



SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING BULLETIN

TO: ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM: Paul Joseph
Chief of Police

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SEVERE CHILD
INJURY OR DEATH**

DATE: November 5, 2024

Bulletin #2024-016

The Santa Clara County Child Abuse Protocol of 2023 ([link](#)) will be adhered to when responding to instances of child death and severe child injuries that are the result of **suspected abuse, neglect, or endangerment**. The protocol applies to all persons under the age of 18 and will be adhered to under the following circumstances:

Death

The Protocol will be activated when a child dies, regardless of the suspected cause of death. The Protocol requires notification to the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, the Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office, and the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Additionally, the SJPD Homicide Unit and Crime Scene Unit will be notified immediately upon the death of a child.

Severe Injury

The District Attorney's Office and DFCS should also be contacted when a child suffered from a severe injury suspected of being caused by abuse, neglect, or endangerment. Severe physical injuries include, but are not limited to:

- head trauma
- broken bone(s)
- severe bruising or burns (bruising on infants)
- pattern injuries, such as injuries sustained from severe corporal punishment
- strangulation.

Responses for both the DA's Office and SJPD Bureau of Investigations personnel will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Patrol Lieutenants will request a BOI response only when they deem it is necessary, and will only hold a scene and wait for DA's Office personnel when the DA's Office provides notification that they are responding.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Joseph".

Paul Joseph
Chief of Police

PJ:PH:JB