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RESPONDING TO MARIJUANA BUSINESS BURGLARY ALARMS

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With increases over the last few years in the number of marijuana manufacturing facilities in warehouse districts and marijuana shops throughout cities, these establishments have become lucrative targets for burglaries and other crimes. Both locally and across the state, there have been multiple incidents of pursuits and dangerous encounters with armed suspects related to these crimes. Video evidence and arrests have shown that the perpetrators of these crimes are frequently armed during the commission of these crimes. Most recently, Oakland Police Officer Tuan Le was shot and killed when he and other officers responded to a burglary in progress at a marijuana business.

Officers should exercise caution and practice officer safety protocols when responding to these crimes. The following are some general officer safety guidelines for responding:



- Do not drive Code 3 to a burglary alarm where no victim is inside the building. A vacant business burglary alarm is considered a property crime. Absent other information, a Code 3 response would not be authorized.
- A possible tactic used by suspects is to trigger an alarm and examine the law enforcement response.
 Once officers clear the initial burglary alarm, suspects may return and commit an actual burglary.
 Officer should be mindful of their surroundings when responding to all marijuana business burglary alarms.

