



Kern County Sheriff's Office
Investigations Division

TITLE: Guidelines for Special Victims Unit Detective Call-Out NO: C-100			
APPROVED: Lieutenant Kenzo Lackey			
EFFECTIVE: 10/19/2010	REVIEWED: 03/24/2023	REVISED: 12/18/2019	UPDATED: 05/26/2026

POLICY

As needed, Detectives assigned to the Special Victims Unit (SVU) will be available to assist Field Operation Bureau personnel.

DIRECTIVE A

Requests for the Special Victims Unit (SVU) should be made by the on-duty supervisor to the SVU Sergeant or on-call Investigations Sergeant. The SVU Sergeant will evaluate and determine what resources are needed along with the appropriate Detective response if warranted. Homicide and critical incident call outs will have primary consideration in the ultimate determination to utilize Homicide Detectives.

The general guidelines for response / call-out of Detectives are:

1. Child abuse / endangerment investigations with serious injuries to a child.
2. Felony sex crimes where there are multiple victims and or multiple known suspects.
3. Felony sex crimes where the victim is seriously injured or the assault was violent.
4. Unusual or complex investigations requiring specialized expertises (i.e., search warrants, etc.) where the Metro Patrol / Substation Sergeant believes assistance by SVU Detectives is necessary to conduct a proper investigation.
5. Human Trafficking operations in which extensive follow-up may be immediately required.

DIRECTIVE B

A lack of staffing shall not be a primary consideration to cause a call-out of SVU Detectives. If the incident occurred within the jurisdiction of a Sheriff's Substation, the follow-up investigation will remain the responsibility of the Substation.