



**Las Cruces Police Department
GENERAL ORDERS
FIELD OPERATIONS VOLUME 2
GO-216 IDENTIFICATIONS
Revised 5/13/2005**

216 IDENTIFICATIONS

DISCUSSION

Officers have a responsibility to properly identify persons responsible for criminal acts. The identification process must be conducted in a manner that ensures due process of law, elimination of suggestiveness, and protection of individual rights. The procedures described in this General Order are to be adhered to in all criminal investigations.

216.01 INTEGRITY OF IDENTIFICATIONS

1. All identifications conducted by Departmental personnel will ensure that witnesses are not influenced by other witnesses, incidents, behavior, or other evidence. The following guidelines should be adhered to in any identification procedure:
2. Witnesses should view suspects outside the presence of other witnesses.
3. Witnesses who have taken part in identification procedures must not be permitted to discuss their observations or conclusions within the hearing range of other witnesses before, during or after the procedure.
4. Officers will remain neutral during the identification procedure. Officers will not by word or gesture, before, during or after the identification procedure suggest that a suspect committed the crime under investigation.

216.02 RECORDING CIRCUMSTANCES

Officers shall document the following information during any identification procedure:

1. Time (beginning and ending) and location.
2. Persons present.
3. How the identification was conducted.
4. Statements of witnesses attempting to identify a suspect (witness should also write a short statement on a line-up sheet).
5. Other circumstances that may assist in determining the validity of the identification.



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216.03 LIVE LINE-UP IDENTIFICATION AND PHOTOGRAPHIC ARRAY PROCEDURES

Whenever a live line-up or photographic array (six pack) is conducted, each individual will be provided with a number to identify their position in the line-up. The witness will refer to the number on or under a photograph or attached to a person in a live line-up.