

Reserve Officers

325.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Santa Ana Police Department Reserve Unit was established to supplement and assist sworn police officers in their duties. This unit provides professional, sworn paid reserve officers who can augment regular staffing levels. Reserve officers are part-time, non-civil service and at-will employees.

325.2 SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF POLICE RESERVE OFFICERS

The Santa Ana Police Department shall endeavor to recruit and appoint to the Reserve Unit only those applicants who meet the high ethical, moral and professional standards set forth by this department.

325.2.1 PROCEDURE

All applicants shall be required to meet and pass the same pre-employment procedures as regular police officers and

must have completed, or be in the process of completing, a POST approved basic academy or extended basic academy.

325.2.2 APPOINTMENT

Applicants who are selected for appointment to the Reserve Unit shall, on the recommendation of the Chief of Police, be sworn in by the Chief of Police by taking a loyalty oath to observe and obey all laws and to carry out their duties to the best of their ability.

325.2.3 COMPENSATION FOR POLICE RESERVE OFFICERS

Compensation for reserve officers is provided as follows:

Reserve officers shall be paid at the pay rate established by the City.

325.3 DUTIES OF RESERVE OFFICERS

Reserve officers assist regular officers in the enforcement of laws and in maintaining peace and order within the community. Assignments of reserve officers will usually be to augment the Field Operations Bureau. Reserve officers may be assigned to other areas within the Department as needed. All reserve officers are required to maintain an average of 16 hours of qualified services per month per calendar year to remain a member of the Reserve Unit in good standing.

325.3.1 POLICY COMPLIANCE

Police reserve officers shall adhere to all departmental policies and procedures. A copy of the policies and procedures will be made available to each reserve officer upon appointment and he/she shall become thoroughly familiar with the policies.

Anytime a rule, regulation, or guideline in this manual refers to a sworn regular full-time officer, it shall also apply to a sworn reserve officer unless by its nature it is inapplicable.

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325.3.2 RESERVE OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS

All reserve officers will be assigned their duties by the Watch Commander or his/her designee.

325.3.3 RESERVE COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police shall delegate the responsibility for administering the Reserve Officer Program to a Reserve Coordinator.

The Reserve Coordinator shall have the responsibility of, but not be limited to:

- (a) Assignment of reserve personnel
- (b) Conducting reserve meetings
- (c) Establishing and maintaining a reserve call-out roster
- (d) Maintaining and ensuring performance evaluations are completed
- (e) Monitoring individual reserve officer performance
- (f) Monitoring overall Reserve Unit
- (g) Maintaining liaison with other agency Reserve Coordinators

325.4 FIELD TRAINING

Penal Code § 832.6 requires Level II reserve officers, who have not been released from the immediate supervision requirement per the completion of the Formal Training Process subsection, to work under the immediate supervision of a peace officer who possesses a Basic POST Certificate.

325.4.1 FIELD TRAINING

Reserve officers shall participate in the Field Training Program and shall be held to the standards set forth in the Field Training Officer Program Procedure.

325.4.2 FIELD TRAINING MANUAL

Each new reserve officer will be issued a Field Training Manual at the beginning of his/her Primary Training Phase. This manual is an outline of the subject matter and/or skills necessary to properly function as an officer with the Santa Ana Police Department. The reserve officer shall become knowledgeable of the subject matter as outlined. He/she shall also become proficient with those skills as set forth in the manual.

325.4.3 COMPLETION OF THE PRIMARY TRAINING PHASE

At the completion of the Primary Training Phase, (Phase I) the primary training officer will meet with the Reserve Coordinator. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the progress of the reserve officer in training.

If the reserve officer has progressed satisfactorily, he/she will then proceed to Phase II of the training. If he/she has not progressed satisfactorily, the Reserve Coordinator will determine the appropriate action to be taken.

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325.4.4 SECONDARY TRAINING PHASE

The Secondary Training Phase (Phase II) shall consist of 100 hours of additional on-duty training. The reserve officer will no longer be required to ride with his/her primary training officer. The reserve officer may now ride with any officer designated by the Watch Commander.

During Phase II of training, as with Phase I, the reserve officer's performance will be closely monitored. In addition, rapid progress should continue towards the completion of the Officer's Field Training Manual. At the completion of Phase II of training, the reserve officer will return to his/her primary training officer for Phase III of the training.

325.4.5 THIRD TRAINING PHASE

Phase III of training shall consist of 24 hours of additional on-duty training. For this training phase, the reserve officer will return to his/her original primary training officer. During this phase, the training officer will evaluate the reserve officer for suitability to graduate from the formal training program.

At the completion of Phase III training, the primary training officer will meet with the Reserve Coordinator. Based upon the reserve officer's evaluations, plus input from the primary training officer, the Reserve Coordinator shall decide if the reserve officer has satisfactorily completed his/her formal training. If the reserve officer has progressed satisfactorily, he/she will then graduate from the formal training process. If his/her progress is not satisfactory, the Reserve Coordinator will decide upon the appropriate action to be taken.

