

DEPARTMENT BULLETIN

A 17-015 1/19/17

Enforcement of Immigration Laws

(Supersedes DB 16-015)

Members are reminded that it is the policy of the San Francisco Police Department to foster respect and trust between law enforcement and residents, to protect limited local resources to encourage cooperation between residents and City officials, including law enforcement and public health officers and employees; and to ensure community security. It is also Department policy, consistent with its obligations under state and federal law, to adhere to the City of Refuge Ordinance, San Francisco Administrative Code Section 12H.2. This ordinance prohibits the use of City resources to assist in the enforcement of federal immigration laws or to gather or disseminate information regarding release status of individuals or any other such personal information as defined in Chapter 12I. Administrative Code 12I.2 defines "personal information" as "any confidential, identifying information about an individual, including, but not limited to home or work contact information, and family or emergency contact information unless required by Federal or State statute, regulation or court decision.

In accordance with the City of Refuge Ordinance and state law, members of the Department shall adhere to the following:

- 1. DETENTION/DOCUMENTS. Members shall not:
 - a. Stop, question, or detain any individual solely because of the individual's national origin, foreign appearance, inability to speak English, or immigration status (also see DGO 5.03, Investigative Detentions). The mere presence of so called "illegal aliens," "undocumented individuals" is not a criminal offense.
 - b. Ask for documents regarding an individual's immigration status in the course of their duties, e.g., traffic enforcement, investigations, taking reports, officers.
- 2. ASSISTING THE U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT- (ICE) Members shall not enforce immigration laws or assist ICE in the enforcement of immigration laws or gather or disseminate information regarding release status of individuals or any other personal information as defined in Administrative Code Admin. Code 12I.

Nothing in this bulletin precludes officers from providing emergency assistance to members of outside law enforcement agencies when there is a significant danger, as outlined in DGO 5.15. In such cases, once scene safety has been established, members shall notify their immediate supervisor of the incident. That supervisor shall respond to the scene and ensure that such assistance was warranted. Members involved in providing emergency back-up assistance shall file an incident report describing their reasons for their assistance.

TONEY D. CHAPLIN
Interim Chief of Police

Per DB 15-141, both sworn and non-sworn members are required to electronically acknowledge this Department Bulletin in HRMS.