

San Diego County  
Sheriff's Department

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Media Guide



# Mission Statement

We provide the highest quality public safety services in an effort to make San Diego the safest urban county in the nation.



## Core Values

**Honesty** We are truthful in our words and in our actions.

**Integrity** As people of character and principle, we do what is right, even when no one is looking.

**Loyalty** We are loyal to our department and our profession and committed to protecting the quality of life in the communities we serve.

**Trust** We are confident in the integrity, the ability and the good character of our colleagues.

**Respect** We treat everyone with dignity, honoring the rights of all individuals.

**Fairness** We are just and impartial in all of our interactions.  
Our decisions are made without personal favoritism.

**Diversity** We embrace the strength in the diversity of our employees and our communities.



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## Media Guidelines

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department is committed to an atmosphere of transparency with the media and the public.

The purpose of this guide is to assist the media in getting timely news and information from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and provide the media and our deputies with a basic outline of releasable information.

This is only a reference guide and is not intended to cover every possible situation pertaining to the San Diego County Sheriff's Department's policy on the release of information.

Each area Watch Commander within the San Diego County Sheriff's Department's stations, substations and offices can provide information to the media for incidents occurring within their area. The map on page 12 and subsequent directory will assist you in locating the nearest office to seek information.



For general information about the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, its policies, procedures, history, statistical data, areas of jurisdiction, news conferences, etc., contact:

Media Relations Office

[mediarelations@sdsheriff.org](mailto:mediarelations@sdsheriff.org)

(858) 974-2259

[sdsheriff.net/newsroom](http://sdsheriff.net/newsroom)

The following units handle their own media inquiries due to the sensitive nature of their cases:

Child Abuse

(858) 285-6222

Elder Abuse/Financial Crimes

(858) 285-6111

Homicide Detail

(858) 285-6330

Sex Crimes

(858) 285-6112

## Cause of Death Determinations

In the County of San Diego, the Medical Examiner's Office is the agency that rules on the manner or cause of certain deaths. You can request copies of autopsy reports through this office.

Medical Examiner's Office

(858) 694-2895



## Public Disclosure of Crime and Arrest Reports

The following information will be provided upon request according to Government Code Section 6254 (f) unless the information would endanger the successful completion of an investigation, or a related investigation, or would endanger the safety of a person involved in the incident:

### Arrestee Information:

- Full name (except juveniles)
- Area of residence
- Date of birth, physical description, age and sex
- Time, date and location of arrest
- Circumstances of the arrest
- Nature of charges
- Date and time of booking
- Amount of bail and location held
- All charges, including parole or probation holds
- Time and manner of release

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department's Policy and Procedure is available online at [sdsheriff.net/policy](http://sdsheriff.net/policy).

Requests for information and/or interviews on non-breaking news stories should be made through the Media Relations Office.

### **San Diego County Sheriff's Department | Media Relations Office**

9621 Ridgeway Court, San Diego, CA 92123

Email

[mediarelations@sdsheriff.org](mailto:mediarelations@sdsheriff.org)

Main Office Phone

(858) 974-2259

The office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Credentialed media on deadline may call the Sheriff's Communication Center Media Line after hours, weekends or holidays at (858) 565-5555.

If you would like to receive an email alert when a news release or breaking news update is posted on our website, please follow these steps:

- Go to [sdsheriff.net/newsroom](https://sdsheriff.net/newsroom)
- Enter your email in the News Release Sign-Up
- Click on Subscribe
- You will receive an email asking you to CONFIRM your subscription  
You MUST answer this email; otherwise you will not get the email alerts
- You may unsubscribe at any time by clicking on the link contained in any of the notifications

Follow the Sheriff's Department on the following social media networks for news, photos and video:



[youtube.com/user/sdsheriff](https://youtube.com/user/sdsheriff)



[@SDSheriff](https://twitter.com/SDSheriff)



[vimeo.com/sdsheriff/videos](https://vimeo.com/sdsheriff/videos)



[instagram.com/sdsheriff](https://instagram.com/sdsheriff)



[local.nixle.com/san-diego-county-sheriffs-department](https://local.nixle.com/san-diego-county-sheriffs-department)



[sdsheriff.net/newsroom](https://sdsheriff.net/newsroom)





### **Suspect Information:**

(Releasable information prior to arrest or charge)

Information regarding the identity of any suspect shall not be released to the news media, unless this is necessary to aid and assist in the investigation and in the apprehension, or to warn the public, of any dangerous wanted person who is still at large.

