

NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF  
SEARCH AND RESCUE

*CALLOUT/PAGE PROCEDURES*



“DEDICATED TO SAVING LIVES”

DEL NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF

# SEARCH AND RESCUE CALLOUT/PAGE PROCEDURES

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	
1.1 <u>Responsibility</u> .....	3
1.2 <u>Definition</u> .....	3
CALLOUT PROCEDURES	
2.1 <u>Emergency Incidents</u> .....	4
2.2 <u>Water Related Incidents</u> .....	4
2.3 <u>Missing or Lost Person(s) Incidents</u> .....	4
PROCEDURES FOR PAGING	
3.1 <u>Emergency Dispatch (Land or Water)</u> .....	5
3.2 <u>Missing or Lost Person(s)</u> .....	5
3.3 <u>Canceling Callout</u> .....	5
MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING.....	6

**DEL NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF**  
**SEARCH AND RESCUE CALLOUT/PAGE PROCEDURES**

**INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 **RESPONSIBILITY** It is the responsibility of the Del Norte County Sheriff to provide Search and Rescue (SAR) services to the general public within Del Norte County. This responsibility is in accordance with California Government Code section 26614.
- 1.2 **DEFINITION** Search and Rescue is defined as:
- A. Search: Physically looking for any person(s) who is lost. Examples include but are not limited to:
    - 1. Missing persons;
      - a. Hunters
      - b. Hikers
      - c. Surfers
    - 2. Individuals disoriented due to illness or a handicap;
      - a. Alzheimer's subject
      - b. Senile dementia subject
  - B. Rescue: To rescue person(s) from a known location. Examples include but are not limited to:
    - 1. Vehicle over an embankment
    - 2. Stranded rock climber
    - 3. Person(s) who have fallen off a cliff
    - 4. Stranded swimmer or kayaker
    - 5. Person(s) on the jetty
    - 6. Carryouts
  - C. Recovery: To recover the remains of person(s) who are deceased. Examples include but are not limited to:
    - 1. Suicide victims
    - 2. Vehicle related deaths
    - 3. Drowning victims
    - 4. Death due to exposure
  - D. ELT/EPIRB Radio Signals:
    - 1. Locate "Emergency Locator Transmitter" signals from aircraft
    - 2. Locate "Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon" signals from fishing vessels
  - E. Dive/Swiftwater Rescue:
    - 1. Any rescue where SCUBA divers are needed
    - 2. Any rescue involving swiftwater rescue techniques

## CALLOUT PROCEDURES

### 2.1 EMERGENCY INCIDENTS

- A. When receiving a call that requires an urgent rescue response (definition 1.2B.) due to a life threatening, time critical incident, the dispatcher will immediately page SAR following “Emergency Dispatch” procedures. The dispatcher will then advise the shift supervisor of the call.
- B. Any incident that requires a rope rescue and/or carryout will be considered an emergency incident.
- C. Vehicle based emergencies: SAR, Fire, and Ambulance will be dispatched by simu-cast for any over the side type incident. (Vehicles over the side, aircraft at airport.)
- D. Wilderness rescues: SAR only will be paged for wilderness type rescues. (Devil’s Punchbowl, Damnation Creek, GO Road, aircraft in hard to reach areas, etc.)

### 2.2 WATER RELATED INCIDENTS

- A. Search and Rescue (SAR) will be immediately dispatched to any water related incident, regardless of the Reporting Party (RP) request.
- B. When receiving calls for assistance that are beyond the capabilities of land based Search and Rescue resources, SAR, boating safety, and the US Coast Guard will be dispatched. The Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordinator will be paged and advised on the details of the incident.
- C. When in doubt, page the SAR Coordinator, or his designee, for assistance in determining the nature of the call.

### 2.3 MISSING OR LOST PERSON(S) INCIDENTS

- A. After receiving notification of a possible missing person(s), a deputy will be dispatched to contact the reporting party (RP). Search and Rescue will be notified as soon as possible to determine the appropriate response. The shift supervisor will be advised of the call.
- B. When requests for Search and Rescue services or resources are received from an outside agency the shift supervisor will be advised prior to calling SAR.
- C. When in doubt, page the SAR Coordinator, or his designee, for assistance in determining the nature of the call.

## **PROCEDURES FOR PAGING**

### **3.1 EMERGENCY DISPATCH (Land or Water)**

Page on tone **“SAR ALL.”** After toning give voice command on CLEMARS using clear text to direct all team members to respond directly to the scene of the incident. Wait ten (10) seconds and repeat entire page procedure.

### **3.2 MISSING OR LOST PERSON(S)**

Page the SAR Coordinator on tone **“Terry”** (SAR Coordinator). After toning give voice command on CLEMARS. Wait ten (10) seconds and repeat entire page procedure. If the SAR coordinator, or his designee, does not respond within five (5) minutes, page on tone **“SAR ALL”** and request any SAR Team Leader to call the Sheriff’s Department.

### **3.3 CANCELING CALLOUT**

**Only after** the incident has been resolved and all parties involved are safe and secured, regardless of time, page on tone **“SAR All,”** give voice command using clear text canceling the operation on CLEMARS. Wait ten (10) seconds and repeat entire page procedure.

## **MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING**

The Del Norte County Sheriff's Office (DNSO), currently has "Memorandums of Understanding" with the following agencies. The MOU's specifically assign Search and Rescue responsibilities to the Sheriff's Department regardless of type of incident.

- 4.1 United States Forest Service, Smith River National Recreation Area (SRNRA), Six Rivers National Forest. All Forest Service property in Del Norte County, including the Smith River drainage, is covered by this MOU.
- 4.2 Redwood National and State Parks.