

Records Division

806.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for the operational functions of the Bay Area Rapid Transit Police Department Records Division. The policy addresses department file access and internal requests for case reports.

806.1.1 NUMERICAL FILING SYSTEM

Case reports are filed numerically within the Records Management system.

Reports are numbered commencing with month and date of the current year followed by a sequential number beginning with 00001 starting at midnight on the first day of January of each year. As an example, case number 2501-0001 would be the first new case beginning January 1, 2025.

806.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Bay Area Rapid Transit Police Department to maintain department records securely, professionally, and efficiently. The BART Police Department maintains a secure Records Management system accessible to authorized personnel 24-hours a day.

806.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

806.3.1 RECORDS SUPERVISOR

The Chief of Police shall appoint and delegate certain responsibilities to a Records Supervisor. The Records Supervisor shall be directly responsible to the Support Services Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the Records Supervisor include but are not limited to:

- (a) Overseeing the efficient and effective operation of the Records Division.
- (b) Scheduling and maintaining Records Division time records.
- (c) Supervising, training, and evaluating Records Division staff.
- (d) Maintaining and updating a Records Division procedure manual.
- (e) Ensuring compliance with established policies and procedures.
- (f) Supervising the access, use, and release of protected information (see the Protected Information Policy).
- (g) Establishing security and access protocols for case reports designated as sensitive, where additional restrictions to access have been implemented. Sensitive reports may include but are not limited to:
 1. Homicides.
 2. Cases involving department members or public officials.
 3. Any case where restricted access is prudent.

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806.3.2 RECORDS DIVISION

The responsibilities of the Records Division include but are not limited to:

- (a) Maintaining a records management system for case reports.
 - 1. The records management system should include a process for numbering, identifying, tracking, and retrieving case reports.
- (b) Entering case report information into the records management system.
 - 1. Modification of case reports shall only be made when authorized by a supervisor.
- (c) Providing members of the Department with access to case reports when needed for investigation or court proceedings.
- (d) Maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local regulations regarding reporting requirements of crime statistics. This includes reporting statistical data to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) for:
 - 1. All officer-involved shootings and incidents involving use of force resulting in serious bodily injury (Government Code § 12525.2).
 - 2. Suspected hate crimes (Penal Code § 13023).
 - 3. Complaints of racial bias against officers (Penal Code § 13012; Penal Code § 13020).
 - 4. Civilian complaints made against officers (Penal Code § 832.5; Penal Code § 13012).
 - 5. Stop data required by Government Code § 12525.5 and 11 CCR 999.226.
 - (a) The reported information must not contain personally identifiable information of the person stopped or other information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code § 12525.5 (11 CCR 999.228).
 - 6. Anti-reproductive rights crime information required by Penal Code § 13777.
 - 7. Domestic violence-related call information required by Penal Code § 13730 (see the Domestic Violence policy).
- (e) Maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local regulations regarding criminal history reports and auditing.
- (f) Identifying missing case reports and notifying the responsible member's supervisor.
- (g) Establishing a process for collecting and submitting data to appropriate federal data collection authorities (e.g., FBI National Use-of-Force Data Collection), as applicable, for the following types of occurrences:
 - 1. Officer suicides
 - 2. Officer misconduct
 - 3. Uses of force
 - 4. Officer deaths or assaults
 - 5. Crime incidents

