Officer
Richard
Neil
(retired)



Stops & Approaches
Unit 8-5



Officer Safety

- Every year, 60,000 law enforcement officers are assaulted on the job,
- Resulting in about 16,000 injuries
- 18,661 male officers killed in the line of duty since 1792
- 237 women have been killed on the job since 1916
- "Women are just as likely as their ma counterparts to be assaulted, injure

Janine Tr Feb. 20



SPO #1 TWO METHODS BY WHICH AN OFFICER MAY BE INJURED OR KILLED •Assault

- Accident
- All tactics used by officers when making a traffic stop must:
- Account for these two possibilities
- Protect against injury or death from both



SPO #2 DEFINITION OF VEHICLE STOPS

ANY SITUATION IN WHICH THE OFFICER DEPLOYS DIRECTLY FROM A CRUISER





Deployment tactics taught here are effective for any type of suspect contact

 Suspect stopped in vehicle on road

EMERGENC)

- Suspect parked in a vehicle
- Suspect hitchhiking



A vehicle stop begins when an officer has probable cause or reasonable suspicion to detain a person or vehicle

- Probable Cause of a Traffic Violation or
- Reasonable Suspicion that criminal activity is afoot



ALL STOPS PROCEED THROUGH 3 DISTINCT STAGES

- Beginning
- 1. Calling in
- 2. Assessing stop
- 3. Positioning cruiser
- Middle: Tactical portion, where most changes occur

EMERGENCY 9-1

• End: Clearing the scene

SPO #3 THE PRIMARY GOAL OF PATROL OFFICERS DURING THEIR TOUR OF DUTY IS CONTROL OF:

- Traffic
- People
- Situations, etc.





Control enhances officer's survival opportunity

- Best way to control is thru voluntary compliance
- Stages of arrest should be tactical order
- Establish control, verbal or physical
- Handcuff to maintain control
- Search, including groin and bra, depending on sex-Female officer should be asked to accomplish, if at all available
- Prepare suspect for transport



ATLANTA, GEORGIA

SPO#4 THE MOST CRUCIAL COMPONENT OF THE TRAFFIC STÔP IS

THE ASSESSMENT





Stop Assessment

- Prior to beginning a stop, officer should evaluate the potential threat level
- Do you need backup making the stop?

before



Stop Assessment

- Without assessment officer cannot choose a plan of action
- Without assessment officers work blindly and rely on luck
- Assessment can change at any time during the stop based on additional information



aetw.com

Stop Assessment

- Officers must balance risk of potential assault with tactics which are:
- Acceptable to public
- Objectively reasonable officers
- Lawful and constitutional
- "Objective Reasonableness Standard" Graham v. Connor, 1989



Items to consider when making or changing assessment of stop:

- Available information
- Time of day
- Structural design of vehicle
- Number of occupants
- Weather conditions
- Traffic congestion

- Location
- Movement of occupant(s)
- Reason for stop
- Availability of backup
- Situational surroundings, etc



Cleveland Police Department

(Ohio - May 30, 2001)

SPO#5 3 GENERAL CATEGORIES OF VEHICLE STOPS

- Low Risk EMERGENCY 9-1-1
- Unknown Risk
- High Risk

 There is no such thing as a "NO RISK" traffic stop



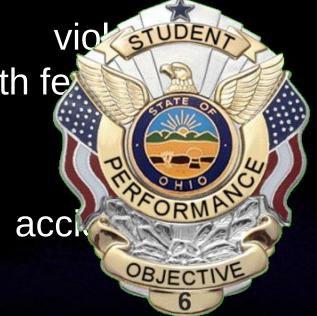


SPO#6 DEFINITION OF LOW-RISK VEHICLE STOP

• ONE WHICH HAS AN UNLIKELY POTENTIAL FOR FELONIOUS ASSAULT OR ACCIDENT

Typically, these are minor daytime conditions with feature

 Traffic conditions which pose unlikely potential for



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SPO#7 DEFINITION OF UNKNOWN-RISK VEHICLE STOP

• ONE IN WHICH THE POTENTIAL FOR FELONIOUS ASSAULT OR ACCIDENT IS UNKNOWN

Majority of all stops fall category





- Suspicious vehicle/person(s)
- O.V.I. (Operating Vehicle Under the Influence)
- D.U.S. (Driving Under Suspension)
- No O.L. (No Operator's License)
- Fictitious registration
- No rear plate stickers

- Night time
- Structural problems
- Van
- Motorcycle
- Tinted windows
- Elevated pickup
- Truck
- Semi, etc.

