
**NEVADA COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



GENERAL ORDER

68
Effective Date 10/24/16

SUBJECT **CODE RED NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

POLICY It shall be the policy of the Sheriff's Office to evaluate the use of Code Red to make proactive notifications to citizens during incidents that may require evacuation, pose an immediate threat to life or property, disaster notifications or a need to notify the public about emergency information.

PURPOSE To ensure efficient and appropriate use of the system.

CODE REFERENCE

CASE LAW

DEFINITIONS Code Red is an Emergency Notification System used to automatically call phone numbers in the 911 database with a prerecorded message.

PROCEDURE

A. Code Red shall only be activated to assist in emergency community notifications within the boundaries of Nevada County involving:

- 1) Evacuation notices
- 2) Imminent threat to life or property
- 3) Disaster notification
- 4) Any notification to provide emergency or public safety information to a defined area.

B. System Activation

1) A field Incident Commander (IC) determines that an emergency situation exists and there is a need for community notification. In determining the need to activate a Code Red, the IC should consider the exigency of the situation coupled with the area to be notified and the time of day. The IC shall notify the dispatch center or the Emergency Operations Center (if activated) and provide the following information:

- a. Geographic location to be notified
- b. Message to be broadcast, including:

- i. Nature of emergency
- ii. Action to be taken by the community
- iii. Contact information
- iv. Evacuation routes (if applicable)
- v. Evacuation center (if applicable)

The length of the message should be kept as short as possible to ensure the maximum number of notifications can be made in the shortest amount of time.

C. Special Team Notifications

- 1) Code Red may be utilized to alert specialized response teams of training or missions. The teams may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Special Enforcement Detail
 - b. Critical Incident Negotiation Team
 - c. Dive team
 - d. Chaplains
 - e. Search and Rescue

D. Additional Information

- 1) Code Red utilizes the 911 database to complete geographic notifications and thus has published and unpublished numbers. The use of this database is for the purpose of providing community alert and notifications to citizens as defined in California Public Utilities Code Sections 2872 and 2891.1. The information contained in the 911 database is confidential and proprietary and shall not be disclosed or utilized except by authorized personnel for purposes described in this policy.