



SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING BULLETIN

TO: ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM: Paul Joseph
Chief of Police

**SUBJECT: REQUESTING SOCIAL SECURITY
NUMBERS**

DATE: December 29, 2025

Bulletin #2025-019

The social security number is one of the most valuable and sought-after forms of personal identification used by identity thieves. Because a social security number can be used as a gateway to other personal information, many people are reluctant to provide their social security number as a form of identification. Department members should only obtain social security numbers from members of the public on a voluntary basis. If a person refuses to provide their number, other means of identifying the individual should be used.

In accordance with Duty Manual section R1612 – USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER an officer must provide the following information to an individual when requesting their social security number as a form of identification:

- That the disclosure of their social security number is voluntary.
- That a refusal to disclose a social security number will not result in denial of any right, benefit or privilege provided to that citizen by law.
- That their social security account number may be used to verify the identity
- That the data may be computerized in local, state and national files.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Joseph".

Paul Joseph
Chief of Police

PJ:PH