to their Commanders 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 Commander will make a recommendation through the chain of command to the Chief of Police regarding temporary modified-duty assignments that may be available based on the needs of the Department and the limitations of the employee. The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall confer with the Personnel Department or the City Attorney as appropriate.

Requests for a temporary modified-duty assignment of 20 hours or less per week may be approved and facilitated by the Watch Commander or Commander, with notice to the Chief of Police.

1053.5 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 Commander.

1053.5.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of employees assigned to temporary modified duty shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) Communicating and coordinating any required medical and physical therapy appointments in advance with their supervisors.

(b) Promptly notifying their supervisors of any change in restrictions or limitations after each appointment with their treating medical professionals.

(c) Communicating a status update to their supervisors no less than once every 30 days while assigned to temporary modified duty.

(d) Submitting a written status report to the Commander that contains a status update and anticipated date of return to full-duty when a temporary modified-duty assignment extends beyond 60 days.

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1053.5.2 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 Commander of the status and performance of employees assigned to temporary modified duty.

(b) Notifying the Commander and ensuring that the required documentation facilitating a return to full duty is received from the employee.

(c) Ensuring that employees returning to full duty have completed any required training and certification.

1053.6 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.

1053.7 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. Nothing in this policy limits a pregnant employee's right to a temporary modified-duty assignment if required under Government Code § 12945.

1053.7.1 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 City's personnel rules and regulations regarding family and medical care leave.

1053.8 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.

1053.9 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

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who are assigned to temporary modified duty shall inform their supervisors of any inability to maintain any certification, training or qualifications.

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Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking

1057.1 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 officer 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.

1057.1.1 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.

1057.2 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 Westminster Police Department will carefully balance the individual employee’s rights against the Department’s needs and interests when exercising a reasonable degree of control over its employees’ speech and expression.

1057.3 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 Westminster Police Department employees, such as posting personal information in a public forum, can result in compromising an employee’s home address or family ties. Employees should therefore not disseminate or post any information on any forum or medium that could reasonably be anticipated to compromise the safety of any employee, an employee's family, or associates.

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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 an officer who is working undercover.
- Disclosing the address of a fellow officer.
- Otherwise disclosing where another officer can be located off-duty.

1057.4 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 officer 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 Westminster Police Department or its employees.

(b) Speech or expression that, while not made pursuant to an official duty, is significantly linked to, or related to, the Westminster Police Department and tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Westminster Police Department 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 Westminster Police Department.

(f) Use or disclosure, through whatever means, of any information, photograph, video or other recording obtained or accessible as a result of employment with the Department

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for financial or personal gain, or any disclosure of such materials without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

(g) Posting, transmitting or disseminating any photographs, video or audio recordings, likenesses or images of department logos, emblems, uniforms, badges, patches, marked vehicles, equipment or other material that specifically identifies the Westminster Police Department on any personal or social networking or other website or web page, without the express authorization of the Chief of Police.

(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).

1057.4.1 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 officer associations, employees may not represent the Westminster Police Department or identify themselves in any way that could be reasonably perceived as representing the Westminster Police Department in order to do any of the following, unless specifically authorized by the Chief of Police (Government Code § 3206; Government Code § 3302):

(a) Endorse, support, oppose or contradict any political campaign or initiative.

(b) Endorse, support, oppose or contradict any social issue, cause or religion.

(c) Endorse, support or oppose any product, service, company or other commercial entity.

(d) Appear in any commercial, social or nonprofit publication or any motion picture, film, video, public broadcast or on any website.

Additionally, when it can reasonably be construed that an employee, acting in his/her individual capacity or through an outside group or organization (e.g., bargaining group or officer associations), is affiliated with this department, the employee shall give a specific disclaiming statement that any such speech or expression is not representative of the Westminster Police Department.

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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 officer 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 or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes (5 USC § 1502).

1057.5 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Employees forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to e-mails, texts, or anything published or maintained through file-sharing software or any internet site (e.g., Facebook) that is accessed, transmitted, received, or reviewed on any department technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

The Department shall not require an employee to disclose a personal user name or password for accessing personal social media or to open a personal social website; however, the Department may request access when it is reasonably believed to be relevant to the investigation of allegations of work-related misconduct (Labor Code § 980).

