



DEPARTMENTAL
GENERAL
ORDER

Rev.
11 May 99

Index as:

G-6

Board of Review, Major Incident
Incident, Major, Board of Review
Major Incident Board of Review
Review, Board of, Major Incident

Ref: CALEA
Standards 46.1.2;
46.1.4; 46.1.10

MAJOR INCIDENT BOARD OF REVIEW

The purpose of this order is to establish the Major Incident Board of Review and to set forth the purpose, membership and responsibility of the Board.

I. POLICY

- A. It is the policy of the Department to make timely inquiry concerning police involvement in major incidents.
- B. For the purpose of this order, a major incident is defined as any incident that affects the safety of police personnel and citizens or which requires the inordinate utilization of police resources and, by its nature, is not subject to review by a Firearms Discharge Board, an Accident Hearing Board, a Pursuit Driving Board, or the Use of Force Committee.

II. PURPOSE OF THE MAJOR INCIDENT BOARD OF REVIEW

- A. The Major Incident Board of Review shall serve to accomplish the timely critique of major incidents for the following purposes:
 - 1. To determine unsafe work practices or conditions and to recommend corrective action.
 - 2. To identify the adequacy of equipment used by or available to Departmental personnel.
 - 3. To identify training needs.
 - 4. To identify the need for Departmental policy changes.

5. To assist in future planning efforts.
 6. To identify the facts of a major incident and to publish those facts for the information and education of specific Departmental personnel.
- B. Incidents that may be entertained by a Major Incident Board of Review include, but are not limited to:
1. Any incident that requires an inordinate assignment of police personnel, such as a major natural disaster, airplane crash, civil disturbance, or a labor-management dispute, that results in the need for police intervention or the assignment of police resources for an extended period of time.
 2. An incident which involves suspected persons who resort to the use of weapons or extreme physical force when attempting to avoid apprehension, when Departmental personnel did not discharge their weapons.
 3. Any incident which results in the serious injury of any member or employee, when the incident is not of such a nature as to make it a subject of inquiry by any other board of review as identified in Part I, B, of this order. For the purpose of this order, a serious injury is defined as any inflicted injury which results in the hospitalization of the member or employee.
 4. An incident which results in the assignment of Oakland officers to other jurisdictions in response to a request for police mutual aid or which requires the assignment, in Oakland, of mutual aid officers from other jurisdictions.
 5. Any incident of general police interest, whether the incident occurs in Oakland or in another jurisdiction.

III. MEMBERSHIP OF THE MAJOR INCIDENT BOARD OF REVIEW

- A. The Major Incident Board of Review shall be chaired by the Deputy Chief of Police commanding the Bureau to which the involved person is assigned, or as designated by the Chief of Police.

- B. The Board shall be comprised of the involved member or employee, a representative from the Training Section and, if available, at least two persons of similar job assignment and rank, the person's immediate supervisor and the person's organizational unit commander. The Chief of Police may also designate non-Departmental personnel (including citizens) to serve on a Major Incident Board of Review.
- C. Any member or employee may request that a Major Incident Board of Review be convened for the purpose of reviewing a major incident. The request shall be addressed, in writing, to the person's Bureau Commander and, if approved, the person who made the request shall serve as a member of the Board.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MAJOR INCIDENT BOARD OF REVIEW

- A. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the Deputy Chief commanding the Bureau to which the member or employee involved in a major incident is assigned shall convene a Major Incident Board of Review within 30 business days after the incident absent extraordinary circumstances.
- B. The Board shall conduct a thorough inquiry concerning the incident in an effort to determine unsafe work practices, to identify the adequacy of equipment used by or available to Departmental personnel, to identify training needs and to identify the need for Departmental policy changes.
- C. The chairperson shall ensure that the findings of the Board are submitted in writing to the Chief of Police within 30 business days.
- D. When approved by the Chief of Police, the written document setting forth the findings of the Board shall be published and distributed for the edification of members and employees, as may be appropriate.

By order of

Joseph Samuels, Jr.
Chief of Police

GO40/G-6