

Internal Affairs

 Stereotypes you have learned about Internal Affairs from TV or the movies

Why do we have Internal Affairs?

Our Mission Statement:

To enhance the confidence of the public and our department employees, we provide thorough and impartial administrative investigative services

- Mandated by law
 - PC 832.5
- Department Mission, Vision, Values, Goals and Objectives

- Employee rights
- 14th Amendment (Due Process)
- Public Trust

About the unit

- Human Resources Command
- 1 Lieutenant
- 6 Sergeants
 - 4 Law Enforcement/2 Detentions
- 3 Professional Staff

What we <u>DO</u> Investigate

- On-duty misconduct allegations
- Off-duty criminal allegations
- Off-duty, non-criminal conduct with a nexus to the department

What we do <u>NOT</u> Investigate

- Complaints with no nexus to the department
- Complaints not involving department members
- Matters with more appropriate methods of resolution
- Complaints that are not timely
 - 30 days

Accountability

- Accountability starts with the employee
- Employees are accountable for knowing and following all Sheriff's Policy
- Employees are responsible for professional and courteous communication with their peers as well as supervisors and subordinates

Interpersonal Conflict

- Internal Affairs is an investigative unit, not a mediation tool or first option for resolving workplace differences or performance deficiencies
- Bring matters to supervisors as necessary
- Use appropriate tools and resources (Human Resources/Employee Relations)

Office of Ethic and Compliance

Know the Code: Respect and Dignity in the Workplace - YouTube

Resources



Senior Departmental Human Resources Officer, Employee Relations

- Please field matters related to interpersonal conflict or workplace differences through
- will provide direction as to the necessity of involving Internal Affairs.
- can assist with providing mediation between staff members.

How are complaints handled?

- Per Department Policy 2.21,
 All supervisors should attempt to resolve at the lowest level
- Complaint received in IA
 - Verbal or written, command generated
- IA Lieutenant review and assignment
 - IA Investigation or Command
 - No Violation: Correspondence Letter

Statistics: 2021

- 606 Complaints
 - 477 resolved with correspondence letter
- 109 IA cases opened
 - Policy or law violations
 - IA Investigations vs Command 59 / 50
 - 4000+ employees

Common Cases

- Use of Department Equipment
 - Computers: email, internet, CAD, CLETS
- Conduct Unbecoming:
 - Alcohol related incidents
 - Social Media
- Courtesy
 - Public/Peers
- Failure to meet standards
 - Variety of incidents
- Association

What to expect if you are an accused employee

- Command notified immediately
- Investigator notifies accused at their discretion
- Use IA webpage as resource
- Seek out employee representation
- Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act (POBAR)/Weingarten Rights
- Contact investigator with questions
- Confidentiality
- Conduct

Investigation

- Thorough, Fair and Unbiased Investigation
- Goal of investigation
 - Fact finding vs discipline
- Witnesses

Evidence

Investigation Continued

- Interviews
- Investigative Report
- Synopsis, Analysis, Conclusions and Findings
- Hold members of the Department to a high standard
- Clear those wrongly accused

Burden of Proof

"Preponderance of evidence" which is defined as "such evidence, when weighed with that opposed to it, has more convincing force and the greater probability of truth."

51%

Findings

- Sustained
- Unfounded
- Not Sustained
- Exonerated
- Resolved

- Prove it happened
- Prove it did not happen
- Cannot prove either way
- Prove it happened, but within policy/law
- Other

Now what?

- Disciplinary Hearing (2nd level supervisor)
- Discipline
 - Written Reprimand
 - Disciplinary Re-assignment
 - Pay-Step Reduction
 - Suspension without pay
 - Demotion
 - Termination
- Appeal Process
 - Skelly Hearing / Civil Service Commission

Internal Affairs Files

- Case Files vs. Discipline Files (Forever)
- Who has access?
 - You
 - Commander and Above
 - Confidentiality Waiver
- When are IA files reviewed?
 - Pitchess Motions
 - Senate Bill 1421
 - SUSTAINED: UOF (GBI), Truthfulness, Sexual Assault

Avoiding an IA?

- Do the right thing, all the time
- Be professional, all the time
- Be truthful, all the time
- Investigate to Exonerate



Rules of Conduct

2.4 Unbecoming Conduct

- Employees shall conduct themselves at all times, both on and off duty, in such a manner as to reflect most favorably on this Department.
- Unbecoming conduct shall include that which tends to bring this Department into disrepute or reflects discredit upon the employee as a member of this Department, or that which tends to impair the operation and efficiency of this Department or employee.

2.6 Conformance to Laws

- Employees shall obey all laws of the United
 States, of this state, and of local jurisdictions.
- The acts of employees giving rise to an indictment, information or complaint, filed against an employee, or a conviction for violating any law, including a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere, may be cause for disciplinary action, temporary or permanent reassignment (excluding minor traffic).

