


POLICY 127.3	INVESTIGATIVE REWARD DISTRIBUTION	
	NEW: 06/22	RELATED POLICIES:127.1
	CFA STANDARDS:	REVIEWED:

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for members of the Fort Lauderdale Police Department, to request the use of monetary funds from applicable sources, to distribute case related reward monies. These funds would be utilized for the issuance of monetary rewards for relevant case related information, relating to the recovery of missing minors and or endangered adults. It may also be utilized for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of suspects in unique circumstances as set forth in the policy below.

B. POLICY

It is the policy of the Fort Lauderdale Police Department to actively work with (if appropriate), external organizations, towards the successful resolution of open investigations. Examples of such organizations who provide funding for information on police related matters include but are not limited to Crime Stoppers. These monetary funds are meant to generate case leads, awareness and information which may not have been received otherwise. The Department recognizes there may be unique or exigent circumstances which are not eligible for rewards under these programs. It is in these circumstances where Department funding sources to include but not limited to shared funds such as the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) may be utilized.

C. DEFINITIONS

Reward Committee – Consist of the Chief of Police, three (3) Assistant Chiefs, Police Legal Advisor and the department’s Business Operations Manager.

Reward- monetary disbursement for information leading to the recovery of a missing minor or endangered adult, or other successful resolution of the investigation.

Endangered Adult- See policy 213 B.1.b

Active Participant- Any individual who takes a material role related to the investigation.

D. CRITERIA FOR USE OF INVESTIGATIVE REWARD

Instances which may qualify for reward monies must include but are not limited to:

1. Instances not covered by other entities which provide reward money for information related to an active investigation to include but not limited to Crime Stoppers.
2. The information provided as the result of the reward offering is new and not previously reported to any entity prior to the reward announcement.

3. Cases which involve a minor or endangered adult who has been missing under suspicious circumstances.
4. The information provided leads to a successful resolution and/or case closure.

E. SOURCES OF FUNDING

Rewards may be funded by an applicable LETF, private donation, or any other source approved by the Chief of Police in accordance with applicable City Ordinance and policy.

F. APPROVAL AND DISBURSEMENT PROCESS

1. The unit supervisor handling the investigation will submit a written proposal via the chain of command for consideration by the reward committee.
2. Any funds will be disbursed in accordance with all Federal, State, local laws and guidelines.
3. No reward will be disbursed to anonymous tipsters.
4. In the event the investigation leads to a prosecution, the tipster must cooperate with prosecutorial efforts.
5. The tipster will provide the Department with a properly executed Internal Revenue Service W-9 form prior to the reward disbursement.
6. Payment will be tendered via a check issued by the City. No cash reward will be dispersed.
7. In the event multiple tipsters provide information on the same investigation, the reward will be dispersed at the discretion of the Reward Committee up to the total reward amount.
8. No reward shall be provided to any individual who is determined to be the subject or active participant of the investigation.