

**OLIVE VIEW-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE
POLICY & PROCEDURE**

**NUMBER: 3272
VERSION: 2**

SUBJECT/TITLE: **REPORTING TO POLICE / POLICE CASES**

POLICY: For police cases seen in the Emergency Department, the attending physician or nurse will notify LA County Sheriff's Department whenever a reportable situation is encountered. The LA County Sheriff's Department will make the necessary contacts and/or written reports with other law enforcement agencies.

PURPOSE: Guidelines for appropriate reporting.

DEPARTMENTS: **DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE (DEM)**

PROCEDURE: REPORTING TO ON SITE LA COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

The California Penal Code requires that appropriate authorities be notified of the admission or treatment of any person suffering from injuries arising from a suspected criminal act, whether self-inflicted or due to violence on the part of another, either admitted or apparent.

In addition to the obvious, such as knife wounds and gunshot wound, this includes children who have sustained injuries not adequately explained by a history of accident; and cases where elder or spouse abuse is suspected. Automobile accidents must also be reported.

It does *not* include any psychological or physical condition brought about solely through the voluntary administration of controlled substances. It is not necessary to report suicidal attempts or drug overdose.

When calling, please be prepared to provide the following important information to the dispatcher: name, description, location, contact person, and call back number.

LA County Sheriff's Department could be reached at ext. 73409.

POLICE CASES:

Whenever Police Officers escort an individual in custody, to the DEM, their medical care will be expedited.

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This will:

1. Lessen the possible embarrassment/impact of the patient in custody.
2. Decrease the waiting time of the Police Officers so that they may return to duty.

These patients are **never** left in the waiting room.

References:	
Approved by: Bonnie Bilitch (Chief Nursing Officer), Georgia Foot'e-Sam (Clinical Nurse Director II), Gregory Moran (Chief Physician), Joselin Escobar Duran (Assistant Hospital Administrator II)	Date: 07/14/2017
Review Date: 2/96, 2/99, 3/02, 12/07, 2/11, 07/14/2020	Revision Date: 1/14/08
Distribution: Emergency Medicine	
Original Date: 6/83, 07/14/2017	