

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST THE STANISLAUS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY (SCDA) BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND/OR AGAINST A PEACE OFFICER (CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR) FOR ANY IMPROPER CONDUCT

- California law requires agencies that employ peace officers to have a procedure to investigate citizen complaints (Penal Code § 823.5 (a)(1)). SCDA Bureau of Investigation (BI) employs sworn peace officers who are criminal investigators with full arrest powers.
- You have a right to a written description of the complaint process/procedure. (SCDA Policy 1010)
- SCDA may find, after investigation, there is not enough evidence to warrant action on your complaint. Even if that is the case, you have a right to make a complaint, and have it investigated if you believe a criminal investigator behaved improperly.
- Citizen complaints and any reports or findings related to complaints not amounting to a sustained finding, shall be retained by the SCDA for a minimum of 5-years. Likewise, a sustained finding of misconduct, will be maintained for 15-years Penal Code § 832.5 (b) and SCDA Policy 1013)
- It is against the law to make a complaint that you know to be false. If you make a complaint against a peace officer knowing that it is false, you could be prosecuted on a misdemeanor charge (Penal Code § 148.6).

Who would investigate my complaint?

The immediate supervisor or another supervisor will investigate the complaint.

Do I have to complain in person?

No. We prefer to talk to you in person. However, if there are valid reasons that cannot be done, your complaint can be made over the phone or by mail. Generally, we do not accept a complaint from another party on your behalf, as this would be considered hearsay information and could leave out important facts needed for an investigation. After receiving your complaint, a supervisor will contact you.

I am under 18. Do I have the right to make a complaint?

Yes. Just bring one or both of your parents/guardians in with you.

Will I have to write my complaint out?

Yes. We have found it is much easier to investigate a written complaint. If there are valid reasons this cannot be done, we will make other arrangements.



**Office of the District Attorney
Stanislaus County**

**Birgit Fladager
District Attorney**

**Assistant District Attorney
Jeffrey M. Laugero**

Chief Deputies
Marlisa Ferreira
Wendell Emerson
Michael D. Houston
Mark Zahner

**Bureau of Investigation
Chief Terry L. Seese**

CIVILIAN COMPLAINT FORM – PEACE OFFICER

Name _____ Date of birth _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Telephone _____ Evening _____

Message _____

Name of employee(s) involved, if known:

Date and time of incident _____

Incident location _____

Complaint details (please be as detailed as possible):

I have read and understood the above statement.

Complainant

I hereby verify the facts, and circumstances I have detailed above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand and acknowledge this is a formal complaint and I could be interviewed regarding this complaint. I agree to cooperate fully with the investigation.

Print name _____ Signature _____

Date _____ Parent/Guardian signature if under 18 _____



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QUEJA DEL EMPLEADO POLICIAL

Nombre _____ Fecha de
Nacimiento _____

Domicilio _____

Ciudad _____ Estado _____ Codigo Postal

Telefono _____ Telefono de Noche _____ Mensaje _____

_____ Nombre de empleado, si se sabe:

Fecha y hora de incidente _____

Locacion de Incidente _____

Detalles de queja (por favor denos detalles):

ES CONTRA LA LEY HACER UNA QUEJA QUE USTED SABE SER FALSA. SI USTED HACE UNA QUEJA CONTRA UN OFICIAL SABIENDO QUE ES FALSA, USTED PUEDE SER PROCESADO POR UN DELITO.

He leído y entiendo la declaración de arriba.

Nombre de person haciendo queja

Yo verifico que los hechos y circunstancias que he detallado son verdad y correcta según entiendo. Yo entiendo y reconozco que esta es una queja formal y puedo ser entrevistado a cerca de esta queja. Yo estoy de acuerdo a cooperar completamente con la investigación.

Escriba su Nombre _____ Firme su Nombre _____

Fecha _____ Firma de padre si menor de 18 años _____