

COOLIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT		
	CHAPTER 54 PUBLIC INFORMATION CALEA Standard(s):	General Orders
Issue Date: 6-24-13	Review Date:	Revision Date:

54.1 Public Information

A. The Department has a duty to keep the public informed of its activities and of relevant law enforcement related information. The Department provides such information in the following ways:

1. Maintenance of a Department web site, which contains information concerning the Department's structure, unit functions, employment opportunities, crime prevention tips, ways to report crime and contact the department and other useful information. Maintenance of the information on the website is the responsibility of the City of Coolidge IT.

2. Availability command staff, who will distribute information on crimes or incidents that are of importance or interest to the community and who will respond to requests for information from the media, as permitted by law.

B. All requests from the media for comment or interviews regarding official police matters or Department business will be directed to a commander or the Police Chief. Employees shall not make or participate in making any statements regarding official police business without prior authorization from the Police Chief.

C. Public records information shall be released consistent with General Order 82.3.

54.2 MEDIA ACCESS TO POLICE SCENES

Generally, media representatives will be allowed no more access to crime scenes than that allowed to the general public. If the incident commander chooses to permit additional access to the scene, it shall be after all evidence collection has been completed and only if it can be done without interference with the police investigation or a person's right to privacy. If the scene is on private property,

media access will be permitted only with the approval of the owner or owner's representative.

Any incident commander may request the assistance of the Public Information Officer at the scene of any incident.