

## 605.1 VEHICLE STOPS - CONSENT SEARCHES

- A. Officers may conduct a warrantless search of a vehicle where consent is freely and voluntarily given by a person with actual or reasonably apparent authority to grant such consent.
- B. A person granting consent to search may limit its scope or duration, and no search based solely on consent may exceed that given scope or duration, absent exigent circumstances or articulable probable cause.
- C. The person giving consent may withdraw it at any time. If consent is withdrawn, the officer shall immediately cease the search absent exigent circumstances or articulable probable cause.
- D. The officer should inform the person granting consent of their right to refuse consent prior to conducting such a search.
- E. When safe and practical, officers will obtain written consent prior to searching a vehicle when consent is requested.
  - 1. Written consent will be documented on a Consent to Search Form, to include the printed name and signature of the person granting consent.
  - 2. If consent to search is requested but refused, such refusal will be documented on the Consent to Search Form completed by the officer.
  - 3. All Consent to Search Forms will be archived in the evidence.com system and categorized with the corresponding case number as the traffic stop.
  - 4. Any exception to utilizing the Consent to Search form, for safety or practicality reasons, must be articulated in a written report and include the corresponding traffic stop case number.
- F. All traffic stops, including requests for consent to search will be recorded on body-worn cameras until the point in which the vehicle is released.**
  - 1. Recordings and related documentation of consent searches of vehicles will be flagged for supervisory review in the evidence.com system.