1057.6 CONSIDERATIONS

In determining whether to grant authorization of any speech or conduct that is prohibited under this policy, the factors that the Chief of Police 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.

1057.7 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.

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PROMOTIONS

1058.1 SPECIFICATIONS

PROMOTIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

Specifications for promotional opportunities are on file with the City of Westminster Department of Human Resources.

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Petty Cash

1059.1 PURPOSE

This policy establishes procedures and internal control over petty cash funds.

1059.2 ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

Petty cash expenses may be reimbursed up to $100 unless authorized by the Chief of Police. Petty cash cannot be used for subscriptions, dues, memberships, vendors with whom we have standing purchase orders, or areas where the City has income tax reporting responsibilities (i.e., clothing reimbursement). Petty cash can be used for business meeting expenses, mileage reimbursement, outside oral board expenses, office and other supplies (e.g., postal services, parking fees, food for prisoners, food or water for officers on extended incidents). Petty cash disbursements shall not be used to circumvent the City's established purchase process.

All petty cash requests require prior approval by a supervisor before the purchase is made. It is the responsibility of the approving supervisor to insure that the request meets the criteria for petty cash. Supervisors are not to approve petty cash purchases after the purchase has been made. Any unauthorized request must be submitted to a Commander, Deputy Chief or Chief of Police for approval.

The petty cash procedure should generally be as follows:

1. Identify need and complete the petty cash form (including estimated cost).
2. Obtain supervisor's approval.
3. Submit completed and approved request to the Fiscal Specialist for funds advance whenever practical.
4. Purchase item and obtain a receipt (the requesting employee may be held responsible for the purchase if a receipt is not submitted). If there is no receipt, the employee must complete a memorandum indicating the items, the price and the reason for the lack of a receipt.
5. Submit receipt to the Fiscal Specialist and return unspent funds advanced, or receive reimbursement for personal expenses caused by underestimating expense. This must be done in a timely manner.
6. All requests and receipts are sent to the Deputy Chief for review and approval. If not within the established guidelines, the Commander and the approving supervisor will be notified.

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1059.3 PETTY CASH CUSTODIANS

The Fiscal Specialist assigned to Management Services shall be the Petty Cash Custodian. The Petty Cash Custodian will be responsible for the documentation of petty cash disbursements and replenishment of funds.

Removal of any funds from petty cash should be accompanied by appropriate documentation and approvals. For each disbursement, a log entry and the required back-up paperwork must be completed.

There will be no disbursement of funds in the absence of the Fiscal Specialist. In the event the Fiscal Specialist will be absent for an extended period of time, the petty cash fund will be “cashed out” and will be the responsibility of the Administrative Assistant.

1059.4 AUDITS

The petty cash funds maintained by the petty cash custodian and the funds maintained in the Fiscal Specialist’s cash box shall be audited at least twice per year. The Office of Professional Standards shall conduct this audit.

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Illness and Injury Prevention

1060.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish an ongoing and effective plan to reduce the incidence of illness and injury for members of the Westminster Police Department, in accordance with the requirements of 8 CCR 3203.

This policy specifically applies to illness and injury that results in lost time or that requires medical treatment beyond first aid. Although this policy provides the essential guidelines for a plan that reduces illness and injury, it may be supplemented by procedures outside the Policy Manual.

This policy does not supersede, but supplements any related Citywide safety efforts.

1060.2 POLICY

The Westminster Police Department is committed to providing a safe environment for its members and visitors and to minimizing the incidence of work-related illness and injuries. The Department will establish and maintain an Illness and Injury Prevention program and will provide tools, training and safeguards designed to reduce the potential for accidents, illness and injuries. It is the intent of the Department to comply with all laws and regulations related to occupational safety.

1060.3 ILLNESS AND INJURY PREVENTION PLAN

The Professional Standards Unit Commander is responsible for developing an illness and injury prevention plan that shall include:

(a) Workplace safety and health training programs.

(b) Regularly scheduled safety meetings.

