Operational General Order 6.05 Field Interviews

Virginia Beach Police Department General Order
Chapter 6 - Constitutional Issues

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE: [Signature]

**Purpose**

The purpose of a field interview is to assist in the investigation and prevention of crime.

**Policy (CALEA 1.2.3 A, 40.2.3, 82.2.1)**

Officers should conduct a documented field interview whenever a stop based on reasonable suspicion is conducted. Officers may conduct a field interview when a voluntary contact is made remembering that the citizen does not have to answer any questions or provide any identification.

The decision to conduct a field interview shall not be made merely based on random selection, ethnicity, unusual personal appearance, or personal beliefs.

Reasonable questions posed by a citizen shall be answered. The officer shall explain the reason for the contact or stop if asked to do so. Officers not in uniform shall fully identify themselves as police officers and shall exhibit their badges or credentials prior to initiating any field interview.

An important part of the field interview process is to provide criminal intelligence to other officers, detectives, and crime analysts within the department. The field interview will be documented on a Field/Contact/Observation Report (PD-81) and forwarded to the officer’s supervisor for review and then to the precinct desk officer for entry into the Records Management System.

Field Interview cards will be retained in accordance with general order 4.01, (Records Management).