

	Operational General Order	8.09 Case/Event Deconfliction	ORIGINATOR/REVIEW Investigative Division
	SUBJECT Virginia Beach Police Department General Order Chapter 8 - Criminal Investigations		DISTRIBUTION ALL
	CALEA: 46.2.8		
BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE POLICE CHIEF: <i>PWN</i>			

Definition (CALEA 46.2.8 A):

Case Explorer: A web-based law enforcement program focused toward information sharing among different agencies in the law enforcement and intelligence community. Officers can use the case management aspect as a tactical tool for case and subject deconfliction. Case Explorer also offers a critical officer safety component where police, watch centers, or law enforcement agencies can enter vital information about their operation and complete event deconfliction. Law enforcement officers will receive immediate feedback about any potential conflicts with other planned event operations in their geographic proximity.

Case/Subject Deconfliction: Case Explorer provides case/subject deconfliction to its participating agencies. This means that it identifies common entities shared by cases that have been entered into the Case Explorer system. These entities include PEOPLE, PLACES, THINGS, VEHICLES and WEAPONS. The Case Explorer system achieves this by recognizing the common entities in different cases and creating a “Match Report” which is sent by email to those involved.

Event Deconfliction: Allows law enforcement agencies throughout the Baltimore/Washington HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) region to submit information about planned events such as surveillance operations, buy bust operations or the execution of search and seizure warrants. This system will alert anyone involved to possible operational conflicts with other known high risk events that exist within a certain geographic proximity. The Watch Center may be contacted directly via phone (301-489-1730 or 800-557-2419) or via email (watchcenter@wb.hidta.org)

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to promote the safety of law enforcement personnel and the community, enhance investigative efforts and mitigate the duplication of investigative initiatives.

Policy (CALEA 46.2.8 A):

It will be the Policy of the Virginia Beach Police Department to utilize formal deconfliction via the Case Explorer web-based information system in all investigations involving the following types of offenses:

- A. Homicide
- B. Malicious Wounding (Involving firearms)

- C. Robbery –Home Invasion/Narcotics Related
- D. Ongoing Narcotics Investigation
- E. Narcotic overdose – fatal/nonfatal (to be completed by the investigator)
- F. Warrant/Fugitive Unit Violent Offenders

Procedure (CALEA 46.2.8 B, C, D):

- A. Access and data entry into Case Explorer is only authorized to those who have completed Case Explorer training.
- B. In the initial phase of an investigation involving:
 - 1. Homicide
 - 2. Malicious Wounding (Firearms)
 - 3. Robbery –Home Invasion/Narcotics Related
 - 4. Ongoing Narcotics Investigation
 - 5. Narcotic overdose – fatal/nonfatal
 - 6. Warrant/Fugitive Unit Violent Offenders

The case officer will search against Case Explorer for the following common case entities:

- a. Suspect(s)
- b. Vehicle(s)
- c. Associated Location(s)

In the event a potential conflict is identified, the case officer will immediately notify his/her supervisor and initiate contact with the conflicted agency/case officer. The case officer will make every effort to collaborate with the conflicting agency/case officer to mitigate the potential conflict. Deconfliction attempts, including contact and/or collaboration, will be noted in the investigative case file by the investigating officer.

- C. During the formal investigation of the listed offenses, the case officer will enter the following common case entities for the purpose of case deconfliction:
 - 1. For any case, enter the following if applicable:
 - a. Suspect(s)
 - b. Vehicle(s)
 - c. Associated Location(s)
 - d. Weapon(s)

- D. Event deconfliction is an effective tool for reducing the dangers that high-risk events pose to both law enforcement personnel and the general public. At a minimum, the case officer will initiate an “event” entry in Case Explorer for any high-risk activity involving:
1. Search Warrant
 2. Undercover operation
 3. Buy/Bust operation
 4. Buy/Walk operation
 5. Surveillance
 6. Violent fugitive

An “event” will be entered into Case Explorer by the case officer no more than 2 hours prior to the initiation of an “event”. If a conflict is discovered, the case officer will immediately notify his/her supervisor and make contact with the conflicted agency/case officer. The case officer will make every effort to collaborate with the conflicting agency/case officer to deconflict and mitigate the impact on the conflicting agency’s case. Event entries and collaboration with other agencies, if applicable, will be noted in the operational plan by the investigating officer.

In the event the case officer is unable to enter data directly into Case Explorer, the Watch Center may be contacted directly via phone (301-489-1730 or 800-557-2419) or via email (watchcenter@wb.hidta.org)

Documentation of Deconfliction Efforts: (CALEA: 46.2.8 A)

When searching against Case Explorer as described in section B, or entering common case entities as described in section C of this procedure, the case officer will note the deconfliction efforts in the investigative case file. For matters requiring deconfliction as described in section D, the case officer or supervisor will note the deconfliction efforts in the operational plan that documents these listed events.