



A  
19-130  
06/10/19

## **Reporting Requirements for Health Care Providers when Encountering Patients with Suspicious Injuries** (Re-issue DB 17-129)

The purpose of this Bulletin is to ensure members understand the protocols mandated to health care providers when encountering patients with suspicious injuries.

California state law requires any health care provider to make a telephone report and submit the Cal OES 2-920 (Suspicious Injury Report) form to law enforcement if they provide medical care to a patient who has a wound or physical injury that is known or suspected to be the result of assaultive or abusive conduct, or by means of a firearm. This policy is created to give domestic violence survivors and health care providers a clear understanding of how to make a report to the San Francisco Police Department, and what will happen once a report is made in San Francisco.

### ***How Health Care Providers Shall Communicate with San Francisco Police Department:***

#### **Oral Report**

- If the patient has a near lethal circumstance and/or life threatening injury, the health care provider shall call 911 as soon as possible.
- If the patient wants to talk to police and wants assistance right away, the health care provider shall call 911 as soon as possible.
- If the patient does not have a near lethal circumstance and/or life threatening injury, and does not want immediate police assistance, or does not want to speak to police at all, the health care provider shall call San Francisco Police Department Special Victims Unit (SVU) at (415) 553-9220 as soon as possible and speak to a SVU representative or, if after hours, follow instructions on the voicemail. The health care provider should advise the patient that police may still contact them, even if the patient does not want to speak with police.

#### **Written Report**

***In all cases, the health care provider will complete a written report*** which must be filed within two working days and sent to the Special Victims Unit (SVU). This written report (Cal OES2-920 – Suspicious Injury Report, San Francisco Supplement) may be delivered to SVU by fax (415) 734-3086, by e-mail to [sfpd.svumedrec@sfgov.org](mailto:sfpd.svumedrec@sfgov.org) or by mail to

San Francisco Police Department Special Victims Unit, 850 Bryant St., Room 500, San Francisco, CA 94103.

**In the event a District Station receives the written report (Report Cal OES2-920) and the report is domestic violence related, the station will forward the report to Special Victims Unit via fax or e-mail without delay. If the report is not domestic violence related, it shall be forwarded to the Station Investigative Lieutenant for follow up.**

  
WILLIAM SCOTT  
Chief of Police

*Per DB 19-070, both sworn and non-sworn members are required to electronically acknowledge receipt and review of this Department Bulletin in HRMS. Any questions or clarification regarding this policy should be made to [sfpd.writtendirectives@sfgov.org](mailto:sfpd.writtendirectives@sfgov.org) who will provide additional guidance about the directive.*