- Unusual driver actions
- Shoulder
- Head
- Exiting, etc.



- Unusual passenger actions
- Head/Shoulder movement
- Exiting vehicle without officer's request
- Agitated state of mind, etc.

- Surroundings EMERGENCY 9-1-1 Situational
- High crime area
- Bars
- Gangs, etc.
- No visible license plate
- Obstructed license plate
- Multiple vehicles

- High profile violation
- Excessive speed
- Reckless operation, etc.
- Multiple Occupants
- Symbols
- Gang street/MC
- Bumper stickers

- Some
 misdemeanor
 warrants
- Whether the driver and/or passenger(s) have CCW licenses and are carrying firearms
- Stops for most misdemeanor crimes
- Stops for non-violent felonies
- Unusual actions
- "Turn Out"
- Slow in pulling over
- Back-up lights coming on

vel.

- Aggressive body language
- Abruptly pulling over immediately when signaled or prior to signal
- Traffic conditions which pose a reasonable potential for accident





SPO#8 DEFINITION OF HIGH RISK VEHICLE STOP

ONE IN WHICH THERE IS A LIKELY POTENTIAL FOR FELONIOUS ASSAULT





HIGH RISK STOP

- Known, possibly violent, felony stops
- Suspected violent felony stops
- Known or suspected weapons related stops
- Pursuits
- Some high misdemeanors, assault warrants



Cruiser Position for Stops

- No "One-Way" to position a cruiser will account for all possible encounters an officer may have
- By knowing the strengths and weaknesses of several basic positions, an officer may utilize any position in a variety

of ways

Cruiser Position for Stops

- Considerations for choosing a cruiser position
- Choice should be based on which position provides greatest control
- Officer must consider which hazard is of foremost concern:
- Felonious
- Accidental
- Cruiser positioning should be contact method officer intends to use

to the

SPO#9 SEQUENTIAL ORDER OF THE 8 VERBAL TACTICS AN OFFICER SHOULD USE WHEN MAKING A VEHICLE STOP

- 1. GREET THE VIOLATOR
- 2. IDENTIFY YOURSELF AND YOUR DEPARTMENT
- 3. STATE THE REASON FOR THE STOP
- 4. ASK FOR JUSTIFICATION VIOLATOR'S ACTIONS



SPO#9 SEQUENTIAL ORDER OF THE 8 VERBAL TACTICS AN OFFICER SHOULD USE WHEN MAKING A VEHICLE STOP

- 5. REQUEST THE VIOLATOR'S OPERAL LICENSE
- 6. REQUEST THE VIOLATOR'S REGISTAND INSURANCE PAPERS
- 7. RETURN TO THE CRUISER AND YOUR DECISION
- 8. COMPLETE THE CONTACT IN A PROFESSIONAL MANNER





SPO#10 TWO LEGAL FOUNDATIONS FOR MAKING A VEHICLE STOP

- REASONABLE SUSPICION
- PROBABLE CAUSE





CLASSIC CLIP

SPO#11 TENNESSEE v. GARNER (1985)

ESTABLISHED THE STANDARD OF IMMINENT JEOPARDY AND PRECLUSION AS THE JUSTIFICATION LETHAL FORCE







SPO#12 FIVE LOW RISK APPROACH PATTERNS

- 1. "STANDARD WALK UP" SIDE ONLY)
- 2. "TACTICAL LEFT SIDE WALK UP"
- 3. "TACTICAL RIGHT SIDE UP"
- 4. "P.A. LEFT SIDE POSITION"
- 5. "P.A. RIGHT SIDE



