



Kern County Sheriff's Office
Policies and Procedures

TITLE: NON-LAW ENFORCEMENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE NO: H-1100			
APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner			
EFFECTIVE: January 23, 2001	REVIEWED: 10/20/20	REVISED: 00/00/00	UPDATED: 08/09/2018

POLICY

In keeping with the Mission of the Kern County Sheriff's Office, we recognize our duty to protect life and property and enhance the safety for residents and visitors. To further this, field units will be advised of medical and other non-law enforcement specific emergencies occurring within their assigned area when that information is available to Sheriff's Communications. Information regarding such activities in a zone, beat or area will assist deputies to better serve their community.

PROCEDURE

When the Sheriff's Communications Center becomes aware of a non-law enforcement related emergency in a Sheriff's response area, the dispatcher will advise the unit(s) assigned to the area:

- The nature of the response (possible drowning, structure fire, traffic accident, etc.);
- The other agencies responding;
- Information about people in immediate danger;
- Any additional information that could aid officer safety.

Examples: "Attention 1 Zone Units, fire department responding to a structure fire, Roberts Lane and Oildale Drive."

Or

"Attention Wasco Units, medical aid responding to a difficulty breathing, 12345 Kimberlina Road."

If information is developed that indicates a human life is most likely in immediate danger, the dispatcher will:

- Dispatch a minimum of one unit to the call;
- If unit advises responding code 3, the dispatcher will copy the code response and ensure the on-duty field supervisor is copying the emergency traffic and authorizes the code response. (reference DPPM E-100)
- Advise the allied agency of our response.

Example: “Mike 5, possible drowning, 12345 Oak Creek Road, fire and medical en route.

When a deputy is advised of the above circumstances, the deputy will:

- **If available**, respond to the area, keeping in mind that other emergency personnel are also responding. Advise dispatch if responding code 3. In most cases, you are responding only to assist, and the primary responders are the allied agencies. Rarely is a Code 3 response warranted, unless dispatched as a primary unit. The danger of multiple Code 3 units colliding is great and **extreme caution** must be exercised. “**If available**” means 10-8, unless the call involves persons known to be in immediate danger.
- Upon arrival, take any prudent life saving action, based upon training, experience, the urgency of the situation and your ability.
- Investigate any criminal activity and prepare a Crime/Incident report if criminal activity or suspicious circumstances are noted. Be especially mindful of situations involving injured or endangered children.
- If no Crime/Incident report is warranted, clear the call with a Code 9, later updating the call, if necessary, in the computer system regarding who was contacted, what happened and what you did; (Example: Structure fire, no one in residence, assisted with traffic control or medical aid only, elderly male, assisted ambulance personnel).
- Assist allied agencies as appropriate, if needed.
- Utilize Crime Code #9011 for Assist Other Department medical aid calls.

When a field supervisor hears advisement of the above information, the field supervisor will:

- Monitor the unit’s activity as with any other assignment;
- Ensure training regarding the Fire Safety Issues, Code 3 Response and Water Safety is accomplished via in-service or roll call training annually.

This policy is not intended to replace calls assigned to assist allied agencies when assistance is specifically requested. Such calls are not discretionary. For example, when an ambulance company has a combative patient or the victim of an overdose. In this and similar cases, the deputy will respond as with any other call for service.

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