

Police Practices Survey

Final Report



Prepared by
Arizona Department of Public Safety
Research & Planning
September 2003

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Executive Summary

In June 2002, the Arizona Attorney General and Ford Motor Company assembled a Blue Ribbon Panel to review and recommend improvements to police practices in traffic patrol situations. In an initial step to gather basic information, the Panel tasked the Arizona Department of Public Safety with conducting a small survey to identify current traffic patrol practices used by law enforcement agencies. This report summarizes the findings of that survey.

DPS began distributing the survey in August 2002. As of September 2003, 129 agencies have returned completed surveys. Respondents include 86 police departments, 30 state-level patrol agencies, and 13 sheriff's offices. An analysis of their overall responses shows:

- 73.6% park vehicles offset left
- 70.5% park in the rear of the violator vehicle
- 76.7% leave both top lights and rear flashers on during a stop
- 63.6% say their officers approach a violator vehicle on the driver's side
- 58.1% say officers are seated in the patrol vehicle while issuing a citation
- 96.1% report violators are seated in the violator's vehicle while the officer issues a citation
- 82.2% park patrol vehicles to the rear of a collision scene
- 65.9% rely solely on the Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor for patrol purposes
- 86.8% mark patrol vehicles with reflective decals on both sides of the vehicle
- 62.8% mark vehicles with reflective decals on the rear
- 92.2% report their vehicles are equipped with top mount emergency lighting
- 51.2% carry at least 14 items in the trunk compartment
- 51.2% use the factory installed top mount bracket for the securing the spare tire
- 84.5% say they do not have any special procedures for packing the vehicle trunk
- 45.0% mount shotguns parallel to the roof, behind the officer
- 73.7% place MDC/laptop computers in patrol vehicles
- 66.6% use video cameras
- 66.7% install combination metal/Plexiglass prisoner barriers in patrol vehicles
- 28.7% use plastic prisoner restraint seats

Background

In June 2002, the Arizona Attorney General and Ford Motor Company assembled a Blue Ribbon Panel to review and recommend improvements to police practices in traffic patrol situations. The Panel, consisting of representatives of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, Phoenix Police Department, Florida Highway Patrol, and Ford, also is working with a technical task force of Ford Motor Company engineers and NHTSA to enhance the safety of Crown Victoria Police Interceptor vehicles.

In an initial step to gather basic information, the Panel tasked the Arizona Department of Public Safety with conducting a survey to identify current traffic patrol practices used by law enforcement agencies. This report summarizes the findings of that survey. It is important to note, that this report identifies the most common practices reported by the respondents. The Panel will use these initial findings, as well as input from NHTSA and the Ford Motor Company, to develop best practice recommendations to improve officer safety.

Methodology

In August 2002, the survey was distributed to panel members and attendees at the Western Regional meeting of the IACP State and Provincial Division. Some panel members and meeting attendees then distributed the survey to other law enforcement agencies within their states. In addition, the survey was sent to members of the IACP State and Provincial Police Planning Officers Section (SPPPOS) via the Internet. In September 2002, the Ford Motor Company posted the survey questionnaire on an Internet site created to share information about the Crown Victoria Police Interceptor vehicles (www.cvpi.com/brp.htm).

In the first section of the survey, agencies were asked six questions related to current police roadside practices and procedures. In the second section of the survey, agencies were asked about police equipment issues and given the opportunity to suggest alternatives to existing practices and to provide general comments. See Appendix A for a copy of the survey questionnaire. Data tables in Appendix B show responses to each question and the full text of written comments.

As of September 2, 2003, 129 agencies have returned completed surveys. Respondents include 86 police departments, 30 state-level patrol agencies, and 13 sheriff's offices. Because of the small number of responding agencies, care should be taken before generalizing their responses as representative of all law enforcement agencies in North America. Appendix C lists the responding agencies.

Findings - Roadside Practices and Procedures

- **Car position during violator stops**

Respondents were given a checklist of options to indicate current practices for positioning patrol vehicles during a traffic stop. They could select as many of the options as needed to adequately describe their operations. Overall, a large majority (73.6%) indicate that they park offset left and to the rear of a violator vehicle (70.5%). Less than half (45.7%) say they also turn wheels to the

left. Only five agencies opt to park offset right, and only two report parking in front of the violator vehicle.

