

	<p style="text-align: center;">BRIDGEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">POLICY AND PROCEDURE GENERAL ORDER</p>	Distribution	General Order Number
		ALL PERSONNEL	6.08
		Original Issue Date	Reissue/Effective Date
		11/19/19	1/31/20
<p>Order Title:</p> <p>CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS</p>		Accreditation Standard: POSTC: 3.2.7, 3.3.25	Section
		6	
		Section Title	
		INVESTIGATIVE FUNCTIONS	
<p>Rescinds:</p>		<p>Armando J. Perez, Chief of Police</p>	

This General Order is for departmental use only and does not apply in any criminal or civil proceeding. This General Order should not be construed as creation of a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims. Violations of this General Order will only form the basis for departmental administrative sanctions. Violations of law will form the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in a recognized judicial setting

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this general order is to establish guidelines and procedures for the use of confidential informants by Bridgeport Police Department officers

II. POLICY

Confidential sources of information are a valuable resource for officers when investigating criminal activity. The courts have long upheld the use of confidential sources as legitimate and necessary tools for law enforcement to solve crimes and prevent criminal activity. While the use of confidential informants is an effective investigative tool, it can be undermined by the misconduct of the confidential informant or the officer utilizing the informant. Therefore, it shall be the policy of the Bridgeport Police Department to take precautions by developing sound informant control procedures.

III. DEFINITIONS

Confidential Informant: [REDACTED]

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Informant Files

1. The Detective Lieutenant shall be responsible for developing and maintaining confidential informant files and an indexing system. All confidential informant files shall be maintained in a secure area with restricted access.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. Informant files will be kept secure within the Detective Lieutenant. Access to the confidential informant files shall be restricted to the Detective Commander, Detective Lieutenant, Detective Sergeant, Detectives, the Deputy Chief, Assistant Chief and Chief of Police. Personnel may review a confidential informant file with good cause and upon approval of the Chief of Police.

B. Use of Informants

[REDACTED]

2. Officers shall compile sufficient information through a background investigation in order to determine the reliability and credibility of the individual.
3. If a confidential informant file is established and it is later determined the confidential informant is unsuitable for use, their file shall be marked accordingly and their status inactive.
4. Any officer wishing to use a confidential informant that has been deemed unreliable or unsuitable in the past shall receive prior approval from the Chief of Police prior to use.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- a. When an officer wishes to establish an informant file, they will obtain the next open Confidential Informant number from the Detective Sergeant or designee. This Informant Control Number will be used in all reports concerning the informant in order to maintain confidentiality.

[REDACTED]



D. Guidelines for Handling Informants

1. All confidential informants are required to sign and abide by the provisions of the Department's Informant Instructions Form. The officer utilizing the confidential informant shall discuss each of the provisions of the agreement with the confidential informant.
2. It shall be emphasized to the confidential informant that they are not law enforcement officers. They have no arrest powers and are not permitted to conduct searches or seizures, nor will they carry weapons.
3. If found engaging in any illegal activity, confidential informants shall be arrested and their cooperation with the Department shall be terminated. They shall receive no special legal consideration.
4. Confidential informants and officers managing the informant shall ensure they do not engage in entrapment.
5. No member of the Department shall maintain a social relationship with a known confidential informant while on or off duty or otherwise become personally involved with confidential informant. Members of the Department shall not solicit, accept gratuities, or engage in any private business transaction with an informant. Exceptions may be granted for confidential informants utilized for alcohol/tobacco compliance as they may be relatives or friends of an officer.
6. Two officers should be present when meeting with any confidential informant. Any deviation from this practice shall be approved by a supervisor. Officers are prohibited from meeting alone with confidential informants of the opposite sex.
7. Officers shall not make promises that will not or cannot be kept.
8. Confidential informants shall never be allowed to dictate the direction of an investigation and shall only be informed of case details that are crucial to their successful cooperation.
9. Officers and supervisors shall ensure that each informant is handled in accordance with all court mandates, rulings, or policies, regulating their use.

E. Use of Probationers and Paroles

1. Officers shall not make any promises, threats, or inducements to parolees or

probationers for the purpose of involving them in any active intelligence gathering activity.

1. Responsibility for management of the Confidential Expenditure Fund shall rest with the Detective Bureau Lieutenant. Requests for funds will be submitted to the Detective Lieutenant or their designate prior to payment. Expenditures in excess of \$200.00 (Two hundred dollars) must be approved by the Chief of Police or designate.



3. The Detective Bureau Lieutenant shall also be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the fund and will be responsible for documenting each expenditure from the fund. The documentation will include: