

OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



**MAG M. NICOLA**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

**CYNTHIA N. GRESSER**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

**MEGAN RHEINSCHILD**  
Victim Assistance Director

**KELLY D. SCOTT**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

**JOHN T. SAVRNOCH**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

**DAVID M. SAUNDERS**  
Chief Investigator

**KERRY M. BIERMAN**  
Chief Financial & Administrative Officer

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**Citizens of Santa Barbara County:**

**A relationship of trust and confidence between members of the District Attorney's investigation staff and the community they serve is essential to effective law enforcement. Investigators must be free to exercise their best judgment and perform their duties in a reasonable, lawful and impartial manner without fear of reprisal. So, too, members of the law enforcement community have a special obligation to respect the rights of all persons.**

**The District Attorney has established a system of complaint procedures which will precipitate disciplinary action when an investigator has conducted himself/herself improperly, but will also protect the investigator from unwarranted criticism when it is determined that he/she has discharged his/her duties properly.**

**It is also the purpose of the procedures to provide a just, open and expeditious resolution of complaints regarding the conduct of investigative operations and to bring conduct of investigators to the attention of the Chief Investigator.**

**Generally, complaints will not be accepted anonymously or from persons who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Also, you should understand that if you knowingly make false accusations you may be liable to criminal and civil sanctions.**

**Should you have any questions regarding these procedures, please contact the Chief Investigator at (805) 568-2359, between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The procedural directive on citizen complaints is available upon request.**

**Sincerely,**

**DAVID M. SAUNDERS**  
Chief Investigator

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1112 Santa Barbara Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Tel: (805) 568-2300  
Fax: (805) 568-2453

**SANTA MARIA OFFICE**  
312-D East Cook Street  
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Tel: (805) 346-7540  
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**LOMPOC OFFICE**  
115 Civic Center Plaza  
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## PROCEDURE FOR INVESTIGATION OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

In compliance with California Penal Code Sections 832.5 and 148.6, it is the policy of the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office to thoroughly and impartially investigate complaints regarding the conduct of its law enforcement staff in accordance with the following procedures:

The complainant will be required to complete a "Complaint Form" furnishing, as accurately as possible, all information related to the allegation(s), to include the names, addresses, phone numbers and other information of all involved parties. The complaint form is available in both English and Spanish.

The completed complaint form will be forwarded to the Chief Investigator, who will assign the case for investigation. The complaint will be investigated in a timely, professional manner. The investigation consists of taking formal statements from all persons concerned, as well as the gathering and preservation of all physical evidence or other information related to the incident. Each allegation will be examined on its own merits in a thorough and objective manner.

The Chief Investigator will review the completed investigation and make a recommendation to the District Attorney. At the conclusion of the review and recommendation process, the complainant will be notified of the results of the investigation. Records of complaints and investigations shall be retained by this agency for at least five years and shall be confidential to the extent allowed by law.

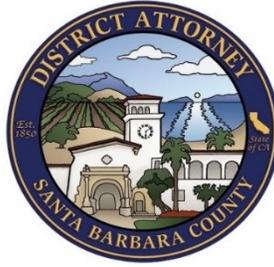
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**COMPLAINT FORM**

For complaints against Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation Personnel

Complainant's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Complainant Information: Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Victim (if other than complainant): \_\_\_\_\_

Victim's address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Investigator complained against: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle description: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Res. Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Res. Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Does complaint involve an arrest? \_\_\_\_\_ Case#: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/address(es) of person(s) arrested: \_\_\_\_\_

Complainant's Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative of complaint (use back or additional sheet(s) of paper if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**See page 2 for additional information.**

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Pursuant to Penal Code section 148.6(a)(2), any law enforcement agency accepting an allegation of misconduct against a peace officer shall require the complainant to read and sign the following advisory, all in boldface type:

**YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST A POLICE OFFICER FOR ANY IMPROPER POLICE CONDUCT. CALIFORNIA LAW REQUIRES THIS AGENCY TO HAVE A PROCEDURE TO INVESTIGATE CITIZENS' COMPLAINTS. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROCEDURE. THIS AGENCY MAY FIND AFTER INVESTIGATION THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO WARRANT ACTION ON YOUR COMPLAINT; EVEN IF THAT IS THE CASE, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE COMPLAINT AND HAVE IT INVESTIGATED IF YOU BELIEVE AN OFFICER BEHAVED IMPROPERLY. CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AND ANY REPORTS OR FINDINGS RELATING TO COMPLAINTS MUST BE RETAINED BY THIS AGENCY FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS.**

I have read and understand the above statement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Complainant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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