

SAR Basics for Patrol

2/14/2024 @ 1100-1200 - PATROL A; 2/29/2024 @ 1100-1200 - PATROL B

Instructors: Hadland, Sweers, Mizell

Supplies Required:

Print 10 copies each of Policy 315, 316, 426.

Print 20 copies of Lost Person Questionnaire

[Presentation](#)

- **Introductions (2-min) - HADLAND (plus coordinators present)**
 - Volunteer Coordinators - not LE (plug SAR non-profit, similar to DSA)
 - We are volunteers with **decades of SAR experience.**
 - Lonnie Sweers, licensed contractor, 15-years SAR
 - Rocco Chappie, robot manufacturing professional, 11-years SAR
 - Kristin Pugh, marketing professional, 11-years SAR
 - John Mizell, business systems professional, 14-years SAR
 - Chris Hadland, corporate pilot, 25-years SAR
 - Certs and Training acquired amongst coordinator group
 - Air Force/Coast Guard - National SAR School
 - CALOES/POST - Direction and Control of the Search Function
 - CALOES/POST - Child Abduction Investigation
 - NASAR accreditations, Fundamentals of SAR, Advanced SAR, MLPI
 - EMT, Wilderness 1st responder, NOLS Wilderness medicine, etc.
 - K9, swift water, technical rope rescue, UAS, fixed wing, FEMA ICS, etc
- **What is SAR (5-min) – HADLAND**
 - The fundamentals of SAR & volunteer SAR response.
 - Team commander is Lt. Badlrige.
 - Team Sgts are Brownlee, Hop, Madison, Hansen.
 - 50-member team comprised of volunteer civilians and assigned deputies.
 - SAR volunteers are sworn in under the CA DSW program. Workers comp insur.
 - Our volunteers are passionate and expected to be available 24/7/365.
 - Government code 26614 - Sheriff is authorized by board of Sups to manage SAR
 - Policy 315 - MISSING PERSONS.. No wait period. BOLO, NCIC, CLETS
 - Policy 316 - PUBLIC ALERTS.. Silver Alert. Amber Alert, reverse 911, etc.
 - Policy 426 - SEARCH and RESCUE.
 - SAR procedure manual
 - Respond to missing persons, body recoveries, evacuations. No missing animals
 - Community events - County Fair, W2W, 4th of July, National Night Out, other.
 - The team trains several times a month and members put in between 100-1000 hours a year. (Total hours last year ???)
 - Everyone is a ground searcher first. Other specialty skills include K9 handler, swift water, mtn bike, OHV, medical, technical rescue, tracking,overhead, etc

- **THE MISSING PERSON EVENT**
 - Dispatch by Netcom. In person report. Agency Policy implemented. PD/SP/or SO
 - If PD/SP - they manage their response until mutual aid request.
 - Patrol SGT's/LT initiate contact for SAR SGT's/LT notification/ call
 - Determination of **AT RISK**, minor, despondent, or other circumstances
 - Criteria for SAR team activation
 - Authorization
 - Reasonable search area (not ROW)
 - LKP is established. Lat / Lon
 - **Lost Person Questionnaire** is filled out (patrol deputy)
 - NO FIREARMS involved / hostile MP involved
 - SAR sergeant/ LT (often in coordination with SAR Volunteer Coordinators) determines the type and intensity of SAR response.
 - ICS structure implemented
 - Command Post location determined
 - Plans written
 - Teams dispatched through SAR Operations
 - Mutual Aid requests made. Local or State level.
 - Additional resources may include MU ground searchers, aircraft, UAS, investigators, DOJ, FBI, CAP, National Guard assets like helo's, comms, command vehicles, incident support, underground, underwater,
 - Types of K9 teams: Trailing, Area, Avalanche, Water, HRD, Disaster,
 - THEN: Search is initiated/ CALL OUT - through the on-call SAR sergeant/ or LT.
 - Operational periods generally 12 hours.
 - The SAR team will operate until the subject is located, or the search is suspended by the SO Incident Commander per policy.
 - SAR@SCZSAR.COM (831)-603-0095. All information to this email or phone.
- **#1 MP Questionnaire (20-min), LPB, & reporting-party behavior**
 - Questionnaire: See attached
 - WRITE LEGIBLY
 - WRITE DOWN EVERYTHING -
 - DOCUMENT ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON ADDITIONAL PIECES OF PAPER
 - SHARE WITH SGT. IMMEDIATELY - your iPhone will photograph into PDF automatically now. Fancy 'eh?
 - Include MPs Name
 - Include PLS (Place Last Seen) - In the questionnaire
 - Include LKP (Last Known Point) - may be different than place last seen
 - Include Others (name, relation, & phone) with knowledge or insight into the MP actions or behaviors
 - Include Tracking devices used - airTag, stravaUserName, other creative solutions, etc
 - INCLUDE QUESTIONS YOU ASKED even if you don't get a good answer.
 - Take your time. This step, when done well, saves HOURS of follow-up and SAR teams 'wallowing' in the cold.
 - **Complete the questionnaire and hand it off to SAR**

