

## CLEARFIELD COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / 9-1-1

Standard Operating Procedures

SOP #: Police 5-21

Subject: Shootings

Revised: 10-2005

Initial:

## **SHOOTINGS**

- A. This type of call will be a complex call to handle by the Communications Center. The dispatchers will need to handle these calls as both police incidents and as EMS calls where someone is in need of medical assistance. The first priority is assisting any injured persons on the scene, second will be to stabilize the situation as much as possible as the officers and EMS units are responding. The dispatchers may also have the opportunity to minimize the possibility that someone at the scene will tamper with or destroy evidence.
- B. This type of incident will have most likely just occurred. The dispatchers will obtain as much information as possible to include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - Where is the victim?
  - When did the shooting occur?
  - Was the shooting deliberate or accidental?
  - Is the shooter still at the scene? If not, direction of travel? Description of vehicle? Description of shooter?
  - Who is the victim and are they still at the scene?
  - Type of weapon / method used?
  - Is anyone else injured?
- C. The appropriate police department (and EMS service if required) will be dispatched. The dispatch of further emergency service responders will be done at the request of the police department.
- D. The dispatcher will attempt to keep the caller on the phone if possible, this may be particularly difficult due to the emotional state the caller may be in. The caller should be instructed to keep others away from the scene until the arrival of an officer so the scene is disturbed as little as possible. Remember that both accidental and intentional shootings will put callers and bystanders in a very hysterical state and control of both the caller and crowd may be difficult.
- E. The dispatchers will run any license information that was obtained from the caller and relay it to responding police officers (with the exception of PSP).
- F. BOLO or ATL information will be dispatched by radio as soon as possible. As time permits, the information will also be group faxed to county police departments.

G. When there are multiple calls on the same incident where a shooting has been reported, the dispatchers are to obtain the name, telephone number and address of *all callers*. Information on *all* persons who call is of extreme importance regarding this type of incident and may be critical information that is needed to aid in the officer's ongoing investigation and if the case goes to court.