



2-101 Department-Vehicle Grappler Device

Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):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

None

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

2-101-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures and guidelines for the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) on the safe use of the grappler device.

2-101-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Department to establish procedures, use considerations, roles and responsibilities for the safe use of the grappler device.

N/A **2-101-3 Definitions**

A. Grappler Device

A device that is attached to a Department-issued vehicle that uses a tethered net to attach to the tire of an individual's vehicle, immobilizing that tire, and allowing the Department vehicle to bring the individual's vehicle to a stop.

6 **2-101-4 Procedures**

A. Use of the Grappler Device

1. Investigative Services Division (ISD) personnel who have successfully completed certification training in the proper use and deployment techniques of the grappler device are authorized to deploy it.



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2. ISD personnel shall get authorization from an ISD supervisor to deploy the grappler device.
 - a. The grappler device shall only be used and deployed during the following incidents:
 - i. When the individual driving the vehicle is subject to a lawful detention or arrest for the following:
 1. Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon;
 2. Aggravated battery with a deadly weapon or great bodily harm;
 3. Aggravating fleeing;
 4. Criminal sexual penetration;
 5. Homicide;
 6. Kidnapping;
 7. Receiving or transferring of a stolen motor vehicle;
 8. Robbery; or
 9. Unlawful taking of a motor vehicle.
 - ii. For any other felony charges where the individual has a history of fleeing from law enforcement;
 - iii. An ISD supervisor determines that the use and deployment of the grappler would be advantageous for a preplanned arrest operation on an individual wanted for a felony offense; or
 - iv. To terminate an authorized pursuit.

B. Considerations for Deployment

1. ISD personnel shall avoid deployment of the grappler device if:
 - a. The size of the target vehicle is too large, such as:
 - i. U-Hauls, Semi-tractor trailers, recreational vehicles (RV) or vehicles with deep set rear axles from the rear bumper.
 - b. The target vehicle has fewer than four-wheels, unless deadly force is authorized; or
 - c. There are environmental concerns.
 - i. Heavily pedestrian populated areas shall be avoided.
 - ii. Vehicles that are suspected to be transporting hazardous material shall be avoided.
2. ISD personnel shall consider the following tactical factors before deployment:
 - a. Traffic conditions;
 - b. Pedestrian traffic; and
 - c. That support personnel are close enough to support the stop;
 - d. The target vehicle is driving between five (5) miles per hour (MPH) and seventy-five (75) MPH; and
 - e. The target vehicle is on a dry hard surface.

3. Post-Deployment



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- a. If the individual driving the vehicle that is attached to the grappler device attempts to ram the officers vehicle, ISD personnel shall:
 - i. Consider disengaging the tether from the grappler device; and
 - ii. Use a stationary vehicle containment technique to stop the individual's vehicle movement.

REDLINED