

Chapter 6 - Investigation Operations

Investigation and Prosecution

600.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines and requirements pertaining to the handling and disposition of criminal investigations.

600.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the California Department of Parks and Recreation 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 MODIFICATION OF CHARGES FILED

Officers 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 the District Superintendent or designee. Any authorized request to modify the charges or to recommend dismissal of charges shall be made to the prosecutor.

600.4 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATION REQUIREMENTS

Suspects who are in custody and subjected to an interrogation shall be given the *Miranda* warning, unless an exception applies. Interview or interrogation of a juvenile shall be in accordance with the Temporary Custody of Juveniles Policy.

600.4.1 AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS

Any custodial interrogation of an individual who is suspected of having committed any violent felony offense should be recorded (audio or video with audio as available) in its entirety. Regardless of where the interrogation occurs, every reasonable effort should be made to secure functional recording equipment to accomplish such recordings.

Consideration should also be given to recording a custodial interrogation, or any investigative interview, for any other offense when it is reasonable to believe it would be appropriate and beneficial to the investigation and is otherwise allowed by law.

No recording of a custodial interrogation should be destroyed or altered without written authorization from the prosecuting attorney and the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division Superintendent. 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.

600.5 INITIAL INVESTIGATION

600.5.1 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

An officer responsible for an initial investigation shall complete no less than the following:

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- (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 Shift Supervisor.
 - 4. Make reasonable attempts to locate, identify and interview all available victims, complainants, witnesses and suspects.
 - 5. Collect any evidence.
 - 6. Take any appropriate law enforcement action.
 - 7. Complete and submit the appropriate reports and documentation.
- (c) If the preliminary determination is that no crime occurred, determine what other action may be necessary, what other resources may be available, and advise the informant or complainant of this information.

600.6 DISCONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATIONS

The investigation of a criminal case or efforts to seek prosecution should only be discontinued if one of the following applies:

- (a) All reasonable investigative efforts have been exhausted, no reasonable belief that the person who committed the crime can be identified, and the incident has been documented appropriately.
- (b) The perpetrator of a misdemeanor has been identified and a warning is the most appropriate disposition.
 - 1. In these cases, the investigator shall document that the person was warned and why prosecution was not sought.
 - 2. Warnings shall not be given for felony offenses or other offenses identified in this policy or by law that require an arrest or submission of a case to a prosecutor.
- (c) The case has been submitted to the appropriate prosecutor but no charges have been filed. Further investigation is not reasonable nor has the prosecutor requested further investigation.
- (d) The case has been submitted to the appropriate prosecutor, charges have been filed, and further investigation is not reasonable, warranted, or requested, and there is no need to take the suspect into custody.

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- (e) Suspects have been arrested, there are no other suspects, and further investigation is either not warranted, or requested.
- (f) Investigation has proven that a crime was not committed (see the Sexual Assault Investigations Policy for special considerations in these cases).

The Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Sexual Assault Investigations, and Senior and Disability Victimization policies may also require an arrest or submittal of a case to a prosecutor.

600.7 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.

600.8 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 the member's own equipment, the member should note the dates, times, and locations of the information and report the discovery to the member's 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).

600.8.1 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.

600.9 USE OF CERTAIN DNA SAMPLES

Known samples of DNA collected from a victim of a crime or alleged crime, and known reference samples of DNA from any individual that were voluntarily provided for the purpose of exclusion are to be used only for the purpose directly related to the incident being investigated and in compliance with the procedures identified in Penal Code § 679.12.

600.10 ANTI-REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS CRIMES

A member should take a report any time a person living within the jurisdiction of the California Department of Parks and Recreation reports that the person has been a victim of an anti-

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reproductive rights crime as defined by Penal Code § 13776 and Penal Code § 423.3. This includes:

- (a) Taking a report, even if the location of the crime is outside the jurisdiction of this department or has not been determined (e.g., online harassment).
- (b) Providing the victim with the appropriate information, as set forth in the Victim and Witness Assistance Policy. Members should encourage the person to review the material and should assist with any questions.

