



CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Albuquerque Police Department Office of Policy Analysis (OPA)

MEETING MINUTES: 20-11

DATE: October 21, 2020

TIME: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

VENUE: Zoom Web Conference

ATTENDEES:

Patricia Serna	Policy and Procedure Unit
Officer Tanya La Force	Policy and Procedure Unit
Commander Timothy Espinosa	Southwest Area Command
Commander Joshua Brown	Valley Area Command
A/Lt. Matthew Tinney	Valley Area Command
Sgt. Thomas Ivie	Horse Mounted Unit
Lt. Jim Edison	Special Operations Bureau
Sharon Walton	Policy Consultant
Robyn Rose	City Attorney
Diane McDermott	CPOA
William Kass	CPOA
Edward Harness	CPOA
Sgt. Jacob Hoisington	Training Academy
Greg Mondragon	Prisoner Transport Unit
Patty French	False Alarm Enforcement
Mike Kruchoski	Community Policing Council Member

1. SOP 1-3 Grooming Standards		Commander Timothy Espinosa, Southwest Area Command
Discussion:	Commander Espinosa explained that the definition for “offensive” was added. He confirmed the policy language was cleaned up and aligned with APD’s current policy standards. He confirmed that the policy’s language on body mutilation, which addresses gauges and prosthetics, was modified to indicate “body alteration.” He confirmed that the Grooming Standards SOP is related to the Line Inspection Process SOP when it comes to grooming standards. He asked for SOP 3-30 to be added as a related SOP.	
Action:	1. The draft SOP, as presented, was reviewed by OPA and will be posted on PowerDMS for the 15-day commentary period.	
2. SOP 1-28 Downtown Unit		Presented by: Commander Brown and

	A/Lt. Matthew Tinney
Discussion:	Commander Brown confirmed the former title for this policy was “Community Response Unit.” He confirmed the definition for “community policing” was borrowed from the DOJ’s Community-Oriented Policing Services. It was questioned why APD distinguishes the downtown area from other areas in terms of community activities and whether there’s a higher level of concern. Commander Brown and A/Lt. Tinney reconfirmed this SOP is narrowed to this area for true community relationship-building with the goal of having a safer downtown.
Action:	2. The draft SOP, as presented, was reviewed by OPA and will be posted on PowerDMS for the 15-day commentary period.
3. SOP 1-56 Horse Mounted Unit	Presented by: Sgt. Thomas Ivie, Horse Mounted Unit
Discussion:	Sgt. Ivie confirmed the policy was updated to reflect the process for when horses are retired and the forms that need to be signed. He confirmed the HMU works alongside the ERT during protests. He also confirmed the HMU relies on collateral riders to increase manning levels and how the collateral rider responsibilities are the same as for a full-time HMU rider/officer. He explained the use of rein strikes was added to the section pertaining to the use of the Bokken baton. He described how the Bokken baton is used and when the rein strike is used. He confirmed the SOP was updated with material on the unit’s annual riding testing requirements and how the officer is taken out of service when they fail the test. He verified that language on the riding school requirements was clarified. A suggestion was made to revise the policy to address when the horse is used as an intermediate weapon, which may have the potential to cause an individual harm. Sgt. Ivie confirmed he would add language to address this topic.
Action:	3. The draft SOP, as presented, was reviewed by OPA and will be posted on PowerDMS for the 15-day commentary period.
4. SOP 3-20 Overtime, Compensatory Time, and Work Shift Designation	Presented by: Lt. Edison, Special Operations Bureau
Discussion:	Lt. Edison confirmed this policy was heavily revised with the intent in part to address the abuse of overtime. He also confirmed that the policy is now aligned with SO 20-43 Overtime. He verified that the definition of “backfill” was added. He reviewed the Chief’s Overtime (COT) Program and how these hours count toward their 25-hour max time for overtime. He went over compensatory time and the compensatory time reduction plan. It was asked how personnel are selected for overtime assignment. Lt. Edison confirmed that this is determined by the watch lieutenant and that people sign-up for it. He also confirmed that COT has a sign-up

	<p>procedure. Lt. Edison confirmed that results from a City of Albuquerque audit on APD's overtime is expected to be published soon. He confirmed the New Mexico Attorney General has also been involved in investigations of APD's overtime usage. It was also questioned whether APD has examined the COT Program from an economic impact position, such as whether or not APD is charging what it costs for officers to take these assignments. Lt. Edison explained APD is appropriated a budget by the City of \$2 million for overtime. It was questioned whether APD has studied the true cost of an officer working overtime, including costs associated with equipment, fuel, vehicle maintenance, etc. It was also questioned whether the costs associated with officer's using force and the relative costs associated with investigating their use of force was analyzed. Lt. Edison agreed that this analysis is warranted. He said this policy clarifies responsibilities for COT Program staff, including accountability. It was questioned how control over illegal handicap parking by APD officers is addressed. A participant explained the business would give officers permission to park in the fire lane and was unsure whether this constitutes a violation. Lt. Edison explained that an exception to traffic and parking laws is when the officer establishes there are exigent circumstances. It was suggested that one of APD's policies be revised to address this type of practice. A question was asked about how many other police departments have COT Programs and whether their programs were considered for the re-write of this policy being that COT programs may not be a common practice. Lt. Edison confirmed that he does not know the number of police departments with this type of program.</p>
Action:	4. The draft SOP, as presented, was reviewed by OPA and will be posted on PowerDMS for the 15-day commentary period.