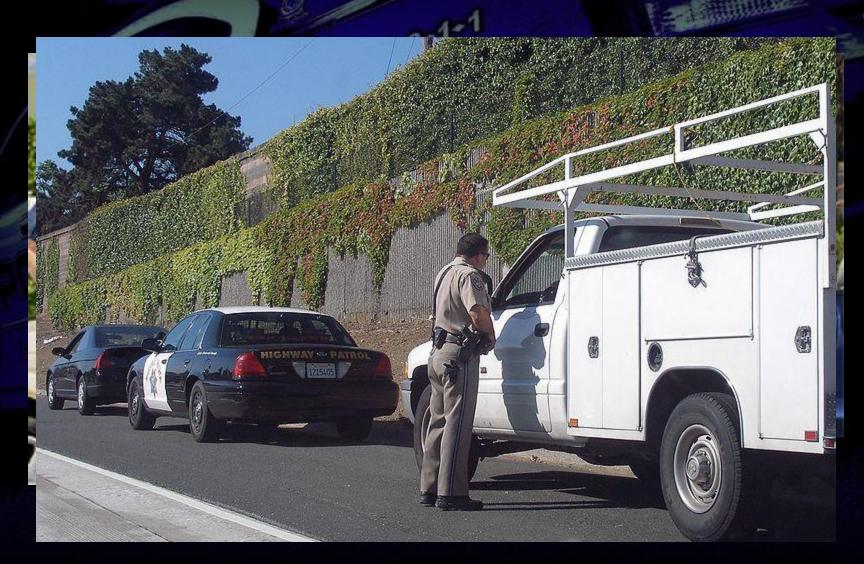
OBJECT

REASONS FOR USING THE POST AHEAD POSITON

- TO VIEW THE VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN)
- TO VIEW THE AREA UNDER THE FRONT SEAT FOR HIDDEN WEAPONS OR CONTRABAND—POSITION OF CHOICE FOR FIREARMS CONCEALED IN A VEHICLE BESIDES ON THE OCCUP
- TO CHANGE POSITION FOR A TACTICAL REASON

PERSON

REASONS FOR USING THE POST AHEAD POSITON



REASONS FOR USING THE POST AHEAD POSITON

- TO CREATE A FRIENDLIER
 OFFICER-VIOLATOR CONTACT, AND GIVE A
 MORE PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE
- TO FOLLOW THE VIOLATOR'S HANDS IF THEY REACH TOWARD THE CENTER CONSOLE

SPO#14 FOUR ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER IN ORDER TO REACT TO THE SUSPECTS ACTIONS

- 1. PERCEIVE THE THREAT
- 2. EVALUATE INTENTION AND AVAILABLE DELIVERY SYSTEM
- 3. DECIDE ON AN APPROPRIATE TACTICAL RESPONSE
- 4. ACT OR RESPOND TO THREAT





SPO#15 8 KILL ZONES THROUGH WHICH AN OFFICER MOVES DURING A TYPICAL "WALK-UP" APPROACH TO A SUSPECT'S VEHICLE

- 1. THE OFFICER IS STILL INSIDE THE CRUISER, WITH THE CRUISER MOVING OR PARKED
- 2. THE OFFICER HAS EXITED THE CRUISER, WITH THE CRUISER DOOR OPENED OR CLOSED
- 3. THE OFFICER IS BESIDE THE CRUISE HOOD

SPO#15 8 KILL ZONES THROUGH WHICH AN OFFICER MOVES DURING A TYPICAL "WALK-UP" APPROACH TO A SUSPECT'S VEHICLE

- 4. THE OFFICER IS IN THE OPEN SPACE
 BETWEEN THE BUMPERS OF THE
 VIOLATOR'S VEHICLE AND THE CRUISER
- 5. THE OFFICER IS BESIDE THE TRUNK
 AREA OF THE VIOLATOR'S VEHICLE

SPO#15 8 KILL ZONES THROUGH WHICH AN OFFICER MOVES DURING A TYPICAL "WALK-UP" APPROACH TO A SUSPECT'S VEHICLE

- 6. THE OFFICER IS AT THE "VIOLATOR CONTACT POSITION", DIRECTLY BEHIND THE TRAILING EDGE OF THE DIRVER'S SIDE DOOR
- 7. THE OFFICER IS AHEAD OF THE VIOLATOR'S SIDE DOOR (P.A. POSITION)
- 8. THE OFFICER IS APPROACHING THE RIGHT SIDE





PRIMARY ADVANTAGES OF AN OFFICER MOVING BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO DRAW

- IT TAKES TIME TO DRAW A SIDEARM FROM A SECURITY HOLSTER
- MOVING FIRST ALLOWS THE OFFICER A FEW EXTRA SECONDS TO EVALUATE WHAT ACTION IS APPROPRIATE
- MOVING FORCES THE TO REACT
- IT IS HARDER TO SHOOT A TARGET



PRIMARY ADVANTAGES OF AN OFFICER MOVING BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO DRAW

- IF THE OFFICER MOVES TO THE RIGHT, A SUSPECT SEATED IN A VEHICLE WOULD HAVE TO STOP SHOOTING AND TWIST TO HIS RIGHT TO RE-LOCATE THE OFFICER, OR EXIT HIS VEHICLE
- THE FIGHT ISN'T OVER UNTIL THE SUSPECT IS INCAPACITATED



