

CHAPTER 9
CONDUCT AND REGULATIONS
REVISED SEPTEMBER 2025
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CHAPTER 9
CONDUCT AND REGULATIONS

1. GENERAL.

- a. Explorers shall devote their time and attention toward serving the people of the State of California and the Department. They shall direct and coordinate their efforts in a manner that will establish and maintain the highest standards of integrity, courage, dedication, loyalty, and respect.
- b. Explorers shall maintain a professional image and shall perform their duties in a calm, courteous, professional, and respectful manner.
- c. Explorers shall support fellow explorers in the performance of their duties.
- d. Explorers shall abide by the CHP 400K, Explorer Statement of Professional Ethics.
- e. Explorers shall read and sign their name to a copy of the CHP 400K upon acceptance into the Explorer Program. Their signatures shall attest to an agreement to abide by these ethical standards. A copy of the signed form shall be provided to each explorer. The original shall be filed in their personnel file.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES. Explorers will be held accountable for the following departmental organizational values:

- a. Respect for others.
- b. Fairness.
- c. Ethical practices.
- d. Equitable treatment for all.

3. CONDUCT TOWARD OTHERS.

- a. Explorers shall always conduct themselves in a manner that will foster the greatest harmony and cooperation between themselves and employees of the Department, as well as members of the public.

- b. Explorers shall not act, either privately or officially, in such a manner as to bring discredit upon the Department, Learning for Life, or to fellow explorers. This includes postings on all social media.
- c. Explorers shall not imply through appearance, action, or word that they have any law enforcement authority beyond that of a private citizen.
- d. Explorers shall refrain from smoking, chewing, or possessing any tobacco products in the presence of the public for reasons of good appearance and professional explorer demeanor.
- e. Explorers shall not fraternize with departmental employees.
- f. Explorers shall not make any contact with violators, in-custody prisoners, or suspects, and shall be directly accountable to their ride-along officers.

4. DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES.

- a. Leadership Requirements for Trips and Outings. Two leaders, at least 21 years of age, are required on all trips and outings. If male and female youth are present, 21-year-old leaders of both sexes shall be required on overnight trips. There shall be no one-on-one contact with the youths. Separate (male/female) adult and youth bathrooms and showers shall be available. Discipline should be constructive, and corporal punishment is never permitted. Youth leadership should be monitored, and guidance given at all times by adults. Hazing shall not be tolerated.
- b. Fraternization. Departmental employees, whether explorer advisory staff members or not, in addition to nondepartmental associate advisors, shall not fraternize with explorers on an individual basis.
- c. Relationships. Departmental employees, and nondepartmental associate advisors, regardless of rank or Explorer Program position, **shall not** foster any type of personal or social relationship with a member of the Explorer Program. Any activity of this nature is in violation of departmental policy as well as the policy set forth by Learning for Life. Any violation will result in appropriate disciplinary action.
- d. Meetings. All Learning for Life meetings shall be conducted at the area office. Any meetings away from the area office shall follow the Leadership Requirements for Trips and Outings requirements outlined above. No secret meetings shall be conducted at any time, and parents should always be welcome.
- e. Activities and Safety. Proper training, preparation, equipment and safety procedures should be given prior to all Learning for Life activities. Departmental

employee advisors shall make sure protective clothing is worn according to each activity. The guidelines found on the Learning for Life website ([Exploring: Discover Your Future](#)) on safety shall be followed at all times.

f. Removal of Advisor. The explorer post coordinator, explorer post advisor, explorer post associate advisor, or nondepartmental associate advisor, may be removed from the Explorer Program at the discretion of the Area commander. When this occurs, it shall be documented on a CHP 51, Memorandum, to the Area commander.

5. PUBLIC RELATIONS AND SERVICE.

a. Public Relations. The attitude of explorers shall be based on public service, safety, and courtesy.

b. Public Appearances.

(1) Explorers shall not address any public gathering or any organization on matters concerning the Department's Explorer Program without approval of the explorer post advisor.

(2) Explorers shall not write articles or manuscripts for publication in the press without prior authorization from the explorer post coordinator. Any approved articles or manuscripts shall be forwarded to the statewide explorer coordinator.

(3) If a member of the press requests a statement from an explorer, the explorer will be courteous and direct the person to an area public information officer or an explorer post advisor.

c. Complaints and Information Requests. Explorers who receive inquiries from the public concerning complaints and/or information shall direct the person to Area personnel. Explorers shall not provide comments, nor shall they offer their own personal opinions.

d. Assistance Requests. Explorers receiving requests for assistance shall direct the request to the explorer post advisor.

e. Reporting Violations/Incidents.

(1) An explorer who commits a violation or observes another explorer commit a violation of a departmental policy or law shall report the violation to a member of the explorer post advisory staff as soon as practical.

(2) An explorer involved in any incident where law enforcement officials were present shall report the incident to their explorer post advisor as soon as practical. If an explorer receives a citation for any offense and/or is a party of a traffic collision, they shall submit a memorandum describing the incident to their explorer post advisor as soon as practical.

(3) When an explorer is contacted by a law enforcement official conducting an investigation wherein the explorer is a witness or suspect, the explorer post advisor shall be notified as soon as practical.

(4) Explorers shall promptly report any information obtained in good faith that might indicate the need for involvement by the Department or another law enforcement agency. An explorer reporting an incident or addressing the public, either in person or by telephone, shall be identified as "Explorer (explorer's last name)."