



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND
MANAGEMENT

MANUAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Release
Rel. 9-460

Date
07/28/2026

Office Code
HQ-120

Subject: MS9260 Law Enforcement General Order 13- Critical Incident Peer Support

FOIA
Designation P
Letter:

1. Updates, supersedes, or rescinds:

Updates General Order (GO) 13 - Critical Incident Peer Support Release. This version of GO-13 will be made available externally.

2. Explanation of Materials Transmitted:

This GO will provide external entities with the policy and procedures for Critical Incident Peer Support within the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) law enforcement program.

3. Reports Required:

None

4. Delegations of Authority Updated:

None

5. Filing Instructions: File as directed below.

REMOVE

All of GO 13 (Rel.9-382)
(Total: 10 Pages)

INSERT

All of MS-9260-13 (Rel. 9-460)
GO-13
(Total: 3 Pages)

ERIC KRILEY

Digitally signed by ERIC KRILEY
Date: 2026.07.28 14:20:52
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Eric A. Kriley
Director
Office of Law Enforcement and Security



CRITICAL INCIDENT PEER SUPPORT

Order Number
13

Dated
07/28/2026

Number of Pages
3

Issued by

Director, Bureau of Land Management, Office Law Enforcement and Security

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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish standards, procedures, and guidance for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Critical Incident and Peer Support (CIPS) Program to promote the health, safety, resilience, and overall well-being of BLM Law Enforcement personnel.

The CIPS Program provides a coordinated approach for prevention, response, and support for personnel affected by critical incidents, cumulative stress, and other significant stressors through peer support, chaplaincy services, wellness resources, and other support services.

This policy establishes guidance for the activation, coordination, and delivery of CIPS services intended to promote early intervention, resilience, wellness, and operational readiness.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all BLM law enforcement officers (LEOs), their supervisors, designated Peer Support Officers (PSOs), chaplains, and other identified support personnel involved in the coordination or delivery of CIPS-related services.

This policy establishes guidance for the activation, coordination, and delivery of wellness, peer support, and chaplaincy resources for personnel affected by critical incidents, cumulative stress, or other significant stressors.

Nothing in this policy supersedes applicable law, regulation, or Department of the Interior (DOI) policy. In the event of a conflict, applicable laws, regulations, and DOI policy shall govern.

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3. AUTHORITY

- a. 43 U.S.C. § 1733
- b. 5 U.S.C. Chapter 79
- c. 34 U.S.C. §50901
- d. Executive Order 12196

4. DEFINITIONS

Critical Incident: A critical incident is any event arising from law enforcement duties or work-related activities that involves actual or threatened death, serious injury, or significant threat to life or other event that has the potential to cause strong emotional, psychological, or physiological reactions among employees involved in or exposed to the event. A critical incident could occur on or off duty.

Critical Incident and Peer Support (CIPS): A coordinated approach providing peer support, wellness resources, crisis intervention, and other support services intended to assist personnel affected by critical incidents, cumulative stress, or other significant stressors.

Chaplaincy: Law enforcement members are often confronted with situations that demoralize and create emotional, mental, and spiritual burdens. Chaplains offer secular and spiritual resources, assistance, and support to employees and their family members in times of personal and professional need. Chaplains are skilled and committed to supporting people regardless of their religious beliefs. A chaplain is a member of the clergy and conversations are subject to Clergy-Penitent Privilege.

Peer Support Officers (PSOs): A BLM LEO or allied agency member designated by their agency who has successfully completed CIPS training. The PSO provides confidential, emotional, and peer support to personnel affected by critical incidents, cumulative stress, or other significant stressors, including off-duty events.

Licensed Mental Health Professionals (LMHPs): A licensed clinician who provides confidential, evidence-based mental health assessment, counseling, and crisis intervention following critical incidents, with specialized knowledge of trauma and the law enforcement culture.

Significant Stressors: Events or cumulative exposures that may negatively impact an employee's well-being, resilience, operational readiness, or job performance.

5. FILE AND RECORDS MAINTENANCE

Law Enforcement records will be maintained in accordance with the Law Enforcement General Orders and Handbooks, and the Bureau Records Retention Catalog.

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6. POLICY

This CIPS Policy is the primary BLM OLES authority for the development, administration, approval, and coordination of all CIPS programs, services and activities supporting the BLM Law Enforcement Program. All CIPS personnel will meet the training requirements prior to participating in CIPS related activities, deployments, or support operations.

6.1 Functions of the Critical Incident and Peer Support (CIPS) General Order

This General Order establishes the authority and framework for providing CIPS Program functions as a coordinated support and response resource for BLM personnel affected by critical incidents, cumulative stress, or other significant stressors. The CIPS Program integrates peer support, chaplaincy services, wellness resources, and other designated support personnel to provide timely, coordinated, and accessible support services.

To ensure operational readiness and continuity of support services, the CIPS Program shall maintain qualified personnel capable of coordinating and delivering support resources during critical incidents and other significant events.

6.2 Training and Education of the Critical Incident Peer Support (CIPS) Members

Personnel assigned to the CIPS Program shall complete and maintain training appropriate to their assigned role and responsibilities. Training may include peer support, critical incident response, wellness, chaplaincy, family support, crisis/suicide intervention, communication skills, resiliency, and other related topics consistent with program guidance and operational needs.

CIPS personnel are expected to maintain current training, participate in continuing education, and remain operationally ready to provide support services as appropriate to their assigned function.