

ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



INTERIM ORDER

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| Effective Date: November 10, 2004 | <input type="checkbox"/> Rescinds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends - G.O. 227.0 (April 16, 2001) | Number: 227.0 |
| SUBJECT: PATROL OPERATIONS | | Print Date: |
| Distribution: ALL PERSONNEL | CALEA Standards: CFA Standards: | |

This order is amended as follows:

4. **Procedures**

G. Death and Serious Injury Notifications

1. Notifications of next-of-kin involving death, serious injury or a critical illness shall be accomplished promptly and in such a manner as to cause the least discomfort possible to the individual being notified. Only sworn personnel shall deliver death, serious injury, or critical illness notifications. If the notification is related to an agency investigation, CID personnel shall make the notification. Requests for notifications from citizens and other agencies shall be made by UPD personnel.
2. When possible, Communication personnel shall assign such calls to field personnel by telephone. Communications shall provide the deputy with the appropriate contact information for the person requesting the notification. Prior to delivering the notification, the deputy shall confirm the details of the incident either by telephone or other appropriate means.
3. Notifications should be made in a private and comfortable setting. Deputies should refrain from making notifications in public view. Deputies should ask the next-of-kin if they may come inside the home or go to a private location in the workplace. If a private setting is not available, deputies should consider allowing the next-of-kin to sit in the front seat of the patrol car while the notification is delivered.
3. 4. If the message is for notification of a death, the deputy must leave no doubt with the next-of-kin that their loved one is deceased. False hope statements about the condition of a person known to be deceased are unprofessional and will not be tolerated.
5. The next-of-kin should be provided with the law enforcement agency contact information and with as much information as possible about the circumstances of the death. Applicable law enforcement agency contact information shall be provided in writing. In the case of a death, the next-of-kin shall be informed of the location of the body, if known. If a body has not been found, the next-of-kin shall be informed of the status of any recovery operations.

- 4 6. Whether to remain at the scene after a death message is delivered is discretionary. Personnel are encouraged to assist the next-of-kin in calling friends, relatives, or clergy. Chaplain personnel and Victim Advocates shall be used as appropriate to comfort and provide assistance.



SHERIFF KEVIN BEARY