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6. Deaths in custody
 - (h) Updating the Automated Firearms System to reflect any firearms relinquished to the Department and the subsequent disposition to the California DOJ pursuant to Penal Code § 34010 (Penal Code § 29810).
 - (i) ~~Entering into the Automated Firearms System~~ Once a report is received by Records, they shall ensure information about each firearm that has been reported stolen, lost, found, recovered, held for safekeeping, surrendered in relation to a private party firearms transaction or registration, relinquished or surrendered pursuant to a court order or a state law that requires relinquishment or surrender of firearms to law enforcement, or under observation, ~~within seven calendar days of the precipitating event (Penal Code § 11108.2).~~ are entered into the Automated Firearms System and are validated per DOJ notifications within twenty calendar days as permitted by DOJ.
 - (j) Entering into the California DOJ automated property system descriptions of serialized property, or non-serialized property that has been uniquely inscribed, which has been reported stolen, lost, found, recovered, held for safekeeping, or under observation (Penal Code § 11108).
 - (k) Maintaining compliance with quarterly California DOJ reporting requirements regarding the department's efforts to verify an individual listed in the Armed and Prohibited Persons System (APPS) is no longer in possession of a firearm (Penal Code § 29813).
 - (l) Maintaining compliance with the state and California DOJ reporting requirements regarding the number of transfers of individuals to immigration authorities and offenses that allowed for the transfers (Government Code § 7284.6(c)(2)).
 - (m) Transmitting data to the Joint Regional Information Exchange System on any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes.

806.4 DETERMINATION OF FACTUAL INNOCENCE

In any case where a person has been arrested by officers of the Bay Area Rapid Transit Police Department and no accusatory pleading has been filed, the person arrested may petition the Department to destroy the related arrest records. Petitions should be forwarded to the Support Services Supervisor. The Support Services Supervisor should promptly contact the prosecuting attorney and request a written opinion as to whether the petitioner is factually innocent of the charges (Penal Code § 851.8). Factual innocence means the accused person did not commit the crime.

Upon receipt of a written opinion from the prosecuting attorney affirming factual innocence, the Support Services Supervisor should forward the petition to the Criminal Investigations Division Supervisor and the General Counsel for review. After such review and consultation with the General Counsel, the Criminal Investigations Division Supervisor and the Support Services Supervisor shall decide whether a finding of factual innocence is appropriate.

Upon determination that a finding of factual innocence is appropriate, the Support Services Supervisor shall ensure that the arrest record and petition are sealed for later destruction and the

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required notifications are made to the California DOJ and other law enforcement agencies (Penal Code § 851.8).

The Support Services Supervisor should respond to a petition with the Department's decision within 45 days of receipt. Responses should include only the decision of the Department, not an explanation of the analysis leading to the decision.

806.5 CONFIDENTIALITY

Records Division staff has access to information that may be confidential or sensitive in nature. Records Division staff shall not access, view, or distribute, or allow anyone else to access, view, or distribute any record, file, or report, whether in hard copy or electronic file format, or any other confidential, protected, or sensitive information except in accordance with the Records Maintenance and Release and Protected Information policies and the Records Division procedure manual.

806.6 ARREST WITHOUT FILING OF ACCUSATORY PLEADING

The Operations Division Commander should ensure a process is in place for when an individual is arrested and released and no accusatory pleading is filed so that the following occurs (Penal Code § 849.5; Penal Code § 851.6):

- (a) The individual is issued a certificate describing the action as a detention.
- (b) All references to an arrest are deleted from the arrest records of the Department and the record reflects only a detention.
- (c) The California DOJ is notified.

806.7 FILE ACCESS AND SECURITY

The security of files in the Records Division must be a high priority and shall be maintained as mandated by state or federal law. All case reports including but not limited to initial, supplemental, follow-up, evidence, and any other reports related to a police department case, including field interview (FI) cards, criminal history records, and publicly accessible logs, shall be maintained in the secure Records Management system (RMS) under the control of the Records Division. The release of record files during normal business hours, other than those reports required as part of a booking procedure of a local agency, is the responsibility of the Records Division. All requests for releasable reports will be entered into the case report of the RMS system.

The Records Division will also maintain a secure file for case reports deemed by the Chief of Police as sensitive or otherwise requiring extraordinary access restrictions.

Requests for department police reports from outside law enforcement agencies may be requested after hours through the Watch Commander's office. The requesting agency shall fax or email, on department letterhead, the report request. The Watch Commander shall forward the request to the Administrative Services Supervisor with notice that the report was faxed or emailed. A copy of the fax or email will be retained in the Records Management system to note the release.