

## INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

October 28, 2025

1.14

**TO:** The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

**FROM:** Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** WEARING OF A DEPARTMENT-ISSUED BADGE – REVISED

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the Board of Police Commissioners REVIEW and APPROVE the revised policy: Department Manual Section 3/603.10, *Wearing of a Department-Issued Badge – Revised*.

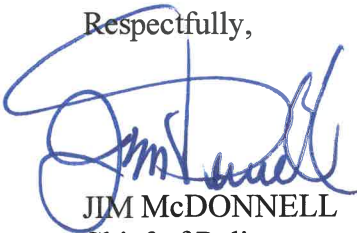
### DISCUSSION

The purpose of this Order is to inform sworn Department personnel about the passage of California Senate Bill (SB) 805, *Crimes*. The Order also revises Department Manual Section 3/603.10, *Wearing of a Department-Issued Badge*, to meet the requirements of SB 805. The Manual section revises the approved content of a facsimile badge and instructs specialized uniformed sworn personnel to wear an approved facsimile badge in a clearly visible manner on the outermost garment of their Department approved uniform. Additionally, consistent with the provisions of SB 805, officers engaged in active undercover operations are exempt from the visible identification requirement while performing undercover duties, while plainclothes personnel are required to present their badge or police identification card prior to exercising their enforcement duties.

Collectively, these uniform and identification policies reflect the Department's ongoing commitment to maintaining community trust through transparency, accountability, and adherence to the highest professional standards.

Should you have additional questions regarding this matter, please contact Captain Shannon White, Commanding Officer, Strategic Planning and Policies Division, at (213) 486-8720.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim McDonnell", is written over a printed name and title.

JIM McDONNELL  
Chief of Police

Enclosures

# OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.

### APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS ON

**SUBJECT: WEARING OF A DEPARTMENT-ISSUED BADGE – REVISED**

**BACKGROUND:** California state legislators have expressed concern that the increased use of face coverings, the absence of visible officer names and identification numbers, and the use of unmarked vehicles during law enforcement activities have raised public safety issues. Both individuals directly affected by the enforcement activities, as well as onlookers, have reported confusion and fear that they had experienced or witnessed a crime. These incidents undermine public trust in law enforcement, particularly among vulnerable populations. The use of face coverings and lack of consistent, visible personal and agency identification are making it difficult for individuals, as well as state and local authorities, to distinguish between authorized personnel and bad actors. As a result, Governor Gavin Newsom signed California Senate Bill (SB) 805 into law on September 20, 2025, and the provisions take effect immediately. California Senate Bill 805 mandates that during enforcement duties, non-uniformed law enforcement officers must visibly display identification that includes:

- The name of their agency; and,
- Either their badge number or their last name.

The identification must be affixed to the outermost garment and be clearly visible to the public for the duration of the enforcement encounter. This requirement is satisfied by the visible display of the Department-issued badge, as it contains the agency name, “The Los Angeles Police Department,” along with the employee’s badge number. The Department-issued police identification card also fulfills the mandate, when visibly displayed; it contains the agency name, a facsimile badge with the employee’s badge number, and the employee’s name.

**Enforcement duties** include any activity in which an employee is exercising peace officer authority. This includes, but is not limited to, detentions, arrests, searches, execution of warrants, or the issuance of lawful commands.

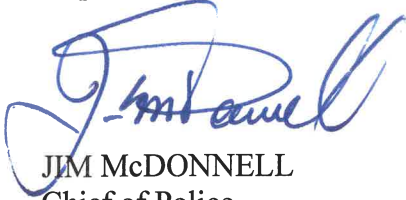
**PURPOSE:** Senate Bill 805 established California Penal Code Section 13653, which provides authority for any peace officer to verify the identity of individuals claiming law enforcement authority when there is probable cause or reasonable suspicion to believe a crime has occurred (e.g., impersonating a peace officer). Additionally, SB 805 established Penal Code Section 13654, which requires identification to be displayed for law enforcement officers when performing their enforcement duties. The purpose of this Order is to inform sworn Department personnel about the passage of SB 805, and to revise Department Manual Section 3/603.10, *Wearing of a Department-Issued Badge*, to meet the requirements of the Bill.

The revised Manual section also clarifies the approved content of a facsimile badge and reminds specialized uniformed and plainclothes sworn personnel that they may wear a facsimile badge in a clearly visible manner on their outermost garment.

Collectively, these uniform and identification requirements reflect the Department's ongoing commitment to building community trust through transparency, accountability, and adherence to the highest professional standards.

**PROCEDURE:** Department Manual Section 3/603.10, *Wearing of a Department Issued-Badge*, has been revised and is attached with the revisions in italics.

**AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY.** The Commanding Officer, Audit Division, shall review this directive and determine whether an audit or inspection shall be conducted in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim McDonnell", is written over the typed name.

JIM McDONNELL  
Chief of Police

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION "D"

**DEPARTMENT MANUAL  
VOLUME III  
Revised by Administrative Order No. , 2025**

**603.10 WEARING OF A DEPARTMENT-ISSUED BADGE.**

**On-Duty, Uniformed Employees.** Uniformed employees shall wear their official Department-issued badge *or, when authorized, a facsimile badge* on the outermost garment of their uniform. Employees attired in a Department-approved specialized uniform (e.g., bike detail or bomb squad) may wear a facsimile badge provided that the facsimile badge has been approved by the Uniform and Equipment Committee for wear with the specialized uniform. In all cases *of the ranks of Captain and below*, the badge *shall contain the employee's badge number and shall be displayed on the outermost garment of the uniform, so it is clearly visible at all times.*

*Note: For the purposes of this section, a "facsimile badge" is defined as a Department authorized reproduction of the official Los Angeles Police Department badge, approved by the Department's Uniform and Equipment Committee for wear in a clearly visible manner on the outermost garment of the appropriate Department-approved uniform.*

**On-Duty, Plainclothes Officers.** On-duty, plainclothes officers shall wear their official Department-issued badge, *or police identification card*, so it is readily accessible for presentation to members of the public, *and clearly visible when performing their enforcement duties.*

*Sworn personnel are exempt from the requirement to maintain visible identification in the following situations:*

- *Undercover officers engaged in active operations or investigative activities;*
- *When wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) that physically prevents the visible display of identification;*
- *When there are exigent circumstances involving:*
  - *An imminent danger to persons or property;*
  - *The escape of a perpetrator; or,*
  - *The destruction of evidence, including if the officer is responding to those circumstances while off-duty.*
- *When assigned to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) and actively performing their SWAT responsibilities; and,*
- *Officers engaged in protective operations involving elected officials, judicial officers, or other designated dignitaries where the display of identification would compromise the safety, anonymity, or tactical effectiveness of the protection detail.*

**Display of Identity in a Department Facility.** While in a Department facility, undercover and plainclothes employees shall display either their official Department-issued badge or identification card.