### **Information Regarding an Ongoing Investigation:**

Generally, information is withheld when release would:

- Jeopardize successful case investigation
- Endanger a victim, witness or informant

The name of a victim of any crime defined by sections 220, 261, 262, 264, 264.1, 273a, 273d, 273.5, 286, 288, 288a, 289, 422.6, 422.7, 422.75, or 646.9 of the California Penal Code may be withheld at the victim's request, or at the request of the victim's parent or guardian, if the victim is a minor.

### **Traffic Collision Information:**

Pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 20012, traffic collision reports are confidential except to those parties with a proper interest (drivers, owner of vehicle, insurance company, etc.).

No person other than a party of proper interest may review or receive a copy of a collision report.

### **Information that may be released includes:**

- Date, time and location of collision
- Number and makes of involved vehicles
- Number of occupants and extent of injuries, if any
- A factual synopsis of the collision



### Non-Releasable Information:

Identity of suspect(s) prior to arrest, except as previously noted. Investigative procedure results prior to arrest, except as previously noted.

The name of a victim of any crime defined by sections 220, 261, 262, 264, 264.1, 273a, 273d, 273.5, 286, 288, 288a, 289, 422.6, 422.7, 422.75, or 646.9 of the California Penal Code may be withheld at the victim's request, or at the request of the victim's parent or guardian, if the victim is a minor.

- Juvenile detainees, arrestees or suspects
- Confidential informants
- Individuals taken into custody under Welfare and Institutions Code 5150
- Criminal offender information
- Copies of "rap sheets"
- Any photograph or mug shot except to aid in capture or to warn the public of any dangerous wanted person who is still at large
- Information that may endanger any person including law enforcement personnel
- Information that may jeopardize an investigation, related investigation or law enforcement proceedings
- Any portion of a report which reflects the analysis, recommendation or conclusion of the investigating deputy
- Information that may disclose investigative techniques
- The existence or content of any omission or confession
- The testimony or credibility of any witness or prospective witness
- Any information known to be inadmissible as evidence in a trial
- Personnel, medical or similar files
- Records of pending litigation
- The names of deceased persons until the next of kin has been notified



## Media Access at Disaster Scenes

Disaster and accident scenes may be closed to the public under authority of 409.5(a) P.C. which states “...a menace to the public health or safety is created by a calamity such as flood, storm, fire, earthquake, explosion, or other disaster...”

409.5(d) P.C. states “Nothing in this section shall prevent a duly authorized representative of any news service from entering the area closed...” After being advised of any existing danger, members of the news media are permitted free movement in the area as long as they do not hamper, deter or interfere with law enforcement or public safety functions.

**The ultimate responsibility for the safety of the news media personnel lies with the individual reporter/journalist, photographer, videographer and their employer.**

The Sheriff's Department recognizes valid San Diego Police Department-issued media credentials as evidence that an individual is a duly authorized representative of a news service. Absent official government media credentials, access pursuant to 409.5 P.C. will be granted on a case-by-case basis upon presentation of information complying with 409.5 P.C.





SHERIFF'S LINE DO NOT CROSS

## Media Access at Crime Scenes

Crime scenes are closed to the public and media until any preservation and processing of evidence has been completed. 409.5 P.C. does not apply to crime scenes.

The Sheriff's Department will not establish artificial barriers or hold the media at bay several blocks from the crime scene, while allowing the general public to wander freely just beyond the crime scene tape.

The Sheriff's Department recognizes the media's right to photograph or record video in public places. The media, when legally present at an emergency scene, may photograph, record or report anything or interview anyone they observe.

