



SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDERS



532.06 CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES 03-28-96

PURPOSE

To establish procedures for handling hazardous materials associated with the manufacture of illegal drugs.

POLICY

That when hazardous materials associated with a Clandestine Laboratory (Clan Lab) are located, the Sacramento County Environmental Health Agency, owner of the involved property, and/or the Sacramento Fire Department be notified.

PROCEDURE

A. HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

1. Once a scene has been determined to be or is suspected of being a clan lab, officers shall:
 - a. immediately notify their supervisor.
 - b. NOT touch or examine the chemicals.
 - c. notify the Fire Department, due to danger of fire and explosion.
 - d. isolate and contain the area as required.
2. Supervisors shall:
 - a. as necessary, have a trained Special Investigations Division (SID) detective or sergeant respond to assist in the evaluation.
 - b. if an officer, firefighter or citizen appears to have been injured, contaminated, or made ill due to exposure to chemicals:
 - (1) ensure prompt emergency transportation to a medical facility.
 - (a) If the Sacramento Fire Department Hazardous Material Unit "HAZMAT" is on the scene, request they decontaminate individuals first before transporting to a medical facility.
 - (b) If the Fire Department is not immediately available, have individuals remove contaminated clothing as soon as possible and avoid further exposure to chemicals.
 - (2) arrange to provide the treating physician with any available information pertaining to the chemicals present.
 - c. evaluate whether the circumstances present a prosecutable case based on the presence of chemicals and/or equipment required to manufacture controlled substances.
 - d. if a prosecutable case appears to exist, request a Narcotics detective respond. If in doubt, request Narcotics respond. Determination may be based on:
 - (1) finding of chemicals, glassware, and equipment required to manufacture drugs.
 - (2) an assembled or disassembled laboratory.
 - e. if a prosecutable case does not exist, surrender responsibility to the Fire Department per GO 532.05.
 - f. direct the responses required above in the following order:
 - (1) an on-duty Narcotics detective.
 - (2) an on-call Narcotics sergeant.
3. refer to GO 532.05 involving hazardous material incidents exclusive of those involving a clan lab.

B. SID RESPONSIBILITY

1. A Narcotics supervisor shall investigate to determine if circumstances are sufficient to warrant prosecution.
 - a. If prosecutable, request the Sacramento Clandestine Lab Task Force respond to assist in securing and processing evidence.

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- (1) Request should be made by a Narcotics detective who is familiar with the situation to assist the "Lab Task Force Duty Officer" in evaluating the incident.
 - (2) Except for major cases, the Lab Task Force will not respond during late evening/early morning hours unless the incident presents an immediate danger to the public or law enforcement. During this time the watch commander shall arrange for scene protection until the Lab Task Force can respond after 0800 hours, including holidays and weekends.
 - b. If not prosecutable, advise the Fire Department the scene is no longer subject to police investigation and:
 - (1) the scene is in fact a hazardous material situation.
 - (2) relinquish command to the Fire Department per GO 532.05.
 - (3) at the Fire Department's request, the Administrative Sergeant, Office of Operations, shall be contacted to arrange for CSOs or reserve officers, if available, for protection until arrangements to remove the chemicals can be made.
 2. Narcotics detectives shall:
 - a. notify the Sacramento County Environmental Health Division of the incident by:
 - (1) telephone no later than the end of the shift of the next working day.
 - (2) form letter, SPD 639, within three (3) working days of the incident with a copy routed to Records Division.
 - b. send a form letter to the registered owner of the involved vehicle (SPD 637), or owner of record of the real property (SPD 642), within three (3) working days, with a copy routed to Records Division.
 - c. upon conclusion of the scene investigation, post SPD form (641) on the real property/vehicle, warning of a possible hazardous situation.
 - (1) The notice shall be posted in an area allowing clear visibility to anyone entering the vehicle/real property.
 - (2) Detectives reasonably believing a vehicle is contaminated with a hazardous chemical shall request a tow, storing the vehicle as outlined in GO 536.02.
- C. CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS RESPONSIBILITY
Crime scene investigators assigned to a Clan Lab shall process evidence as directed by the "Lab Task Force Duty Officer."