

## OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

ORDER NO. 7

April 7, 1994

TO: All Personnel, Office of Operations

FROM: Director, Office of Operations

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW POLICIES RELATING TO JUVENILE  
PROCEDURES

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE

This Order implements the recommendations of the Short-Term Strategy Committee on Juveniles.

INFORMATION

Juvenile crime in Los Angeles is a major concern to everyone. Juveniles today are committing more violent crimes and are more actively involved in the selling and purchasing of drugs than ever before. It is the responsibility of the Department to utilize all of the available resources to effectively deal with the problem of juvenile crime.

In an effort to constantly improve the Department's handling of juvenile-related matters, the Office of Operations recently convened a Short-Term Strategy Committee on Juveniles to develop a strategy to upgrade the effectiveness of the Department's juvenile operations. Through extensive interviews and study, the Committee identified several areas where the Department can upgrade juvenile investigations and impact the number of crimes committed by young offenders.

PROCEDURE

The Department's renewed commitment to juvenile procedures will be accomplished by the immediate implementation of the following:

- \* Area Juvenile Units will investigate only those crimes in which the suspect is a juvenile.

NOTE: Cases involving both adult and juvenile suspects will be assigned to the appropriate (adult) detective unit

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because additional charges may be filed against the adult, e.g. contributing to the delinquency of a minor, child endangering, etc.

- \* Area Juvenile Units will investigate all juvenile arrests, except homicide and sexual assault cases.
- \* Area Juvenile Units will not be assigned cases of domestic violence or child abuse/neglect cases. These cases will be investigated by the Area Major Assault Crimes Unit.

NOTE: In those cases of domestic violence, or child abuse/neglect, where a juvenile is a witness or victim, appropriate counseling should be provided for the juvenile. The Area Juvenile Coordinator (AJC) shall be responsible for assisting Area personnel in referring the juvenile to the appropriate counseling agency.

Area Juvenile Coordinator Responsibilities

The Department will place greater emphasis on providing front-end intervention measures for juveniles and will place a greater emphasis on juvenile related matters. In order to accomplish this, the first priority is to clearly define the role and responsibilities of the AJC.

The AJC is the Area juvenile expert and will be responsible for the following:

- \* Directing, supervising and coordinating the operations of the Area Juvenile Unit.
- \* Reviewing all juvenile arrest and crime reports.
- \* Assigning juvenile cases.
- \* Responding to crime scenes, if necessary, to ensure effective investigations.
- \* Ensuring that unit personnel are properly utilizing front-end intervention measures such as the Youth Advocacy Program (YAP) and the City Attorney Parenting Program (CAPP).
- \* Ensuring that unit personnel are properly trained in order to carry out their assigned duties in an effective and efficient manner.

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- \* Maintaining close liaison with the other Area detective unit coordinators in order to discuss crime patterns, MO's, etc.
- \* Coordinating the Area Jeopardy Program.

Area Commanding Officers' Responsibilities

Area Commanding Officers shall:

- \* Ensure that their personnel actively utilize YAP and CAPP to divert youth and parents from the juvenile/criminal justice system (refer to Office of Operations Notice No. 2, 1991, and Operations-Headquarters Bureau Notice dated November 10, 1989, for further information on YAP and CAPP, respectively).
- \* Ensure that the Explorer Program and Youth Services Officers are maintained in their current configuration and not transferred to the Area Juvenile Unit.
- \* Ensure that, as a result of the reassigning of juvenile cases, the appropriate number of personnel are transferred to the Area Juvenile Units to ensure that juvenile cases are investigated properly and that front-end intervention services are delivered.



BERNARD C. PARKS, Assistant Chief  
Director  
Office of Operations

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