



Kern County Sheriff's Office

Policies and Procedures

TITLE: DUTIES OF PERSONNEL – DEPUTY SHERIFFS			NO: B-200
APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner			
EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1990	REVIEWED: 5/24/2023	REVISED: 3/01/2005	UPDATED: 9/04/2020

POLICY

The Kern County Sheriff's Office recognizes that Deputy Sheriffs have responsibilities and limitations imposed by law that do not apply to other employees. It is therefore necessary to list duties for Deputy Sheriffs in addition to those that apply to all members.

DIRECTIVE A

Failure to comply with the duties as listed in this section may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

General Duties of Deputy Sheriffs

All Deputy Sheriffs will:

Uphold and obey the provisions of the Constitution and laws of the United States; the Constitution and laws of the State of California; and the ordinances of the County of Kern;

- Protect life and property, maintain order, prevent and investigate crimes, make legal searches, seizures and arrests, and apprehend suspected criminals;
- Give first aid treatment to the sick, injured, and mentally ill when safe to do so;
- Investigate unlawful activity;
- Furnish name and badge number upon the request of any citizen;
 - Unless to do so during an undercover operation would endanger the officer or compromise an investigation.

DIRECTIVE B

Except as otherwise permitted by law, deputies are prohibited from affiliating with any organization that would prevent them from the proper performance of their lawful duties.

The special delegation of enforcement of certain laws and ordinances to particular bureaus, divisions, units, or details does not relieve deputies from other areas of the Sheriff's Office of the responsibility of taking prompt and proper police action for violations of any laws or ordinances that come to their attention.

Deputies shall have regular hours assigned for active duty and when not on active duty shall be considered “off duty.” Deputies are always subject to duty and to orders from proper authorities.

Although the Sheriff’s Office does not expect officers to jeopardize themselves or others, deputies may take police action when “off duty” after first giving consideration to:

- Causing the appropriate action to be taken by on-duty personnel from the agency of jurisdiction;
- The availability of assistance and police resources;
- The safety of themselves and others.

When action is considered necessary as articulated by the involved officer, any police action will be governed by the same policies and procedures as if on-duty. All off-duty police action will be documented on a crime and incident report and any other required report form.

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