SPO#17 THREE INITIAL THINGS TO CONTROL IN HIGH RISK STOPS EMERGENCY 9-1-1

- 1. KEYS
- 2. HANDS
- **EYES**







RULES FOR HIGH RISK VEHICLE STOPS

BEGIN

- 1. TAKE YOUR TIME PRIOR TO THE ACTUAL STOP
- 2. COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY TO UNITS
- 3. POSITION CRUISERS TO CREATE A "WALL"
 BETWEEN OFFICERS AND SUSPECTS: STAY
 BEHIND WALL AT ALL TIMES
- 4. REMAIN BEHIND COVER IN A LOW PROFILE POSITION
- 5. GIVE LOUD, CLEAR VERBAL COMMANDS TO VEHICLE OCCUPANTS

RULES FOR HIGH RISK VEHICLE STOPS

- 6. EACH OFFICER MUST PERFORM ASSIGNED JOB
- 7. VERBALLY, CONTROL ALL SUSPECTS' HANDS
- 8. OFFICER WITH BEST VIEW OF A SUSPECT DIRECTS AND CONTROLS THAT SUSPECT
- 9. USE CONTACT AND COVER PRINCIPLES
- 10. FOLLOW STAGES OF ARREST IN TACTICAL ORDER

SPO#18 THE MOST IMPORTANT RULE FOR HIGH RISK STOPS IS

STAY DOWN BEHIND COVER



L.O.C.A.L.

