

GENERAL ORDER 41.4.8

Hazards

GENERAL ORDER CROSS-REFERENCE: None.

SUMMARY

Establishes a procedure for identifying and disseminating information on actual or potential police hazards.

DISCUSSION

Police hazards may vary from hour to hour, day to day, or may be constant for some period of time. They may be as serious as a person with known intent and ability to harm a police officer or as simple as a significantly worn roadway. Hazards must be recognized and identified and the information disseminated to all personnel. The police response to an individual hazard is guided by other policies.

POLICY

I

Hazards may be identified in many ways; information from other agencies or organizations, citizen contacts, officer observed or noted and information generated in the normal course of business.

Once such information is obtained, it shall be documented and referred to a watch commander for review. Teletypes and documents from other agencies shall also be referred to a watch commander. All relevant material shall be placed on the briefing board or activity log depending on the potential longevity of the situation.

II

Information on hazards that need correction shall be documented and referred to the responsible agency or organization.

III

Generally, hazard information reported by officers may be reported to communications, who will document it on the patrol log or briefing board. Officers are encouraged to make written documentation of hazards that need to be addressed by other agencies, organizations or departments.

IV

Activity logs and briefing boards shall be available for all personnel and be discussed in briefings for each shift. Watch commanders or supervisors shall review all hazardous incidents, situations or persons with all members of their shifts.

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