There are slight differences between the practices of police departments, sheriff's offices, and state-level patrol agencies. Police agencies were slightly more likely to park offset left (79.1%) compared to state-patrol agencies (66.7%) or sheriff's offices (53.8%). In addition, state-level agencies

are more likely to park at an angle compared to other agencies and are the only agencies reporting that they park in front of the violator vehicle.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Car position during violator stops?								
Park off set left	73.6%	95	79.1%	68	66.7%	20	53.8%	7
Park in rear of violator vehicle	70.5%	91	70.9%	61	70.0%	21	69.2%	9
Wheels turned to left	45.7%	59	41.9%	36	50.0%	15	61.5%	8
_ Feet from violator vehicle	38.8%	50	37.2%	32	33.3%	10	61.5%	8
Angle	20.2%	26	12.8%	11	36.7%	11	30.8%	4
Wheels turned to right	6.2%	8	8.1%	7	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
Other	6.2%	8	4.7%	4	10.0%	3	7.7%	1
Park off set right	3.9%	5	2.3%	2	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Park in front of violator vehicle	1.6%	2	0.0%	0	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
Park straight on	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Parking distance from violator vehicle.								
Minimum 16 to 20 feet	11.6%	15	9.3%	8	20.0%	6	7.7%	1
Minimum 5 to 10 feet	10.9%	14	11.6%	10	10.0%	3	7.7%	1
Minimum 11 to 15 feet	10.9%	14	12.8%	11	0.0%	0	23.1%	3
Minimum 21 feet or more	6.2%	8	3.5%	3	6.7%	2	23.1%	3
Others	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
No Answer	60.5%	78	62.8%	54	63.3%	19	38.5%	5
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		51		32		11		8

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Of the 51 responding agencies who listed parking distances from the violator vehicle, sheriff's departments appear to park further back from the scene than other agencies. In added comments, agencies indicate that officers are trained to use discretion and park based on existing circumstances. (See Appendix B for full text of comments.)

• **Different parking positions**

Only 36 of the 126 responding agencies (27.9%) state that they use different parking positions for different types of highways. Sheriff's offices are more likely to modify parking practices based on the type of highway (46.2%) than state-patrol agencies (36.7%) or police agencies (22.1%). In additional comments, it

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Use different parking positions for different highway types?								
No	69.8%	90	77.9%	67	53.3%	16	53.8%	7
Yes	27.9%	36	22.1%	19	36.7%	11	46.2%	6
No Answer	2.3%	3	0.0%	0	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		126		86		27		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

appears that officers are encouraged to chose whatever is safest based on officer safety, traffic volume, road design, environmental conditions, time, obstacles, etc.

• **Use of emergency lights**

In this question area, respondents were given a checklist of options to indicate which emergency lights are left on during a stop. Again, they could select multiple answers to reflect actual

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Are emergency lights left on during the stop?									
Both top lights and rear flashers left on	76.7%	99	81.4%	70	60.0%	18	84.6%	11	
Other	18.6%	24	15.1%	13	30.0%	9	15.4%	2	
Only full top mount lights left on	8.5%	11	10.5%	9	3.3%	1	7.7%	1	
Only rear flashers left on	3.9%	5	2.3%	2	6.7%	2	7.7%	1	
Yes	3.1%	4	1.2%	1	10.0%	3	0.0%	0	
No	0.8%	1	0.0%	0	3.3%	1	0.0%	0	
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies	129		86		30		13		

operations. Overwhelmingly, 81.4% of police and 84.6% of sheriff's agencies indicate that the most common practice is to leave both top lights and rear flashers on during a stop. In contrast, a slight majority (60%) of state-patrol agencies choose that option. Several agencies (24) indicate other options are used, ranging from no lights in

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

nonhazardous situations, up to all lights being activated during every stop. Additional written comments stress the importance of officer discretion.