- L = LOCATION
- O = OCCUPANT(S)
- ·c=color
- A = AUTO
- •L = LICENSE



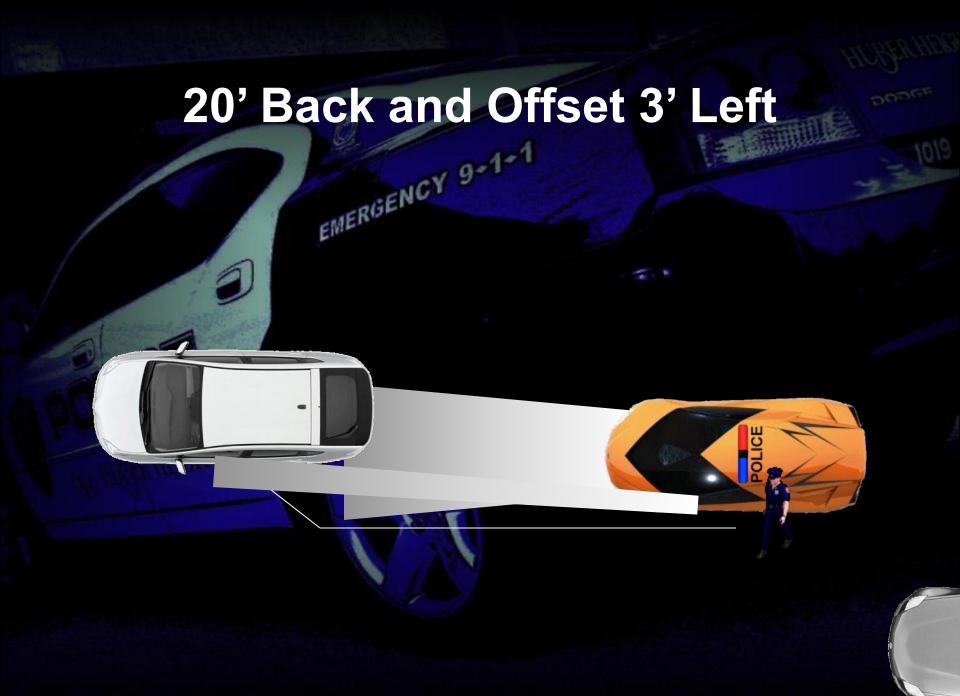


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GOINES







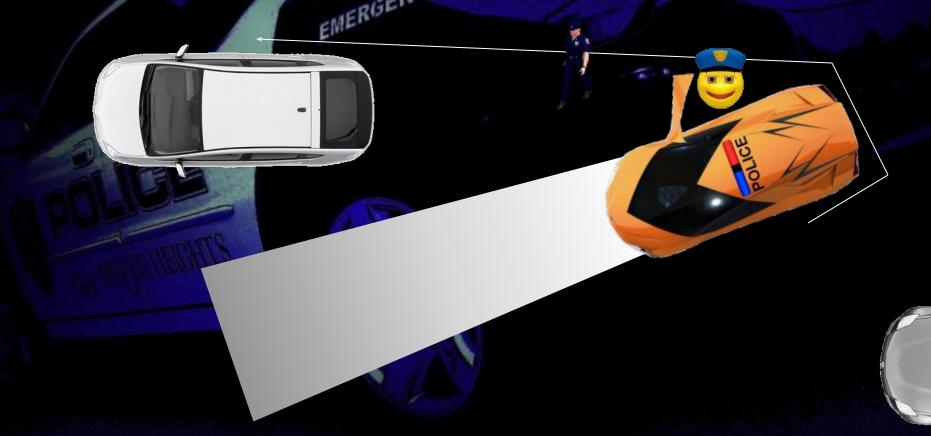












Backup Officer











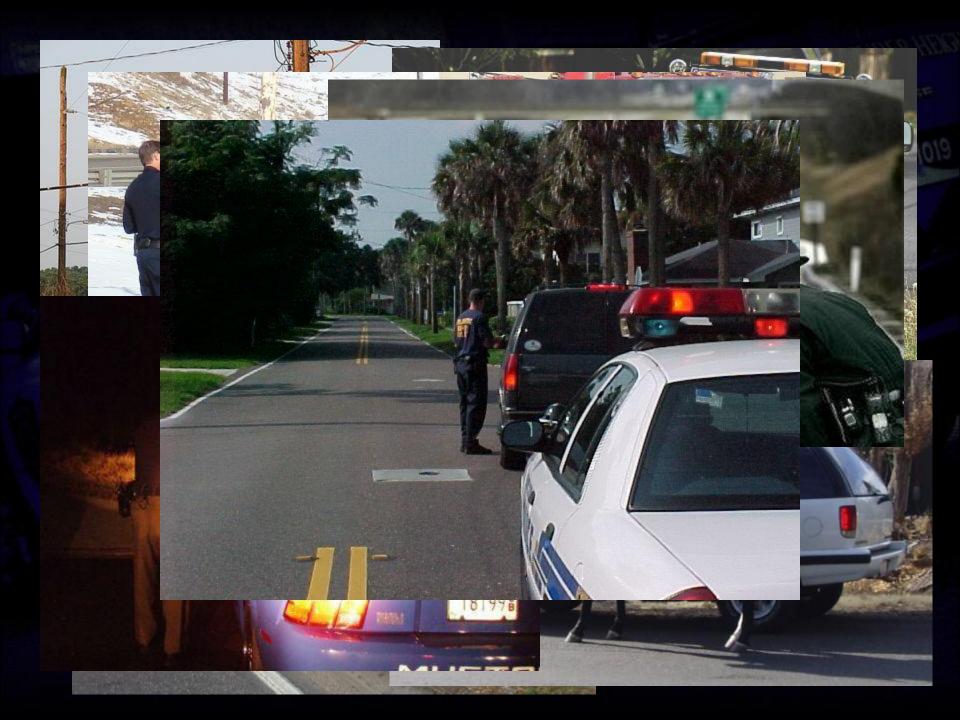
Violator Back to Police Cruiser



High Risk Stop/Felony Stop







Vehicle Searches



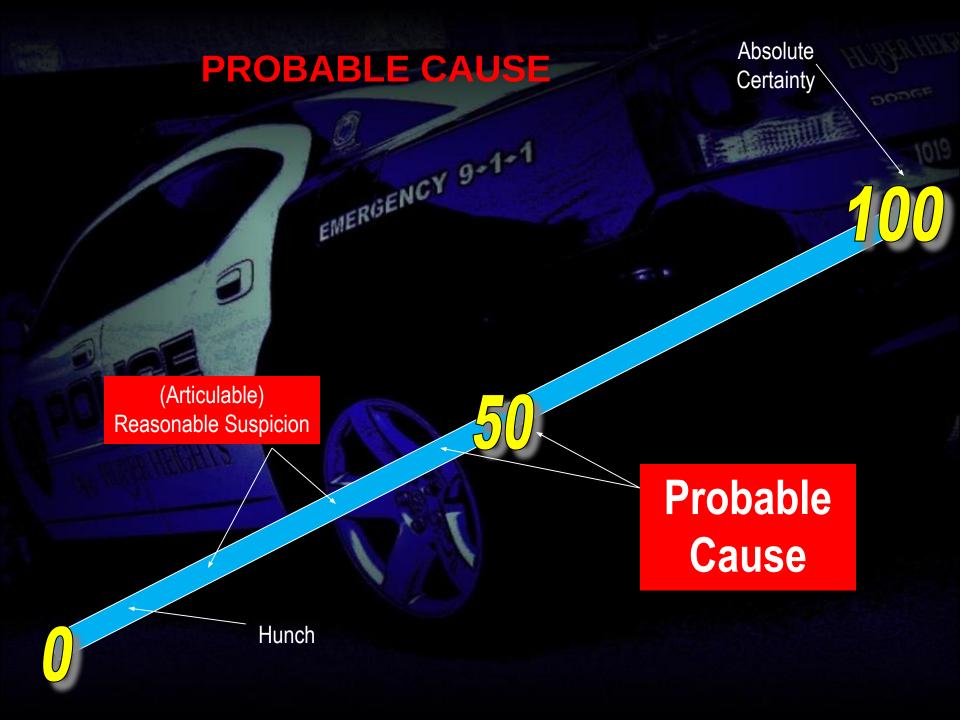
Probable Cause

New Recruit Questionnaire

- Sheriff: What is 1 and 1?
- Gomer: 11
- Sheriff: What two days of the week start with the letter 'T'?
- Gomer: Today and tomorrow
- Sheriff's final question:
- Who killed Abraham Lincoln?"



- Gomer finally admitted, "I don't know."
- Sheriff: Well, why don't you go home and work on that one for a while?
- Gomer ran over to the pool hall where his pals were to tell them he got the job!
- "It went great! First day on the job and I'm already working on a murder case!"



