

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

NOTICE
3.8

June 15, 2018

TO: All Department Personnel

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: FINAL DECISION FOR CRIME CODE CLASSIFICATIONS

Unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Police, the Commanding Officer of COMPSTAT Division shall remain the final approving authority for classifying crime reports consistent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program.

The Department participates in the UCR Program which requires converting California's criminal codes into the FBI's unique crime classification system. This conversion requires analyzing the facts of each incident and then classifying the incident according to the criteria and definitions set forth in the UCR's Summary Reporting System (SRS) manual.

It is sometimes difficult to classify certain incidents for reporting to the FBI because the SRS does not directly correspond to California (or any other state's) criminal codes. Thus, the Department invests significant resources to train personnel and develop the expertise necessary to report crimes to the FBI consistent with the UCR program.

The Department, through COMPSTAT Division's Data Integrity Unit (DIU), conducts frequent quality-control inspections to correct potential errors and serves as the liaison with the California Department of Justice and FBI to ensure up-to-date compliance with the UCR program. The Data Integrity Unit also maintains and updates Department training material, checklists, decision trees, and guidance for all Department personnel on UCR classification issues. The Data Integrity Unit provides critical expertise necessary to maintain consistency and accuracy of crime reporting throughout the Department. Accordingly, the Commanding Officer, COMPSTAT Division, with the expertise of the DIU, shall make final determinations of applicable UCR crime classifications for the Department.

The accurate classification of crimes consistent with the UCR program is an important aspect of the Department's crime-fighting efforts because it is used to deploy resources where they are most needed. It also provides communities with information about incidents in their neighborhoods so they can assist in solving crime problems. All personnel should be mindful of the Department's commitment to participating in the UCR Program and ensure that all incidents are properly classified according to the FBI's system.

Department personnel should contact the DIU whenever questions arise regarding crime classifications.

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Nothing in this Notice precludes Audit Division from conducting periodic crime classification audits. Findings by Audit Division will be discussed with the Commanding Officer, COMPSTAT Division prior to publication.

Questions regarding this Notice should be directed to Police Administrator John Neuman, Commanding Officer, COMPSTAT Division at (213) 484-6720.



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

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