



Roll Call Training Bulletin

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Daniel Hahn, Chief of Police
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This bulletin was drafted to review Public Safety Statements and assist supervisors with effectively managing the scene of an officer-involved shooting incident. The Public Safety Statement was created specifically to help supervisors manage on-going events by allowing them to ask a series of limited scope questions while protecting the Constitutional and POBR rights of the involved officer(s). Officers are required to provide a **Public Safety Statement** to a supervisor directly following an officer-involved shooting, which is an exception to the Miranda requirement and nothing more.

The Sacramento Police Department's protocol has always been to obtain a voluntary Public Safety Statement from officers following a shooting and we strongly encourage officers to continue this practice.

Upon arriving at the scene of an officer-involved shooting, the on-scene supervisor should first ensure emergency medical attention has been obtained for all injured individuals and attempt to obtain an overview of the incident from any non-shooting officer(s). If there are only officers present who discharged their firearm during the incident, the supervisor shall obtain a Public Safety Statement from at least one of them. If there are multiple officers involved, the supervisor should, if feasible, obtain separate Public Safety Statements from each involved officer. In the event an officer(s) involved in a shooting refuses to provide a voluntary Public Safety Statement, the on-scene supervisor can administratively order any SPD officer to immediately provide a Public Safety Statement. Only one supervisor shall obtain a Public Safety Statement from an involved officer.

Supervisors are directed to ask the involved officers a series of preliminary questions about the incident in the form of a Public Safety Statement. Consistent with existing practice, these questions are designed to help outline the circumstances surrounding the weapons discharge for purposes of conducting further investigation, identifying a crime scene and providing public safety. While these questions are intended to cover the majority of situations, they may not fit the fact pattern in every case. These questions, whether voluntary or compelled, include the following:

1. What was your approximate location(s) when you discharged your firearm?
2. What was the approximate number of rounds you fired and in what direction?
3. Do you know if any other officers fired any rounds?
4. Is it possible the suspect(s) fired rounds at you? If so, from what direction?
5. Are you aware of any victims/witnesses/injured people? If so, what is their location?
6. Are there any outstanding suspect(s)?
 - Description / Direction and mode of travel / Weapons involved?
7. Are there any weapons / evidence that need to be secured? If so, what is their location?

The supervisor obtaining the Public Safety Statement shall not ask the involved officer(s) **why** he/she reacted to the incident or fired their weapon(s). Investigators will conduct a complete interview of the involved officer(s) at a later time.



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Following the Public Safety Statement, each involved officer should be given an administrative order to turn off their body-worn cameras and not to discuss the incident with other officers pending further direction from a supervisor. Supervisors should collect the body-worn cameras from all involved officers and place them into separate envelopes to start the chain of custody. Supervisors that obtain a Public Safety Statement should remain on-scene to brief arriving investigators and answer questions that may arise. After turning the scene over to the Homicide Sergeant, the supervisor shall prepare a supplemental report, memorializing the Public Safety Statement(s) and other actions taken at the scene for the General Offense (GO) report.

The 'Public Safety Statement' 3X5 cards below will be available to supervisors/officers in the near future.

FRONT OF CARD

PUBLIC SAFETY STATEMENT

Directions to Supervisor For Voluntary Public Safety Statement (PSS):

The supervisor taking this statement shall video record the PSS and do the following:

- Will not deviate from its content, especially the questions asked.
- Will disseminate public safety information via radio as appropriate.
- If PSS is compelled, refer to compelled admonishment on back side of card.

Questions to Involved Officer:

Admonishment: *"I will be taking your Public Safety Statement. I will be asking you specific questions, so please answer only the questions asked of you."*

1. What was your approximate location(s) when you discharged your firearm?
2. What was the approximate number of rounds you fired & in what direction?
3. Do you know if any other officers fired any rounds?
4. Is it possible the suspect(s) fired rounds at you? If so, from what direction?
5. Are you aware of any victims/witnesses/injured people? Location?
6. Are there any outstanding suspect(s)?
- Description / Direction and mode of travel / Weapons involved?
7. Are there any weapons/evidence that need to be secured? Location?

BACK OF CARD

Admonishment to Officer (After PSS Questioning):

"Officer _____, in order to prevent the contamination of your statement, I order you not to discuss this incident with anyone, with the exception of your legal or SPOA representation, prior to the arrival of assigned investigators. You will have an opportunity to provide a full statement of this incident at a later time."

After the scene is secured and the PSS obtained, the supervisor shall:

- Advise involved officer(s) to turn off their body-worn camera (BWC).
- Obtain BWCs from all involved officers & start chain of custody.
- Separate involved officers and assign a Peer Support officer to each one.
- Coordinate with Watch Commander to move officer(s) to off-site staging area.

Compelled Statement - Admonishment to Officer (Prior to PSS Questioning):

"Officer _____, I am ordering you to give me a Public Safety Statement. You do not have the right to refuse or wait for representation, so I'm ordering you to answer the following questions." (Ask questions on the front side of this card)

SPD 136

If you have additional questions, please contact **Lt. Bob McCloskey** in the Major Crimes Division at **808-0306**.