

SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING BULLETIN

TO: ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM: Paul Joseph Chief of Police

SUBJECT: PATROL PROCUREMENT OF RAMEY WARRANTS

DATE: January 22, 2025

Bulletin #2025-002

People v. Ramey (1976) 16 Cal.3d 263 was a landmark court case that prohibits officers from entering a suspect's residence to effect an arrest without an arrest warrant, consent, exigent circumstances, or other legal justification for entry (e.g., parole or probation with a search clause). In order to comply with the Ramey rule, officers often procure a pre-complaint arrest warrant ("Ramey Warrant") from a judge. In addition to legal compliance, a Ramey Warrant provides the added benefits of entry into CLETS/WPS (for outside agency visibility) and the additional weight of an arrest warrant signed by a judge versus an on-view probable cause arrest.

Patrol officers may encounter situations in which the procurement of a Ramey Warrant will aid in the apprehension of a suspect and promote officer safety via inter-agency visibility. These situations generally involve major violent crimes, weapons cases, and ongoing public safety threats. Patrol officers are encouraged to seek Ramey Warrants in these instances, but must also take the following three steps to ensure the Bureau of Investigations (BOI) is aware of the Ramey Warrant and that the case is filed promptly after the suspect is arrested.

- 1. The Ramey Warrant must be scanned and added to the General Offense (G.O.) report in Versadex.
- 2.
- 3. Positive contact must be made with the appropriate BOI unit as soon as practical after the Ramey Warrant is activated and/or served. That contact must be noted in the G.O. Communications can provide specific BOI unit on-call contact information.

If any of the above tasks are not completed, the suspect may be released from custody before charges are filed, essentially negating the work involved in obtaining the Ramey Warrant and allowing a possible public safety risk to continue. Questions about Ramey Warrants should be directed to the appropriate BOI Unit or BOI On-Call if after hours or on the weekend.

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Paul Joseph Chief of Police

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