

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

No. 190

Supersedes: 1-88-62.1.10

Effective: February 8, 1988

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BACKUPS FOR VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN STOPS

- I. **PURPOSE:** To provide a method by which officers initiating vehicle stops or contacts with persons will receive backup support and necessary assistance by other officers.
- II. **OBJECTIVE:** To ensure the safety of officers during vehicle stops or other contacts with persons.
- III. **POLICY:** All officers initiating vehicle stops or other contacts with persons will receive backup support by one or more officers.
- IV. **RESPONSIBILITIES:**
- A. OFFICER INITIATING CONTACT:
1. Notify the Communication Center when a vehicle stop or person contact is initiated. The location, reason for the stop or contact, vehicle registration and description, operator information, description of person and any other pertinent information should be provided.
 2. Approach each and every vehicle stop or contact with a person cautiously, and in a manner which will reduce the likelihood of death or physical injury to the officer and the person.



B. OTHER OFFICERS:

1. Any officer who becomes aware of a vehicle stop or other contact with a person and is near the location will begin to proceed toward the location and notify the Communication Center. This officer is now committed as backup support unless called off by the initiating officer, another officer nearer the location, or the shift supervisor.

C. DISPATCH OFFICER:

1. If no officer responds to the original radio message announcing the stop or contact the dispatcher will assign a backup support unit.

D. SHIFT SUPERVISOR:

1. In order to avoid unnecessary support units converging on one location, the shift supervisor will limit responding support units.

APPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

APPROVED: _____

DATE: _____

TO BE REVIEWED: ANNUALLY

DISTRIBUTION: All police officers
All police dispatchers
Township Manager
File