



**Las Cruces Police Department
GENERAL ORDERS
FIELD OPERATIONS VOLUME 2
GO-205 FIELD CONTACTS
Revised 5/13/2005**

205 FIELD CONTACTS

DISCUSSION

The Department recognizes that an important crime prevention and information gathering tool is the legitimate verbal contact by police officers with selected people and motorists, and the recording of information from those contacts. The resulting field interview records are of potential value to criminal investigators in developing leads and establishing crime patterns.

POLICY

Departmental officers should make records of information obtained from contacts with persons who are suspicious in nature and forward that information to the Criminal Investigations Section for input into PRIORS.

205.01 GENERAL

- A. When a person is observed who, because of location, time, appearance or circumstances, seems suspicious to the officer, a record of the event should be made. The preferred method to accomplish this is the completion of a field interview.
1. Field interviews shall not be conducted from vehicles. Officers will assume positions during field interviews that afford them adequate protection.
 2. The person(s) interviewed should be properly identified, and their description and the circumstances of the interview documented on the field interview card.
 3. Officers, at the end of their shift, will submit the field interview card to the Criminal Investigations Section for entry into PRIORS.

205.02 OFFICER-CITIZEN / VIOLATOR RELATIONS

- A. Officers will conduct themselves in a professional manner.
- B. In the event the contact is the result of a traffic violation, the officer shall:
1. Be certain of observation of the alleged violation.
 2. Greet violator in a courteous manner, using appropriate title.



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3. Request driver's license, vehicle registration, insurance card and other necessary paperwork.
4. Be observant of the driver for signs of physical impairment, emotional distress, and alcohol and / or drug abuse.
5. Advise driver of the violation and ensure that he / she understands the required forms.
6. Assist the violator in re-entering traffic safely.