

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Issue: 26-28

TRAINING BULLETIN

DATE: May 26, 2026

Meadows Field Alert Response

Meadows Field Airport falls within the jurisdiction of the Kern County Sheriff's Office. At times, our personnel may be requested to respond when an aircraft experiences an in-flight emergency or has crashed. It is important for all personnel to understand our response procedures for each of the three alert categories:

Alert One – Minor aircraft difficulty

Alert Two – Major aircraft difficulty

Alert Three – Aircraft crash

KCSOPPM H-1400: Meadows Field Alert Response

Alert One:

- Aircraft in minor difficulty.
 - No response from Sheriff required. This is informational only in the event of change in category.

Alert Two:

- Aircraft in major difficulty (e.g. engine on fire, faulty landing gear, etc.)
 - Meadows Field will notify the Communications Center.
 - Two units will be dispatched code three unless otherwise directed.
 - The first unit on scene will respond to gate 24 located on Sunnyside Court.
 - The unit will provide access for fire, medical and other emergency personnel.
 - Emergency personnel will be directed to the staging area at Kern County Fire Station #62.
 - The second unit will respond to the staging area at Kern County Fire Station #62 and set up a liaison with the on-scene incident commander ensuring scene security.
 - The on-duty supervisor and watch lieutenant will be notified.
 - The Airport Police, if assigned, will be notified by the Communications Center of the alert.
 - The Airport Police will maintain terminal security.

Alert Three:

- Aircraft has crashed on or near the airport.
 - Meadows Field will notify the Communications Center.
 - The Communications Center will assign a radio channel to the emergency.

- Two units will be dispatched code three unless otherwise directed.
- The first unit on scene will respond to gate 24 located on Sunnyside Court.
- The unit will provide access for fire, medical and other emergency personnel.
- Emergency personnel will be directed to the staging area at Kern County Fire Station #62.
- The second and additional units will respond to the staging area at Kern County Fire Station #62 for security assignments at the direction of the ranking deputy at the scene.
- The on-duty supervisor and watch commander will be dispatched to Kern County Fire Station #62 and set up a liaison with the on-scene incident commander to coordinate scene security until the emergency is resolved.
- The Kern County Sheriff's Public Information Officer (PIO) will be dispatched to the media staging area at the new terminal (3701 Wings Way). The PIO will coordinate with the lead PIO designated by the incident commander.
- The Meadows Field Deputy, if assigned, will be notified by the Communications Center of the alert.
- The Meadows Field Deputy will maintain terminal security.
- There are many variables if the crash site is not on airport property. Use the Aircraft Crash Checklist (Attachment 2) established by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services as a guide to establish a coordinated response and a secure scene.

The following excerpt is taken from **Directive B** of the policy referenced above:

Incident command of any aircraft accident occurring at Meadows Field will be held by the Kern County Fire Department. Meadows Field personnel are responsible for identifying and reporting the crash site location using runway and taxiway references (per the attached site map, Attachment 1).

Sheriff's units will not respond directly to the crash site unless instructed to do so by the incident commander and only after the area is deemed safe. Typically, Sheriff's units will be staged at Kern County Fire Station #62 until given an assignment.

*When access to airport property is needed, Sheriff's personnel will be escorted by airport fire or airport security personnel. **Units will only travel on airport property under clearance and authorization of the Airport Air Traffic Control Tower on movement areas such as runways and taxiways.** Access to airport property via the Sunnyside Court gate will be granted by Airport Police or other authorized personnel. While under escort:*

- *All emergency lights must be activated.*
- *A speed limit of 15 mph must be maintained unless directed otherwise.*
- *Deputies must remain off airport property unless under authorized escort.*

The incident commander has full authority to modify access points and adjust staging area locations as needed.

The following links provide access to the policy and its corresponding attachments:

- [H 1400 - Meadows Field Alert Response .doc](#)
- [H 1400 - Meadows Field Alert Response Attachment 2.doc](#)
- [H 1400 - Meadows Field Alert Response EMERGENCY GATE MAP Nov 2008 - Attachment 1.doc](#)

This training bulletin provides only a summary of the policy. Personnel are required to review the full policy and all corresponding attachments in their entirety.

Personnel within the deputy sheriff classification are required to review this training bulletin and KCSOPPM H-1400: Meadows Field Alert Response no later than **Friday, June 26, 2026, at 1700 hours.**