• **Officer approach**

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
How do your officers approach the violator vehicle?									
On the driver's side	63.6%	82	74.4%	64	40.0%	12	46.2%	6	
Both	31.8%	41	24.4%	21	43.3%	13	53.8%	7	
On the passenger side	3.9%	5	1.2%	1	13.3%	4	0.0%	0	
No Answer	0.8%	1	0.0%	0	3.3%	1	0.0%	0	
Totals	100.0%	129	100.0%	86	100.0%	30	100.0%	13	

The differences between police agencies and other types of agencies are greater in this topic area than any other in the survey. A majority of responding police agencies

(74.4%) use the driver's side approach with 24.4% saying it is acceptable to approach from either side. On the other hand, less than half of state (40%) and sheriff's agencies (46.2%) say they approach on the driver's side. Both groups are more likely to say officers approach from both sides. In addition, state-level agencies represent 4 of the 5 agencies opting to have officers approach primarily on the passenger side.

• **Officer location**

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Officer location while issuing a citation?									
Seated in the patrol vehicle	58.1%	75	52.3%	45	70.0%	21	69.2%	9	
By the violator vehicle driver's door	25.6%	33	31.4%	27	20.0%	6	0.0%	0	
Standing at the patrol vehicle passenger-side door	17.1%	22	16.3%	14	16.7%	5	23.1%	3	
Other	9.3%	12	7.0%	6	16.7%	5	7.7%	1	
Standing to the rear of the patrol vehicle	8.5%	11	8.1%	7	6.7%	2	15.4%	2	
By the violator vehicle passenger door	4.7%	6	4.7%	4	6.7%	2	0.0%	0	
No Answer	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies	127		85		29		13		

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

- Violator location**

When asked where the violator is located while the officer issues a citation, the most common practice is seated in the violator vehicle. This response is given by 98.8% of police, 90% of state patrols, and 92.3% of sheriff's offices.

	Overall	Type of Agency					
		Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Violator location while the officer writes citation?							
Seated in violator vehicle	98.1% 124	98.8% 85	90.0% 27	92.3% 12			
Standing with the officer	7.8% 10	3.5% 3	16.7% 5	15.4% 2			
Seated in the patrol vehicle	5.4% 7	3.5% 3	13.3% 4	0.0% 0			
Other	3.1% 4	2.3% 2	6.7% 2	0.0% 0			
No Answer	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0			
Totals	* *	* *	* *	* *			
Replies	129	86	30	13			

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

- Patrol vehicle position at a collision scene**

The most common parking position for a patrol vehicle at a collision scene is to the rear of the scene. This practice is employed by 86.7% of the responding state agencies, 77.9% of police departments, and 100% of responding sheriff's offices. Other parking positions appear to be chosen based on a necessity to

	Overall	Type of Agency			
		Police Dept.	State Patrol	Sheriff's Office	
Patrol vehicle position at collision scene?					
Park to the rear of the scene	82.2% 106	77.9% 67	86.7% 26	100.0% 13	
Other	17.8% 23	18.6% 16	20.0% 6	7.7% 1	
Park in front of the scene	9.3% 12	10.5% 9	6.7% 2	7.7% 1	
No Answer	2.3% 3	3.5% 3	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	
Totals	* *	* *	* *	* *	
Replies	126	83	30	13	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

protect the scene when a situation so dictates. However, nine police agencies have adopted the practice of parking in front of the scene.

Findings - Police Equipment Issues

- Vehicles used for patrol**

All of the 114 agencies answering this question use the Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor for patrol purposes. Other vehicles used by state-level agencies include: Chevrolet Impala, Camaro, and Tahoe; Dodge Intrepid and Durango; Ford Expedition; and unspecified pickups and SUVs. Police agencies other choices include: Chevrolet Impala, Suburban, Tahoe, and Caprice; Jeep Cherokee; Ford Expedition, Bronco, Explorer, and Taurus. Sheriff's offices also report using the Chevrolet Tahoe and Impala.

	Overall	Type of Agency			
		Police Dept.	State Patrol	Sheriff's Office	
Type of vehicle used for patrol?					
Only Ford CVPI	65.9% 85	75.6% 65	43.3% 13	53.8% 7	
Ford CVPI and Chevrolets	14.0% 18	7.0% 6	30.0% 9	23.1% 3	
CVPI and Various Others	4.7% 6	3.5% 3	10.0% 3	0.0% 0	
Ford CVPI and Other Fords	2.3% 3	3.5% 3	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	
Ford CVPI, Chevrolets, and Dodges	1.6% 2	0.0% 0	6.7% 2	0.0% 0	
No Answer	11.6% 15	10.5% 9	10.0% 3	23.1% 3	
Totals	* *	* *	* *	* *	
Replies	114	77	27	10	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

