



SONORA POLICE DEPARTMENT

**100 South Green Street
Sonora, California 95370**

Emergency 911
Business (209) 532-8143
Fax (209) 532-4845
Web-Site: www.sonorapd.com
Turu VanderWiel, Chief of Police
E-Mail: tvanderwiel@sonorapd.com

"Maintaining a Safe Community since 1851"

A relationship of confidence and trust between members of the Sonora Police Department and the community they serve is essential to effective law enforcement. Law enforcement officers must be free to exercise their best judgment and to initiate enforcement actions in a reasonable, lawful and impartial manner without fear of reprisal. Police Officers have special obligations to meticulously respect the rights of all persons.

The Sonora Police Department acknowledges its responsibility to establish a system for complaints and disciplinary procedures, which will not only subject the officer to corrective action when they conduct themselves improperly, but also to protect them from unwarranted criticism when they are discharging their duties.

It is the purpose of these procedures to provide a prompt, just, open, and expeditious disposition of complaints regarding the conduct of members and employees of the department. Citizens are encouraged to bring complaints about Department operations and conduct of its members to the attention of the Police Department, wherever a citizen feels that such an act is improper.

Conversely, every citizen should take it upon themselves to commend an Officer for the Officer's meritorious conduct, which they witnessed or have knowledge of. Reports concerning commendations or recognition of exemplary conduct will be accepted by any member of the Department.

If you have any questions regarding these procedures, please contact the Sonora Police Department during business hours, Monday through Friday. The Department's procedural directive on citizen complaints is also available for review upon request, during the same time period.

Respectfully,

A blue ink signature of Turu VanderWiel, written in a cursive style.

**Turu VanderWiel
Chief of Police**



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You have the right to make a complaint against a Police Officer for any improper conduct. California Law requires this agency to have a procedure in place to investigate citizen's complaints.

You have the right to the written description of this procedure. This agency may find after completing an investigation that there is not enough evidence to warrant action on your complaint. Even if this is the case, you have the right to make the complaint and have it investigated if you believe an officer's conduct was improper.

Citizen Complaints, recordings, evidence, and any reports or findings related to a complaint must be retained by this agency for at least five years.

I have read and understood the above statement.

Complainant's Signature

Printed Name

Date

Witness Signature

Printed Name

Date