325.4.6 COMPLETION OF THE FORMAL TRAINING PROCESS

When a reserve officer has satisfactorily completed all three phases of formal training, he/she will have had a minimum of 284 hours of on-duty training. He/she will no longer be required to ride with a reserve training officer. The reserve officer may now be assigned to ride with any officer for the remaining 200-hour requirement for a total of 484 hours before being considered for relief of immediate supervision.

325.5 SUPERVISION OF RESERVE OFFICERS

Reserve officers who have attained the status of Level II shall be under the immediate supervision of a regular sworn officer (Penal Code 832.6). The immediate supervision requirement shall also continue for reserve officers who have attained Level I status unless special authorization is received from the Reserve Coordinator with the approval of the Bureau Commander.

325.5.1 SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Reserve officers certified as Level I may, with prior authorization of the Reserve Coordinator and on approval of the Bureau Commander, be relieved of the "immediate supervision" requirement. Level I reserve officers may function under the authority of Penal Code § 832.6(a)(1) only for the duration of the assignment or purpose for which the authorization was granted.

In the absence of the Reserve Coordinator and the Bureau Commander, the Watch Commander may assign a certified Level I reserve officer to function under the authority of Penal Code § 832.6(a)(1) for specific purposes and duration.

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325.5.2 RESERVE OFFICER MEETINGS

All reserve officer meetings will be scheduled and conducted by the Reserve Coordinator. All reserve officers are required to attend scheduled meetings. Any absences must be satisfactorily explained to the Reserve Coordinator.

325.5.3 IDENTIFICATION OF RESERVE OFFICERS

All reserve officers will be issued a uniform badge and a Department identification card. The uniform badge shall be the same as that worn by a regular full-time officer. The identification card will be the standard identification card with the exception that "Reserve" will be indicated on the card.

325.5.4 UNIFORM

Reserve officers shall conform to all uniform regulation and appearance standards of this department.

325.5.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND COMPLAINTS

If a reserve officer has a complaint made against him/her or becomes involved in an internal investigation, that complaint or internal investigation may be investigated by the Reserve Coordinator, at the discretion of the Field Operations Bureau Commander.

Reserve officers are considered at-will employees. Government Code § 3300 et seq. applies to reserve officers with the exception that the right to hearing is limited to the opportunity to clear their name.

325.5.6 RESERVE OFFICER EVALUATIONS

While in training reserves will be continuously evaluated using standardized daily and weekly observation reports. The reserve will be considered a trainee until all of the training phases have been completed. Reserves having completed their field training will be evaluated annually using performance dimensions applicable to the duties and authorities granted to that reserve.

325.6 FIREARMS REQUIREMENTS

Penal Code § 830.6(a)(1) designates a reserve officer as having peace officer powers during his/her assigned tour of duty, provided the reserve officer qualifies or falls within the provisions of Penal Code § 832.6.

325.6.1 CARRYING WEAPON ON DUTY

Penal Code § 830.6(a)(1) permits qualified reserve officers to carry a loaded firearm while on-duty. It is the policy of this department to allow reserve officers to carry firearms only while on-duty or to and from duty.

325.6.2 CONCEALED FIREARMS PROHIBITED

No reserve officer will be permitted to carry a concealed firearm while in an off-duty capacity, other than to and from work, except those reserve officers who possess a valid CCW permit. An instance may arise where a reserve officer is assigned to a plainclothes detail for his/her assigned tour of

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duty. Under these circumstances, the reserve officer may be permitted to carry a weapon more suited to the assignment with the knowledge and approval of the supervisor in charge of the detail.

Any reserve officer who is permitted to carry a firearm other than the assigned duty weapon may do so only after verifying that the weapon conforms to departmental standards. The weapon must be registered by the reserve officer and be inspected and certified as fit for service by a departmental armorer.

Before being allowed to carry any optional firearm during an assigned tour of duty, the reserve officer shall have demonstrated his/her proficiency with said weapon.

When a reserve officer has satisfactorily completed all three phases of training (as outlined in the Field Training section), he/she may be issued a permit to carry a concealed weapon. The decision to issue a concealed weapon permit will be made by the Chief of Police with input from the Reserve Program Coordinator and administrative staff. In issuing a concealed weapon permit a reserve officer's qualification will be individually judged. A reserve officer's dedication to the program and demonstrated maturity, among other factors, will be considered before a concealed weapon permit will be issued. Once issued, the concealed weapon permit will be valid only for as long as the reserve officer remains in good standing as a Reserve Officer with the Santa Ana Police Department.

325.6.3 RESERVE OFFICER FIREARM TRAINING

All reserve officers are required to maintain proficiency with firearms used in the course of their assignments. Reserve officers shall comply with all areas of the Firearms Policy and Firearms Procedure, with the following exceptions:

- (a) All reserve officers are required to qualify at least every other month
- (b) Reserve officers may fire at the department approved range at least once each month and more often with the approval of the Reserve Coordinator
- (c) Should a reserve officer fail to qualify over a two-month period, that reserve officer will not be allowed to carry a firearm until he/she has reestablished his/her proficiency

325.7 EMERGENCY CALL-OUT FOR RESERVE PERSONNEL

The Reserve Coordinator shall develop a plan outlining an emergency call-out procedure for reserve personnel.