A report should also be taken if a person living outside department jurisdiction reports an anti-reproductive rights crime that may have been committed or facilitated within this jurisdiction (e.g., use of a post office box in the state to facilitate the crime).

A member investigating an anti-reproductive rights crime should ensure that the case is referred to the appropriate agency if it is determined that this department should not be the investigating agency. The victim should be advised that the case is being transferred to the agency of jurisdiction. The appropriate entries should be made into any databases that have been authorized for department use and are specific to this type of investigation.

The Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division supervisor should provide the Records Manager with enough information regarding the number of calls for assistance and number of arrests to meet the reporting requirements to the California Department of Justice as required by Penal Code § 13777. See the Records Center Policy for additional guidance.

600.11 STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR FIREARM INVESTIGATIONS

600.11.1 CALIFORNIA DOJ NOTICE OF LOCATION OF REPORTED LOST OR STOLEN FIREARM

When notification is received from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) that a firearm purchase matches an entry made into the Automated Firearms System by the Department as lost or stolen, the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division Chief shall assign an officer to arrange for the legal retrieval of the firearm and book the firearm into evidence in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy. Recovery of the firearm shall be reported pursuant to Penal Code § 11108.2, Penal Code § 11109.3, and Penal Code § 11108.5. If appropriate, arrangements may be made to have another state or local law enforcement agency retrieve the firearm on behalf of the Department (Penal Code § 28220).

600.11.2 RELINQUISHMENT OF FIREARMS VERIFICATION

The Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division Chief shall designate a member to have access to the Armed Prohibited Persons System (APPS) to receive information regarding individuals in the jurisdiction of the Department who have become a prohibited possessor of a firearm registered in their name and have not provided proof of relinquishment. The member shall document steps taken to verify that the individual is no longer in possession of firearms and provide the information to the Records Center for preparation of a quarterly report to the California DOJ (Penal Code § 29813) (see the Records Center Policy for additional guidance).

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 California Department of Parks and Recreation that its officers, 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 INVESTIGATION AND REPORTING

In all reported or suspected cases of sexual assault, a report should be written and assigned for follow-up investigation. This includes incidents in which the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated.

602.4 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 Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division Superintendent 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.

602.5 VICTIM INTERVIEWS

The primary considerations in sexual assault investigations, which begin with the initial call to the Communications Center, should be the health and safety of the victim, the preservation of

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evidence, and preliminary interviews to determine if a crime has been committed and to attempt to identify the suspect.

Whenever possible, a member of SART should be included in the initial victim interviews. An in-depth follow-up interview should not be conducted until after the medical and forensic examinations are completed and the personal needs of the victim have been met (e.g., change of clothes, bathing). The follow-up interview may be delayed to the following day based upon the circumstances. Whenever practicable, the follow-up interview should be conducted by a qualified investigator.

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.

602.5.1 VICTIM RIGHTS

Whenever there is an alleged sexual assault, the assigned officer shall accomplish the following:

- (a) Prior to the commencement of the initial interview, 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, about any other rights of a sexual assault victim pursuant to the sexual assault victim card described in 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 the support person's presence would be detrimental to the purpose of the examination (Penal Code § 264.2).

602.5.2 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).

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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).

602.6 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 (Penal Code § 680).

602.6.1 STANDARDIZED SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC MEDICAL EVIDENCE KIT

The Property and Evidence Section supervisor should make California standardized sexual assault forensic medical evidence (SAFE) kits available to members who may investigate sexual assault cases. Members investigating a sexual assault should use these SAFE kits when appropriate and follow related usage guidelines issued by the California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center (Penal Code § 13823.14).

602.6.2 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 vendor 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 testing is complete, the statute of limitations has run, or the SAFE kit is exempt from the update requirement (Penal Code § 680.3).

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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.

602.6.3 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 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) 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 confirmed 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 or the federal Department of Justice or Federal Bureau of Investigation CODIS database of case evidence.
 - 4. To access the DOJ SAFE-T database portal consistent with Penal Code § 680.3(e) for information involving their own forensic kit and the status of the kit.
- (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).

