**BASIC TRAFFIC STOPS**

Below you will write in and identify the appropriate steps that should be used when conducting a traffic stop. Understanding these steps is very important in order to compete in this area at the state Skills USA Conference.

1. Before The Stop a traffic stop can be initiated for any of the following reasons:
   1. Observes a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. Responds to a call involving criminal activity and finds the suspect vehicle
   3. Officer has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Once the officer has decided to initiate a traffic stop he/she will:
   1. Picks a safe spot to initiate a traffic stop
   2. Turns on the light bar
   3. Dispatches information over the radio
      1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. Positions the vehicle
      1. To the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of the violator
      2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the left
   5. Observes the occupants while looking for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   6. Shines a his/her flashlight into the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      1. This is done to allow for the “element of surprise”
3. During The Stop and is approaching the violator:
   1. Moves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the violator quickly
   2. Looks for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ traffic before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the vehicle
   3. Confirms the possession/location of all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ items.
      1. (Flashlight, notepad, pen, etc.)‏
   4. Checks the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
      1. This is done by placing the hand on the trunk just above the tail light
      2. This can also be used as a safety precaution
   5. Stands at an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (behind or in front)
   6. The officer uses the \_\_\_ Step Method:
      1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   7. The officer must maintain sight of the violator’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   8. Look for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in plain view
   9. The officer obtains:
      1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or form of identification
      2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (without playing the name game with the violator)
      3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   10. Once the officer made initial contact and obtained necessary information, he/she \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to vehicle
   11. While in the vehicle, the officer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the information through dispatch
   12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the ticket, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the warrant, etc.
   13. Gives a verbal warning or writes a ticket
       1. Returns to the violator and gives a warning or ticket
       2. Says, “You are receiving a ticket.”
       3. Does not say, “I am giving you a ticket.”
       4. Thanks the violator for exhibiting courtesy and cooperation
   14. If the officer discovers a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he/she will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the violator.
       1. Has dispatch \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the warrant
       2. Requests \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       3. Keeps an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   15. Steps of a warrant arrest
       1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. After The Stop
   1. Clears with a disposition on the radio
      1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Possible Scenarios
   1. The officer smells
      1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
         1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
         2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
         1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
         2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
         3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. The officer sees a gun on the passenger seat
      * + 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
          2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
          3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
          4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. The officer observes fervent movement, and then searches the area as a safety precaution
   4. The driver jumps out of the vehicle due to extreme emotion (anger, confusion, etc.); the officer has them get back into the vehicle
6. Examples of drivers reactions might include:
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Expected Reactions of Drivers
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(considered to be relatively normal)
   2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(In this case, the officer may begin to believe there might be something going on)
   3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      1. Does not take it personally
      2. Appreciates the humor when appropriate
   7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ until the ticket is received

**Always remember that there is no such thing as a routine traffic stop.**

1. Officer Radio Procedures
   1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for dispatch to acknowledge, and then gives the location of the traffic stop
   2. Tells dispatch the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ twice
   3. Uses the military alphabet to state the letters on the license plate:

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* 1. Gives any other pertinent information such as the number of occupants, suspicious movements or items, etc.
  2. Waits for dispatch to respond and then makes an approach
  3. Says “check” after making initial contact
  4. Waits for dispatch to respond
     1. Gives dispatch the persons:
        1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  5. Waits for dispatch to acknowledge by calling his or her officer number
  6. Responds with, “Go ahead”
  7. Listens for dispatch response
  8. Says, “4111 receive”
  9. If dispatch informs the officer that the violator has a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the officer decides to arrest the violator, the officer says, “Go ahead and confirm the warrant”
  10. After completing the stop and returning to the squad car the officer says, “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ traffic with a (ticket or warning or arrest)”

**Felony Traffic Stops**

1. When are they done?
2. Felony Traffic Stops are performed when
   1. There is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   2. The vehicle is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   3. There is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Positioning
   1. Positions of Vehicles and Officers
      1. Officer vehicles are parked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .
      2. Officers take \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Procedures
   1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ officer commands the driver to:
      * 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
        6. Take a few steps to the right, when the suspect is close enough
        7. Stop and get on his or her knees or stomach
   2. The backup officer
      1. Arrests the suspect
      2. Takes the suspect to his car
      3. Searches the suspect
   3. The primary officer
      1. Gives the commands to get out again
      2. Stays out of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
      3. Opens the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   4. Priorities
      1. Only the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ officer gives commands.
      2. Communication among the officers is key.
      3. The primary officer must say, “Do it now,” after each command.
5. Other Scenarios
   1. When there is more than one person in the vehicle, wait until the driver is in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before getting the other occupants out of the vehicle.
   2. When there is a gun in the suspect's waistband, let him or her know that you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it and you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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