



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDERS

SOP 1-50

Effective: 04/21/2021

Review: 10/21/2021

Replaces: N/A

## 1-50 GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT

### Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s)

A. Related SOP(s)

[2-64 Violence Intervention Program \(VIP\) Custom Notification Deliveries](#)

[2-70 Execution of Search Warrants](#)

[2-91 Investigation of Violent Crimes](#)

[5-1 Special Investigations Division \(SID\)](#)

B. Form(s)

PD 3109 Pre-Planned Search Warrant Risk Assessment Matrix

C. Other Resource(s)

Gun Violence Reduction Unit (GVRU) Handbook

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

### 1-50-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Gun Violence Reduction Unit (GVRU) that is assigned to the Investigative Services Division (ISD), as well as outline the training requirements for GVRU sworn personnel. The GVRU assists all Field Services Bureau (FSB) personnel with all follow-up investigations on aggravated batteries involving a firearm, with bullet to skin contact.

### 1-50-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) for GVRU sworn personnel to be responsible for the investigation of crimes that involve a firearm, in which a victim is struck by gunfire. It is also the policy for GVRU sworn personnel to conduct a thorough investigation, in order to successfully identify, locate, and apprehend criminal suspects driving gun violence.

N/A

### 1-50-3 Definitions

A. Life-threatening Injury

Any injury that involves serious physical harm that may result in significant or permanent disfigurement or the loss of a major bodily organ or function, including, but not limited to, the loss of a limb, paralysis, or the loss of eyesight; that may necessitate medical or surgical intervention to prevent permanent impairment; that could



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potentially cause a significant reduction in the quality of life; or that has the likelihood of causing death.

B. Serious Crimes Call-Out

A serious crimes call-out is generated when an individual sustains a life-threatening injury.

**7** 1-50-4 **Rules, Responsibilities, and Procedures**

A. Investigations

1. GVRU sworn personnel shall:

- a. Investigate all aggravated batteries involving a firearm, with bullet to skin contact, except for:
  - i. Homicides;
  - ii. Shootings completed in the commission of a robbery; and
  - iii. Shootings involving domestic violence;
- b. Investigate all shootings in which an individual accidentally shot themselves;
- c. Conduct investigations with the purpose of successfully apprehending individuals who engage in gun violence. These individuals are identified as drivers of gun violence in the City of Albuquerque through open source information, data gathered by the Department, and law enforcement databases. Investigations shall be determined by:
  - i. Self-initiated investigations;
  - ii. Surveillance;
  - iii. Utilization of confidential informants;
  - iv. Department units; and
  - v. Outside agencies.
- d. Work closely with the District Attorney's Office (DA) to assist with investigations of criminal suspects identified by DA Special Agents; and
- e. Confer with Violence Intervention Program (VIP) personnel on investigations regarding individuals who may benefit from a VIP Custom Notification (VIP CN), consistent with SOP Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Custom Notification Deliveries.

2. Investigations shall be prioritized based on:

- a. Injuries;
- b. Criminal history;
- c. The propensity of violence;
- d. Gang affiliation; and
- e. Referrals from the DA.

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3. GVRU sworn personnel shall be prohibited from providing tactical responses to critical situations where a specialized tactical unit is required.



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a. When GVRU sworn personnel must execute a pre-planned search warrant, they shall complete the Form Pre-Planned Search Warrant Risk Assessment Matrix.

4. GVRU sworn personnel shall be on-call for:

- a. Any call-outs related to aggravated batteries involving a firearm, with bullet to skin contact; and
- b. Serious crimes call-outs, consistent with SOP Investigation of Violent Crimes.

**7** 1-50-5 **Training**

A. The immediate supervisor for any sworn personnel in the GVRU shall ensure they:

- 1. Complete new personnel orientation within thirty (30) days of transferring into GVRU;
- 2. Complete required training, as deemed necessary by the GVRU supervisor, and consistent with the Gun Violence Reduction Unit (GVRU) Handbook; and
- 3. Complete and maintain all specialized training, as deemed necessary by the ISD Commander.