



# Santa Cruz Consolidated Emergency Communications Center

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Michael J. McDougall  
General Manager

**9-1-1** FIRE  
POLICE  
MEDICAL

## COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS FIRE SERVICE POLICY

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| <b>Policy No.</b> 5220  | <b>Date Issued:</b> June 1, 1996             |
| <b>Section:</b> 5200 – Field Unit Safety  | <b>Date Revised:</b> May 17, 2006            |
| <b>Accreditation Standards:</b> None  |  |
| <b>SUBJECT: LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUESTS</b>  |  |
| <b>APPROVED:</b>  | _____  |
|   | Chairperson, Fire Service Users Subcommittee |
| <b>APPROVED:</b>   | _____  |
|   | Michael J. McDougall, General Manager        |

Dispatchers will immediately relay any fire service personnel request for law enforcement assistance to the appropriate law enforcement jurisdiction. A request for law enforcement shall be requested in one of two categories:

Code 3 cover – A situation exists that has placed public safety personnel in immediate danger. A request for Code 3 cover will automatically generate an Emergency Traffic only restriction in accordance with Policy No. 5321 (Priority and Emergency Traffic Only) on Fire Red and the channel marker will be used until otherwise indicated by the requestor.

Code 2 cover – A situation exists where law enforcement is needed for 1) detection of a crime scene, or 2) assistance with an uncooperative patient.

Requests shall include as much information as possible, given the circumstances. If a firefighter does not specify the nature of the law enforcement request or response code, the dispatcher will ask for further information from the firefighter but will not delay the law enforcement dispatch. If the firefighter does not provide any additional information, the dispatcher will wait approximately two minutes and then request a report on conditions.

A firefighter request for immediate assistance (code 3 cover) may generate an Officer Needs Assistance law enforcement response (for example, shots fired at a firefighter or a firefighter victim of a battery by a citizen). When a firefighter requests code 3 cover, the dispatcher will

immediately relay the request to the appropriate law enforcement jurisdiction. The dispatcher will request additional information and a report on conditions from the firefighter, as above. The dispatcher should consider restricting radio traffic on the fire dispatch frequency until law enforcement or the requesting firefighter advises no further assistance is needed (code 4).