(c) Posted or distributed safety information.

(d) A system for members to anonymously inform management about workplace hazards.

(e) Establishment of a safety and health committee that will:

1. Meet regularly.
2. Prepare a written record of safety and health committee meetings.
3. Review the results of periodic scheduled inspections.
4. Review investigations of accidents and exposures.
5. Make suggestions to command staff for the prevention of future incidents.
6. Review investigations of alleged hazardous conditions.
7. Submit recommendations to assist in the evaluation of member safety suggestions.
8. Assess the effectiveness of efforts made by the Department to meet relevant standards.

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(f) Establishment of a process to ensure serious illnesses or injuries and death are reported as required by the Division of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) (8 CCR 342).

1060.4 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Professional Standards Unit Commander include but are not limited to:

(a) Managing and implementing a plan to reduce the incidence of member illness and injury.

(b) Ensuring that a system of communication is in place that facilitates a continuous flow of safety and health information between supervisors and members. This system shall include:

1. New member orientation that includes a discussion of safety and health policies and procedures.
2. Regular member review of the illness and injury prevention plan.
3. Access to the illness and injury prevention plan to members or their representatives as set forth in 8 CCR 3203.

(c) Ensuring that all safety and health policies and procedures are clearly communicated and understood by all members.

(d) Taking reasonable steps to ensure that all members comply with safety rules in order to maintain a safe work environment. This includes but is not limited to:

1. Informing members of the illness and injury prevention guidelines.
2. Recognizing members who perform safe work practices.
3. Ensuring that the member evaluation process includes member safety performance.
4. Ensuring department compliance to meet standards regarding the following:
   (a) Respiratory protection (8 CCR 5144)
   (b) Bloodborne pathogens (8 CCR 5193)
   (c) Aerosol transmissible diseases (8 CCR 5199)
   (d) Heat illness (8 CCR 3395)
   (e) Emergency Action Plan (8 CCR 3220)
   (f) Fire Prevention Plan (8 CCR 3221)
   (g) Hazards associated with wildfire smoke (8 CCR 5141.1)

(e) Making available the Identified Hazards and Correction Record form to document inspections, unsafe conditions or work practices, and actions taken to correct unsafe conditions and work practices.

(f) Making available the Investigation/Corrective Action Report to document individual incidents or accidents.

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(g) Making available a form to document the safety and health training of each member. This form will include the member's name or other identifier, training dates, type of training, and training providers.

(h) Conducting and documenting a regular review of the illness and injury prevention plan.

1060.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisor responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

(a) Ensuring member compliance with illness and injury prevention guidelines and answering questions from members about this policy.

(b) Training, counseling, instructing or making informal verbal admonishments any time safety performance is deficient. Supervisors may also initiate discipline when it is reasonable and appropriate under the Standards of Conduct Policy.

(c) Establishing and maintaining communication with members on health and safety issues. This is essential for an injury-free, productive workplace.

(d) Completing required forms and reports relating to illness and injury prevention; such forms and reports shall be submitted to the Professional Standards Unit Commander.

(e) Notifying the Professional Standards Unit Commander when:

1. New substances, processes, procedures or equipment that present potential new hazards are introduced into the work environment.
2. New, previously unidentified hazards are recognized.
3. Occupational illnesses and injuries occur.
4. New and/or permanent or intermittent members are hired or reassigned to processes, operations or tasks for which a hazard evaluation has not been previously conducted.
5. Workplace conditions warrant an inspection.

1060.6 HAZARDS

All members should report and/or take reasonable steps to correct unsafe or unhealthy work conditions, practices or procedures in a timely manner. Members should make their reports to a supervisor (as a general rule, their own supervisors).

Supervisors should make reasonable efforts to correct unsafe or unhealthy work conditions in a timely manner, based on the severity of the hazard. These hazards should be corrected when observed or discovered, when it is reasonable to do so. When a hazard exists that cannot be immediately abated without endangering members or property, supervisors should protect or remove all exposed members from the area or item, except those necessary to correct the existing condition.

Members who are necessary to correct the hazardous condition shall be provided with the necessary protection.

