



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-41

Effective: 04/09/19 Review: 04/09/20 Replaces: 01/13/16

## 2-41 TRAFFIC STOPS

**Related SOP(s):** None

### 2-41-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide procedures for sworn personnel while conducting traffic stops.

### 2-41-2 Policy

Officers will conduct traffic stops in accordance with training and the best interests of public safety.

### 2-41-3 Rules

#### A. Traffic Stops

1. Officers initiating traffic stops for observed violations shall:
  - a. Advise Communications of the impending stop, giving violator's vehicle information (license plate, description of the vehicle and/or occupants, etc.) and location.
  - b. Conduct the traffic stop in a safe location which allows for a safe exit and approach to the violator's vehicle.
    - i. Engage emergency lights - use of the siren, PA system, and hazard lights are also authorized.
    - ii. The spotlight and/or high beams may be used to illuminate the inside of the vehicle and to provide a safe approach to the vehicle.
  - c. Identify self as an Albuquerque Police Officer and advise the reason for the stop.
  - d. Identify the driver and complete a warrants and MVD check.
  - e. If warranted, issue a current uniformed state traffic citation for the observed violation and any other determined violations.
    - i. Citation should include driver's phone number and email address.
  - f. Assist the violator in re-entering traffic safely.
2. If a citation is to be issued, officers will:
  - a. Explain all options to the driver/violator.
  - b. Provide a copy of the citation to the driver/violator.
  - c. Provide a current Metropolitan Court Brochure to the driver/violator if available.
  - d. Review all documents with the driver/violator.
  - e. Officers shall not accept payment for the citation.



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-41

Effective: 04/09/19 Review: 04/09/20 Replaces: 01/13/16

3. Persons who refuse to sign issued citations.
  - a. Officers will thoroughly explain that the refusal to sign the citation will result in the arrest of the driver/violator.
  - b. Officers will advise their supervisor.
  - c. Officers will write a detailed report of the incident when an arrest is made and log video into evidence.