PROBABLE CAUSE

In layman's terms, how will you define Probable Cause for a jury.

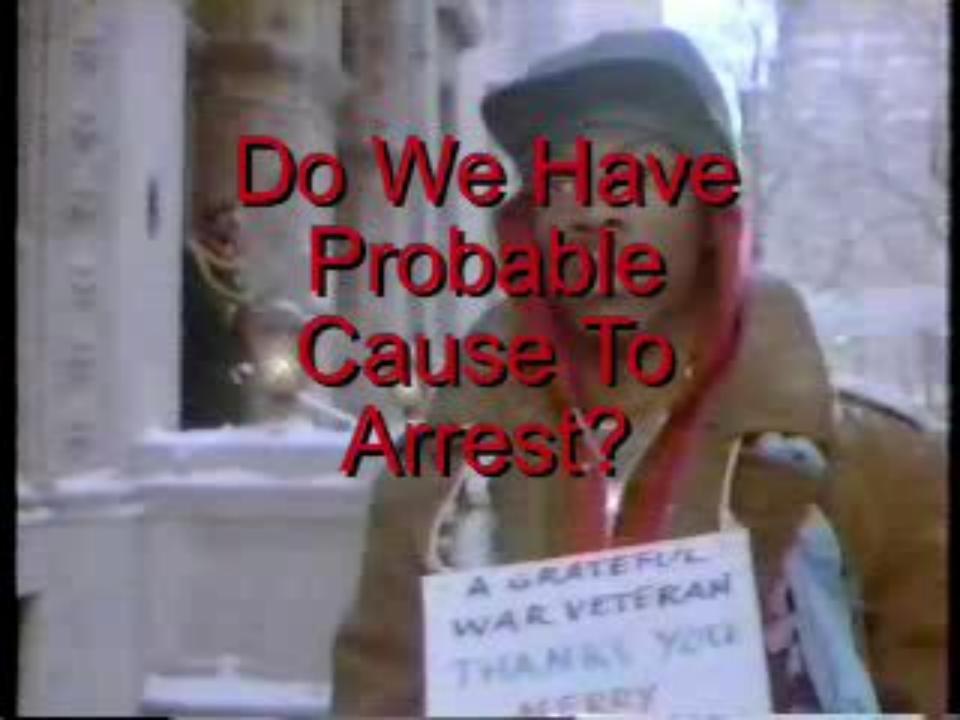
A <u>reasonable person</u> would believe:

- That a crime (traffic violation) has been committed
 - And the person to be arrested (cited) committed that

PROBABLE CAUSE

Test for Probable Cause

- •The focus in determining probable cause is not on the certainty that a crime was committed, but on the likelihood of it.
- •Don't have to be <u>RIGHT</u>; but, you do have to be <u>REASONABLE</u>



Mobile Conveyance Exception

2 requirements to search

1. Must be probable cause to believe that evidence of a crime or contraband is located in the vehicle to be searched.

2. The vehicle be mobile."



Carroll v. United States (1925)

If an officer stops a car based on probable cause and conducts a search in order to preserve evidence due to the automobile's mobility, the search may be conducted without a warrant.