Deputies will attempt to establish an area for the media outside the crime scene in order to preserve evidence and prevent activity that jeopardizes law enforcement operations.

It is also strongly recommended that media personnel present their valid SDPD media credential at critical incident scenes.

## Media Access at Incident Scenes

Under most circumstances, incident scenes such as a SWAT standoff, missing person(s) search, vehicle crash, along with Command Post areas, will be closed to all unauthorized persons, including the news media. The purpose of any such constraint is to protect the integrity of the investigation and to ensure a safe, coordinated and unrestricted response by law enforcement and other emergency personnel.

The scene of a Sheriff's Department tactical operation is the same as a crime scene and is subject to reasonable restrictions set forth by the incident commander. The news media shall be allowed access to the best possible safe location as determined by the incident commander. A Sheriff's Media Relations Officer will be assigned to keep the media briefed.

## Media Access at Sheriff's Headquarters and Facilities

News conferences held outdoors at the Sheriff's Administrative Headquarters are open to the public and do not require media credentials.

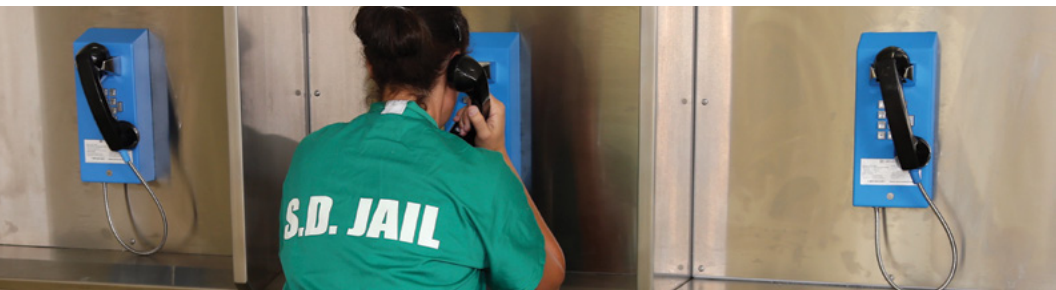
News conferences or media briefings held inside Sheriff's Administrative Headquarters, Stations or Substations and other facilities are by invitation only. A valid SDPD media credential is considered an invitation to attend news conferences inside Sheriff's Department facilities. All other invitations will be granted on a case-by-case basis by the Sheriff's Media Relations Director.

## Media Access to Persons In Custody

News media representatives have no greater right of access to detention facilities or inmates than any other member of the public. A visit by news media personnel shall be considered a social visit, not a professional visit. The Media Relations Office does not process requests for interviews.

Media representatives seeking an inmate interview should proceed as described below:

- Visit the "Who's in Jail" page of the Sheriff's Department website.
- Search the inmate's last and first name.
- A new page will open if the person is in the custody of the Sheriff's Department
- Note the facility and housing area location of the inmate. That location will determine which days and times social visiting is permitted. Click "Visit Schedule" immediately under the inmate's housing location, and you will be taken to the visit schedule for that facility.
- You may go to the facility and attempt the visit; however, you may wish to correspond with the inmate first to be more certain the interview will be accepted by the inmate.
- To correspond with the inmate, click the "Email this inmate" icon on the inmate's page in "Who's in Jail" and follow all the directions to complete the message.
- If the inmate opts to accept the visit, that visit shall be counted as a social visit for that day, just like any other social visit.



- With the inmate's permission, the visit may be tape recorded or videotaped from the public access portion of the visit area.
- Inmates have two social visits per week. To find out if an inmate has available social visits for the week, please contact the Detentions Information Office of the Detention Facility.

George F. Bailey Detention Facility	(619) 210-0385
East Mesa Reentry Facility	(619) 210-0334
Facility Eight Detention Facility	(619) 210-0327
South Bay Detention Facility	(619) 213-1433
Las Colinas Detention Facility	(619) 402-1312
Vista Detention Facility	(760) 936-0014
San Diego Central Jail	(619) 610-1647

When conducting an inmate visit for media purposes, please observe the following:

- You will generally have 30 minutes with the inmate.
- While interviewing the inmate, please make sure other inmates are NOT included in the videos or photographs.
- At most facilities, your interview will be through a visit window. You will not have face-to-face access as is the case with attorneys.
- Since you are on a social visit, you cannot put a microphone on the inmate. You can only put your microphone on the telephone on the glass window.
- Once you have scheduled a visit and the inmate has accepted your visit, call the Detention Facility to inform the Watch Commander that you are arriving with TV equipment which will have to be inspected upon your arrival.