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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.

602.6.4 COLLECTION OF DNA REFERENCE SAMPLES

Reference samples of DNA collected directly from a victim of sexual assault, and reference samples of DNA collected from any individual that were voluntarily provided for the purpose of exclusion, shall be protected as provided in Penal Code § 679.12 (Penal Code § 680).

602.7 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 Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division supervisor.

Classification of a sexual assault case as unfounded requires the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division 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.

602.8 CASE REVIEW

The Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division 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 Deputy Director, Park Operations.

Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA)

608.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA) during investigations conducted by the Department.

608.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA) - CVSA detects, measures, and charts the stress in a person's voice following a pre-formatted questionnaire.

Qualified CVSA Examiner - An individual who has satisfactorily completed Department approved training in truth verification and the use of CVSA, and who has maintained certification through successful completion of CVSA recertification training every three years.

Overt Interview - A live interview by a CVSA Examiner with a prospective employee or peace officer candidate, a suspect, victim, or complainant. These interviews are conducted with prior knowledge and permission that certain questions will be recorded live and captured by the CVSA for analysis. At the CVSA Examiner's discretion, all of portions of the interview may be audio and/or video recorded.

Structured Interview - A legally obtained audio recording of a suspect, victim, witness, or complainant. The interviews are designed to capture a response to preformatted questions. This recorded interview is then analyzed by the CVSA Examiner.

608.2 POLICY

The Department has established guidelines for administering CVSA examinations in conjunction with pre-employment screening and investigations conducted by the Department. CVSA examinations by qualified CVSA Examiners should not be used as a single determinant for offering employment or a final determinant in investigations. They should not be used to circumvent good investigative procedures. CVSA is used for truth verification. Therefore, the CVSA should be viewed as a means to protect the integrity of an investigation and/or the interviewee.

608.3 PRE-EMPLOYMENT USE OF CVSA

CVSA examinations will be used as part of the Background Investigation during the selection or appointment process for all State Park Peace Officers and Communications Operators. This includes all candidates being considered for hire pursuant the State Park Cadet or Communication Operator Civil Service hiring processes, as well as current permanent State Park employees seeking appointment through internal processes into a State Park Peace Officer or Communication Operator classification.

The CVSA Examiner will review the questions with the applicant prior to the Overt Interview.

608.4 INVESTIGATIVE USE OF CVSA

CVSA examinations should be utilized in conjunction with investigative leads and interviews of available suspect(s), victim(s), witness(es), and/or complainant(s). When legal and practical, both

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the victim and the accused should be tested for comparison. These results are not to be used for arrest or legal action, but are designed for developing leads and/or obtaining case direction.

608.5 INTERNAL AFFAIRS

CVSA examinations may be administered during criminal or administrative investigations only if the employee freely requests to participate in the examination. A CVSA examination may not be requested of any peace officer employee. The refusal to request, volunteer, or failure to agree to a CVSA shall not be included in any investigative report or findings. This ensures the employee's constitutional and employee rights, and permits any statements or admissions made during a CVSA examination to be admitted as evidence.

Civilian complainants or witnesses may be tested with the CVSA in order to determine if their complaint, allegation, or knowledge of a situation is legitimate. These interviews must only be conducted after a voluntary test waiver has been signed.

A CVSA Examiner will not administer a test on a peace officer employee without written permission in the Examiner's possession.

A CVSA examination will not be the sole determinant of an investigation conclusion.

608.6 SUBJECTS TO BE TESTED

Any individual who knows right from wrong may be tested.

Generally, children who recognize right from wrong may be tested. Children under the age of eighteen must have parental or legal guardian consent prior to testing. The consent must be in writing and in the possession of the CVSA Examiner prior to the beginning of the examination.

No person shall be forced or coerced into taking the examination.

Any person who has been indicted by the Grand Jury or formally charged for the crime the CVSA is being requested for shall not be tested, unless there is an agreement and stipulation signed by the person to be examined, his/her defense attorney, and the prosecutor.

