

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

GENERAL ORDER 0.3

REVISED MARCH 2009

COURTESY CARDS, COMMUNICATIONS AND BADGES

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines that prohibit the issuance of courtesy cards or communications that could purport to extend a privilege or immunity from the processes of the Department or any other governmental agency. These guidelines also restrict the provision of badges similar to the official departmental badge.

2. POLICY.

a. Privilege and immunity shall be extended only in accordance with the provisions of law.

(1) Unless otherwise stated in departmental policy or law, CHP personnel shall not honor nor recognize any form of communication, which purports, infers, or extends a privilege or immunity from the processes of the Department or any other governmental agency.

(2) CHP personnel shall not issue or provide to any person a courtesy card or communication that could or would purport to extend any special privilege or immunity from departmental processes or those of any other governmental agency.

(3) CHP personnel shall not issue or provide to any person a badge that resembles in size, color or design the official departmental badge (including the flat badge). This shall include any badge that can be misinterpreted as being an official badge of authority.

d. Souvenir or commemorative pins that are no larger than one and one-half inches in overall diameter shall be deemed to be pins and not badges. Care must be taken to ensure that no connotation of immunity from official actions is imparted to the recipient of this type of pin.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

OPI: 006

DISTRIBUTION: S(General Order Holders)