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All significant actions taken and dates they are completed shall be documented on an Identified Hazards and Correction Record form. This form should be forwarded to the Professional Standards Unit Commander via the chain of command.

The Professional Standards Unit Commander will take appropriate action to ensure the illness and injury prevention plan addresses potential hazards upon such notification.

1060.7 INSPECTIONS

Safety inspections are crucial to a safe work environment. These inspections identify and evaluate workplace hazards and permit mitigation of those hazards. A hazard assessment checklist should be used for documentation and to ensure a thorough assessment of the work environment.

The Professional Standards Unit Commander shall ensure that the appropriate documentation is completed for each inspection.

1060.7.1 EQUIPMENT

Members are charged with daily vehicle inspections of their assigned vehicles and of their personal protective equipment (PPE) prior to working in the field. Members shall complete the Identified Hazards and Correction Record form if an unsafe condition cannot be immediately corrected. Members should forward this form to their supervisors.

1060.8 INVESTIGATIONS

Any member sustaining any work-related illness or injury, as well as any member who is involved in any accident or hazardous substance exposure while on-duty shall report such event as soon as practicable to a supervisor. Members observing or learning of a potentially hazardous condition are to promptly report the condition to their immediate supervisors.

A supervisor receiving such a report should personally investigate the incident or ensure that an investigation is conducted. Investigative procedures for workplace accidents and hazardous substance exposures should include:

(a) A visit to the accident scene as soon as possible.

(b) An interview of the injured member and witnesses.

(c) An examination of the workplace for factors associated with the accident/exposure.

(d) Determination of the cause of the accident/exposure.

(e) Corrective action to prevent the accident/exposure from reoccurring.

(f) Documentation of the findings and corrective actions taken.

(g) Completion of an Investigation/Corrective Action Report form.

(h) Completion of an Identified Hazards and Correction Record form.

Additionally, the supervisor should proceed with the steps to report an on-duty injury, as required under the Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting Policy, in conjunction with this investigation to avoid duplication and ensure timely reporting.

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1060.9 TRAINING

The Professional Standards Unit Commander should work with the Training Sergeant to provide all members, including supervisors, with training on general and job-specific workplace safety and health practices. Training shall be provided:

(a) To supervisors to familiarize them with the safety and health hazards to which members under their immediate direction and control may be exposed.

(b) To all members with respect to hazards specific to each member's job assignment.

(c) To all members given new job assignments for which training has not previously been provided.

(d) Whenever new substances, processes, procedures or equipment are introduced to the workplace and represent a new hazard.

(e) Whenever the Department is made aware of a new or previously unrecognized hazard.

1060.9.1 TRAINING TOPICS

The Training Sergeant shall ensure that training includes:

(a) Reporting unsafe conditions, work practices and injuries, and informing a supervisor when additional instruction is needed.

(b) Use of appropriate clothing, including gloves and footwear.

(c) Use of respiratory equipment.

(d) Availability of toilet, hand-washing and drinking-water facilities.

(e) Provisions for medical services and first aid.

(f) Handling of bloodborne pathogens and other biological hazards.

(g) Prevention of heat and cold stress.

(h) Identification and handling of hazardous materials, including chemical hazards to which members could be exposed, and review of resources for identifying and mitigating hazards (e.g., hazard labels, Safety Data Sheets (SDS)).

(i) Mitigation of physical hazards, such as heat and cold stress, noise, and ionizing and non-ionizing radiation.

(j) Identification and mitigation of ergonomic hazards, including working on ladders or in a stooped posture for prolonged periods.

(k) Back exercises/stretches and proper lifting techniques.

(l) Avoidance of slips and falls.

(m) Good housekeeping and fire prevention.

(n) Other job-specific safety concerns.

1060.10 RECORDS

Records and training documentation relating to illness and injury prevention will be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

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Attachments

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Death In custody BCIA 713.pdf

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Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training Hate Crimes Model Policy 2019.pdf

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Statutes and Legal Requirements.pdf

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Statutes and Legal Requirements

Items listed in this section include sections from the California Penal Code (CPC), Welfare and Institutions Code (WI) and Government Code (GC).