- **Vehicle markings**

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
How are patrol vehicles marked?									
Reflective decals on both sides	86.8%	112	88.4%	76	83.3%	25	84.6%	11	
Reflective decals on rear	62.8%	81	60.5%	52	66.7%	20	69.2%	9	
Other	10.9%	14	7.0%	6	23.3%	7	7.7%	1	
Nonreflective decals on both sides	8.5%	11	9.3%	8	3.3%	1	15.4%	2	
Nonreflective decals on rear	7.0%	9	8.1%	7	3.3%	1	7.7%	1	
No Answer	2.3%	3	0.0%	0	10.0%	3	0.0%	0	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies		126		86		27		13	

Most agencies place reflective decals on both sides of a vehicle. Nearly 9 in 10 police agencies (88.4%) mark their cars this way with 8 in 10 state-level agencies (83.3%) and sheriff's offices (84.6%) concurring. Also popular are reflective decals on the rear of vehicles, used by 60.5% of

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

police, 69.2% of sheriffs, and 66.7% of state agencies. Written comments show some state-level agencies are adding reflective markings to the vehicle front, rooftop, driver's door locking mechanism, inside trunk lid, and door interior edges. One local agency also places a two inch reflective stripe around the bottom of the entire vehicle.

- **Emergency lighting configurations**

A combination of top mounts, strobes, and red and blue lights comprise the most popular emergency lighting configurations. Police and sheriff's offices appear to rely most on top mounts (93% and 100% respectively) and strobes (76.7% and 84.6%). In comparison, state agencies equip vehicles with top mounts (86.7%), strobes and deck lights (both 66.7%). Other types of lights in use include LED, amber, arrow sticks, and wig wags.

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Emergency lighting configuration?									
Top mounts	92.2%	119	93.0%	80	86.7%	26	100.0%	13	
Strobes	75.2%	97	76.7%	66	66.7%	20	84.6%	11	
Red and blue lights	72.9%	94	76.7%	66	56.7%	17	84.6%	11	
Deck lights	47.3%	61	39.5%	34	66.7%	20	53.8%	7	
Halogens	36.4%	47	34.9%	30	40.0%	12	38.5%	5	
Other	28.7%	37	30.2%	26	23.3%	7	30.8%	4	
Red lights	14.7%	19	14.0%	12	20.0%	6	7.7%	1	
No Answer	3.1%	4	1.2%	1	10.0%	3	0.0%	0	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies		125		85		27		13	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

- **Equipment carried in trunk**

In this question, respondents indicated what equipment is carried in vehicle trunks. Overall, at least half of all agencies include the following: fire extinguisher (93.8%), first aid kit (93%), police tape (85.3%), radio transmitter (83.7%), spare tire (82.2%), highway fusees (80.6%), blanket (77.5%), tire jack (76.7%), measuring devices (71.3%), forms (60.5%), stop sticks (58.9%), raincoat (56.6%), video camera recording device (55%), and camera (51.2%). Agencies differ slightly in the frequency of items carried. For instance, 100% of responding state patrols and sheriffs carry fire extinguishers and first aid kits. The percent of police departments carrying the same items are 90.7% and 89.5% respectively. It appears that state patrol and sheriff's offices carry more items than police. At least half of responding sheriffs and state agencies report carrying 18 to 20 items in the trunk, while half of responding police agencies carry only 10 items.