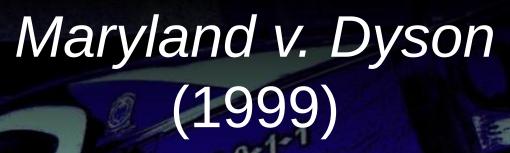
Chambers v. Maroney (1970)

A warrantless search of a vehicle is valid despite the fact that a warrant could have been procured without endangering the

preservation of evider

United States v. Ross (1982)

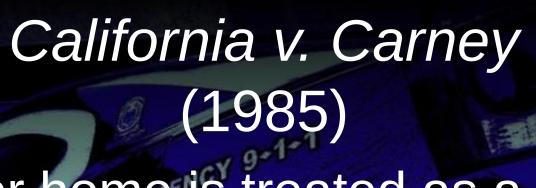
If probable cause justifies the search of a lawfully stopped vehicle, it justifies the search of every part of the vehicle and its contents that may object of the se the



Officers are not required to obtain a search warrant for a mobile conveyance even if they have

time to one.





A motor home is treated as a vehicle, rather than a dwelling, if it is immediately mo



California v. Acevedo (1991)

- In a search extending to a container located in an automobile, police may search the container without a warrant where they have probable cause to believe that it holds contraband or evidence.
- Wyoming v. Houghton (1999) The mobile conveyance exception to the 4th Amendment's warrant requirement allows the officers to search passengers' containers.

Arizona v. Gant 129 S. Ct 1710 (2009)

The justifications for searching a vehicle incident to arrest are

- (1)officer safety, and
- (2)evidence preservation.

Once an arrestee is secured and can no longer access his vehicle, there is no longer any risk that he will access weapons or evidence contained therein.

Arizona v. Gant (2009)

However, police <u>may</u> search a vehicle incident to arrest after the arrestee has been secured when it is <u>reasonable</u> to believe that evidence related to the crime of

found within.

DE Class D Cla





Ohio v. Robinette

Consent Search

- 1st The consent must be voluntarily given
- Consent cannot be coerced, by explicit or implicit means, by implied threat or covert force
- 2nd Person has authority over the place to be searched
- An individual may limit of any consent





TLC

-

Consent Search

- A LEO does not have to specifically request permission to search each closed container found within the vehicle
- If the individual does not have the requisite authority, the container may not be searched
- LEO must seek a separate consent from that individual to search those containers

Consent Search

- "It is very likely <u>unreasonable</u> to think that a suspect, by consenting to the search of his trunk, has agreed to the breaking open of a locked briefcase within the trunk..."
- United States v. Strickland, a police officer could not reasonably interpret a general statement of consent to search an individual's vehicle to include cutting open the spare tire

State v. Robinette 1997

After a Montgomery County, Ohio, deputy sheriff stopped Robinette for speeding, gave him a verbal warning, and returned his driver's license, the deputy asked whether he was carrying illegal contraband, weapons, or drugs in his car



State v. Robinette 1997

Robinette answered "no" but consented to a search of the car, which revealed a small amount of marijuana and a pill

He was arrested and later charged with knowing possession of a controlled substance when the pill turned out to be a methamphetamine

State v. Robinette 1997

The Court held "when a police officer's objective justification to continue detention of a person stopped for a traffic violation for the <u>purpose</u> of <u>searching</u> the person's vehicle is **NOT** <u>related</u> to the purpose of the original stop,

and when that continued detention is **NOT** based on any articulable facts giving rise to a suspicion of some illegal activity justifying an extension of the detention, the continued detention to conduct a search constitutes an <u>illegal</u> seizure"

SUMMARY

Once the reason for the initial stop ends, the reason for the detention MUST end!

Once an individual has been unlawfully detained, in order for a consent to search to be considered an independent act of free will, the totality of the circumstances must clearly demonstrate that...

a <u>reasonable</u> person <u>would believe</u> she/he had the freedom to refuse to answer any additional questions and <u>could in fact leave</u> the area



Seizures & Detentions



Terry Stops & Frisks

POLICE AUTHORITY TO DETAIN

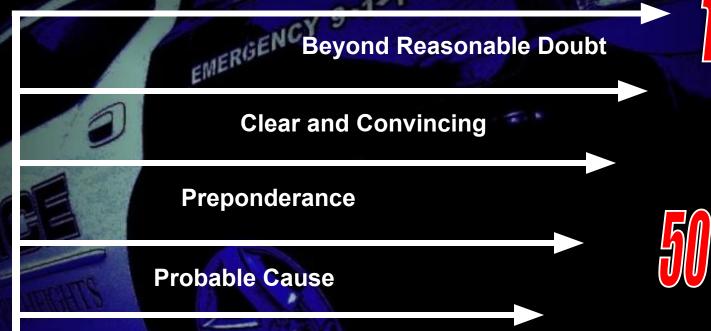
Looking at the right of police officers to stop a suspect under circumstances in which there was insufficient grounds for an actual arrest

Requires REASONABLE ARTICULABLE
SUSPICION

This does *NOT* authorize police to detain anyone on mere SUSPICION or a HUNCH!



