
NUMBER: 01.25

EFFECTIVE DATE:
REVISION DATE:

December 2021

SUBJECT: Peace Officer Credibility Disclosure Notifications

01.25.01 POLICY

- A. Consistent with the requirements under state law, this policy seeks to establish uniform and consistent standards requiring law enforcement agencies to disclose specific information to district attorneys that may impact the credibility of a peace officer in a criminal prosecution, and to establish uniform procedures for district attorneys to timely disclose such information to the defense under the Colorado Rules of Criminal Procedure and to increase transparency to allow members of the public to access information concerning peace officers who are subject to a credibility disclosure notification.

01.25.02 DEFINITIONS

As used in this policy, the below terms shall have the following meaning:

- A. **“Credibility Disclosure Notification”** means the notification described in C.R.S. 16-2.5- 502(2)(c) and described in Section (III)(A) and (III)(B) of this policy.
- B. **“Law Enforcement Agency”** means a state or local agency that employs peace officers.
- C. **“Official Criminal Justice Record”** means any handwritten or electronically produced report or documentation that a law enforcement agency requires a peace officer to complete as part of the peace officer’s official duties, for the purpose of serving as the agency’s official documentation of an incident, call for service, response to an alleged or suspected crime, a use of force, or during a custodial arrest or the direct supervision of a person who is in custody. Official criminal justice records also include any other reports or documents that an agency requires a peace officer to complete as part of the peace officer’s official duties where the peace officer knows or should know the information included may be relevant to an ongoing or future criminal or administrative investigation.
- D. **“Untruthfulness” or “dishonesty”** means conduct that involves a knowing misrepresentation, including but not limited to intentionally untruthful statements, knowing omissions of material information, and knowingly providing or withholding information with an intent to deceive or mislead.
- E. **“Sustained finding”** means a final determination by a law enforcement agency, following a law enforcement agency’s administrative procedure for investigating and reviewing alleged misconduct by a peace officer on the merits.

01.25.03 Agency Obligation – Officer Credibility disclosure Notification

Notwithstanding any other procedures or existing legal requirements regarding the disclosure of exculpatory evidence in a criminal proceeding, beginning January 1, 2020, every law enforcement agency shall:

- A. Promptly notify the district attorney's office(s) in the law enforcement agency's jurisdiction, in writing, of any sustained finding made on or after January 1, 2020, where a peace officer:
 - 1. Knowingly made an untruthful statement concerning a material fact;
 - 2. Demonstrated a pattern of bias based on race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or any other protected class;
 - 3. Tampered with or fabricated evidence;
 - 4. Been convicted of any crime involving dishonesty or has been charged with any felony or any crime involving dishonesty; 5. Violated any policy of the law enforcement agency regarding dishonesty.
- B. In addition to the credibility disclosure notification required under Section (III)(A), a law enforcement agency shall also notify the district attorney's office(s) in the law enforcement agency's jurisdiction as soon as practicable when a peace officer is under a criminal or administrative investigation that if sustained, would require disclosure under Section (III)(A), and where it also meets both of the following circumstances:
 - 1. The peace officer is a potential witness in a pending criminal prosecution in which a criminal defendant has been formally charged; and
 - 2. The criminal or administrative investigation of the peace officer involves an allegation related to the peace officer's involvement in the defendant's pending criminal case.
- C. For disclosures made pursuant to Section (III)(B), the law enforcement agency shall promptly notify the district attorney's office(s) once the law enforcement agency has completed the agency's administrative process for investigating and evaluating the allegations on the merits.
 - 1. If the law enforcement agency determines through its administrative process that the criminal or administrative allegations are not sustained based on the merits, the law enforcement agency should promptly notify the district attorney of the outcome and the agency or involved peace officer may request that the district attorney's office(s) remove the credibility disclosure notification from its records as set forth in Section (V)(C), below. However, nothing in this section shall require a district attorney to remove any credibility disclosure notification that was made to a defendant pursuant to Rule 16 in a pending criminal proceeding

where the requirements of Section (III)(B) applied at the time of the disclosure.

D. Prior to making any credibility disclosure notification required under Sections (III)(A) or (III)(B), a law enforcement agency must give the involved peace officer at least seven (7) calendar days' notice of the agency's intent to send a credibility disclosure notification to the district attorney's office.

1. If seven (7) days' notice is not practicable due to an impending trial date, the agency shall provide as much notice to the involved peace officer as is practicable under the circumstances.

01.25.04

CREDIBILITY DISCLOSURE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

A. A law enforcement agency shall include the following information in the credibility disclosure notification to be provided in writing to the district attorney's office(s):

1. The peace officer's name;
2. The name of the law enforcement agency that employs or employed the peace officer at the time of the sustained findings or at the time of the criminal or administrative investigation'
3. The following statement: "This notification is to inform you that there is information in the law enforcement agency's possession regarding [name of peace officer] that may affect the peace officer's credibility in court."
4. The applicable statutory provision identifying the basis for the credibility disclosure notification, including whether the notification is based on a sustained finding pursuant to Section (III)(A) or whether the notification relates to an open criminal or administrative investigation pursuant to Section (III)(B).

B. The law enforcement agency shall send the required credibility disclosure notification in writing, either electronically or by mail, to the contact(s) designated by the district attorney's office(s) located in the law enforcement agency's jurisdiction.