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Equipment carried or mounted in trunk?									
Fire extinguisher	93.8%	121	90.7%	78	100.0%	30	100.0%	13	
First aid kit	93.0%	120	89.5%	77	100.0%	30	100.0%	13	
"Police" tape	85.3%	110	91.9%	79	66.7%	20	84.6%	11	
Radio transmitter	83.7%	108	76.7%	66	96.7%	29	100.0%	13	
Spare tire	82.2%	106	75.6%	65	100.0%	30	84.6%	11	
Highway fusees	80.6%	104	75.6%	65	90.0%	27	92.3%	12	
Blanket	77.5%	100	69.8%	60	90.0%	27	100.0%	13	
Tire jack	76.7%	99	70.9%	61	90.0%	27	84.6%	11	
Measuring devices	71.3%	92	65.1%	56	86.7%	26	76.9%	10	
Forms	60.5%	78	55.8%	48	66.7%	20	76.9%	10	
Stop sticks	58.9%	76	48.8%	42	83.3%	25	69.2%	9	
Raincoat	56.6%	73	45.3%	39	80.0%	24	76.9%	10	
Video camera recording device	55.0%	71	40.7%	35	90.0%	27	69.2%	9	
Camera	51.2%	66	43.0%	37	60.0%	18	84.6%	11	
Shotgun	45.7%	59	46.5%	40	43.3%	13	46.2%	6	
Briefcase	43.4%	56	37.2%	32	46.7%	14	76.9%	10	
Helmet	41.1%	53	27.9%	24	66.7%	20	69.2%	9	
Manuals	38.0%	49	27.9%	24	60.0%	18	53.8%	7	
Arrestee restraints	36.4%	47	33.7%	29	36.7%	11	53.8%	7	
Jumper cables	35.7%	46	26.7%	23	60.0%	18	38.5%	5	
Pylons	34.1%	44	27.9%	24	53.3%	16	30.8%	4	
Flashlight	32.6%	42	34.9%	30	33.3%	10	15.4%	2	
4-way lug wrench	32.6%	42	15.1%	13	80.0%	24	38.5%	5	
Other	27.9%	36	24.4%	21	40.0%	12	23.1%	3	
Binoculars	26.4%	34	29.1%	25	20.0%	6	23.1%	3	
Shovel	23.3%	30	11.6%	10	50.0%	15	38.5%	5	
Impact weapons	19.4%	25	15.1%	13	30.0%	9	23.1%	3	
Water bottle	15.5%	20	7.0%	6	33.3%	10	30.8%	4	
Tape recorder	14.0%	18	11.6%	10	23.3%	7	7.7%	1	
Back-up weapon	12.4%	16	12.8%	11	13.3%	4	7.7%	1	
Specialty jack	11.6%	15	5.8%	5	23.3%	7	23.1%	3	
Tow straps	5.4%	7	0.0%	0	20.0%	6	7.7%	1	
No Answer	0.8%	1	1.2%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies		128		85		30		13	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Fusees are the sixth most common item carried in vehicle trunks. They are used by 92.3% of sheriff's offices, 90% of state agencies, and 75.6% of police. The number of fusees varies greatly although sheriff agencies appear to carry more than their state and city counterparts.

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Number of fusees									
Between 10 and 20	19.4%	25	19.8%	17	23.3%	7	7.7%	1	
Between 31 and 50	18.6%	24	15.1%	13	20.0%	6	38.5%	5	
Ten or less	12.4%	16	15.1%	13	3.3%	1	15.4%	2	
Between 21 and 30	9.3%	12	5.8%	5	13.3%	4	23.1%	3	
Over 50	3.9%	5	3.5%	3	6.7%	2	0.0%	0	
Varies	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0	
No Answer	34.9%	45	39.5%	34	30.0%	9	15.4%	2	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies		84		52		21		11	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Among other equipment agencies store in trunks are defibrillators, riot shields, bio-hazard kits, slim jims, laptop computers, tool kits, bolt cutters, pry bars, axes, ropes, and flotation devices.

• **Trunk tire mount**

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Type of trunk tire mount used?								
Top mount bracket device	51.2%	66	47.7%	41	63.3%	19	46.2%	6
Trunk well mount	25.6%	33	23.3%	20	30.0%	9	30.8%	4
Vehicle not equipped with a spare tire	19.4%	25	26.7%	23	0.0%	0	15.4%	2
Other	2.3%	3	1.2%	1	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
No Answer	3.1%	4	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	15.4%	2
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		125		85		29		11

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

State-level agencies say they use the factory installed top mount bracket device for securing the spare tire most of the time (63.3%). Use of the top mount bracket is less common in police and sheriff departments where the rates fall to 47.7% and 46.2%. The difference appears to be the

result of a number of agencies (25) who report that they do not equip their cars with a spare tire.

