2-41 TRAFFIC STOPS

2-41-1 Policy

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

2-41-2 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, avoiding potential hazards.
      i. Engage emergency lights - use of the siren, PA system, and hazard lights are also authorized.
      ii. Once the vehicle is stopped, 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. Greet violator in a civil manner, identify self as an Albuquerque Police Officer using the appropriate title, advise the reason for the stop when feasible, and advise they are being recorded.
   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.

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 tag the recording as evidence.