

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sonoma County Pride Updates Law Enforcement Participation Guidelines for 2025 Parade

Santa Rosa, CA — April 30, 2025 — Sonoma County Pride has announced updated participation guidelines for law enforcement agencies in the 2025 Pride Parade, scheduled for May 31 in downtown Santa Rosa. These changes reflect ongoing community dialogue and the organization's commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all attendees.

Since May 2024, the Sonoma County Pride Board of Directors has engaged in conversations with community members and law enforcement agencies to address concerns about the presence of uniformed officers in the parade. In response to feedback, the following guidelines have been established for law enforcement contingents:

- Each agency may include one vehicle in the parade, which must be a non-patrol vehicle.
- If the vehicle is equipped with lights and/or sirens, these features must remain inactive during the parade.
- Agencies are asked to limit uniformed personnel to a maximum of 5 individuals.
- Additional participants from the agency are encouraged to wear non-uniform attire, such as t-shirts or polos, without sidearms.

"This has been a challenging decision for our board," said Christopher Kren-Mora, President of Sonoma County Pride. "We recognize the diverse perspectives within our community and aim to balance the desire for inclusivity with the need to ensure that all attendees feel safe and respected."

Sonoma County Pride also acknowledges the concerns raised by BIPOC and other marginalized members of the LGBTQI+ community. These guidelines were created with their voices in mind, while also affirming that LGBTQI+ members of law enforcement remain a valued part of our community.

The updated guidelines are part of Sonoma County Pride's broader efforts to foster open dialogue and collaboration between the LGBTQI+ community and local law enforcement. These guidelines apply specifically to the 2025 event and may evolve in the future as conversations continue.

To support this ongoing process, Sonoma County Pride is actively seeking to partner with another community-based organization to help facilitate continued dialogue and engagement on this important topic year-round.

For more information about the 2025 Sonoma County Pride Parade and Festival, please visit www.sonomacountypride.org.