

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 21

November 4, 2021

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS ON NOVEMBER 2, 2021

SUBJECT: PROHIBITION OF PARTICIPATION IN LAW ENFORCEMENT GANGS – ESTABLISHED

PURPOSE: On January 1, 2022, California Assembly Bill (AB) 958 will become effective by adding Section 13670 to the California Penal Code, prohibiting the participation in a law enforcement gang by any law enforcement officer. California Penal Code Section 13670 defines “law enforcement gang” as a group of peace officers within a law enforcement agency who may identify themselves by a name and may be associated with an identifying symbol, including, but not limited to, matching tattoos, and who engage in a pattern of on-duty behavior that intentionally violates the law or fundamental principles of professional policing, including, but not limited to: excluding, harassing, or discriminating against any individual based on a protected category under federal or state antidiscrimination laws; engaging in or promoting conduct that violates the rights of other employees or members of the public; violating agency policy; the persistent practice of unlawful detention or use of excessive force in circumstances where it is known to be unjustified; falsifying police reports; fabricating or destroying evidence; targeting persons for enforcement based solely on protected characteristics of those persons; theft; unauthorized use of alcohol or drugs on duty; unlawful or unauthorized protection of other members from disciplinary actions; and, retaliation against other officers who threaten or interfere with the activities of the group.

The Department fully recognizes that participation in any law enforcement gang undermines the Department’s mission and core values, and damages the trust between the Department and the communities that it serves. The purpose of this Order is to establish Department Manual Section 1/271.10, *Prohibition of Participation in Law Enforcement Gangs*.

PROCEDURE: Department Manual Section 1/271.10, *Prohibition of Participation in Law Enforcement Gangs*, has been established. The established Department Manual Section is attached.

AMENDMENTS: This Order adds Section 1/271.10 to the Department Manual.

AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY: The Commanding Officer, Audit Division, shall review this directive and determine whether an audit or inspection shall be conducted in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION “D”

DEPARTMENT MANUAL
VOLUME I
Revised by Special Order No.21, 2021

PROHIBITION OF PARTICIPATION IN LAW ENFORCEMENT GANGS. *Building and preserving trust between the community and law enforcement is crucial to effectively maintaining Department operations, reducing crime and ensuring the safety of occupants and businesses within our City. Participation in law enforcement gangs has proven to undermine the objectives of law enforcement and violates the fundamental principles of professional policing.*

All Department personnel are prohibited from participating in a law enforcement gang. A violation of this policy shall be grounds for termination.

California Penal Code Section 13670 defines a "law enforcement gang" as a group of peace officers within a law enforcement agency who may identify themselves by a name and may be associated with an identifying symbol, including, but not limited to, matching tattoos, and who engage in a pattern of on-duty behavior that intentionally violates the law or fundamental principles of professional policing, including, but not limited to: excluding, harassing, or discriminating against any individual based on a protected category under federal or state antidiscrimination laws; engaging in or promoting conduct that violates the rights of other employees or members of the public; violating agency policy; the persistent practice of unlawful detention or use of excessive force in circumstances where it is known to be unjustified; falsifying police reports; fabricating or destroying evidence; targeting persons for enforcement based solely on protected characteristics of those persons; theft; unauthorized use of alcohol or drugs on-duty; unlawful or unauthorized protection of other members from disciplinary actions; and, retaliation against other officers who threaten or interfere with the activities of the group.

In addition to completing its own investigations, the Department shall cooperate with the Office of the Inspector General, the Attorney General, and/or any other authorized agency investigating such gangs within the Department.