• **Trunk packing procedures**

When asked if they have special procedures for packing equipment in the trunk, an overwhelming majority of state agencies (83.3%), police (83.7%), and sheriffs (92.3%) said No. Based on written comments, agencies with special packing procedures appear to use some type of storage container. Some other reported restrictions include a weight limit of 250 pounds, mounting the VC recording device on a ledge, requiring all items to be stored parallel to the gas tank, and mounting stop sticks to the trunk lid.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Any special procedures for packing the trunk?								
No special procedures	84.5%	109	83.7%	72	83.3%	25	92.3%	12
Other	11.6%	15	14.0%	12	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Require hard items capable of penetrating the trunk to be stored left to right (parallel to the gas tank) and near the trunk opening.	5.4%	7	4.7%	4	6.7%	2	7.7%	1
Require soft or crushable items to be stored at the rear of the trunk adjacent to the trunk wall.	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

• **Shotgun mounts**

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Where are shotguns mounted in patrol vehicles?									
Parallel to the roof, behind the officer	45.0%	58	47.7%	41	33.3%	10	53.8%	7	
Other	27.9%	36	23.3%	20	40.0%	12	30.8%	4	
Upright, between the front seats	21.7%	28	22.1%	19	16.7%	5	30.8%	4	
In the vehicle trunk, parallel to the gas tank	14.0%	18	12.8%	11	16.7%	5	15.4%	2	
Shotguns not issued to officers	7.8%	10	8.1%	7	6.7%	2	7.7%	1	
In the vehicle trunk, perpendicular to the gas tank	4.7%	6	3.5%	3	10.0%	3	0.0%	0	
Against the driver's side door frame	1.6%	2	0.0%	0	6.7%	2	0.0%	0	
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies		129		86		30		13	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Responses to the question of where shotguns are mounted show three main options. The most popular is to mount the gun parallel to the roof behind the officer. This mount is used by 53.8% of the sheriffs, 47.7% of police, and 33.3% of state agencies. The second most popular response indicates a mixture of *Other* locations, including guns mounted behind the officer attached to the roof or prisoner barrier and guns

stored in the trunk secured in a case or to the trunk lid. The third most popular option is to place guns between the front seats. For a full listing of other comments, see Appendix B.

• **MDC/Laptop mounts**

A majority of agencies (63.6%) prefer to mount MDC/laptops in the console area of their vehicles. The only other option seems to be to place the mounts further to the right in the front passenger area. The passenger area is used by 10.5% of police and 10% of state agencies.

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Where are MDC/laptop computers mounted?									
Center console area	63.6%	82	61.6%	53	76.7%	23	46.2%	6	
N/A or None	20.2%	26	19.8%	17	13.3%	4	38.5%	5	
Passenger area	10.1%	13	10.5%	9	10.0%	3	7.7%	1	
No Answer	6.2%	8	8.1%	7	0.0%	0	7.7%	1	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies		121		79		30		12	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Respondents indicate that most agencies now have computers in some of their vehicles with only 19.8 % of police, 13.3% of state patrols, and 38.5% of sheriffs answering N/A or none.

• **Video camera mounts**

Responses to this open-ended question were grouped by key word to help identify the most common location for mounting video cameras. For the full text of answers, see Appendix B. Responding state patrol agencies appear to prefer a windshield mount (43.3%) followed by a roof/ceiling

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Where are video camera's mounted?									
N/A or None	27.9%	36	40.7%	35	0.0%	0	7.7%	1	
Windshield mount	22.5%	29	14.0%	12	43.3%	13	30.8%	4	
Roof/ceiling mount	14.7%	19	12.8%	11	20.0%	6	15.4%	2	
By rear view mirror.	8.5%	11	7.0%	6	16.7%	5	0.0%	0	
Front dash	7.8%	10	4.7%	4	10.0%	3	23.1%	3	
Center	5.4%	7	5.8%	5	3.3%	1	7.7%	1	
Trunk	4.7%	6	4.7%	4	0.0%	0	15.4%	2	
Others	3.1%	4	2.3%	2	6.7%	2	0.0%	0	
No Answer	5.4%	7	8.1%	7	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	
Totals	100.0%	129	100.0%	86	100.0%	30	100.0%	13	

mount (20%). Police departments were more likely than state or sheriffs agencies to respond N/A or none (40.7%), suggesting lesser use of video equipment.