2.6 Conformance to Laws, continued

- Employees shall immediately inform their immediate supervisor of any and all circumstances where non-conformance to laws has been, or may be, alleged by any law enforcement agency.
- The supervisor receiving such notification shall immediately notify Internal Affairs.

2.7 Seeking or Accepting Gifts, Gratuities, Bribes, or Rewards

- It is prohibited for employees to directly or indirectly solicit or accept from any person, business, or organization any gift, gratuity, bribe, or reward for the benefit of the employee, if it may reasonably be inferred that the person, business, or organization:
 - Seeks to influence action of an official nature or seeks to affect the performance or non-performance of an official duty, or
 - Has an interest which may be substantially affected directly or indirectly by the performance or nonperformance of an official duty.

2.7 - Gifts/Bribes - continued

- Food and Other Services: When making purchases, whether on or off duty, employees shall pay the posted price(s) for food, services or any other consideration. Discounts will not be accepted nor solicited where the employee's official position is used to effect same, or the discount can be reasonably shown to be as a result of any official position.
 - A discount may be accepted where it has been negotiated by a recognized employee group sanctioned by the Sheriff.
- For the purpose of this rule, the words "gifts", "gratuity", "bribe", and "reward", shall include money, food, tangible or intangible personal property, loan, promise, service, entertainment, or any other consideration.

2.9 Associations

Employees shall not associate on either a personal or business basis or have dealings with persons whom they know, or should know, or have reason to believe are, or have been racketeers, sexual offenders, drug dealers, illegal drug users, illegal gamblers, persons whom the employee suspects, or should suspect, are involved in felonious activities, convicted felons, persons held in county custody, felons serving or who have served time in custody, or persons under criminal investigation or indictment, except as necessary to the performance of official duties, or where unavoidable because of other personal relationships.

2.15 Insubordination

- Insubordination is the willful refusal to obey a reasonable and lawful order given and understood.
- A reasonable and lawful order given to a subordinate shall be followed regardless of the method of conveyance. The willful failure to obey orders constitutes grounds for discipline (including termination).

2.22 Courtesy

Employees shall be courteous to the public and fellow employees. They shall be tactful in the performance of their duties, shall control their tempers, exercise patience and discretion and shall not engage in argumentative discussions even in the face of extreme provocation. In the performance of their duties, employees shall not use coarse, violent, profane or insolent language or gestures.

2.35 Operation of Vehicles

- Employees shall operate all county owned or maintained vehicles, or any vehicle being operated in the performance of their official duties, in a careful and prudent manner, and shall obey all laws of the state and all Departmental orders pertaining to such operation. Employees shall set a proper example for other persons by the manner in which they operate all vehicles in an official capacity.
- Loss or suspension of an employee's driver's license shall be reported to the Department immediately and may be cause for reassignment, suspension, or termination. When employees drive any vehicle requiring other than a regular driver's license (Class C) they shall possess the required endorsement.

2.36 Use of Department Equipment

Employees shall utilize Department equipment only for its intended purpose, in accordance with established Departmental procedures and shall not abuse, damage or lose Department equipment. All Department equipment issued to employees, including manuals, shall be maintained in proper order.

2.37 Dissemination of Information

- Employees shall treat the official business of this Department as confidential.
- Information regarding official business shall be disseminated only to those for whom it is intended, in accordance with established Departmental procedures.
- Employees may remove or copy official records or reports from any law enforcement installation only in accordance with established Departmental procedures. Employees shall not divulge the identity of persons giving confidential information, except to their supervisors.

2.30 Failure to Meet Standards

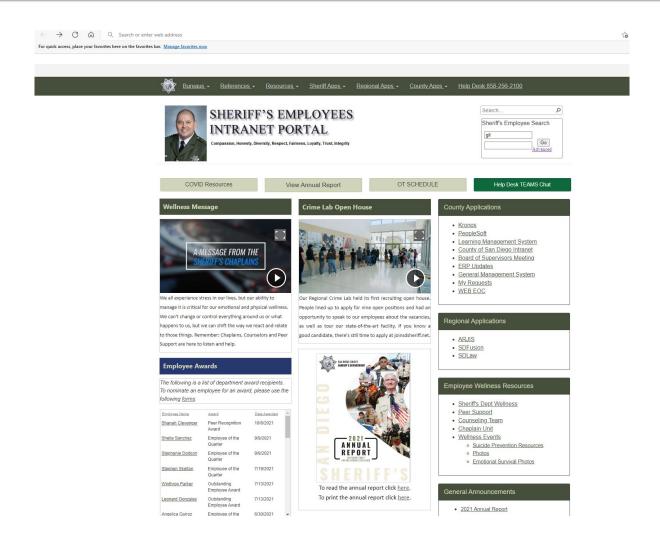
- Employees shall properly perform their duties and assume the responsibilities of their positions.
- Employees shall perform their duties in a manner which will tend to establish and maintain the highest standards of efficiency in carrying out the mission, functions, and objectives of this Department.