## Station and Substation Addresses

### 4S Ranch Substation

(858) 521-5200

10282 Rancho Bernardo Rd., San Diego, CA 92127

 @SDSO4SRanch

4S Ranch

Fairbanks Ranch

### Alpine Station

(619) 659-2600

2751 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, CA 91901

 @SDSOAlpine and @SDSORural

Alpine

Alpine Heights

Blossom Valley

Glen Oaks

Harbison Canyon

Dehesa

La Cresta

Crest

Suncrest

Cuyapaipa Reservation

Viejas Reservation

Flinn Springs

Palo Verde

The Willows

Hidden Glen

Rancho Palo Verde

Victoria

### Campo/Tecate Substation

(619) 478-5378

378 Sheridan Rd., Campo, CA 91906

 @SDSOCampo and @SDSORural

Campo

Engineer Springs

Doghouse Junction

Barrett Junction

Morena Village

Cameron Corners

Hacienda del Florasol

Rancho Del Campo

Canyon City

Potrero

Tecate

Dulzura

Campo (Little) Reservation

### Fallbrook Substation

(760) 451-3100

388 E. Alvarado St., Fallbrook, CA 92028

 @SDSOFallbrook

Fallbrook

Bonsall

San Luis Rey Estates

Pala Mesa Village

Live Oak Park

Winterwarm

Rainbow

De Luz

Margarita

### Imperial Beach Substation

(619) 498-2400

845 Imperial Beach Blvd., Imperial Beach, CA 91932

 @SDSheriffB

Imperial Beach

Unincorporated areas of

Bonita

Sunnyside

Otay Mesa

Lincoln Acres

### Julian Substation

(760) 765-4718

2907 Washington St., Bldg. C, Julian, CA 92036

 SDSOJulian and @SDSORural

Julian

Cuyamaca

Inaja Reservation

Pine Hills

Whispering Pines

Kentwood-in-the-Pines

Santa Ysabel

Wynola

Harrison Park



### Lakeside Substation

12365 Parkside St., Lakeside, CA 92040

Lakeside  
Lakeview  
Riverview Farms  
Winter Gardens  
Eucalyptus Hills

Granite Hills  
Foster  
Barona (South) Reservation  
Johnstown

Glenview  
Moreno  
Capitan Grande Reservation  
Grossmont College

(619) 938-1360

 @SDSOLakeside

### Lemon Grove Substation

3240 Main St., Lemon Grove, CA 91945

Lemon Grove

(619) 337-2000

 @SDSOLemonGrove

### North Coastal Station

175 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas, CA 92024

Del Mar  
Solana Beach  
Eden Gardens

Lomas Santa Fe  
Encinitas  
Cardiff-by-the-Sea  
Olivenhain

Leucadia  
Rancho Santa Fe  
San Onofre

(760) 966-3500

 @SDSONorthCoast

### Pine Valley Substation

28696 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, CA 91962

Pine Valley  
Live Oak Springs  
Tierra del Sol  
Boulevard  
Manzanita  
Bankhead Springs  
Jacumba  
Palm Grove  
Los Terrentos

Descanso  
Guatay  
Hulburd Grove  
Pine Grove  
Mount Laguna  
Descanso Junction  
Green Valley Falls  
Pasa Picacho

Sheephead Mountain  
Laguna Junction  
Buckman Springs  
Boulder Oaks  
Campo (Big) Reservation  
Cuyapaipe Reservation  
La Posta Reservation  
Manzanita Reservation