Definitions

CPC 422.55 - Provides general definition of hate crimes in California.

CPC 422.56- Provides definitions of terms included in hate crimes statutes.

GC 12926- Disability-related definitions applicable to some hate crime statutes.

Felonies

Hate Crimes

CPC 422.7 - Commission of a crime for the purpose of interfering with another's exercise of civil rights.

Related Crimes

CPC 190.2(a)(16) - Homicide penalties related to certain hate crime related acts.

CPC 190.03(a) - Homicide penalties related to certain hate crime related acts.

CPC 288(b)(2) - Sexual assault of dependent person by caretaker

CPC 368(b) - Dependent adult abuse generally - may apply as disability-related hate crime.

CPC 594.3 - Vandalism of places of worship.

CPC 11412 - Causing or attempting to cause other to refrain from exercising religion by threat.

CPC 11413 - Arson or destructive device at place of worship.

Misdemeanors

Hate Crimes

CPC 422.6 - Use of force, threats, or destruction of property to interfere with another's exercise of civil rights.

CPC 422.77 - Violation of civil order (Bane Act) protecting the exercise of civil rights

Related Crimes

CPC 302 - Disorderly conduct during an assemblage of people gathered for religious worship at a tax-exempt place of worship.

CPC 538(c) - Unauthorized insertion of advertisements in newspapers and redistribution to the public.

CPC 640.2 - Placing handbill, notice of advertisement on a consumer product or product packaged without authorization.

CPC 11411 - Terrorism of owner or occupant of real property. Placement or display of sign, symbol, or other physical impression without authorization, engagement in pattern of conduct, or burning or desecration of religious symbols.

Enhancements

CPC 190.2(a)(16) - Special circumstances imposing the Death Penalty or Life Without Possibility of Parole, if the victim was intentionally killed because of sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

CPC 190.3 - Special circumstances imposing LWOP if the victim was intentionally killed because of sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

CPC 422.75 - Penalty for felony committed because of victim's race, color, religion, nationality, country or origin, ancestry, disability, or sexual orientation shall be enhanced one, two, or three years in prison, if the person acts alone; and two, three, or four years if the person commits the act with another.

CPC 1170.8 - Enhancement for robbery or assault at a place of worship.

CPC 1170.85(b) - Felony assault or battery enhancement due to age or disability.

Reporting

CPC 13023- Requirement for law enforcement agencies to report hate crime data to DOJ.

WI 15630 – Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Mandated Reporting (may apply in disability-related hate crimes).

Training and Policy Requirements

CPC 422.87 - Hate crimes policy adoption and update requirements (AB 1985, Effective January 1, 2019).

CPC 13519.6 - Defines hate crime training requirements for peace officers.

CPC 13519.41 - Training requirements on sexual orientation and gender identity-related hate crimes for peace officers and dispatchers (AB 2504, Effective January 1, 2019).

Miscellaneous Provisions

CPC 422.78 - Responsibility for prosecution of stay away order violations.

CPC 422.86 - Public policy regarding hate crimes.

CPC 422.89 - Legislative intent regarding violations of civil rights and hate crimes

CPC 422.92 - Hate crimes victims brochure requirement for law enforcement agencies.

CPC 422.93 - Protection of victims and witnesses from being reported to immigration authorities.

GC 6254 - Victim confidentiality.

Hate Crime Checklist.pdf

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HATE CRIME CHECKLIST

VICTIM

Victim Type:

☐ **Individual**
Legal name (Last, First): _____
Other Names used (AKA): _____

☐ **School, business or organization**
Name: _____
Type: _____
(e.g., non-profit, private, public school)
Address: _____

☐ **Faith-based organization**
Name: _____
Faith: _____
Address: _____

Target of Crime (Check all that apply):

☐ Person ☐ Private property ☐ Public property

☐ Other _____

Nature of Crime (Check all that apply):

☐ Bodily injury ☐ Threat of violence

☐ Property damage

☐ Other crime: _____

Property damage - estimated value _____

BIAS

Type of Bias
(Check all characteristics that apply):

☐ Disability
☐ Gender
☐ Gender identity/expression
☐ Sexual orientation
☐ Race
☐ Ethnicity
☐ Nationality
☐ Religion
☐ Significant day of offense
(e.g., 9/11, holy days)
☐ Other: _____

Specify disability (be specific):

_____

_____

Actual or Perceived Bias – Victim's Statement:

☐ Actual bias [Victim actually has the indicated characteristic(s)].

