



# ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE GENERAL ORDER COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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To: All Deputy Sheriffs & Office Personnel  
 From: Sheriff Carl E. DuBois  
 Subject: General Order- Community Relations

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this General Order is to provide a means of identifying and addressing a variety of issues and concerns that may arise in the relationship that this Office has with the community that it serves.

**I. COMMUNITY RELATIONS OBJECTIVE.**

- A. The objective of the Orange County Sheriff's Office is to be responsive to the needs of our community in terms of the efficient and effective delivery of police services. Our goal is to maintain a good working relationship between members of this Office and members of the community that we serve.
- B. The Sheriff of Orange County recognizes the importance of maintaining an atmosphere of openness with the communities in Orange County. We must actively seek to establish a cooperative relationship, which includes keeping the community informed on matters of public interest.

**II. COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR.**

- A. The Sheriff, by virtue of his office, is the Community Relations Officer for the Orange County Sheriff's Office. This function will be exercised by the Sheriff and/or his designated representative(s).

**III. COMMUNITY RELATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES.**

- A. The responsibility for achieving the Orange County Sheriff's Office community relations objective is shared by all employees, both sworn and civilian. All employees, both paid and volunteer, should project a positive image and become involved in community needs. The conduct of each employee reflects on the Orange County Sheriff's Office as a whole, and the burden of achieving the office's community relations objectives should be shared. Every employee must be aware of the different programs that the office has so they can inform the community.

#### IV. COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND CRIME PREVENTION.

- A. Law enforcement agencies are often called upon, usually through speaking engagements, to advise, assist and inform the public about various topics, such as crime prevention, personal safety and police activities. In order to coordinate the Orange County Sheriff's Office efforts, it is essential to designate a person or component to be responsible for such assistance to the public. However, the person so designated may delegate to different units, according to specialty, assignments to meet the public requests.
- B. All Sheriff's Office Deputies are considered to be crime prevention officers. Sheriff's Office personnel shall act in this capacity while assisting members of the community or while investigating crime(s). They should refer citizens to the community relations coordinator for specialized crime prevention needs.

***REFERENCE:***

***ACCREDITATION STANDARDS 29.1, 29.2, 29.3***