

# **SANTA CLARA POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER 16.6**

## **EXPLORERS AND CADETS**

**ISSUED APRIL 2006**

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### **16.6.1 PAL Explorer Program**

#### **Purpose**

In a desire to provide an opportunity for young people to learn about the structure of police agencies, become acquainted with other governmental agencies, assist police officers, provide positive role models and prepare young people for a career in law enforcement, the Santa Clara Police Department, in conjunction with the Santa Clara Police Activities League (PAL), offers an Explorer programs.

The Explorer Program is designed for youth in high school (ninth through twelfth grades).

A School Services Unit, School Resource Officer will serve in the capacity of the 'Explorer Advisor' for the Explorer Program. The Explorer Advisor will be responsible for the interviewing of prospective Explorers, coordination of meetings and special events, and promotion of officers within the Explorer organization.

#### **Eligibility**

Any student in high school who has not been convicted of a serious offense. Prospective members should maintain an overall "C" average in their academic studies.

#### **Meetings**

Members are required to attend all scheduled Explorer meetings, unless an acceptable reason is provided to the Explorer Advisor.

#### **Volunteer Time**

Each Explorer is required to volunteer a minimum of two (2) hours each month at the Department, in addition to any ride-alongs or meetings. Volunteer hours will be scheduled through the Explorer Advisor.

#### **Uniforms**

The basic Explorer uniform shall consist of:

- Light blue uniform shirt with designated patches
- White crew neck t-shirt.

## **16.6**

- Dark blue pants.
- Black basket weave belt.
- Black polishable shoes with black or navy blue socks.

In addition to the above equipment, each Explorer should have the following:

- Flashlight (“D” cell type or rechargeable).
- Notebook - pocket size.
- Whistle.
- Pen (black ink) and pencil.

### **Use of ID Cards and Badges**

Any member of the Explorer program, who uses the ID card to the detriment of the program or to seek individual benefits, will be subject to dismissal. The badge **WILL NOT** be carried on the person of any member of the program when he/she is out of uniform.

### **Ride-alongs**

Explorers who have been cleared as observers may participate in ride-alongs once per month. Explorers under the age of 18 are prohibited from riding between the hours of 2400 and 0700. They must arrive in uniform and shall advise the Watch Commander or the Sergeant prior to briefing that they are present.

### **16.6.2 Police Cadet Program**

#### **Purpose**

In a desire to provide an opportunity for young people to learn about the structure of police agencies, become acquainted with other governmental agencies, assist police officers, provide positive role models and prepare young people for a career in law enforcement, the Santa Clara Police Department, in conjunction with the Santa Clara Reserve Police, offers a Cadet program.

The Cadet Program is designed for young adults in college.

The Police Cadet program will be supervised by the Reserve Police organization. The Reserve Department will be responsible for cadet interviewing, hiring and coordination of the cadets.

#### **Eligibility**

Any student currently enrolled fulltime (12 units or more) in college and who has not been convicted of a serious offense. Prospective members must maintain an overall “C” average in their academic studies.

## Meetings

Members are required to attend all scheduled Cadet/Reserve meetings, unless an acceptable reason is provided to their immediate supervisor.

## Volunteer Time

Each Cadet will be responsible for volunteering a minimum of 10 hours per month. Activities shall include ride-alongs, parades and other activities as designated by supervisors.

## Uniforms

The basic Cadet uniform shall consist of:

- Light blue uniform shirt with designated patches
- White crew neck t-shirt
- Dark blue pants
- Black basket weave belt & issued equipment
- Black polishable shoes with black or navy blue socks
- Ballistic vest
- Flashlight (rechargeable)
- Police Radio

In addition to the above equipment, each Cadet should have the following:

- Notebook - pocket size
- Whistle
- Pen (black ink) and pencil
- Equipment duty bag

## Use of ID Cards and Badges

Any member of the Cadet program who uses the ID card or badge to the detriment of the program or to seek individual benefits, will be subject to dismissal. The badge **WILL NOT** be carried on the person of any member of the program when he/she is out of uniform.

## Ride-alongs

Cadets who have been through training and have been cleared to participate in the field training may work in a capacity as designed by their supervisor. The cadets shall schedule ride-alongs with reserve officers. Cadets may ride with fulltime officers with the prior approval from their reserve supervisor and the fulltime officer. This shall be done by appointment only. Cadets shall report to the team Sergeant or Watch Commander prior to the shift to advise of the activity.