



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-68

Effective: 01/17/16 Review Due: 01/17/17 Replaces: 04/27/15

2-68 INTERVIEWS AND INTERROGATIONS

2-68-1 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to ensure interview and interrogations are conducted in accordance with New Mexico State law.

2-68-2 Rules and Procedures

A. Custodial Interviews/Interrogations

1. Department personnel will:
 - a. Electronically record all custodial interrogations in their entirety.
 - b. Interrogations conducted in a police facility shall be recorded in a method that includes audio and video, or both methods if available.
 - c. Include the advice of constitutional rights on the recording.
 - d. Tag the recorded interview into evidence.
 - e. Document in the offense/incident or supplemental report that the interview was electronically recorded.
2. The reason for not recording the interview will be documented in the officer's report. Exceptions for not recording an interview are listed below:
 - a. The recording equipment failed prior to completion of the interview.
 - b. The individual refuses to be recorded.

B. General Security Concerns

1. The interview rooms shall be located in secured areas. The use of these rooms is restricted to sworn personnel.
2. To provide proper security, all arrestees/prisoners shall be searched prior to being brought into the interview room.
3. The responsibility for the safety and security of persons brought into the interview room remains with the original officer unless an investigator or supervisor relieves him.
4. Only one (1) arrestee/prisoner at a time should be in the interview room.
5. All arrestees/prisoners will be handcuffed prior to entry of the interview room. Handcuffs may be removed at the discretion of the officer/investigator conducting the interview.



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6. While an officer is conducting an interview or interrogation, a second officer should be present in the room or monitoring. If the interviewer needs assistance, he/she shall verbally and/or physically summon the officer monitoring the interview, or utilize the "emergency" key or their police radio.

C. Weapons Control

It will be the sole discretion of the officer/investigator, and in certain cases a supervisor, whether or not he/she maintains their authorized department weapon on their person while in the interview room. Should the officer/investigator elect to remove the weapon, it shall be properly secured.

D. Interview Room General Guidelines

1. Items in the interview rooms should be limited to a table and enough chairs to accommodate the individuals in the room. Any other items brought into the room shall be at the discretion of the officer/investigator conducting the interview.
2. The number of people present while conducting an interview/interrogation should be kept to a minimum. Typically, this should be no more than two officers/investigators and the person being interviewed. Special circumstances may require a parent, guardian, or legal representative. Ultimately, it will be up to the primary officer/investigator on a case-by-case basis to make up the decision as to who may be present.
3. All individuals are afforded an opportunity to address their personal needs during an interview/interrogation. It will be at the officer/investigator's discretion when a break is conducted. All individuals being interviewed who wish to utilize the facilities (restrooms, water, etc.) shall be escorted by an officer/investigator at all times within any secured area of the building.
4. Prior to usage of the interview room, officers/investigators shall search the room for weapons and/or contraband that may pose a threat to not only the officer/interviewer but also the subject being interviewed.
5. Once the interview has been completed, the officer/investigator will again search the room prior to exiting.