

**GENERAL ORDER 41.4.7**

**Other Notifications**

**GENERAL ORDER CROSS-REFERENCE: None.**

**SUMMARY**

Establishes procedures for notification of the Medical Examiner, street/highway personnel, public utilities personnel, and the news media.

**DISCUSSION**

None.

**POLICY**

**I**

**Medical Examiner:**

In all cases of homicide, violent death, accidental death, suicide, apparent natural death, suspicious or questionable death, or any other circumstance described in ORS 146.090, the officer on the scene shall notify communications to contact the on duty Lane County Medical or Deputy Medical Examiner and request Medical Examiner contact the supervisor on shift or the officer making the request.

**II**

When officers observe or are dispatched to a scene where damage is to a City, County or State property such as roadway, signs, ditches, bridges, etc., they shall determine if such damage is of an emergency nature. The officer shall advise communications of the situation and ask the proper agency be notified.

**III**

**Public Utilities:**

When officers observe or are dispatched to the scene where damage occurs to a public utility or information from a public utility is required, the officer shall advise communications to contact the proper utility.

Public Works shall be notified in all instances where it comes to police attention that stormwater systems have failed, for all hazardous spills (except vehicle fluid spills), vehicle fluid

spills in excess of 42 gallons, or if the spill has entered (or has potential to enter) waterway (does not apply to battery acid, anti-freeze or window wash), and sanitary sewage spills.

#### IV

##### News Media:

A supervisor shall ensure that media releases are written for those incidents which require a media release. Additional information other than press releases shall be released by a command officer and/or designee.

Circumstances requiring immediate public notification (major traffic accidents, road congestion or detours, etc.) are relayed to the news media by communications personnel upon instruction by the watch commander.

Department members may answer requests for information on incidents where they possess adequate knowledge to do so. Where the Department member does not possess sufficient information, or elects not to subject him or herself to the interview, media personnel shall be directed to the Watch Commander or a Lieutenant.

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Richard L. Lewis  
Chief of Police