



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-49

Effective: 11/22/19 Review: 11/22/20 Replaces: 12/13/17

2-49 INSPECTION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Related SOP(s):

[1-16 Auto Theft Unit \(Formerly 5-11\)](#)

[2-48 Towing and Wrecker Services](#)

[3-20 Overtime, Compensatory Time, and Work Shift Designation](#)

2-49-1 Purpose

It is the purpose of this policy to provide guidelines for Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) certified officers in completing inspections of motor vehicles.

2-49-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to establish procedures for Department personnel who are assisting citizens who wish to register their vehicles with New Mexico MVD. The Department also provided trained and certified officers to complete VIN inspections in the identification of vehicles that have been stolen and have been altered from their original state.

2-49-3 Procedures

A. Officers Authorized to Inspect Motor Vehicles

5 1. Only those officers trained and currently issued VIN Investigator Credentials are authorized to complete and sign the Affidavit of Vehicle Identification Number (NM MVD Form 10861A) to register vehicles in New Mexico.

6 2. Officers making inspections will follow established guidelines provided in training.

N/A B. The Chief's Overtime Program will maintain:

1. A list of officers authorized to inspect vehicles; and

2. All copies of VIN Inspection forms for a minimum of 3 years.

C. Seized vehicles

7 1. When inspecting vehicles, any vehicle seized per NMSA 66-3-507, the on-call Auto Theft Unit detective will be notified immediately, and a copy of the report shall be forwarded to the Auto Theft detective within 24 hours.



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2. Seized vehicles will be towed to the Auto Theft Garage.

N/A

D. Referrals

1. If a motor vehicle is operable, the citizen will be advised to take it to the Motor Vehicle Division office for inspection.
2. Automobile dealers will be referred to the Motor Vehicle Division or may hire an off-duty, VIN certified officer to complete the inspection through the Chief's Overtime Program.
3. Requests may be made to the Auto Theft Unit for free VIN inspections.

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E. Inspection of Motorcycles

1. Any currently certified VIN Investigator with credentials may perform motorcycle inspections.

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F. Inspection of Watercraft

1. Any currently certified VIN Investigator with credentials may perform watercraft inspections.