

**SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORDER**

DATE/TIME: DECEMBER 31, 2025 0610 HOURS

NUMBER: OR 25-34

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION FOR NON-UNIFORMED SWORN PERSONNEL

SCOPE: ALL SWORN MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE AFFECTED: N/A

The San Diego Police Department (SDPD) is committed to transparency, accountability, and public trust by restricting situations in which sworn personnel do not visibly display identification to specific, clearly defined, and limited circumstances.

While on duty, and engaged in enforcement duties, all sworn officers not wearing a Department approved uniform shall visibly display their identification and badge, SDPD badge patch, or embroidered SDPD badge equivalent. “Enforcement duties” means active and planned operations involving the arrest or detention of an individual, or deployment for crowd control purposes.

Sworn personnel may forgo the display of their identification during the following “narrowly tailored circumstances” (Government Code 7288):

1. Engaged in active undercover operations or investigative activities.
2. An officer engaged in plainclothes operations who is employed within the California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, California Health and Human Services Agency, California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, California Natural Resources Agency, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Transportation Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency, California Government Operations Agency, or within any department, board, commission, or other entity in those agencies or the federal equivalents of these state agencies.
3. Wearing personal protective equipment that prevents display.
4. Exigent circumstances, involving an imminent danger to persons or property, or the escape of a perpetrator, or the destruction of evidence, including if the sworn Department member is responding to those circumstances while off-duty.

5. When there is a specific, articulable, and particularized reason to believe identification would pose a significant danger to the physical safety of the Department member.

Not visibly displaying SDPD identification, which includes the member's name and unique SDPD ID number, while conducting enforcement duties, may be a violation of [California Penal Code 13654](#).

Please read at squad conferences and give a copy to all personnel.