

Impaired Driving

504.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to those department members who play a role in the detection and investigation of driving under the influence (DUI).

504.2 POLICY

The Louisville Police Department is committed to the safety of the roadways and the community and will pursue fair but aggressive enforcement of Colorado's impaired driving laws.

504.3 INVESTIGATIONS

Officers should not enforce DUI laws to the exclusion of their other duties unless specifically assigned to DUI enforcement. All officers are expected to enforce these laws with due diligence.

The Operations Division Commander will develop and maintain, in consultation with the prosecuting attorney, report forms with appropriate checklists to assist investigating officers in documenting relevant information and maximizing efficiency. Officers conducting a DUI investigation are encouraged to document the case using these forms. Information documented elsewhere on the form does not need to be duplicated in the report narrative. Information that should be documented includes, at a minimum:

- a. The standardized field sobriety tests (SFSTs) administered and the results.
- b. The officer's observations that indicate impairment on the part of the individual, and the officer's health-related inquiries that may help to identify any serious health concerns (e.g., diabetic shock).
- c. Sources of additional information (e.g., reporting party, witnesses) and their observations.
- d. Information about any audio and/or video recording of the individual's driving or subsequent actions.
- e. The location and time frame of the individual's vehicle operation and how this was determined.
- f. Any prior related convictions in Colorado or another jurisdiction.

During an investigation of a suspected DUI/DUID, officers must rely on the totality of the circumstances when determining whether or not to make an arrest. Officers should not rely solely on one factor in making their determination, to include but not be limited to results of breath samples (including results that indicate driver's breath alcohol level is under the prescribed level for the charge) or PBT results, SFST performance, driving observations, etc.

504.4 FIELD TESTS

The Operations Division Commander should identify the standardized field sobriety tests (SFSTs) and any approved alternate tests for officers to use when investigating violations of DUI laws.

504.5 CHEMICAL TESTS

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A person implies consent under Colorado law to a chemical test or tests, and to providing the associated chemical sample, when an officer has probable cause to believe that the person was driving a motor vehicle in violation of CRS § 42-4-1301 (DUI, DUI per se, DWAI, or UDD) (CRS § 42-4-1301.1).

If a person withdraws this implied consent, or is unable to withdraw consent (e.g., the person is unconscious), the officer should consider implied consent revoked and proceed as though the person has refused to provide a chemical sample.

504.5.1 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS

Officers requesting a sample from a person suspected of DUI should inform the person that failure to submit to testing may result in the revocation of his/her license.

504.5.2 CHOICE OF TESTS

Officers shall respect a viable choice of chemical test made by an arrestee as provided for by law (e.g., breath will not be acceptable for suspected narcotics influence). Generally, a person may request either a test of his/her blood or breath for determining alcohol content (CRS § 42-4-1301.1). However, if a person under the age of 21 is suspected of only underage drinking and driving (UDD), the person may only submit to a breath test.

If a person is suspected of aggravated vehicular unlawful termination of a pregnancy, the type of test or tests shall be determined by the officer (CRS § 18-3.5-108).

For purposes of determining drug content within a person's system, officers may select the most appropriate and viable test of the of the person's blood, saliva and urine. The arrestee is required to take and complete the selected test or tests (CRS § 42-4-1301.1; CRS § 18-3.5-108).

504.5.3 BREATH SAMPLES

The Intoxilyzer Instructor should ensure that all devices used for the collection and analysis of breath samples are properly serviced and tested, and that a record of such service and testing is properly maintained.

Officers obtaining a breath sample should monitor the device for any sign of malfunction. Any anomalies or equipment failures should be noted in the appropriate report and promptly reported to the Intoxilyzer Instructor.

504.5.4 BLOOD SAMPLES

Only persons authorized by law to draw blood shall collect blood samples (CRS § 42-4-1301.1). The blood draw should be witnessed by the assigned officer. No officer, even if properly certified, should perform this task.

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Officers should inform an arrestee that if he/she chooses to provide a blood sample, a separate sample can be collected for alternate testing. Unless medical personnel object, two samples should be collected and retained as evidence, so long as only one puncture is required.

The blood sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

If an arrestee cannot submit to a blood draw because he/she has a bleeding disorder or has taken medication that inhibits coagulation, he/she shall not be required to take a blood test. Such inability to take a blood test shall not be considered a refusal. However, that arrestee may be required to complete another available and viable test.

