2-64 VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (VIP) CUSTOM NOTIFICATION DELIVERIES

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

None

B. Form(s)

None

C. Other Resource(s)

Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Demonstration Action – Call-In
Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Handbook

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

2-64-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish requirements when making contact with candidates identified by Violence Intervention Program (VIP) personnel, and to establish requirements for the delivery of a personalized gun violence intervention message, which is intended to reduce the likelihood of the candidate becoming a victim or perpetrator of gun violence.

2-64-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) to seek out and directly communicate with individuals who are impacted by gun violence through a partnership of law enforcement, social service providers, and community stakeholders. Custom Notifications (CN) are primarily intended to be delivered to victims of gun violence, witnesses of gun violence, or individuals who have been associated with drivers of gun violence. The CN is comprised of three components: the community moral message explaining that the community wants them safe; the law enforcement message explaining the penalties; and the social services that extend resources.

2-64-3 Definitions

A. Focused Deterrence

Identifies individuals most likely to commit violent gun-involved crimes, offers them the authentic opportunity to change their behavior before violence occurs, and intervenes with severe prosecution if there is further violence.
B. Group/Gun Violence Intervention (GVI)

An intervention that seeks to reduce violence quickly and dramatically by influencing the behavior of groups or individuals identified to be drivers of gun violence. The GVI framework establishes direct communication with identified groups or individuals by a partnership of law enforcement, service providers, and community members.

C. Gun Violence Information Sharing (GVIS)

A meeting that is held between Department personnel and multi-agency law enforcement public safety partners that focuses on shooting with injury reviews, identifying groups and individuals that drive gun crimes, and intervention and enforcement strategies.

D. Influencer

A person who has a strong, influential relationship with a victim or perpetrator of gun violence, including but not limited to a spouse, parent, grandparent, or guardian.

E. Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Custom Notification (VIP CN) Delivery

An organized delivery of the gun violence intervention message to a high-risk individual, identified driver of violent crime, and/or gang/group member. These encounters/interactions are consensual and can be terminated by the individual at any time during the delivery.

F. Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Law Enforcement Lead

The Deputy Chief of the Investigative Bureau and/or their designee who is responsible for the law enforcement delivery of the VIP CN.

G. Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Program Manager

Department employee who is responsible for nurturing and maintaining the VIP partnership, coordinating among independent agencies and departments, and otherwise ensuring that the implementation goes smoothly by adding capacity where it is needed and engaging in collaborative problem solving.

2-64-4 Procedures for VIP CN Deliveries for Adults

A. To be identified as a VIP CN candidate, Department personnel working with the VIP shall determine the candidate was:

1. A victim of a shooting;

2. Is an associate or influencer of an individual involved in a shooting;
3. A group member or individual identified during GVIS or shooting link analysis as connected to gun violence or potential gun violence; and

4. Referred from Department personnel; an outside law enforcement agency the District Attorney’s Office; or from outreach, faith- or community-based coalition team members.

B. An individual who has pending charges for a crime involving a gun is ineligible for a VIP CN delivery.

C. Preparation for a VIP CN Delivery

1. When a VIP CN candidate is identified, the VIP Law Enforcement Lead shall:

   a. Ensure a threat assessment and background check is completed on the candidate;
   b. Draft a personalized VIP letter, when applicable or warranted, advising of the penalties specific to that candidate if they choose to be involved in a violent crime;
   c. Coordinate the law enforcement personnel who shall deliver the VIP CN; and
   d. Ensure that the identified law enforcement personnel delivering the VIP CN shall coordinate with the social services component of VIP for a collaborative VIP CN delivery.

D. Delivery of the VIP CN

1. Sworn personnel who are responsible for delivering a VIP CN shall:

   a. Advise the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) or create a call for service through the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD);
   b. Notate in the CAD the VIP CN candidate’s location and identity;
   c. Contact the VIP CN candidate to establish that the contact is a consensual meeting;
      i. If the VIP CN candidate refuses to communicate with Department personnel or asks Department personnel to leave the property/residence, regardless of whether the VIP CN successfully has been delivered or not, Department personnel shall immediately leave the property/residence, terminating the consensual encounter.
   d. Present the VIP letter, and deliver the GVI message; and
   e. Remain on-scene to ensure the social services component of VIP successfully delivers their message and resources, if feasible.

2. Department personnel may present the VIP letter, and deliver the GVI message to a family member, influencer, or associate of the VIP candidate.

E. After-Action for a VIP CN Delivery
1. Department personnel shall advise the ECC of the outcome of the VIP CN delivery, and the results shall be noted in the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) report.

2. The VIP Law Enforcement Lead shall ensure the VIP CN delivery is recorded in the VIP record management database.

2-64-5 Procedures for VIP CN Deliveries for Juveniles

A. To be identified as a VIP CN candidate who is a juvenile seventeen (17) years of age or younger, Department personnel working with VIP personnel shall determine the candidate was:

1. A victim of a shooting;
2. Is an associate of an individual involved in a shooting;
3. A driver of gun violence;
4. A group member or individual identified during GVIS or shooting link analysis as connected to gun violence or potential gun violence; and
5. Referred from Department personnel; an outside law enforcement agency; the District Attorney’s Office; or from outreach, or faith- or community-based coalition team members.

B. Preparation for a VIP CN Delivery

1. When a VIP CN candidate who is a juvenile is identified, the VIP Law Enforcement Lead shall:

   a. Ensure a threat assessment and background check is completed on the candidate;
   b. Contact the Juvenile Probation Office (JPO) to determine whether the juvenile is on probation and consider whether a VIP CN shall be delivered. This is determined by Juvenile Probation and/or Community Custody. Determination is made based on the consent of the parent/guardian and other factors Juvenile Probation has identified that may contribute to the success of the VIP CN;
   c. If it is determined that a VIP CN shall be delivered, draft a personalized VIP letter advising the future legal penalties specific to that candidate, if they choose to be involved in a violent crime;
   d. Coordinate the law enforcement personnel who shall deliver the VIP CN;
   e. Ensure that the identified law enforcement personnel delivering the VIP CN shall coordinate with the social services component of VIP for a collaborative VIP CN delivery; and
   f. The juvenile’s parent or guardian must be present during the VIP CN delivery.
C. Delivery of the VIP CN

1. Department personnel assigned to the VIP CN delivery shall:
   
   a. Advise the ECC of the location of the VIP CN, the members of the VIP team delivering the VIP CN, and the identity of the VIP candidate;
   
   b. Contact the VIP candidate and confirm that the VIP Department personnel, sworn personnel and social services, has their permission to talk with the candidate;
   
   c. If the candidate consents to speak with VIP, present the VIP letter, and deliver the GVI message; and
   
   d. Remain on-scene to ensure the social services component of VIP successfully delivers their message and resources, if feasible.

2. Department personnel may present the VIP letter, and deliver the GVI message to a family member, influencer, or associate of the VIP candidate.

D. After-Action for a VIP CN Delivery

1. Department personnel shall advise the ECC of the outcome of the VIP CN delivery, and the results shall be noted in the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) report.

2. The VIP Law Enforcement Lead shall ensure the VIP CN delivery is recorded in the VIP record management database.

2-64-6 Procedures for Identifying Sworn Personnel to Deliver VIP Custom Notifications

A. Command-level personnel are encouraged to deliver VIP CN’s; however, any sworn personnel may deliver a VIP CN as long as the following requirements have been met:

1. The officer has attended a Department-recognized training or workshop on Custom Notifications; and

2. The officer has accompanied the VIP Law Enforcement Lead on a VIP CN delivery.