- Prisoner barriers**

In indicating whether or not they install prisoner barriers in patrol vehicles, police say they use a combination metal/Plexiglas cage 75.6% of the time. It is also the most common choice of state patrol agencies (43.3%) and sheriffs (61.5%). However, over a third of responding state patrols (36.7%) do not install prisoner barriers in their vehicles. Overall, agencies prefer the full cage (33.3%) to the half cage (4.7%).

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Type of prisoner barriers installed?								
Combination metal/Plexiglas cage	66.7%	86	75.6%	65	43.3%	13	61.5%	8
Full cage	33.3%	43	34.9%	30	26.7%	8	38.5%	5
Plexiglas cage	14.7%	19	17.4%	15	10.0%	3	7.7%	1
None installed	10.9%	14	2.3%	2	36.7%	11	7.7%	1
Other	7.0%	9	3.5%	3	10.0%	3	23.1%	3
Metal cage	5.4%	7	3.5%	3	6.7%	2	15.4%	2
Half cage	4.7%	6	3.5%	3	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

- Prisoner restraint seat**

The use of a plastic prisoner restraint seat is more common in police departments than in sheriffs and state agencies. Just over a third of the police agencies (34.9%) install this type of seat. However, 83.3% of responding state agencies and 84.6% of sheriffs say they do not use a prisoner restraint seat.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Plastic prisoner restraint seat installed?								
No	71.3%	92	65.1%	56	83.3%	25	84.6%	11
Yes	28.7%	37	34.9%	30	16.7%	5	15.4%	2
No Answer	0.8%	1	1.2%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		128		85		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

- Suggested alternatives**

Twelve agencies responded with suggested alternatives.

Police Departments:

- M. V. stops - want officers to approach on passenger side. We do not want shotguns in the trunk, but with all the equipment in cars, room is at a premium.
- Reduce amount of necessary equipment to a more compact storage container.
- Considering full trunk container.

-
-
- I would like to see a better mount for MDC/radio.
 - Plastic prisoner seat. No cage/cage -vs- crash safety.

State Patrol Agencies:

- Emphasis and training placed on parking of cruisers and scene protection. Officers are strongly encouraged to use fusees verses cruisers for traffic diversion and as warning devices.
- We really don't have any required method of how and where items are to be carried in the trunk but would be interested in any suggestions which would enhance officer safety.
- It should be reinforced that anything stored in trunk should be parallel to the gas tank to prevent penetration in the event of rear end collision.
- I think we all carry more in the trunk than is needed.
- "Traffic Stop/Back Up" method. Officer parks behind violator (offset left), approaches and obtains documents, returns to cruiser, backs vehicle further to the right, does paper work, pulls cruiser back to original position for cover as officer approaches the violator.
- Remove top mount light bars, mount grill and rear deck lamps.

Sheriff's Offices:

- Open.
- **Comments**

Sixteen respondents provided additional comments.

Police Departments:

- Most equipment in trunk is contained in a plastic trunk box for protection and control.
- We very much like the Crown Vics and have NO plans on changing make/models. Would like to see an area specific for laptops/MDTs and shotguns - even if it means cutting down on passenger (front) compartment.
- Since policy and state law requires the use of seat belts, it has been noticed that *unbuckling* has gotten more difficult when trying to exit cruiser in an emergency. The center console and right side firearms make it a challenge.
- August 18, 2002, one of our police units was involved in a rear end collision, causing total collapse of trunk section. The gas tank was punctured but did not burst into flames. If you would like more information about this accident, please give me a call at 580-221-2553.

-
-
- I hope that Ford Motor Co. doesn't reduce the size of the Crown Victoria or change it to a front wheel drive. As I see it from our perspective, the Crown Victoria is the only vehicle available for the type of work we do, so continue to improve upon it. We are a 14 officer agency in a community of just over 8,000. The Crown Vic is our primary patrol car, and we are not impressed by anything built by other manufacturers.
 - A trunk storage box should come with all police vehicles.
 - We are upgrading our policy and procedure manuals at this time.
 - Mounting of equipment in vehicles is not consistent.
 - We have 3 DUI officers.
 - Thanks for your efforts in giving us the best info one could ask for.
 - Would like to see donut spare tire (temp spare). Something smaller than rear spare. Takes up too much trunk space. We have considered taking spare out and having local tow co. keep spare for us. Then, if needed, we call, they change. Only issue is if we are out of area/state.

