
Cash Handling, Security and Management

704.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure office members handle cash appropriately in the performance of their duties.

This policy does not address cash-handling issues specific to the Property and Informants policies.

704.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Talbot County Sheriff's Office to properly handle and document cash transactions and to maintain accurate records of cash transactions in order to protect the integrity of office operations and ensure the public trust.

704.3 PETTY CASH FUNDS

The Sheriff shall select a member of the Office as the fund manager. This person is responsible for maintaining and managing petty cash funds. In the absence of the fund manager, the Sheriff may delegate this responsibility to an authorized designee.

Each petty cash fund requires the creation and maintenance of an accurate and current transaction ledger and the filing of invoices, receipts, cash transfer forms and expense reports by the fund manager.

704.4 PETTY CASH TRANSACTIONS

The fund manager shall document all transactions on the ledger and any other appropriate forms. Each person participating in the transaction shall sign or otherwise validate the ledger, attesting to the accuracy of the entry. Transactions should include the filing of an appropriate receipt, invoice or cash transfer form. Transactions that are not documented by a receipt, invoice or cash transfer form require an expense report.

704.5 PETTY CASH AUDITS

The fund manager shall perform an audit no less than once every six months. This audit requires that the fund manager and at least one command staff member, selected by the Sheriff, review the transaction ledger and verify the accuracy of the accounting. The fund manager and the participating member shall sign or otherwise validate the ledger attesting to the accuracy of all documentation and fund accounting. A discrepancy in the audit requires documentation by those performing the audit and an immediate reporting of the discrepancy to the Sheriff.

Transference of fund management to another member shall require a separate petty cash audit and involve a command staff member.

A separate audit of each petty cash fund should be completed on a random date, approximately once each year by the Sheriff or the County.

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704.6 ROUTINE CASH HANDLING

Members who handle cash as part of their regular duties, e.g., property officers, the Narcotics Task Force supervisor and those who accept payment for office services will discharge those duties in accordance with the procedures established for those tasks (see the Property and Informants policies).

704.7 OTHER CASH HANDLING

Members who, within the course of their duties, are in possession of cash that is not their property or that is outside their defined cash-handling responsibilities shall, as soon as practicable, verify the amount, summon another member to verify their accounting, and process the cash for safekeeping or as evidence or found property, in accordance with the Criminal Investigation Division Policy.

Cash in excess of \$1,000 requires immediate notification of a supervisor, special handling, verification and accounting by the supervisor. Each member involved in this process shall complete an appropriate report or record entry.

704.8 FEES FOR SERVICES

[Talbot County Sheriff's Office Procedures Manual: 702.2 Definitions](#)

[Talbot County Sheriff's Office Procedures Manual: 702.3 Procedures](#)