



MURRIETA POLICE DEPARTMENT

MATTHEW HENRY, CHIEF OF POLICE

2 TOWN SQUARE, MURRIETA, CA 92562

CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE SECTION 148.6 MANDATES ANY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY ACCEPTING AN ALLEGATION OF MISCONDUCT AGAINST A PEACE OFFICER REQUIRE YOU, AS THE COMPLAINANT, TO READ AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY STATEMENT.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST A POLICE OFFICER FOR ANY IMPROPER POLICE CONDUCT. CALIFORNIA LAW REQUIRES THIS AGENCY TO HAVE A PROCEDURE TO INVESTIGATE CIVILIANS' COMPLAINTS. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO A WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROCEDURE. THIS AGENCY MAY FIND AFTER INVESTIGATION THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO WARRANT ACTION ON YOUR COMPLAINT; EVEN IF THAT IS THE CASE, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE COMPLAINT AND HAVE IT INVESTIGATED IF YOU BELIEVE AN OFFICER BEHAVED IMPROPERLY. CIVILIAN COMPLAINTS AND ANY REPORTS OR FINDINGS RELATING TO COMPLAINTS MUST BE RETAINED BY THIS AGENCY FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE ABOVE STATEMENT.

COMPLAINANT SIGNATURE

A WORD OF CAUTION IS OFFERED CONCERNING PERSONS KNOWINGLY MAKING FALSE COMPLAINTS ABOUT PEACE OFFICERS. CIVIL CODE 47.5 (PEACE OFFICERS; DEFAMATION ACTION AGAINST PERSON FILING FALSE COMPLAINT ALLEGING MISCONDUCT, CRIMINAL CONDUCT, OR INCOMPETENCE)... A PEACE OFFICER MAY BRING AN ACTION FOR DEFAMATION AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS FILED A COMPLAINT WITH THAT OFFICER'S EMPLOYING AGENCY ALLEGING MISCONDUCT, CRIMINAL CONDUCT, OR INCOMPETENCE, IF THAT COMPLAINT IS FALSE, THE COMPLAINT WAS MADE WITH KNOWLEDGE THAT IS WAS FALSE AND THAT IS WAS MADE WITH SPITE, HATRED, OR ILL WILL.

INCIDENT DETAILS

DAY AND DATE OF INCIDENT

TIME OF INCIDENT

LOCATION OF INCIDENT

REPORTING PERSON

NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)

PHONE NUMBER

DOB

ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)

PERSONS INVOLVED (IF OTHER THAN ABOVE)

NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)

DOB

ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)

WITNESSES

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF EMPLOYEE(S) INVOLVED

NAME

BADGE OR ID NUMBER

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION



MURRIETA POLICE DEPARTMENT

MATTHEW HENRY, CHIEF OF POLICE

2 TOWN SQUARE, MURRIETA, CA 92562

CITIZEN COMPLAINT FORM

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINT

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON		SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN (IF COMPLAINANT IS UNDER 18 YEARS)	
DATE RECEIVED	PERSON RECEIVING COMPLAINT	EMPLOYEE ID NO.	BUSINESS TELEPHONE NO.

The Murrieta Police Department believes that a relationship of confidence and trust with the public is essential to effective law enforcement. The officers must be free to exercise their best judgment to initiate law enforcement action in a reasonable, lawful, and impartial manner without fear of reprisal. So too, enforcers of the law have a special obligation to respect the rights of all persons meticulously.

It is essential to maintain public confidence in the ability of the Murrieta Police Department to investigate and properly adjudicate complaints against its members. Additionally, the Department is responsible for seeking out and disciplining those whose conduct discredits the Department or impairs its effective operation. The rights of the employee, and the public, must be preserved. Any investigation or hearing arising from a complaint must be conducted openly and fairly, with truth-seeking as its primary objective. The Department accepts complaints against its members and thoroughly investigates all such complaints to the appropriate disposition.

To this end, the Murrieta Police Department acknowledges its responsibility to establish a system of complaint and disciplinary procedures, that not only subject an employee to corrective action when the employee conducts themselves improperly, but also protect the employee from unwarranted criticism when they appropriately discharge their duties.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Any citizen who feels they have been the victim of misconduct by a member of the Murrieta Police Department may file a complaint. The complaint may be made to any Department member; however, a supervisor will handle the matter whenever possible.

Misconduct complaints will be accepted and recorded on a Citizen Complaint form, available online via the department website or at our station's lobby counter.

The Department will investigate the complaint in a timely and professional manner. Generally, the investigation consists of taking formal statements from all persons concerned and gathering and preserving any physical evidence or other information related to the incident.

Each allegation is examined objectively on its own merit. The employee's Lieutenant or Manager will examine the investigation and submit their recommendations to the Chief of Police or their designee. After the investigation and review, the Department will advise you of the complaint disposition by mail.

A completed investigation may result in the following determinations:

UNFOUNDED – The investigation clearly established that the allegation is not true.

EXONERATED – The investigation clearly established that the actions of the officer are not violations of law or department policy.

SUSTAINED – The investigation established that the actions of the officer constitute misconduct.

NOT SUSTAINED – The investigation established insufficient evidence to prove or disprove misconduct.

FRIVOLOUS – The investigation established that the complaint is totally and completely without merit, offered for the sole purpose of harassing the officer, and may form the foundation for a defamation action, per 148.6 and civil code 47.5