



GENERAL ORDER

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

Chapter: Operations

Section: 411.13

Subject: Investigations

Topic: Clothing to be Worn on Surveillance/Stakeouts

Accreditation: N/A

Revised:

Reaffirmed:

Enacted: 07/30/2015

Last Review: 02/18/2021

Review: 04/01/2022

I. PURPOSE

For safety reasons, it is essential that each sworn member of the Sheriff's Office be readily recognized as a Deputy Sheriff during certain forms of surveillance or stakeouts. The purpose of this General Order is to provide a method to facilitate such recognition, but it shall not restrict the use of surveillance or a stakeout as a valid investigation practice.

II. PROCEDURES

A. Whenever surveillance or stakeouts are conducted within a structure for the anticipated apprehension of offenders for crimes in progress, sworn members assigned to the arrest team shall be dressed in an issued Sheriff's uniform, with both badge and shoulder patch visible, in accordance with General Order 308.

1. With the approval of the Sheriff or designee, the Special Operations Section ("SOS") may utilize their issued SOS uniforms while conducting surveillance and stakeouts on dangerous and violent suspects.

B. Surveillance or stakeouts which do not involve an anticipated apprehension for a crime in progress, or which must be performed without the participants being recognized as a Deputy Sheriff, may be undertaken in appropriate clothing. Any deputy not in uniform shall have in his/her possession, a badge, Sheriff's Office I.D., and a raid jacket or similar outerwear within a reasonable distance to identify him/her quickly and readily as a Deputy Sheriff.

C. This policy also applies to deputies assigned as surveillance or lookouts on the perimeter and not involved in the arrest.

D. Detectives assigned to the Tactical Enforcement Unit shall follow the clothing guidelines set forth in General Order 409.5 while conducting surveillance or stakeouts.