



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDERS

SOP 1-39 (Formerly 4-07 and 6-4) Effective: 06/14/2023 Review: 06/14/2024 Replaces: 03/03/2022

1-39 DWI UNIT

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

[2-40 Misdemeanor Traffic and Parking Enforcement \(Formerly 2-18\)](#)
[2-41 Traffic Stops \(Formerly 2-47\)](#)
[2-42 DWI Investigations and Revoked/Suspended License \(Formerly 3-11\)](#)
[2-43 Roadblocks and Checkpoints](#)
[2-46 Response to Traffic Crashes](#)

B. Form(s)

Mark43 Arrest, Incident, and Tow Report

C. Other Resource(s)

City of Las Cruces v. Betancourt, 1987-NMCA-039, 735 P.2d 1161.
International Association of Chiefs' of Police Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

1-39-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the DWI Unit to investigate and enforce laws related to driving while intoxicated (DWI), train Albuquerque Police Department (Department) personnel, and participate in community operations relating to DWI.

1-39-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to establish, train, and use the DWI Unit as a complementary unit to assist Field Services Bureau (FSB) sworn personnel with DWI enforcement, training, and roadblocks.

N/A 1-39-3 Definitions

A. Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Officer

A Department officer who has successfully completed the Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program and certified by the International Association of Chiefs' of Police as a DRE.

B. Serious-Injury Crash



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A crash involving serious injuries, which could result in death.

7 1-39-4 **Rules and Responsibilities**

N/A

A. The DWI Unit Sergeant shall plan, set up, and conduct DWI-related roadblocks and checkpoints (refer to Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Roadblocks and Checkpoints for sanction classifications and additional duties).

B. DWI Unit personnel shall:

1. Patrol all areas of the City of Albuquerque to enforce traffic laws with an emphasis on DWI-related violations, consistent with SOP Misdemeanor Traffic and Parking Enforcement and SOP Traffic Stops (refer to SOP Misdemeanor Traffic and Parking Enforcement for sanction classifications and additional duties);

N/A

2. Conduct Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) investigations in conjunction with DWI investigations when probable cause exists (refer to SOP DWI Investigations and Revoked/Suspended License for sanction classifications and additional duties);

N/A

3. Complete any DWI investigation for a fatal crash or serious-injury crash, consistent with SOP Response to Traffic Crashes (refer to SOP Response to Traffic Crashes for sanction classifications and additional duties); and

4. Assist the Metro Traffic Division with escorts, tactical traffic operations, and other major City and Department special events.

C. DWI Unit personnel may respond to a request by FSB sworn personnel to assist with conducting a DWI investigation or with warrants for blood draws.

D. On-Call Status

1. DWI Unit personnel shall be available for DRE-Fatal on-calls for service on a rotational, on-call status.

2. The DWI Unit Sergeant shall maintain the on-call list.

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E. Fatal Crash or Serious-Injury Crash Call-Out Procedures

1. The Traffic Section Supervisor responding to the scene shall:

- a. Determine if a DWI Unit officer(s) is needed to conduct a DWI investigation; and
- b. Contact the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) to have the DWI Unit officer respond to the scene.

2. The DWI Unit officer shall:



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- a. Respond to the scene;
- b. Complete the DWI investigation for the fatal crash or serious-injury crash; and
- c. Complete the Mark43 and or Tracs supplemental reports.

F. Training and Certification

1. DWI Unit personnel shall coordinate with the Department and outside agencies to train cadets and sworn personnel on DWI enforcement.

N/A

2. DWI Unit personnel will provide training about DWI-related topics to the public.
3. DWI Unit personnel shall be certified as a DRE, through the New Mexico DRE program, within one (1) year of joining the unit or as soon as practicable.