



**Stockton Unified School District Department of**

**Public Safety**

**Procedure**

**Richard M. Barries, Interim Police Chief**  
**Traffic Stops**  
**February 2021**

## **Traffic Stops**

### **Purpose & Scope**

The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidance and consistency with vehicle stops. All traffic stops are subject to supervisor review and direction. Officer safety and public safety should be taken into consideration when making traffic stops.

### **Considerations**

Officers conducting traffic stops should consider the following: roadway, environment, and occupants. All traffic stops should be made in safe areas that allow for the safe completion of the stop as well as the safe re-entry onto the roadway at the conclusion of the stop.

### **Procedure**

All traffic stops shall be broadcasted over the radio. Officers shall use a red lamp visible to the front and a siren to effect the traffic stop.

Officers shall provide dispatch with the following information when initiating the traffic stop:

- License plate
- Location
- Vehicle description (make, model, color)
- Number of occupants

Officers will contact the driver of the vehicle utilizing a driver side approach or a passenger side approach. Officers should ask for the driver's driver license, proof of vehicle registration, and proof of vehicle insurance.

Officers should conduct a driver license and an outstanding warrant check via radio by providing dispatch with the following.

- Driver license or identification number along with the state of issuance
- Last name and first name



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- Date of birth
- City that the driver is from or the city that is listed on the driver license/identification card
- Perceived gender of the driver
- Perceived race of the driver

If the driver does not have any identification in possession, officers should advise dispatch by indicating such. This can be done by using the phrase, "Verbal only" or "No ID in possession."

If the driver, or anyone in the vehicle returns with an outstanding warrant, then officers shall follow the Stockton Unified School District Department of Public Safety Warrant Procedure. Dispatch shall be notified when an individual has been placed into custody for the aforementioned warrant.

It is the discretion of the officer to issue the driver a citation for the violation the driver was stopped for. In the event the officer elects to issue the driver a citation, and the driver has an outstanding (citable) warrant, officers shall issue two separate citations.

At the conclusion of the traffic stop, officers shall provide dispatch with the disposition of the traffic stop. The disposition shall include the following information:

- Perceived race of driver
- Perceived gender of driver
- Age of the driver
- The violation the driver was cited or warned for
- The number of passengers
- Whether or not a search was conducted
- If a search was conducted, what type

Officers shall submit their citations to the on-duty Supervisor for review.

**Supervisor Responsibilities**

The Supervisor shall direct any additional officers to the traffic stop to assist with any safety issues or to assist with any searches.



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The Supervisor shall acknowledge the notification by dispatch when a driver or anyone from the stop is taken into custody.