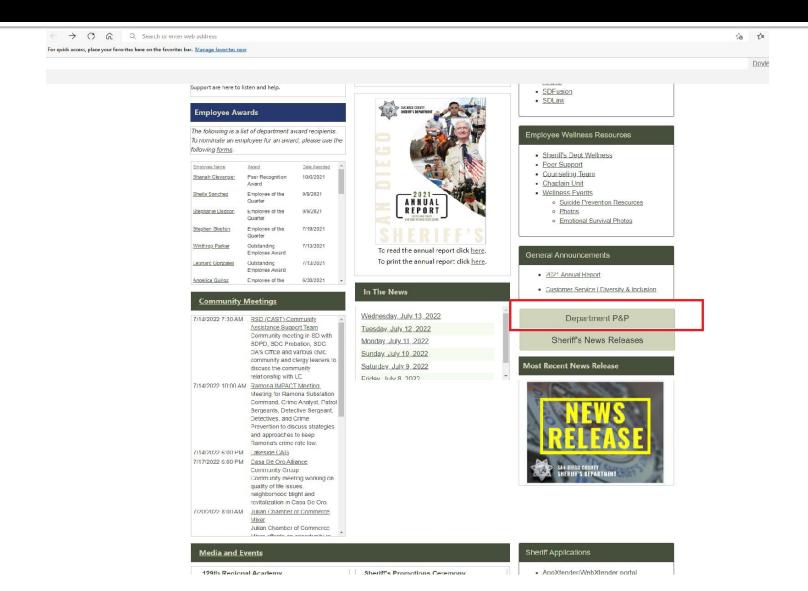
2.30 FTMS continued

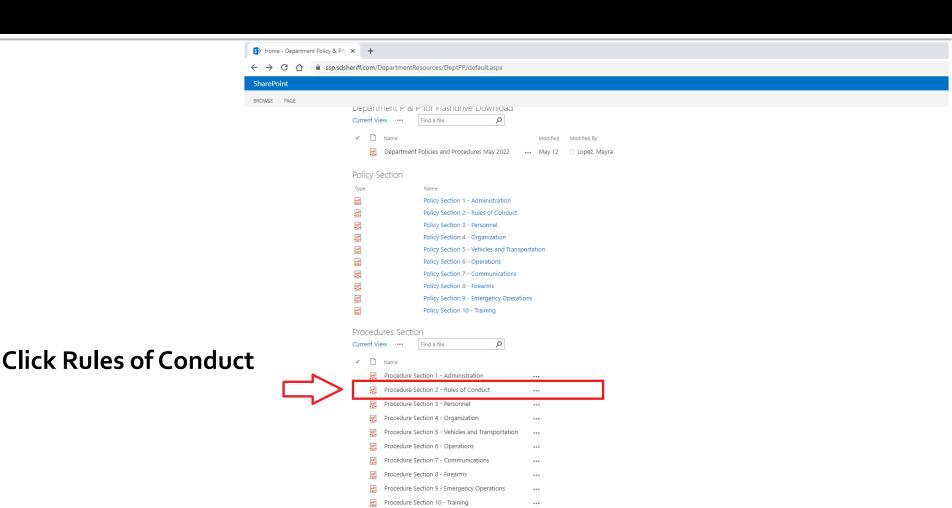
 Failure to meet standards may be demonstrated by lack of knowledge, and unwillingness or inability to perform assigned tasks, failure to take appropriate action and absence without leave.

2.46 Truthfulness

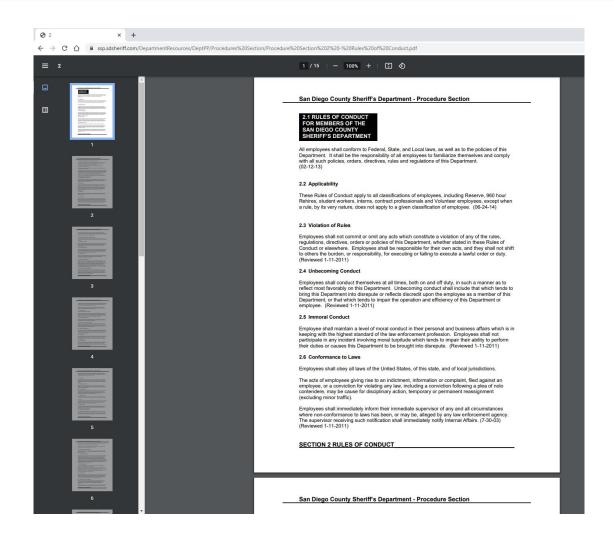
When asked by the Sheriff, the Sheriff's designee or any supervisor, employees will always answer questions, whether orally or in writing, truthfully and to the fullest extent of their knowledge. All written and verbal reports shall be truthful and complete.







Use of Force Guidelines-Addendum F





Questions?



Class Evaluation

