

MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDER

CHAPTER 05- OPERATIONS
GO-05-23
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DATE
10/30/12

AUTOMATIC VEHICLE LOCATING SYSTEM

POLICY

It is the policy of the Marin County Sheriff's Office to install the Automatic Vehicle Locating System in all marked patrol vehicles, and other mobile devices at the direction of the Sheriff. The AVL system is designed to increase officer safety, enhance coordination and resource management during tactical incidents and to provide documentation against false accusations and civil claims against the agency.

DEFINITIONS

Automatic Vehicle Locating System (AVL): A multi-agency software based system that allows for the monitoring of various mobile solutions utilizing both cellular signals and the Global Positioning System. The system is capable of reporting a precise location, speed, and direction of travel as well as historical data of various mobile devices. The system is also integrated with the computer aided dispatching system to provide mapping and directions to dispatched calls for service to units in the field.

PROCEDURE

The AVL system shall be configured to be on and running at any time the mobile data computer, or other similar mobile solution, is running and the modem is activated and transmitting data. Unauthorized personnel shall not tamper with, or in any way attempt to disable the AVL unit or alter its functionality.

The AVL system includes a mapping capability to enable the viewing of maps showing the location of other units utilizing the AVL system. The Marin County Sheriff's Office units running the AVL system will be configured to view all mobile devices including other participating outside agencies.

The use of this system does not eliminate the need for all employees to maintain their status and location with their appropriate communications dispatcher. While the system will be available to dispatchers for viewing, it is not the responsibility of dispatchers to constantly monitor the location and/or status of units by utilizing the AVL system.

The AVL system maintains historical data regarding every assigned mobile device and will not be used as a surveillance tool to monitor the general and/or routine activities of employees. That historical data shall be maintained for a minimum of 6 months or longer at the discretion of the Marin County Sheriff's Office.

Historical data contained within the AVL system shall only be retrieved at the direction of a sergeant or higher authority. Access to historical data requires a reasonable basis for that inquiry, including but not limited to evaluating vehicle pursuits, responding to citizen complaints, or conducting authorized investigations.

AFFECTED DIVISIONS

ALL

RELATED STANDARDS:

N/A

DATE REVISED

N/A

By order of

ROBERT T. DOYLE
SHERIFF-CORONER