



SPECIAL ORDER



Also filed with 20 502.7 and 308.4

	SERIES	NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE
SUBJECT Drug Ingestion	88	24	July 22, 1988
		DISTRIBUTION A	
		ORIGINATING UNIT PDD	
		EXPIRATION DATE *	

Effective immediately, members who suspect, observe, or have knowledge that an individual has swallowed drugs shall immediately contact the Communications Division, advise the dispatcher of the situation, and request an ambulance to transport the individual to the nearest hospital. Members shall no longer transport these individuals to a hospital unless the member, in his/her best judgment, has reason to believe that there is an immediate life-threatening situation which requires immediate medical attention and the arrival of an ambulance has been or will be delayed.

This procedure shall apply to any individual a member may encounter, but in particular to those individuals in police custody (e.g., arrested persons, persons requiring emergency medical observation, etc.).

The procedures outlined in this special order shall be in addition to procedures found in General Orders No. 502.7 (Medical Treatment and Hospitalization for Prisoners) and 308.4 (Processing of Suspected Mentally Disturbed Persons).

The Ambulance Service has agreed to transport individuals in our custody who have swallowed drugs, even if these individuals refuse medical treatment. Subjects who exhibit bizarre or violent behavior or have been arrested shall be accompanied by a member of our department in the patient compartment of the ambulance unit.

Special Order 88-19 (Drug Ingestion), dated May 27, 1988, is hereby rescinded.

*This Special Order shall remain in effect until such time as it is officially revised or rescinded.

Maurice T. Turner, Jr.
Maurice T. Turner, Jr.
Chief of Police

MTT:TAB:jtr