



Santa Cruz Consolidated Emergency Communications Center

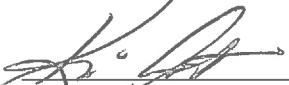
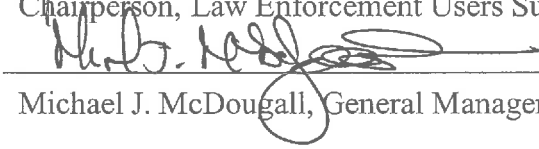
495 Upper Park Road
Santa Cruz, California 95065
(831) 471-1000 Fax (831) 471-1010

9-1-1 FIRE
POLICE
MEDICAL



Michael J. McDougall
General Manager

COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY

Policy No. 4920	Date Issued: June 1, 1996
Section: 4900 -- Specific Procedures	Date Revised: July 9, 2007
Accreditation Standards:	
SUBJECT: MEAL BREAK REQUESTS	
APPROVED: 	_____
	Chairperson, Law Enforcement Users Subcommittee
APPROVED: 	_____
	Michael J. McDougall, General Manager

1.0 Policy

Certain law enforcement agencies allow officers in the field to take meal breaks after requesting such from dispatch. Meal breaks are tracked via status code. Other agencies do not require officers to make contact with dispatchers regarding meal breaks and they remain available for dispatch.

2.0 Procedure

When an officer requests and is granted a meal break, place the officer in 'ML' status. Assign officers for their meal breaks in the order of their requests, unless otherwise directed by the patrol supervisor.

Normally one unit at a time is allowed on a meal break. If activity is low and there are extra patrol units on duty, more than one unit may be cleared to take a meal break, with the patrol supervisor's approval.

Officers will remain available on the radio or give a location or telephone number where they will be taking their meal break. Log this information on the dispatch incident.

During busy periods and high priority calls for service, you may call officers off their meal breaks to handle calls.