

## OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

NOTICE NO. 9

February 10, 1997

TO: All Personnel, Office of Operations

FROM: Director, Office of Operations

SUBJECT: WEARING OF BADGES

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

RECEIVED

FEB 21 1997

PLANNING AND  
DIVISIONPURPOSE

This Notice reminds Office of Operations (O.O.) personnel of the requirement to wear the Department badge on the outermost garment when in uniform.

INFORMATION

It has come to the attention of the Department that many uniformed officers are failing to wear the badge on the outermost garment of their uniform. This frequently occurs during cold or inclement weather when officers choose to wear a jacket or rain gear. Department Manual Section 3/614.70 requires that:

"When in uniform, all officers shall wear the official badge currently issued to them. The badge shall be attached to the badge holder provided on the outermost garment and shall be clearly visible at all times."


The City Attorney's Office has also indicated that both the officers and the City could incur civil liability if the badge is not visible to the public. Failure to wear the badge visibly could also provide a suspect with an affirmative defense in a resisting arrest situation where the individual was unable to immediately recognize the arresting officer as a peace officer.

The use of a cloth badge on any portion of the uniform has been considered by the Department's Uniform Committee on prior occasions and has been disapproved each time. As a result, officers are reminded that the use of cloth badges is not authorized.

Wearing of Badges  
Page 2  
1.2.1

**NOTE:** Commanding officers and supervisors shall ensure compliance with this policy.

If there are any questions or any additional information required, please contact the Evaluation and Administration Section, O.O., at extension 5-4111; or the Uniform Coordinator, Human Resources Bureau, at extension 5-2902.

  
BAYAN LEWIS, Assistant Chief  
Director  
Office of Operations

DISTRIBUTION "A"