504.5.5 URINE SAMPLES

If a urine test will be performed, the arrestee should be promptly transported to the appropriate testing site. The officer shall follow any directions accompanying the urine evidence collection kit.

Urine samples shall be collected and witnessed by an officer or jail staff member of the same sex as the individual giving the sample. The arrestee should be allowed sufficient privacy to maintain his/her dignity, to the extent possible, while still ensuring the accuracy of the sample.

The sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

504.6 REFUSALS

When an arrestee refuses to provide a chemical sample, officers should:

- a. Advise the arrestee of the requirement to provide a sample (CRS § 42-4-1301.1).
- b. Audio- and/or video-record the admonishment and the response when it is practicable.
- c. Document the refusal in the appropriate report.

504.6.1 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS UPON REFUSAL

Upon refusal to submit to a chemical test as required by law, officers shall personally serve the notice of revocation upon the person and take possession of any state-issued license to operate a motor vehicle that is held by that person and issue the person a seven day temporary permit unless the person already possesses one (CRS § 42-2-126).

504.6.2 BLOOD SAMPLE WITHOUT CONSENT

A blood sample may be obtained from a person who refuses a chemical test when any of the following conditions exist:

- a. A search warrant has been obtained.

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- b. The officer can articulate that exigent circumstances exist. Exigency does not exist solely because of the short time period associated with the natural dissipation of alcohol or controlled or prohibited substances in the person's bloodstream. Exigency can be established by the existence of special facts, such as a lengthy time delay in obtaining a blood sample due to an accident investigation or medical treatment of the person.
- c. Exigent circumstances exist and the officer has probable cause to believe the person committed any of the following offenses (CRS § 42-4-1301.1):
 - 1. Criminally negligent homicide
 - 2. Vehicular homicide
 - 3. Assault in the third degree
 - 4. Vehicular assault

504.6.3 FORCED BLOOD SAMPLE

If an arrestee indicates by word or action that he/she will physically resist a blood draw, the officer should request a supervisor to respond.

The responding supervisor should:

- 1. Evaluate whether using force to obtain a blood sample is appropriate under the circumstances.
- 2. Ensure that all attempts to obtain a blood sample through force cease if the person agrees to, and completes, a viable form of testing in a timely manner.
- 3. Advise the person of his/her duty to provide a sample (even if this advisement was previously done by another officer), and attempt to persuade the individual to submit to such a sample without physical resistance.
 - 1. This dialogue should be recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
- 4. Ensure that the blood sample is taken in a medically approved manner.
- 5. Ensure the forced blood draw is recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
- 6. Monitor and ensure that the type and level of force applied appears reasonable under the circumstances:
 - 1. Unless otherwise provided in a warrant, force should generally be limited to handcuffing or similar restraint methods.
 - 2. In misdemeanor cases, if the suspect becomes violent or more resistant, no additional force will be used and a refusal should be noted in the report.
 - 3. In felony cases, force that reasonably appears necessary to overcome the resistance to the blood draw may be permitted. Officers may physically restrain a person for the purpose of obtaining a sample only in cases of criminally negligent homicide, vehicular homicide, assault

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in the third degree, vehicular assault or aggravated vehicular unlawful termination of pregnancy (CRS § 42-4-1301.1; CRS § 18-3.5-108).

7. Ensure the use of force and methods used to accomplish the collection of the blood sample are documented in the related report.

If a supervisor is unavailable, officers are expected to use sound judgment and perform as a responding supervisor, as set forth above.

504.7 ARREST AND INVESTIGATION

504.7.1 PRELIMINARY TESTING

An officer may request that a person provide a breath sample for a preliminary screening test when the officer (CRS § 42-4-1301):

- a. Has reason to believe the person was driving a motor vehicle while under the influence or impaired by alcohol and,
- b. Has advised the person that he/she may refuse or agree to provide the preliminary breath sample.

If the person is under the age of 21, the officer may conduct a preliminary screening test, without the person's consent, if there is a reasonable belief the person has consumed alcohol (CRS § 42-4-1301).

An officer may use the results of the preliminary test in determining whether probable cause exists to believe the person was DUI and whether to administer additional testing (CRS § 42-4-1301).

