

D.A.R.E. AMERICA NATIONAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES

NUMBER 05-01

SUBJECT: REPORTING CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT DISCLOSURES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2001

PURPOSE

D.A.R.E. Instructors just as teachers, health and other social professionals have certain mandated reporting responsibilities prescribed by law. The purpose of this directive is to establish guidelines for D.A.R.E. Instructors handling student disclosures that requiring the attention of school authorities and /or the concerned law enforcement agency.

POLICY

D.A.R.E. instructors are selected because of their ability to communicate with children and their desire to improve the social and coping skills of children. D.A.R.E. officers should be aware that in their position they become role models and will develop relationships of trust with the students they teach and the community they serve.

PROCEDURE

If a student makes a confidential disclosure applicable state and local laws, and the policies of their school district and police agency shall guide a D.A.R.E. Instructor's actions. As a designated member of the school faculty, D.A.R.E. Instructors should not, if possible, become involved in any enforcement activities, which may result from a student's disclosure of information.

To avoid situations that might be detrimental to the D.A.R.E. Instructor's position or the D.A.R.E. program, officers should remember that D.A.R.E. is an educational program and not to be used or viewed as a law enforcement or intelligence tool.