608.7 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CVSA EXAMINER

- (a) The CVSA Examiner will review the available information pertaining to the investigation in question prior to administering the examination.
- (b) All CVSA Examiners will maintain a record of all examinations they have conducted.
- (c) The CVSA Examiner should receive a second opinion on examinations from another CVSA Examiner.
- (d) The CVSA Examiner will refrain from examinations that may compromise his/her integrity, or the integrity of the Department. Any tests of friends, relatives, or persons the Examiner has a relationship with or which represent a conflict of interest must be conducted by a neutral Examiner.

608.8 OFFICER/INVESTIGATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

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608.8.1 CVSA EXAMINATION

- (a) The investigator will complete a preliminary investigation and consult with the examiner prior to a CVSA examination being scheduled. The CVSA is a supplement to, not a substitute for, a thorough investigation.
- (b) The investigator is responsible for notifying the subject of the date and time for the scheduled appointment (excluding pre-employment CVSA examinations)
- (c) The investigator will remain available until the completion of an examination.
- (d) The investigator will notify the CVSA Examiner immediately if the subject cancels an examination appointment.

608.8.2 CVSA RECORDS

- (a) CVSA records shall be maintained in a secure area, available only to those authorized access to CORI.
- (b) CVSA records may include a waiver of rights, voluntary submission forms, subject information sheet, CVSA graph, and/or statement of results.
- (c) CVSA records pursuant to administrative or criminal investigations shall be maintained according to the Department retention schedule for administrative or criminal records.
- (d) CVSA records pursuant to pre-employment or pre-appointment of State Park Peace Officers or ComOps will be maintained according to the Department retention schedule for Background Investigations.
- (e) For non-LEES CVSA records, the District Superintendent or designee is responsible for the storage of CVSA records.

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

This department will strive to use eyewitness identification techniques, when appropriate, to enhance the investigative process and will emphasize identifying persons responsible for crime and exonerating the innocent.

610.3 INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Officers 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 officer 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 Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Division 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

Officers 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.

Officers should avoid mentioning that:

- The individual was apprehended near the crime scene.
- The evidence points to the individual as the suspect.
- Other witnesses have identified or failed to identify the individual as the suspect.

In order to avoid undue influence, witnesses should view suspects or a lineup individually and outside the presence of other witnesses. Witnesses should be instructed to avoid discussing details of the incident or of the identification process with other witnesses.

Whenever feasible, the eyewitness identification procedure should be audio and video recorded and the recording should be retained according to current evidence procedures (Penal Code § 859.7).

610.6 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

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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.

610.6.1 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. Officers should not say anything to a witness that may validate or invalidate an eyewitness' identification. In photographic lineups, writings or information concerning any previous arrest of a suspect shall not be visible to the witness (Penal Code § 859.7).

610.7 DOCUMENTATION

A thorough description of the eyewitness process and the result of any eyewitness identification should be documented in the case report.

If a photographic lineup is utilized, a copy of the photographic lineup presented to the witness should be included in the case report. In addition, the order in which the photographs were presented to the witness should be documented in the case report.

610.7.1 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).

610.7.2 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).

610.8 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 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.

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Eyewitness Identification

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.

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 California Department of Parks and Recreation that is both favorable and material to the current prosecution or defense of a criminal defendant.

612.2 POLICY

The California Department of Parks and Recreation 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 California Department of Parks and Recreation 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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Brady Material Disclosure

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.

Unmanned Aerial System

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 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 Deputy Director, Park Operations 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, and/or coordinating compliance with FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate, as appropriate for department operations.
- 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.

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Unmanned Aerial System

Deployment of a UAS shall require written authorization of the Deputy Director, Park Operations or the authorized designee, depending on the type of mission.

- Coordinating the completion of the FAA Emergency Operation Request Form in emergency situations, as applicable (e.g., natural disasters, search and rescue, emergency situations to safeguard human life).
- 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 Deputy Director, Park Operations.
- Maintaining familiarity with FAA regulatory standards, state laws and regulations, and local ordinances regarding the operations of a UAS.

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 consistent with FAA regulations.

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Unmanned Aerial System

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.
- 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.