

47.2 Stopping Violators

OPERATIONS

STANDARD 47.2 **The agency has a written directive to guide officers' actions when stopping, approaching and addressing traffic law violators.**

Commentary: Due to the fact that this is one of the most frequent types of contacts made between law enforcement officers and the public, there are two separate but equally important issues that must be addressed. First, this is a stressful time for citizens. The courtesy and positive image that is shown by the officer will not only make this contact less confrontational but will also enhance the image of the officer and the agency. The second issue involves safety. Both the safety of the officer and the safety of the motoring public must be considered when establishing these procedures.

Compliance Verification Strategies

Assessors may seek to verify agency compliance with this standard by using one or more of the strategies listed below. There may be other strategies identified by the agency which could also be acceptable.

1. A copy of the written directive is available for review.
2. Interview(s) with agency personnel to verify their understanding of and compliance with the policy.
3. Training records indicating that officers have received any training in this area are available for review.
4. Observations(s) of motor vehicle stop(s) by patrol officers may verify compliance with the procedures.