

**6.09**  
**CRAIG POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Office of Chief of Police**  
**General Order**

<b>Date Issued:</b>	July 25, 1997	<b>Revision Date:</b>	October 15, 2008
<b>Subject:</b>	Informants-Undercover Operations	<b>Reference:</b>	CACP STD.150.1
<b>To:</b>	All Officers		

**I. POLICY**

Information is received regarding criminal activities and suspects from persons in all walks of life. Often, information from confidential sources is the investigative lead which solves a case and without which there could not be a prosecution. Many people who give information have been victims or witnesses of crimes, or they may have a strong desire to aid law enforcement. There are others, motivated purely by selfish interests. However, regardless of their motivation, the use of informants is a basic weapon in the fight against crime and they are a judicially recognized source of information. An informant's motivation should be carefully evaluated in determining the extent upon which the information will be relied.

**II. PROCEDURE**

- A. Informant's Immunity from Prosecution: Informants will sometimes offer to exchange information for immunity or for their release. A judge in a judicial proceeding may properly grant such immunity; however, neither the department nor any of its members may grant any person immunity from prosecution.
- B. Payments to Informants: No officer will make any payment or promise of payment to any informant without the approval of the Chief of Police.
- C. Individual Officer's Informant Responsibilities: Officers shall keep their supervisors informed of their relations and activities involving informants. The Chief of Police may require that the identity of informants be disclosed to him.

All contacts and interviews with informants should be conducted with two officers present.

- D. Conduct of Undercover Officers: In order to obtain information and evidence regarding criminal activities, it may be necessary that the department utilize undercover operators. Such operators shall not become "Agents Provocateurs" or engage in entrapment. The officers shall not commit any act or omit to perform any duty imposed by law, which constitutes a crime. Any undercover/surveillance operations must follow the criteria in General Order 9.02.

- E. Undercover Officers Posing as Members of the News Media: The use of a news media cover by an officer to obtain intelligence information is not an acceptable form of undercover activity. Once a police officer is discovered in such a role, particularly in a crowd control situation, legitimate members of the media become suspect and could possibly be exposed to danger. In addition, such undercover activity does damage to the trust, which should exist between members of a free society and the news media, which serves them.

**Authorized By:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walter K. Vanatta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'W' and 'V'.

**Walter K. Vanatta  
Chief of Police**