



1-65 METROPOLITAN COURT PROTECTION UNIT

Related SOP(s):

- 2-8 Use of On-Body Recording Devices
- 2-52 Use of Force
- 2-53 Electronic Control Weapon (ECW)
- 2-80 Arrests, Arrest Warrants and Booking Procedures
- 3-13 Officer's Duties and Conduct

1-65-1 Purpose

The purpose of the Metropolitan Court Protection Unit (MCPU) is to provide a law enforcement unit for the protection of court employees, and the general public within the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Courthouse (Metro Court), plaza, parking facility and educational center.

1-65-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to provide necessary law enforcement personnel required.

1-65-3 Definitions

A. Intergovernmental agreement

An agreement amongst the City of Albuquerque, Metropolitan Court, and the Department to provide a police unit to conduct all necessary law enforcement functions as required by Metro Court.

1-65-4 Rules and Responsibilities

- A. The MCPU operates in collaboration with Metro Court personnel to include, facilities, equipment and plans/procedures as outlined in the Intergovernmental Agreement among City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque Police Department and Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court.
- B. Officers will be dispatched for calls for service throughout the courthouse via Department radios and log onto calls via Mobile Data Terminal (MDT).



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- C. The unit provides law enforcement coverage during all operational hours, special events, and weekend arraignments. The unit Sergeant will work closely with court administration to meet the changing law enforcement needs of the court.
- D. Officers may be used to work off-site for specialty courts or any other official court assignments.
- E. Officers will respond to felony pretrial office as needed to take enforcement action as needed to include active felony arrest warrants.
- F. A minimum manning level of four officers shall be maintained in order to respond to emergency situations at the courthouse.
- G. Officers will affect arrests, enforce valid arrests warrants, take reports, conduct investigations, process court remands pursuant to Metro Court orders, patrol the courthouse and court property, and take any necessary police action as required.
- H. All persons arrested within Metropolitan Court will be processed and booked into the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) holding facility in the basement of the courthouse, the Prisoner Transport Center (PTC), or the MDC.
- I. Officers will also follow orders of other courts possessing jurisdiction over individuals that are under arrest, or remanded.
- J. The unit will provide Department law enforcement services to the Metropolitan court and adjoining parking lot.
- K. Officers will be posted at the rotunda to monitor the main entrance and assist the on-site security company that maintains the entrance to the courthouse.
- L. Officers will maintain custody of individuals under arrest that need to be transported to a hospital. If the individual is admitted to the hospital, officers will follow SOP – Hospital Procedures and Rules.
- M. Individuals required to be restrained in Metro Court
 - 1. Individuals appearing in restraints while in court and are in the custody of MDC personnel are the sole responsibility of MDC.



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2. Individuals, not in custody upon entering the court house, but ordered by the court to be detained are the responsibility of MCPU officers.

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