



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-84 (Formerly 2-20)

Effective: 05/11/2023 Review: 05/11/2024 Replaces: 09/13/2021

2-84 BODY CAVITY SEARCHES

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):

A. Related SOP(s)

[2-8 Use of On-Body Recording Devices \(Formerly 1-39\)](#)

[2-71 Search and Seizure without a Warrant \(Formerly 2-17\)](#)

[2-73 Collection, Submission, and Disposition of Evidence and Property \(Formerly 2-08\)](#)

[2-83 Hospital Procedures and Rules \(Formerly 2-11\)](#)

B. Form(s)

None

C. Other Resource(s)

None

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

2-84-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for sworn personnel when conducting body cavity warrant searches when an arrested individual has concealed evidence on or in their persons that would not be found during a regular search, and to ensure that body cavity searches of prisoners are conducted within the limits of legal authority.

2-84-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) to provide Department personnel with rules and procedures for body cavity searches.

2-84-3 Definitions

A. Body Cavity Search

A search conducted by licensed medical personnel of specific body cavities for the purpose of retrieving necessary evidence from an individual who has been arrested.

5 2-84-4 Rules and Procedures

A. Body Cavity Search



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-84 (Formerly 2-20)

Effective: 05/11/2023 Review: 05/11/2024 Replaces: 09/13/2021

1. Sworn personnel shall only request a body cavity search with a valid search warrant.
2. Sworn personnel shall not conduct body cavity searches.
3. Body cavity searches shall be conducted in the following manner:
 - a. Sworn personnel shall take an individual who has been arrested to a licensed medical facility where licensed medical personnel may conduct the search, consistent with SOP Hospital Procedures and Rules;
 - b. Sworn personnel shall provide the licensed medical personnel a copy of the search warrant;
 - c. If licensed medical personnel locate an item(s) within the individual's person, sworn personnel shall retrieve the item(s) from licensed medical personnel and properly package and tag the item(s) into evidence, consistent with SOP Collection, Submission, and Disposition of Evidence and Property;
 - d. Sworn personnel shall document the search in a Uniform Incident Report or a supplemental narrative report and shall include the name(s) of the licensed medical personnel who conducted the search, and the name and location of the licensed medical facility where the search was conducted; and
 - e. Sworn personnel shall use their OBRD through the entirety of the body cavity search and shall follow the procedures for recording audio and video data during the search (refer to SOP Use of On-Body Recording Devices (OBRD)).
 - f. When a search of a person is conducted, the OBRD shall be used, through the entirety of the search.
 - i. When sworn personnel are present for a body cavity search being conducted by qualified medical personnel pursuant to a search warrant, sworn personnel shall position their camera to collect audio data only. Sworn personnel shall verbally record the reason for not capturing visual data. Once the body cavity search is over and the individual is clothed, sworn personnel shall resume recording audio and visual.

N/A