



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDERS

SOP 1-39 (Formerly 6-4) Effective: 11/22/19 Review: 11/22/20 Replaces: 08/25/16

1-39 DWI SECTION

Related SOP(s):

[2-40 Misdemeanor Traffic and City Ordinance Enforcement](#)

[2-41 Traffic Stops](#)

[2-42 DWI Investigations and Revoked/Suspended License](#)

[2-43 Roadblocks and Checkpoints](#)

[2-44 Traffic and Roadway Services](#)

[2-46 Response to Traffic Crashes](#)

[2-47 Crashes Involving Police Vehicles](#)

1-39-1 Purpose

The purpose of the DWI Section is to investigate and enforce laws related to Driving While Intoxicated (DWI), train Department personnel, and participate in community operations relating to DWI. The DWI Section will maintain and operate the crash removal vehicle (CRV1) program.

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 the field with DWI related enforcement, training, and roadblocks.

1-39-3 Definitions

A. Serious-Injury Crash

A crash involving serious injuries which could result in death.

1-39-4 Rules and Responsibilities of the DWI Section

- 7 A. DWI Unit personnel patrol all areas of the City and enforce traffic laws with emphasis on DWI related violations.
- B. Field personnel may request a DWI unit to assist on a call to conduct a DWI investigation or assist with warrants for blood draws.
- C. DWI Unit personnel conducts Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) investigations in conjunction with DWI investigations when probable cause exists.



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- D. Personnel will complete any DWI investigation that is the result of a crash involving a Department vehicle, fatal crash, or serious-injury crash.
 - E. The DWI Section plans, sets up and conducts DWI related roadblocks and checkpoints. See SOP – Roadblocks and Checkpoints.
 - F. The unit assists the Traffic Section with escorts and other major City and Department special events.
 - G. On-Call
 - 1. Personnel will be on a rotational on-call status.
 - 2. The DWI Sergeant maintains the on-call list.
 - H. Call-out Procedures

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- 1. For fatal or serious injury crashes:
 - a. The Traffic Supervisor responding to the scene will determine if a DWI officer(s) will be needed to conduct a DWI and/or DRE investigation.
 - b. The Traffic Supervisor will contact the on-call DWI officer who will respond to the scene and complete the DWI investigations for the fatal report.

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- 2. For DRE investigations:
 - a. The primary field officer or on duty DWI officer will conduct a DWI investigation before requesting for a DRE certified officer to respond. See SOP – DWI Investigations and Revoked/Suspended License.
 - b. The primary field officer must have:
 - i. Observed the impaired driving;
 - ii. Arrested the driver for DWI;
 - iii. Administered a breath alcohol test to the arrested driver; and
 - iv. Observed that the results of the breath alcohol test were inconsistent with the field sobriety tests.
 - c. The field officer will notify the on-duty supervisor and request through ECC for the on-call DRE officer. If approved by the on-duty supervisor, the investigating primary officer may call the on-call DRE officer.
 - d. The on-call DRE officer will respond and complete a supplemental investigation and report and will advise the arresting officer of the findings.



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- e. The DRE officer will ensure the arresting officer revises the blood test results so that a criminal summons can be filed by the DRE officer.
- f. The DRE officer will ensure that the reports and forms are forwarded appropriately. See SOP – DWI Investigations and Revoked/Suspended License.

I. Crash Removal Vehicle (CRV1)

1. The CRV1 is operated by Police Service Aides who are trained in operating the vehicle.

6 2. The CRV1 responds to crashes or stranded vehicles on the interstate(s) to assist with removing damaged or inoperable vehicles from traffic lanes that are obstructing the flow of traffic.

- a. The CRV1 will only move vehicles to the shoulder.
- b. The CRV1 will wait on the scene until a dispatched officer or PSA arrives.
- c. The CRV1 will not complete the police crash report.
- d. The CRV1 will advise the locations of the vehicle before being moved.
- e. The contracted tow company will be requested to remove the vehicles from the scene.
- f. The CRV1 will not move vehicles involved in fatal or serious injury crashes.

7 3. If a vehicle is damaged as a result of CRV1 removing it from the roadway, personnel will photograph both vehicles and provide a supplemental crash report to the original crash report. The photos will be tagged into evidence.

4. Personnel will refuel and remove any trash from the CRV1 vehicle at the end of the shift.

5. Personnel will return the CRV1 vehicle to the DWI substation.

6 6. Personnel will advise the DWI Sergeant when:

- a. The CRV1 was involved in a crash;
- b. The CRV1 was involved in any significant event; or
- c. The CRV1 requires maintenance or repair.

J. Training



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1. DWI Unit personnel will be certified as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) within one year of joining the unit.
2. The DWI unit provides training to Department personnel, outside agencies, and the public about DWI related topics.