DEPARTMENTAL GENERAL ORDER

ORDER № 900.100 Mar. 2019 (Revised) 08/01/2006 (New)

OFF-DUTY LAW ENFORCEMENT INVOLVEMENT

900.101 PURPOSE

A. The purpose of this Order is to define sworn peace officers' responsibilities, authority and limitations when off-duty. This Order is not intended to restrict the reasonable efforts of a peace officer in the protection of life or property. These procedures are established for the peace officer's safety and to maintain their professional integrity above reproach.

900.102 POLICY

- A. Crimes in Progress While Off-Duty. The seriousness of the crime will influence the California Exposition & State Fair Police officer's course of action. The appropriateness of the off-duty officer's action will be determined considering the facts known to the officer at the time of the incident. An officer must recognize the potential for violence, or accomplices, and that the officer is acting unaided without immediate assistance. In deciding whether off-duty enforcement action will be taken, the following rules shall be followed:
 - 1. Traffic. Off-duty officers shall not make misdemeanor traffic arrests. Pursuit of another vehicle by an off-duty officer in a private vehicle is prohibited.
 - 2. Gang Fights. Off-duty officers shall not attempt to intercede or make arrests in misdemeanor gang fights or assemblages.
 - 3. Neighborhood Disturbances. Off-duty officers shall refrain from making misdemeanor arrests or otherwise attempting to settle neighborhood disturbances. Complainants should be referred to the responsible law enforcement agency.
 - 4. All Other Situations. Where there is no urgent or immediate need for law enforcement action, the officer shall contact the responsible law enforcement agency, observe the incident and await the reporting unit's arrival for a witness statement and/or suspect identification.
 - 5. Arrests in Other Jurisdictions. Off-duty officers, who effect arrests in other jurisdictions or participate in such arrests, shall immediately report the details of the arrest verbally to the on-call Administrative Sergeant. If the notification is after hours, the supervisor will use good professional judgment to notify the Chief of Police. Officers are also required to notify the Chief of Police no later than the following work day.

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- B. Personal Involvement in Criminal Investigations.
 - 1. Personal involvement in a criminal investigation is defined as those situations where an officer's family or personal friends become the victim(s) of criminal activity.
 - 2. Officers shall not become involved in a criminal investigation which does not arise out of the officer's normal duty assignment unless directed or authorized to do so by the officer's immediate supervisor.
 - a. Exception: Nothing in this Order is intended to prevent an officer from investigating a crime in which he/she is personally involved when exigent circumstances threaten the loss of evidence, the loss of witnesses, the escape of the suspect or the existence of circumstances which create the possibility of serious injury to officer or others. When such exigent circumstances cease, the off-duty officer's involvement shall end.
 - 3. Access to Departmental or Other Law Enforcement Records. Officers shall not access police department's or any other law enforcement agency's enforcement records when off-duty for non-job related reasons. Access means either directly or through another person.