☐ Perceived bias [Suspect believed victim had the indicated characteristic(s)].

If perceived, explain the circumstances in narrative portion of Report.

Reason for Bias:

Do you feel you were targeted based on one of these characteristics?
☐ Yes ☐ No *Explain in narrative portion of Report.*

Do you know what motivated the suspect to commit this crime?
☐ Yes ☐ No *Explain in narrative portion of Report.*

Do you feel you were targeted because you associated yourself with an individual or a group?
☐ Yes ☐ No *Explain in narrative portion of Report.*

Are there indicators the suspect is affiliated with a Hate Group (i.e., literature/tattoos)?
☐ Yes ☐ No *Describe in narrative portion of Report.*

Are there Indicators the suspect is affiliated with a criminal street gang?
☐ Yes ☐ No *Describe in narrative portion of Report.*

Bias Indicators (Check all that apply):

☐ Hate speech ☐ Acts/gestures ☐ Property damage ☐ Symbol used
☐ Written/electronic communication ☐ Graffiti/spray paint ☐ Other: _____

Describe with exact detail in narrative portion of Report.

HISTORY

Relationship Between Suspect & Victim:

Suspect known to victim? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Nature of relationship: _____
Length of relationship: _____
If Yes, describe in narrative portion of Report

☐ Prior reported incidents with suspect? Total # _____
☐ Prior unreported incidents with suspect? Total # _____
Restraining orders? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, describe in narrative portion of Report
Type of order: _____ Order/Case# _____

WEAPONS

Weapon(s) used during incident? ☐ Yes ☐ No Type: _____
Weapon(s) booked as evidence? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Automated Firearms System (AFS) Inquiry attached to Report? ☐ Yes ☐ No

HATE CRIME CHECKLIST

EVIDENCE

Witnesses present during incident? ☐ Yes ☐ No Statements taken? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Evidence collected? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Photos taken? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total # of photos: _____ D#: _____

Taken by: _____ Serial #: _____

Recordings: ☐ Video ☐ Audio ☐ Booked

Suspect identified: ☐ Field ID ☐ By photo ☐ Known to victim

OBSERVATIONS

VICTIM	SUSPECT
☐ Tattoos	☐ Tattoos
☐ Shaking	☐ Shaking
☐ Unresponsive	☐ Unresponsive
☐ Crying	☐ Crying
☐ Scared	☐ Scared
☐ Angry	☐ Angry
☐ Fearful	☐ Fearful
☐ Calm	☐ Calm
☐ Agitated	☐ Agitated
☐ Nervous	☐ Nervous
☐ Threatening	☐ Threatening
☐ Apologetic	☐ Apologetic
☐ Other observations: _____	☐ Other observations: _____

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS (Explain all boxes marked "Yes" in narrative portion of report):

Has suspect ever threatened you? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has suspect ever harmed you? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Does suspect possess or have access to a firearm? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you afraid for your safety? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any other information that may be helpful? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Resources offered at scene: ☐ Yes ☐ No Type: _____

MEDICAL

Victim	Suspect	
☐	☐	Declined medical treatment
☐	☐	Will seek own medical treatment
☐	☐	Received medical treatment

Authorization to Release Medical Information, Form 05.03.00, signed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Paramedics at scene? ☐ Yes ☐ No Unit # _____

Name(s)/ID #: _____

Hospital: _____

Jail Dispensary: _____

Physician/Doctor: _____

Patient #: _____

Officer (Name/Rank)	Date
Officer (Name/Rank)	Date
Supervisor Approving (Name/Rank)	Date

Hold Harmless for West Training.pdf

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PD-218 Range Injured and Unintentional Damage Form.pdf

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WPD Range Damage Control Form.pdf

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