(619) 938-8400

 @SDSOPineValley

### Poway Station

13100 Bowron Rd., Poway, CA 92064

Poway

(858) 513-2800

 @SDSOPoway

### Ramona Substation

1424 Montecito Rd., Ramona, CA 92065

Ramona  
Rosemont  
Rock Haven  
Irving's Crest  
Barona Mesa

Barona Reservation  
San Diego Country Estates  
Capitan Grande (North)  
Reservation  
Shady Dell

Fernbrook  
Four Corners  
Ballena  
Witch Creek

(760) 789-9157

 @SDSORamona

### **Ranchita/Warner Springs Substation**

25704 San Felipe Rd., S-2, Warner Springs, CA 92086

**(760) 782-3353**

 @SDSORanchita

Ranchita  
Dos Cabezas  
Sweeney Pass  
Agua Caliente Springs  
Whale Peak  
Scissors Crossing  
Shelter Valley

Banner  
Ocotillo Wells  
Borrego Springs  
Borrego  
Hellhole Palms  
San Felipe  
Mesa Grande

Oak Grove  
Holcomb Village  
Warner Springs  
San Ignacio  
Los Coyotes Reservation  
Mesa Grande Reservation  
Santa Ysabel Reservation

### **Rancho San Diego Station**

11486 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, CA 91978

**(619) 660-7090**

 @SDSORSO

Spring Valley  
La Presa  
Mount Helix  
Casa de Oro  
Rancho San Diego

Jamacha  
North Jamul  
Jamul  
Jamul Reservation

Cottonwood  
Indian Springs  
Sycuan Reservation  
Cuyamaca College

### **San Marcos Station**

182 Santar PL, San Marcos, CA 92069

**(760) 510-5200**

 @SDSOSanMarcos

San Marcos  
San Elijo Hills  
Lake San Marcos

Twin Oaks  
Hidden Meadows  
Jesmond Dene

Elfin Forest  
Harmony Grove  
Del Dios

### **Santee Station**

8811 Cuyamaca St., Santee, CA 92071

**(619) 956-4000**

 @SDSOSantee

Santee

### **Valley Center/Pauma Substation**

28201 N. Lake Wohlford Rd., Valley Center, CA 92082

**(760) 751-4400**

 @SDSOValleyCtr

Valley Center  
La Jolla Reservation  
Pala Reservation  
Pauma Reservation  
Rincon Reservation  
San Pasqual Reservation

Lilac  
Birch Hill  
Bear Valley  
Lake Wohlford  
Rincon Springs  
Pauma Valley

Palomar Mountain  
La Jolla Amago  
Agua Tibia

### **Vista Station**

325 S. Melrose Drive, Ste. 210, Vista, CA 92081

**(760) 940-4551**

 @SDSOVista

Vista

Buena

# Quick Reference

4S Ranch Substation	(858) 521-5200
Alpine Station	(619) 659-2600
Campo/Tecate Substation	(619) 478-5378
Fallbrook Substation	(760) 451-3100
Imperial Beach Substation	(619) 498-2400
Julian Substation	(760) 765-4718
Lakeside Substation	(619) 938-1360
Lemon Grove Substation	(619) 337-2000



North Coastal Station	(760) 966-3500
Pine Valley Substation	(619) 938-8400
Poway Station	(858) 513-2800
Ramona Substation	(760) 789-9157
Ranchita/Warner Springs Substation	(760) 782-3353
Rancho San Diego Station	(619) 660-7090
San Marcos Station	(760) 510-5200
Santee Station	(619) 956-4000
Valley Center/Pauma Substation	(760) 751-4400
Vista Station	(760) 940-4551



**Media Relations Office**

Child Abuse

Elder Abuse/Financial Crimes

Homicide Detail

Medical Examiner's Office

Sex Crimes

**(858) 974-2259**

(858) 285-6222

(858) 285-6111

(858) 285-6330

(858) 694-2895

(858) 285-6112





# San Diego County Sheriff's Department Media Relations Office

9621 Ridgehaven Court | San Diego, CA 92123

[mediarelations@sdsheriff.org](mailto:mediarelations@sdsheriff.org)

(858) 974-2259

