



# San Diego County Sheriff's Department

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*Kelly A. Martinez*  
*Undersheriff*

*Anthony C. Ray, Sheriff*

December 19, 2022

Eileen Delaney, Board Chairperson  
Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board  
555 West Beech Street, Suite 505  
San Diego, CA 92101-3819

## **CLERB POLICY RECOMMENDATION: Case Number 21-060 - DIU INTERVIEWS**

Dear Chairperson Delaney,

The Sheriff's Department welcomes and supports the Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board's (CLERB) independent review of complaints alleging improper actions by members of this organization and in-custody deaths. We continuously strive to respond with professionalism and concern to the citizens we serve, and the CLERB process provides invaluable input.

On February 7, 2022, CLERB recommended the following policy change related to San Diego County Sheriff's Department operations:

1. San Diego Sheriff's Department (SDSD) create a policy that mandates conducting all Detections Investigations Unit (DIU) interviews in a private area, out of view from other inmates.

The San Diego Sheriff's Department appreciates all recommendations made by the Citizen's Law Enforcement Review Board. In reviewing this recommendation, we recognize the importance of thorough follow-up investigations, including interviews of victims, witnesses, and even suspects without fear of retaliation from other incarcerated persons, are part of that responsibility. We must also allow investigators discretion regarding where to hold interviews, given the myriad of events, varying locations, and the size and scope of investigations. Hence, while seemingly straightforward, mandating the recommended practice is impractical as-is.

With the recommendation in mind, during a recent review and revision of our Detention Investigations Unit Operations Training Manual, we added a section specifically addressing interviews by DIU staff. The section contains, in part, the following verbiage (bolded for emphasis):

When conducting in-person interviews, DIU detectives will implement the following measures:

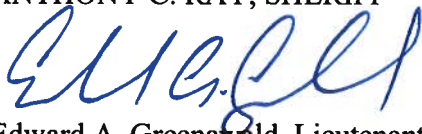
1. **Whenever possible, interviews with incarcerated persons at Detention Facilities will be conducted in an area out of view of other incarcerated persons.**
2. The interviews should be digitally recorded and attached to the URL in the NetRMS case.
3. Digital recordings should also be downloaded to a CD and placed in evidence.

To ensure everyone is aware of this recently added section, all DIU staff has conducted an internal review of the manual to include this section.

In closing, we appreciate the time and effort of the Citizen's Law Enforcement Review Board. Thank you for your service to the Citizens of San Diego County and the policy recommendations. Our goal is to provide the "Highest quality public safety services" to everyone in San Diego County.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY C. RAY, SHERIFF



Edward A. Greenawald, Lieutenant  
Office of the Sheriff  
Division of Inspectional Services  
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