

**MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PATROL DIVISION POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

**CHAPTER 3 – NON-CRIMINAL/CIVIL
PAT-03-06
PAGE 1 of 2**

**DATE
10/1/95
Rev: 1/22/02**

**“TARASOFF WARNING”
CIVIL CODE 43.92**

POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Sheriff's Office that upon receiving a "Tarasoff Warning" from a psychotherapist (pursuant to Civil Code section 43.92.), a determination will be made if the victim or suspect lives in the Sheriff's jurisdiction. If the victim, suspect or both live in the Sheriff's jurisdiction, a Deputy Sheriff will be assigned to investigate the warning and prepare an incident report. If neither lives in this department's jurisdiction, then the reporting party psychotherapist will be advised to call the appropriate law enforcement jurisdiction and make the required warning. A CAD entry will be made indicating the referral to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

PROCEDURE

Upon receipt of "TARASOFF WARNING" from a psychotherapist the communication center will assign the call to the appropriate beat deputy as a priority call. The assigned deputy will contact the reporting party by phone or in person.

If the intended victim and/or the suspect live in the Sheriff's jurisdiction, the deputy shall investigate the warning learning of specific threatening language, methods to be used, locations of intended attacks and any other information pertinent to the threat, such as the suspect's state of mind and psychological background. If neither the suspect nor the intended victim lives in the Sheriff's jurisdiction, the deputy will advise the reporting party psychotherapist to call the appropriate law enforcement jurisdiction to make the warning.

The deputy shall conduct follow-up Investigation to determine the suspect's criminal background, if any, vehicles or weapons registered to the suspect any other officer safety related information.

The deputy shall prepare an incident report detailing the information revealed in the investigation.

If there is a threatened use of any weapon, threat of suicide, or any articulated threats to the public or law enforcement the deputy may request the issuance of a radio broadcast or teletype APB for Marin County law enforcement. The deputy will ensure that a sergeant is briefed on the warning. Sergeants will ensure that subsequent shifts are briefed on the warning.

Department personnel shall not:

- Promise or imply extra security for the victim's person or residence.
- Promise or imply extra patrol checks for the victim's residence.
- Offer any legal advice or suggest any solutions for the problems existing between the victim and suspect.
- Promise or imply to warn the victim if and when the suspect may be release of any involuntary holds.

RELATED STANDARDS

Civil Code 43.92

AFFECTED DIVISIONS

Patrol Division

Communications Division

DATE OF REVISIONS

10/1/95

1/22/02

BY ORDER OF:

**DANIEL PAYNE, CAPTAIN
BUREAU OF FIELD OPERATIONS**