LEVELS OF CRIMINAL EVIDENCE



Reasonable Suspicion ~ articulable (explain the facts)

Hunches or Whims ~ can't articulate



POLICE AUTHORITY TO DETAIN

Terry v. Ohio, 1968

In Terry, the US Supreme Court upheld the authority of the police to stop or detain (or seize) a person where the officer observes unusual conduct which leads the officer reasonably to conclude, in light of his/her experience (including training), that criminal activity may be afoot.

"Terry Stop" vs. "Terry Frisk"



POLICE AUTHORITY TO DETAIN

<u>Terry v. Ohio, 1968</u>

A Terry Stop - an investigative detention of a suspect. *Not* a search!

Officers can conduct a Terry Stop with reasonable (articulable/explainable) suspicion that criminal activity is *afoot*.

Officers can stop a suspect and investigate that person for a <u>reasonable</u> period of time.

Even though its *not* a formal arrest, it is a seizure under the 4th Amendment.



Reasonable Suspicion + Armed & Dangerous =

- Terry requires an officer to articulate a reasonable belief that a suspect is armed and poses a threat before the officer is permitted to conduct a **limited** "Pat Down" of the suspect's outer clothing.
- Just because I can "Terry Stop" someone automatically give doesn't right to frisk them for a wea



Frisking Containers

- An officer who finds a closed container within lunging distance of a suspect who is being lawfully stopped and frisked, may open the container to see if it contains a weapon if:
- in light of the officer's experience and training the item could contain a weapon, and
- the container is NOT locked

- 2 Requirements Which Must be Established Before Conducting a *Terry "Pat Down"* Or *"Frisk"*
- 1. Officers are required to articulate a reasonable belief that the suspect is Armed; AND
- 2. Officers are in fear for their safety or safety of others





<u>Terry v. Ohio, 1968</u>

- After legally detaining the suspect in a Terry Stop
- The officer also has reasonable suspicion that the suspect's presently armed and dangerous
- Then the officer can conduct a limited search, or "Terry Frisk" of that suspect's outer clothing for weapons
- Weapons are basically anything that can be used to hurt the officer





- Search or "Frisk" is going to be limited to searching for hard objects...
- That the suspect could use to *hurt* the officer like guns, pocket knives, mace, clubs, ...
- Not limited to just those things we ordinarily think are weapons...
- It could also be things like car keys or pens because those could hurt an officer as well...





<u>Terry v. Ohio, 1968</u>

- While an officer may want to conduct a frisk for "officer safety" purposes, the law requires more than that.
- Reasonable suspicion that someone's presently armed and dangerous is just what it sounds like, but most importantly, the officer has to
 - have <u>facts</u> to support that conclusion.

- Look, Feel, Crush and method – FLETC
- If your actions are and executed only to determine whether the suspect possesses a weapon, then the "Terry Frisk" is constitutionally proper
- When trying to determine, through sense of touch, the nature or identity of an object you know cannot be a weapon ~ the frisk exceeds Terry!



- Example: Can you conduct a Terry Stop of someone if there is reasonable (articulable/explainable) suspicion he is in possession of a stolen credit card?
- The officer will want to conduct a brief detention to investigate further.
- Is there anything about being in possession stolen credit cards that would automatically you to believe the person is armed and dangerous?
- Without additional facts: a Terry Stop is authorized, but not a Terry Frisk



Terry v. Ohio, 1968

- Offenses like drug distribution or burglary just go with weapons.
- Courts have held that people who sell drugs most often carry weapons to protect their money and product.
- Burglars need burglary tools things to break windows, screw drivers, and crow bars to pry

doors open.

 In Terry the detective had reasonable suspicion to believe an armed robbery was afoot.



<u>Terry v. Ohio, 1968</u>

Reasons For The Frisk: Articulating Your Reasonable Suspicion

- Person'sAppearance
- Person's Actions
- Prior Knowledge of the Person
- Location

- Time of Day
- Law Enforcement Purposes
- Companion

Stops & Approaches



Videos





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