



Kern County Sheriff's Office
Policies and Procedures

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| TITLE: SAFETY OF FIREARMS | | NO: G-0400 | |
| APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner | | | |
| EFFECTIVE: June 24, 2013 | REVIEWED: 11/10/2017 | REVISED: | UPDATED: 11/10/2017 |

POLICY

Sworn employees assume a significant responsibility in protecting and serving the public. As a result, they are entrusted with a considerable level of public trust. Consequently, higher standards are placed upon their conduct. These higher standards extend to both on and off-duty conduct. This is particularly applicable when the off-duty conduct involves the consumption of alcohol. In order to remain beneficiaries of the public trust, we must balance the rights of our sworn employees with the responsibility to maintain the highest standards of professional and personal conduct.

All employees carrying or handling any firearm in a public place, while on or off-duty, whether the firearm is concealed or not (per DPPM G-700), shall not consume any intoxicating substance to the point where the employee is unable to or does not exercise reasonable care and/or control of the firearm. **For purposes of this section, intoxicating substance shall include (but are not limited to) alcoholic beverages, medication (both prescribed and over-the-counter), and/or controlled substances.** A violation of this policy shall be determined by a totality of the circumstances.