



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
FIELD SERVICES BUREAU ORDERS

SOP 4-4

Effective: 09/06/17 Expires: 09/06/18 Replaces: 01/14/16

4-4 AREA COMMAND INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (IMPACT TEAMS)

4-4-1 Purpose

The purpose of the Impact Team is to conduct felony investigations in violent/property crimes, and to provide Field Services officers with assistance and follow-up investigation as needed.

4-4-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to establish Investigation Teams (Watch II and III) in each Area Command.

4-4-3 Rules and Responsibilities

A. Impact Team

1. The Impact Team has investigative responsibility, when applicable, on the following:
 - a. Aggravated Assault
 - b. Aggravated Battery to include Violent Crimes call-outs
 - c. All Burglaries
 - d. Felony Larceny
 - e. Recovered Stolen Property
 - f. Any investigation or activity the Area Commander assigns
 - g. Felony-level Domestic Violence
2. The Team will assist uniformed personnel, at the discretion of the on-duty Impact Team Supervisor:
 - a. In obtaining arrest and search warrants when applicable.
 - b. To provide assistance, when needed, to bring an investigation to a conclusion.
 - c. When available, the Impact Team will assist with station reports and other substation functions and activities.

B. Commander

1. The Area Commanders have the ultimate responsibility for overseeing the Impact Team.
2. The Area Command PACT Lieutenant will have overall functional responsibility for the Impact Team.



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C. Sergeant

1. Each Investigative Unit will be supervised by a Sergeant.
2. If, in the course of case monitoring, the unit sergeant determines the criteria for continued investigation no longer exists; he/she will have the authority to suspend the investigation until additional information is developed.
3. If there is a disagreement, involving the Impact Team and the initial responding field officer or the field officer's supervisor, over a decision made by the detective, the on-call Impact Team supervisor will be contacted to assist. Once the on-call Impact Team supervisor is contacted, the final decision or responsibility for the decision will rest with him/her unless countermanded by a commanding officer.

D. Detective

1. Will periodically attend Field Services briefings at their assigned area command. This interaction should enhance relations with field officers, as well as establish an informational exchange.
2. The assigned detective will periodically advise the crime victim on the status of their case.
3. The Impact Team detective is the Officer in Charge (OIC) of an investigation unless the responsibility lies with another unit or agency.
4. Whenever a detective from an Impact Team is requested and dispatched to the scene of a call out, the detective will assume responsibility for the investigation. This includes the direct control of the call itself. If the detective determines the case does not fall within his/her investigative duties, the information will be passed on to the initial officer so he/she may take the appropriate action.
5. In the event detectives are called out to an in-custody investigation, the officer shall ensure case responsibility information is added on the last line of the report, including the name of the person responsible.

E. Completed Cases

- a. All felony cases will be reviewed and approved by the detective's/officer's immediate supervisor before distribution to the Records Section and District Attorney Liaison.



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F. Assignment of Follow-Up Investigations

1. Report Review and Case Assignment

- a. The Impact Team Sergeant will review each incoming Field Services report to determine if the case should be investigated, and assign the case to a detective, if appropriate.
- b. The sergeant shall assign only felony cases which have investigative leads or solvability factors, as determined by the solvability matrix, which dictate the case may be unfounded or lead to an arrest or indictment.
- c. The sergeant will maintain a case management system for all cases assigned within their unit. The system will contain the investigator assigned, the date the case is assigned, case number and case status. The sergeant will ensure each detective is investigating and completing the submission of cases in a timely manner.

2. If a criminal investigation involves a multitude of crimes where several officers initially investigated the offenses, the case will be turned over to the Impact Team.
3. A uniformed Field Services officer may be temporarily assigned to the Impact Team, utilizing the assistance of the team, to complete a complicated investigation.
4. If the investigation is going to be of some length, the investigation should be turned over to the Impact Team.

G. Communication

1. The Impact Team Sergeant will be responsible for formal and informal lines of communication within his/her area command, Criminal Investigations Division, and other Impact Teams.
2. The Impact Team detective should formally notify the affected officer of the final disposition of an investigation he initiated.



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H. On-Call Status

1. It is the policy of the Area Command Impact Teams to provide service to the department by formulating "on-call" lists and making their services available when needed.
2. It may be necessary, because of the detective's job assignment, to either be routinely or temporarily placed in an "on-call" status (as defined by the collective bargaining agreement).
3. The Impact Team supervisor will be responsible in determining the need for an "on-call" status subject to the approval of the section commander.
4. In the event of an emergency or other situation where a detective cannot complete the assigned "on-call" period, they will notify the unit sergeant as soon as possible to arrange for a replacement. Until this contact is made, the detective on-call will be responsible for any call out assignments.
5. When in an "on-call" status, detectives will ensure their availability for duty within one hour from notification of the request for assistance.
6. Nothing in this section prohibits Impact Team supervisors from calling out additional personnel for duty as the situation dictates. In the event of this occurring, personnel will make themselves available for service as soon as practical unless excused by the Impact Team supervisor.

I. Violent Crimes call-out

1. In the event the victim of a violent crime has died as a result of their injuries at the scene, during transport to a hospital, or at the hospital during the initial assessment of the call, Radio Control will notify the on-call Violent Crimes supervisor of the death and a Homicide call out will be initiated. Radio Control will make the required notifications to on-call Violent Crimes personnel. The Homicide Unit will have case responsibility.
2. In the event the victim of a violent crime was transported to the hospital, is determined to have life threatening injuries, is being treated and is still alive, Radio Control will notify the on-call Violent Crimes supervisor and corresponding Impact Team. A Violent Crimes Call out will be initiated, to include Impact personnel. Radio Control will make the required notifications to on-call Violent Crimes personnel and to the corresponding on-call primary and secondary



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Impact Team detectives. The Impact Team will have case responsibility utilizing available Violent Crimes resources.

3. In the event the Impact Team begins a Violent Crimes investigation and the victim dies as a result of their injuries, prior to a criminal complaint or an arrest warrant being completed, the Homicide Unit will take case responsibility. The Impact Team will remain on scene to assist.
4. In the event the victim of a violent crime dies as a result their injuries and the Impact Team's case was complete, including criminal complaint or an arrest warrant being completed, the Impact Team will maintain case responsibility with assistance from the Homicide Unit regarding the preparation of the case for submittal to the DA's office for prosecution. The Impact Teams will not take case responsibility for any unsolved homicides.

J. Equipment

1. All detectives shall have access to all department issued equipment consistent with their unit's mission and training. The list of approved equipment shall be maintained by the Assistant Chief/Deputy Chief/Major of the bureau.