- This allows additional resources to get up to speed as you are conducting hasty searches. - don't worry, you'll still probably find the person. We are happy for you.
 - Volunteer team does not mind mobilizing and then called off. Often initial setup investigation and search result in fast find.
- **Your Hasty Search (5-min)**
 - Clues
 - **Tracks** can be difficult to see. Avoid disrupting areas around LKP and PLS. Create a single entry exit path.
 - **Don't walk around the vehicle.**
 - **Scent** is invisible.
 - Most K9 handlers request to secure their own scent article.
 - Use kitchen/BBQ tongs to pick up a scent article used only by missing person (clothing, sunglasses, their pillow case) and put in a zip lock bag. Set aside.
 - Keep patrol member with RP/family
 - Helps gather additional information as it is 'remembered'
 - ensures PIO and IC are not surprised by RP/family at scene.
 - Provides reliable contact in the event of a recovery
 - SOMETIMES - SAR volunteers will request time alone with the RP(s) to provide an opportunity for interview away from LE presence. (unless criminal - discussed above - please facilitate gracefully.)
 - Keep deputy at residence (likely point(s) of return for MP) - see containment below
 - Document initial hasty search via gps application and share with IC (SAR@sczsar.com)
- **Interfacing with Search Management: (10-min)**
 - Your role in Operations
 - Indicate your **availability & capability**
 - QR-code sign-in is very helpful - please provide your David-# too
 - Consider your capability in the moment (i.e. your uniform may not be suitable for hiking 5-miles up Aptos Creek)
 - We usually want more than an hour of time. Assignments are generally 3-6 hours long.
 - Get briefed! You may know the scenario, but get briefed by the SAR Overhead team so you can learn what the primary objective is & you can effectively support that objective.
 - Often patrol is valuable as a **containment, force protection, transport, logistics, and information gathering**. However, a well trained patrol member is also helpful as a ground searcher.
 - Containment
 - Help ensure the MP doesn't cross an invisible barrier. Usually roads or familiar places. Often coupled with attractants like lights and siren followed by quiet listening. VERY IMPORTANT, but can be mundane.
 - Force Protection
 - We are rarely searching in dangerous environments.

- In some cases, there are hostile residents.
 - Let us know if you know about “no-go” addresses
 - Let us know about recent ‘surge’ of criminal activity in an area.
 - Don’t tell us “That area is full of _x_x_x_ kind of people, and I wouldn’t go there.” Objective information is good, subjective information is less helpful. (Orange shirts are often greeted warmly by the same who are LE unfriendly)
- Transport
 - This is very helpful. Often doubles as communication relay
- Logistics
 - Help us get power, food, water, bathrooms open, gates open in search areas, etc.
- Information gathering: i.e. Cameras
 - Documentation (including location and viewshed) of cameras within the search area
 - Interviews with owners to review applicable recordings. Request copies of the time-frame in question be sent to SAR@sczsar.com - we can assign review to members.
- Communicating with SAR Command is imperative. (I.e. if on a containment task, IC needs to know when your shift ends so your role can be replaced or we can acknowledge containment will end)
 - In the event of a find, please contact IC after you’ve notified NETCOM - sometimes we’re on RED while you’re on BLUE. And while we try to monitor both, proactive communication is very helpful.
- Additional “searching” from patrol after the initial hasty search is helpful but report it to IC only if accompanied with clear and detailed documentation.
 - We assume you are all great at your job and are searching while you’re on patrol.
 - In an urban search, you don’t need to tell us what roads you were driving on.
 - We would like to know if you have substantial interviews, exit your vehicle and search probable locations, or followed up on tips.
- **Interfacing with volunteers (5-min)**
 - Use plain text - we are civilians.
 - If assigned a team#, please use it when communicating with IC. Continue to use your D# where appropriate.
 - Exercise authority with caution.
 - Civilians are conditioned to respect the requests, or even suggestions of LE.
 - If you need something to happen, please ask. If you are in a support role, be cautious how your suggestions may effect the function of the volunteer team.
 - Firetruck effect. Be aware of how you’re presence may distract the search efforts of some aspirational volunteers who have professional questions for you.
 - Serve as an interface between Netcom -