504.7.2 COLLECTING SAMPLES

Arrestee samples shall be collected and processed in accordance with standards set by the Department of Public Health and Environment (5 CCR 1005-2:1 et seq.).

504.7.3 TIME TO COLLECT SAMPLE

If an officer requests that a person submit to a blood or breath test to determine the alcohol content of the person's blood or breath, the person must cooperate with the request such that the sample can be obtained within two hours of the person's driving (CRS § 42-4-1301.1).

If an officer requests that a person submit to a blood, saliva or urine test to determine the drug content within the person's system, the person must cooperate with the request such that the sample can be obtained within two hours of the person's driving (CRS § 42-4-1301.1).

504.7.4 NOTICE TO COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER

Officers investigating a driver of a commercial motor vehicle license for DUI shall advise the person that a refusal to submit to a chemical test shall result in an out-of-service order for a period of 24 hours and a revocation of the privilege to operate a commercial motor vehicle for one year (CRS § 42-4-1301.1).

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504.7.5 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

An officer believing that a person should be subject to license revocation as a result of DUI shall forward the following to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) on the forms prescribed by the DMV (CRS § 42-2-126):

- a. A copy of the completed notice of revocation form
- b. A copy of any completed temporary permit
- c. The person's driver's license
- d. An affidavit, signed, dated and sworn to by the officer containing information relevant to the legal issues and facts to be considered by the DMV for revoking the person's license

504.7.6 EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

If an officer requests a person to submit to a chemical test and subsequently determines that there are extraordinary circumstances that prevent the completion of the test elected by the person within the two-hour time period, the officer shall inform the person of such circumstances and request and direct the person to take and complete the other test. The person shall then be required to take and complete, and to cooperate in the completing of, the other test. Extraordinary circumstances include but are not limited to weather related delays, high call volume affecting medical personnel, malfunctioning breath test equipment and other circumstances that preclude the timely collection of a sample (CRS § 42-4-1301.1).

504.7.7 UNCONSCIOUS OR DECEASED PERSONS

If an officer believes a person to be DUI and the person cannot submit to a chemical test because the person is unconscious, hospitalized, or undergoing medical treatment, the officer may (CRS § 18-3.5-108; CRS § 42-4-1301.1):

- a. Have access to and analyze any blood, urine, or saliva that was obtained and not utilized by the health care provider.
- b. Have access to medical tests administered by the health care provider that show test results of the alcohol or drug content in the person's system. The provisions of CRS § 13-90-107 relating to physician privileged communications do not apply to such test results.

In addition, the blood or urine sample of any deceased driver or pedestrian at least 15 years of age shall be tested for alcohol, drug, and carbon monoxide concentration following the procedures established by the Department of Public Health and Environment (CRS § 42-4-1301.1; CRS § 42-4-1304).

504.7.8 MEDICAL MARIJUANA REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD

A person who possesses a valid medical marijuana registry identification card (RIC) shall not be required to submit to a blood test solely based on the possession of the RIC (CRS § 42-4-1301).

504.7.9 PROCEDURE

Only those persons arrested for DUI/DUID who meet all of the following criteria may be booked (including photographed and fingerprinted) and released from the Louisville Police Department:

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- Arrested for their first DUI/DUID,
- Are cooperative,
- Have a responsible party that can pick them up by then end of the booking process.

All other DUI/DUID arrestees must be taken to the Boulder County Jail and processed.

504.8 RECORDS SECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Administrative Services Manager will ensure that all case-related records are transmitted according to current records procedures and as required by the prosecuting attorney's office.

504.9 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

The Administrative Services Manager will ensure that all appropriate reports and documents related to administrative license suspensions are reviewed and forwarded to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Any officer who receives notice of required attendance to an administrative license suspension hearing should promptly notify the prosecuting attorney.

An officer called to testify at an administrative hearing should document the hearing date and the DMV file number in a supplemental report. Specific details of the hearing generally should not be included in the report unless errors, additional evidence or witnesses are identified.

504.10 TRAINING

The Deputy Chief should ensure that officers participating in the enforcement of DUI laws receive regular training. Training should include, at minimum, current laws on impaired driving, investigative techniques and rules of evidence pertaining to DUI investigations. The Deputy Chief should confer with the prosecuting attorney's office and update training topics as needed.

