

**MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
GENERAL ORDER**

**CHAPTER 1 - ADMINISTRATION**  
GO-01-15  
PAGE 1 of 2

DATE  
02/05/09

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**WATCH COMMANDER NOTIFICATION**

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**POLICY**

It is the policy of the Marin County Sheriff's Office to promote good communication between the supervisory and management levels to ensure efficiency and good order.

**DEFINITIONS**

WATCH COMMANDER – A Sheriff's Lieutenant assigned to the Patrol Division, designated as the command officer-in-charge for the duration of his or her tour of duty. In the absence of those members of the Department who regularly exercise bureau level authority and responsibility over the Department, the Patrol Division Watch Commander shall be designated as the ranking authority of the Department. This authority is not limited to the Watch Commander's own Division, but shall include supervision responsibility for all personnel in the Department.

ON-CALL STATUS – In the event that the Watch Commander is not physically present, he/she will assume an on-call status for contact in the event of emergencies or unusual problems that require notification. (refer to Notification Procedures below.)

**PROCEDURE**

The Watch Commander shall notify the Communications Division of his/her status and designation at the beginning of the duty shift. In the event the Watch Commander is on-call, it shall be so noted by the Communications Division. The Communication Center supervisor will assure there is both a pager and telephone number available to make contact. It is the responsibility of the division supervisor of the effected division to make any necessary Watch Commander notifications when an event occurs.

Notification Procedure

The division supervisor will notify the Watch Commander in all of the following situations. Notification will occur regardless of the time of day, and will be made by any means available.

- A. Requests of mutual aid involving Sheriff's personnel, or such requests that require an MCSO coordination of a mutual aid response.
- B. Use of the Marin County Road Block Plan for an MCSO event.
- C. Mutual assistance to another Division which extends beyond 30 minutes in duration.
- D. Injuries received by a member or employee of this Department that requires medical attention beyond a medical check out.
- E. Officer-involved shootings (MCSO or other Marin Jurisdiction) other than the dispatch of an animal.
- F. Any homicide or major injury incident within MCSO jurisdiction, or in any other jurisdiction that involves MCSO personnel.

- G. Incidents that result in serious injury (hospitalization) of the victim, or suspicious death case in MSCO jurisdiction.
- H. Barricaded suspects or hostage situations. (MCSO or other Marin Jurisdiction)
- I. Situations involving bombs, bomb threats or explosives in MCSO jurisdiction.
- J. Reports of immediate or imminent terrorist activity in Marin County.
- K. Aircrafts accidents in Marin County.
- L. Impending disaster affecting Marin County.
- M. Search or rescue calls that requires the call-out of SAR or any off-duty resources.
- N. Citizens' complaints against Sheriff's personnel which are serious or could constitute criminal conduct.
- O. The arrest of Sheriff's personnel.
- P. Emergency or Law enforcement action taken by off-duty personnel.
- Q. Unusual conditions or situations that would cause a serious media interest and would prompt the need for a media release, or call-out of the Public Information Officer.

**RELATED STANDARDS:**

Sec. 326. Rules & Regulations.

GO-01-04

GO-02-14

GO-03-02

GO-03-05

GO-04-05

GO-04-08

GO-05-03

**AFFECTED DIVISIONS:**

All.

**DATE OF REVISIONS:**

07/22/04

**By order of:**

ROBERT T. DOYLE  
SHERIFF