- If you are **assigned to a team**, please remain with that team even in the event of a find on another team. (Unless there is a critical emergency that requires your expertise).
 - Volunteers are well trained in assessing scenes and providing extended medical care.
 - IC will reassign teams with required capabilities, ensure AMR is dispatched by NETCOM, and provide appropriate transport of the subject to IC or medical providers.
 - If you detach from your team, it signals LE is an unreliable team-mate.
- Ensure questions in the field from volunteers regarding assignment & tasks are passed to IC. (civilians are conditioned to seek answers from LE)
- *Bonus points if you leave room for volunteers to locate the MP. They work very hard and rarely get to feel genuine success. It will be our secret.*
- **Facilitating evidence, rescue, or recovery (5-min)**
 - Volunteers are well trained at Search, Rescue, Recovery.
 - Volunteers are not trained to facilitate scene security or log evidence.
 - LE is very helpful as a liaison between IC & field teams. Especially for recovery.
- **Suspected Criminal Components (3-min)**
 - Volunteers are not trained to assess or mitigate criminal activity.
 - Facilitate criminal search functions through your respective command staff.
 - Facilitate appropriate protections/notifications for in-field evidence, where specific requirements exist. (i.e. not all clues are a crime scene).
 - Please highlight & notify SAR Command/on-call SAR Sgt. of any possible criminal facets of the search.
- **Questions (5-min)**

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

LOST PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE: __ INCIDENT NAME: __ CASE #: _ OES #:

SUBJECTS NAME: __ PHONE #: _

ADDRESS: _ City: WK PHONE: _

PERSON TAKING REPORT: BY PHONE: __ IN PERSON: __

TIME OF REPORT: __ REPORTING PARTY: PHONE #:

MISSING SUBJECT:

NICKNAMES: _ AKA's: _

AGE: D.O.B. _ **PLACE LAST SEEN:** __

TIME LAST SEEN: __ TIME DUE BACK: _ DIRECTION OF TRAVEL:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

MALE/FEMALE: RACE: HEIGHT: _ WEIGHT: _

HAIR STYLE: LENGTH: __ SIDEBURNS: BEARD: _

BALDING: EYE COLOR: _ BUILD: __

FACIAL FEATURES/SHAPE: _ COMPLEXION: __

DISTINGUISHING MARKS/SCARS/TATTOOS:

GENERAL APPEARANCE: _

CLOTHING:

SHIRT STYLE: _ COLOR: __

PANTS STYLE: _ COLOR: __

JACKET/SWEATER STYLE: _ COLOR: __

RAINGEAR STYLE: COLOR: _

SHOE STYLE: __COLOR: SIZE: __

TYPE OF SOLE: SAMPLE AVAILABLE:

ANY SOLE/TRACK INFO.:

GLOVE STYLE: __ COLOR:

HAT STYLE: __ COLOR:

EXTRA CLOTHING/ITEMS:

SCENT ARTICLES AVAILABLE: __

—

EQUIPMENT:

SIZE

STYLE

COLOR

BRAND

PACK:

TENT: _

SLEEPING BAG: _

FOOD TYPES:

LIQUID CONTAINER: __

FLASHLIGHT STYLE: MATCHES:

KNIFE:

MAP TYPE: __

ROPES/HARDWARE:

FISHING EQUIPMENT: _

CAMERA:

MONEY: _ AMOUNT: CREDIT CARDS: _

—

FIREARMS/WEAPONS: _

OTHER: __

TRIP PLANS:

GOING TO: _ VIA: _

PURPOSE: _ MADE TRIP BEFORE: __

HOW LONG: __ HOW MANY IN GROUP: __

OTHERS IN GROUP:

NAME: __ AGE:

ADDRESS: _ PHONE: __

NAME: __ AGE:

ADDRESS: _ PHONE: __

(FILL OUT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR EACH MISSING PERSON!)

