

Interagency Operations

5.14.01 PURPOSE

The purpose of this order is to establish policies regarding planned and ongoing interagency operations. It is not intended to restrict a member of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) from appropriately assisting a member of another law enforcement or government agency in a spontaneous situation. Instead, this order is established to ensure that command personnel are properly notified of interagency operations and that members receive approval before participating in them.

5.14.02 DEFINITIONS

- A. Interagency Operations** – Any planned or ongoing operation or investigation involving SFPD and an outside agency.
- B. Outside Agency** – Any local, state, or federal law enforcement or government agency that is not SFPD.

5.14.03 POLICY

Interagency operations not governed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall be approved by the Commander of the participating unit prior to SFPD participation.

Members are reminded that even during interagency operations with outside agencies, they are bound to SFPD policies and written directives.

5.14.04 PROCEDURES

A. Planned/Ongoing Operation

1. Prior to any interagency operation, an Interagency Operations Request Form (SFPD Form 631) shall be completed and then signed by the participating unit's OIC, Captain and Commander.
2. The unit's Commander should notify their higher command when necessary.
 - a. For SFPD-led interagency operations, information should be included in an Operations Order.
 - b. For on-going operations and/or outside agency-led operations, an Operations Order may not be required.

B. Time Sensitive Operation

1. For non-exigent but time sensitive operations where written notification would cause undue delay during a rapidly evolving operation, members may request and receive verbal approval from their Commander.
2. When practical, the approving Commander should confirm their verbal approval via email to the Captain, the OIC, and the requesting member.
3. After the conclusion of the operation, an Interagency Operations Request Form shall be prepared by a member in the designated unit and the “verbal notification” box selected in the event of a verbal request.

C. Requests from an Outside Agency

1. When an outside agency requests assistance with a planned operation or investigation, the member receiving the request shall refer the agency to their Officer in Charge (OIC).
2. The OIC shall be responsible for completing the Interagency Operations Request Form and submitting it to their Captain and Commander for approval.
3. The unit’s Commander will then notify their Deputy Chief, if necessary.

D. Briefing – At the discretion of the Deputy Chief, interagency operations or investigations may be subject to a briefing between the Department and the outside agency. The Deputy Chief may assign a designee to conduct the briefing to ensure awareness of applicable Department General Orders before operations commence.

5.14.05 DENIAL

The Department will not participate in interagency operations that violate local or state laws, including San Francisco’s Sanctuary Laws (Admin Codes [§12H](#); [§12I](#); [Cal. Gov’t Code §7284](#)) or [DGO 5.15, *Enforcement of Immigration Laws*](#).