

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

NOTICE NO. 17

April 15, 1997

TO: All Personnel, Office of Operations

FROM: Director, Office of Operations

SUBJECT: REMINDER REGARDING THE PROPER USE OF POLAROID
SPECTRA CAMERA EQUIPMENT AND FILM

EFFECTIVE: IMMEDIATELY

PURPOSE

This Notice reminds Department personnel of the proper use of the Domestic Violence Polaroid Spectra Cameras and film.

INFORMATION

In August 1996, 400 Polaroid Spectra Camera Law Enforcement Kits were issued to geographic Areas for use by patrol officers and Major Assault Crimes Unit detectives for the sole purpose of collecting evidence in domestic violence investigations. These cameras were purchased by the Department and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office for the sole purpose of assisting Department personnel in accurately documenting evidence in domestic violence cases. However, it has recently come to my attention that members of the Department are using the Polaroid Spectra Cameras for things other than their intended purpose, including photographing gang members and their tattoos, illegal narcotics, stolen jewelry, etc. Although the Department acknowledges the importance of all investigations, the inappropriate use of these cameras has resulted in undue shortages of film, thereby making these cameras unavailable for their intended purpose. As a result, this Notice is being disseminated to remind all personnel regarding the restricted use of the Polaroid Spectra Camera equipment and film.

Reminder Regarding the Proper Use of Polaroid
Spectra Camera Equipment and Film

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PROCEDURES

All personnel are reminded that the Polaroid Spectra Cameras Law Enforcement Kits, issued in August 1996 are intended solely for use in domestic violence cases.

NOTE: Nothing in this Notice is intended to prohibit supervisors from authorizing the use of these cameras in unusual or exigent circumstances.

Commanding officers shall ensure compliance with established procedures including, appointing an Area Polaroid Coordinator to act on their behalf to monitor compliance with the procedures established in Office of Operations Order No. 15, 1996, titled "Polaroid Spectra Camera Equipment." Department personnel may also refer to the above Order for additional information regarding the care and use of Polaroid Spectra Camera equipment and film.



BAYAN LEWIS, Assistant Chief
Director
Office of Operations

DISTRIBUTION "A"