VEHICLE INFORMATION:

VEHICLE LOCATION: _

YEAR: _ MAKE: __ MODEL: _ LICENSE #: __ STATE: __

OTHER IDENTIFYING CHARACTERISTICS: __

OTHERS IN GROUP – VEHICLES _

LAST SEEN DETAILS:

WHEN:

WHERE: __

BY WHOM: __

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL: ___

COMMENTS UPON LEAVING:

OTHER PEOPLE WHO MAY HAVE INFORMATION – NEXT OF KIN:

NAME: _ PHONE #: _

NAME: _ PHONE #: _

NAME: _ PHONE #: _

EXPERIENCE:

FAMILIAR WITH AREA: HOW RECENTLY:

OTHER WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE:

FIRST AID/MEDICAL/SURVIVAL TRAINING: ___

SCOUTS/MILITARY:

OVERNIGHT EXPERIENCE:

EVER BEEN LOST BEFORE: ___

ACTIONS: ___

EVER GO OUT ALONE:

STAY ON TRAILS OR GO CROSS COUNTRY: ___

HOW WOULD YOU RATE ENDURANCE:

WHAT WOULD YOU ANTICIPATE ACTIONS WOULD BE WHEN LOST:

CONTACT PERSON WOULD MAKE UPON REACHING A PHONE: ___

ADDRESS: ___ PHONE: ANYONE THERE:

HEALTH:

GENERAL CONDITION:

ANY PHYSICAL DISABILITIES: ___

ANY MEDICAL PROBLEMS: ___

KNOWLEDGEABLE DOCTOR: PHONE #:

ANY PSYCHOLOGICAL/EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS:

KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSON: PHONE #:_

TAKING PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION: Y N TYPES/FREQUENCY:

EFFECTS TO PERSON IF NOT TAKEN: ___

AMOUNT OF MEDICATION CARRIED: ___

WEAR GLASSES? Y__N_ EYE SIGHT WITHOUT GLASSES:___ SPARE: ___

ACTIONS SO FAR:

BY FAMILY/FRIENDS: _

PERSONAL HABITS:

SMOKE: _ HOW OFTEN: _ BRAND: ___

DRINK: DRINK OF CHOICE (BRAND):___

RECREATIONAL DRUGS: _TYPE: FREQUENCY: ___

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: (FISHING, FLOWERS, MUSHROOMS, CLIMBING,
PHOTOGRAPHY ETC.)

OUTGOING OR QUIET - LIKES GROUP OR BEING ALONE:

EVIDENCE OF LEADERSHIP:

EVER BEEN IN TROUBLE WITH LAW: ___

NOW:

HITCHHIKE OFTEN: ___ ACCEPT RIDES: _

ANY CURRENT FAMILY/RELATIONSHIP PROBLEMS:

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR SCHOOL:

POSITION:

WHAT DOES PERSON BELIEVE IN: ___

WATS DOES PERSON VALUE MOST:

WHO IS PERSON CLOSEST TO IN FAMILY: _

IN GENERAL: ___

ANY HISTORY OF DEPRESSION: _

ANY HISTORY OF SUICIDE ATTEMPTS:

WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON TALKED TO AT LENGH: _

WHERE:

WHAT ABOUT:

WILL PERSON HOLD UP OR KEEP MOVING: ___

FOR CHILDREN:

AFRAID OF STRANGERS: ___ PEOPLE IN UNIFORM: ___

ANSWER IF NAME CALLED: ___ AFRAID OF THE DARK: _

WHAT TRAINING REGARDING WHAT TO DO WHEN LOST:

WHAT ARE ACTIONS WHEN HURT: _

WILL TALK TO STRANGERS/ACCEPT RIDES: _

ACTIVE TYPE OR LETHARGIC: ___

WHO SHOULD BE CONTACTED UPON LOCATING SUBJECT: ___