



# Santa Clara Police Training Flash



## Crime, Suspect, Threat, & Incident – (CSTI)

One of the key terms in 835(a) PC is, “the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time...” Information is a key component to justify our actions when detaining, arresting, or using force. Our agency has done a great job in providing pertinent information in our BOL’s (Be on the Lookout). To formalize and provide a set structure for the information that we gather, the Santa Clara Police Department will adopt the **CSTI (Crime, Suspect, Threat, and Incident)** system for broadcasting BOL’s in an efficient and clear manner for the following reasons:

- Efficient standardized system to articulate the:
  - o **Crime** committed or possibly committed
  - o **Suspect** description (head to toe), vehicles, criminal history, and mental state
  - o **Threats** made or type of weapons used
  - o Location of the **Incident**
- Gives Officers, Sergeants, & Lieutenants immediate information to properly allocate resources for the incident
- Creates a standardized system to efficiently inform local agencies during county wide BOL’s
- Reduces radio traffic of unneeded questions or clarification

An example of how **CSTI** would be implemented out in the streets would be:



- Officer: “Santa Clara 404, clear for BOL?”
- Radio: “Affirm”
- Officer: (**Crime**) “Armed 211 at a bank & 245 on officers with shots fired.”
- Officer: (**Suspect**) “Suspect is a Neal McCauley. WMA in his 40’s, approximately 5’-8” to 5’-10”, short dark hair, sunglasses, goatee, dressed in a dark suit, & carrying a duffel bag.”
- Officer: (**Threats**) “Suspect armed with AR”
- Officer: (**Incident**) “Suspect last seen on foot heading eastbound on Figueroa & 4<sup>th</sup>”

The purpose of information  
is not knowledge. It is being  
able to take the right action.

Peter F. Drucker

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