



*Kern County Sheriff's Office*

**Policies and Procedures**

<b>TITLE: BICYCLE PATROL</b>		<b>NO: H-1200</b>	
<b>APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner</b>			
<b>EFFECTIVE: March 11, 2002</b>	<b>REVIEWED: 10/20/20</b>	<b>REVISED: 00/00/00</b>	<b>UPDATED: 08/13/2018</b>

**POLICY**

Bicycle Patrol is a highly effective tool, which compliments the level of law enforcement services to the citizens of Kern County. It will be used to address general and specific patrol problems, special events and can be used for traffic enforcement. Bicycle Patrol will also be used to foster positive public relations with the community.

The Sheriff's Office will appoint one Bicycle Patrol Coordinator (sergeant rank) to oversee the implementation of this program. The Coordinator will keep a current listing of properly trained deputies, certified trainers and a current listing of approved uniform and equipment providers.

**DIRECTIVE 1: Requirements for Bicycle Patrol**

Deputies will be required to complete a twenty-four (24) hour Basic Bicycle Patrol Training Course. In-house staff who have completed a P.O.S.T. certified Bicycle Instructor Course will conduct the course. All training records will be forwarded to the Training Section by the Program Coordinator for inclusion in the affected deputies' training file. This will include documented training attended prior to the existence of this procedure.

After completing the twenty-four (24) hour Bicycle Patrol Course, deputies should also attend the next available Collapsible Baton Course. Deputies may then carry the collapsible baton as their primary baton while working Bicycle Patrol.

**DIRECTIVE 2: Division Responsibilities**

Each Division Commander will appoint a supervisor to oversee and schedule Bicycle Patrol Units for that division. Each commander will also be responsible for budgeting for the ongoing maintenance of the bicycles within the division. For scheduling and training purposes, each commander will designate a maximum number of trained deputies involved in this program within that division. That information will be provided to the Program Coordinator. Division Commanders will help select deputies for this program from the available applicants.

**DIRECTIVE 3: Selection Process**

The Program Coordinator and the affected Division Commander will jointly select participants for the program from the applicant list. The final decision on the participants will rest with the Division Commander.

The Program Coordinator and all of the Division Commanders who have a Bicycle Patrol Program under their command will jointly select trainers for this program.

**Required Safety Equipment**

- Black bicycle helmet.
- Black bicycle gloves (finger or half-finger style)
- Approved whistle.

**Bicycle Specifications**

The following are minimum specifications for bicycles purchased by the Sheriff’s Office or any of the contract cities. The bicycle vendor must agree to provide lifetime free tune-ups.

Bicycles purchased before the effective date of this policy are exempt from these specifications and may still be used for patrol duties as long as they are deemed serviceable by a supervisor and present a professional image.

**Frame:** Chromoly, butted chromoly, or aluminum. Black in color. It will have shock absorbing front forks, which meets or exceeds the quality and travel equivalent to “Rock Shox” brand forks.

**Component Group:** Shimano Deore. 18 speeds. May be other manufacturers’ component group of equal or greater quality.

**Rim/Wheel:** 26 inch, 27.5 inch or 29 inch double wall rim section.

**Tires:** Tires should have a tread design with a solid centerline.

**Tubes:** Heavy duty with injection of tire sealant.

**Seat/Saddle:** No racing style seats. Split style or model designed to relieve numbing is recommended.

**Headlight:** Six-watt rechargeable headlight.

**Taillight:** Three LED blinking taillight, which is visible for at least 500 feet.

**Equipment Storage:** Rear equipment rack with an equipment storage pack.

**Decals:** “SHERIFF” in white letters on both forks. “SHERIFF” in white letters or Sheriff’s Office logo on both sides of the lower frame bar. The name of the Contract City may be placed on both sides of the upper frame bar in white letters. (Examples: “City of Wasco”). Both the lettering and logos should be light reflective for the safety of the riders.

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## Uniform Specifications

Deputies will be responsible for providing their own uniforms.

### **Shirt: Shirt to consist of a Class D Polo in accordance with DPPM K-300**

- Long Pants:** Bell Ranger brand Bell Fatigue adult six-pocket BDU military pant (Model #001). One-hundred percent (100%) cotton ripstop material. Olive Drab color. May also use Class C pants in accordance with DPPM K-300 or be another brand of similar style and color be other brands of same style and color.
- Short Pants:** Olympic Uniforms “Phoenix” shorts, Forest Green color, (Model OPS 168). May also wear other brands of same or similar style and color.
- Riding Shorts:** Padded riding shorts may be worn under short pants or long pants, however, if visible must be black in color.
- Jacket:** Sheriff’s Office approved black windbreaker.
- Shoes:** Solid black bicycle or tennis shoes.
- Socks:** Solid black socks.
- Gloves:** Solid black finger or half-finger bicycle style riding gloves.
- Helmet:** Black bicycle helmet with visor. The helmet must be USCPSC safety certified. The helmet will be provided by the Sheriff’s Office.
- Whistle:** Fox 40 brand or similar type whistle. Black in color.

## **DIRECTIVE 4: Patrol Procedures**

Bicycle Patrol Deputies will be required to work in a minimum of a two-man team when performing any law enforcement activity. At the discretion of their sergeant, deputies may be allowed to work as a one-man unit when performing public relations duties only.

Deputies will be cognizant of their visibility and exposure to the public and will conduct their duties in a professional manner.

Deputies will inspect their bicycle at the beginning and end of their shift. Deputies should make any minor repairs or adjustments. If the deputy is unable to make the repair or adjustment, they will notify a supervisor of the problem.

Deputies will obey all laws pertaining to operations of bicycles and will be familiar with the Vehicle Code sections that pertain to Peace Officers and Bicycle Patrol. Deputies will have a full understanding of the following Vehicle Codes:

H-1200-3

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CVC 21200(b)(1) Peace Officer Exemptions  
CVC 2800.1(b) Evading a Bicycle Officer

The taillight should normally be turned on at all times for safety, unless circumstances warrant attempting to be undetected. The headlight should be used at night, unless circumstances warrant attempting to be undetected.

When a Bicycle Patrol Deputy makes an arrest, a patrol unit will assist and transport the arrested person(s). The Bicycle Patrol Deputy will ensure that a proper investigation and all appropriate paperwork are completed.

The radio call sign for the Bicycle Patrol units will have the designation of "Bike" in the call sign. Metropolitan Patrol units will be "Bike1", "Bike 2", etc. Substation Patrol units will be "Wasco Bike 1", "Tab Bike 1", "Delta Bike 1", etc.

H-1200-4

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