



*Kern County Sheriff's Office*  
**Policies and Procedures**

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| <b>TITLE: FIREARMS – INVOLVED OFFICER STATUS</b>   |                                 | <b>NO: G-500</b>               |                                |
| <b>APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner</b> |                                 |                                |                                |
| <b>EFFECTIVE:<br/>August 1, 1990</b>               | <b>REVIEWED:<br/>11/10/2017</b> | <b>REVISED:<br/>04/20/2005</b> | <b>UPDATED:<br/>11/10/2017</b> |

**POLICY**

The Sheriff's Office recognizes that often following an incident resulting in a life-threatening injury or death, officers suffer varying degrees of emotional trauma. In some cases, it may occur immediately or several hours, days, or months later.

In an effort to lessen this traumatic impact on the officer(s), and to aid the Sheriff's Office in an objective resolution of the incident, the involved officer(s) shall immediately be placed in an administratively deferred duty assignment. Such assignments will be made by the involved officer(s) Division Commander.

This deferred duty status shall be reviewed by the appropriate Chief Deputy, who will determine when the involved officer(s) may return to full duty status.

If the incident results in death, the appropriate Chief Deputy shall schedule an appointment with the county designated psychologist/psychiatrist at the earliest possible time. This is a mandatory appointment and shall be kept by the involved officer(s).

Continued counseling will be on the recommendation of the psychologist/psychiatrist and can include family members of the officer(s) involved.

Counseling shall be available to all officer(s) or other Sheriff's Office personnel directly or indirectly involved in the incident.

In all cases of an officer involved shooting, the Sheriff's Office shall offer its full support for the physical and emotional well being of all officers involved and their families, including but not limited to the Sheriff's Office peer counselors.

The involved officer(s) shall be allowed and encouraged to call their family and inform them of the incident and their well being as soon as possible.