State Patrol Agencies:

- We have had numerous rear-end collisions involving our Crown Vic. cruisers. None have resulted in fire.
- Please keep in mind that the Texas DPS instruction allows for a great deal of officer discretion and that many of the answers to these questions are based on the general practices.
- Trunk and storage space is becoming a premium as more and more equipment is placed in the trunk. With computers and other equipment needed by officers in the passenger area more and more is moved to the trunk. Another concern is equipment weight and the amount of weight we are now carrying in patrol vehicles with the added equipment and the performance of vehicles with this additional weight. An alternative contemplated by this agency is to eventually remove the right front passenger seats and design an officer work station to be mounted in that area - affording more room for the officer to work and store items in.
- Only some of the vehicles are equipped with a plastic restraint seat. Although computers are not mounted in vehicles, many officers carry laptops in hard cases.

Sheriff's Offices:

- Clean and the use of a trunk organizer in the trunk has to be maintained by the department. We also have the shift sergeants inspect trunks at least once a month.



Arizona Department of Public Safety Police Practices Survey

- (1) Type of Agency Police Dept. State Patrol Sheriff's Office
- (2) Agency name: _____
- (3) Name of agency contact: _____ (4) Phone number: _____
- (5) Address: _____
- (6) Please send me a copy of the survey results. Yes No

Police Practices and Procedures

- (7) How does your agency position patrol cars during violator stops?

<input type="checkbox"/> Park in front of violator vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> Angle
<input type="checkbox"/> Park in rear of violator vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/> Wheels turned to left
<input type="checkbox"/> Park straight on	<input type="checkbox"/> Wheels turned to right
<input type="checkbox"/> Park off set left	<input type="checkbox"/> _ Feet from violator vehicle
<input type="checkbox"/> Park off set right	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
- (8) Parking distance from violator vehicle. _____
- (9) Other _____

- (10) Does your agency use different parking positions for different types of highways (urban freeways, two-lane highways, four lane highways, rural highways, divided highways, Interstates)? Yes No
- (11) If yes, please explain. _____

- (12) Are emergency lights left on during the violator stop?

<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Both top lights and rear flashers left on
<input type="checkbox"/> Only full top mount lights left on	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Only rear flashers left on	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
- (13) Other _____

- (14) How do your officers approach the violator vehicle?

<input type="checkbox"/> On the driver's side	<input type="checkbox"/> On the passenger side	<input type="checkbox"/> Both
---	--	-------------------------------

(15) Other _____

(16) Where is the officer located while issuing a citation?

- By the violator vehicle driver's door
- By the violator vehicle passenger door
- Standing to the rear of the patrol vehicle
- Standing at the patrol vehicle passenger-side door
- Seated in the patrol vehicle
- Other

(17) Other _____

(18) Where is the violator located while the officer issues the citation?

- Seated in violator vehicle
- Standing with the officer
- Seated in the patrol vehicle
- Other

(19) Other _____

(20) Where does your agency position the patrol vehicle at a collision scene?

- Park in front of the scene
- Park to the rear of the scene
- Other

(21) Other _____

Police Equipment

(22) What type of vehicle (make/model) do you use for patrol? _____

(23) How are patrol vehicles marked?

- Reflective decals on both sides
- Nonreflective decals on both sides
- Reflective decals on rear
- Nonreflective decals on rear
- Other

(24) Other _____

(25) What configuration of emergency lighting does your department use?

- Top mounts
- Deck lights
- Red lights
- Red and blue lights
- Strobes
- Halogens
- Other

(26) Other _____

(27) Please check all equipment carried or mounted in the patrol vehicle trunk.

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrestee restraints | <input type="checkbox"/> Forms | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio transmitter | <input type="checkbox"/> Tow straps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Back-up weapon | <input type="checkbox"/> Helmet | <input type="checkbox"/> Raincoat | <input type="checkbox"/> Video camera recording device |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blanket | <input type="checkbox"/> Highway fusees | <input type="checkbox"/> Shotgun | <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars | <input type="checkbox"/> Impact weapons | <input type="checkbox"/> Shovel | <input type="checkbox"/> 4-way lug wrench |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Briefcase | <input type="checkbox"/> Jumper cables | <input type="checkbox"/> Spare tire | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camera | <input type="checkbox"/> Manuals | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty jack | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire extinguisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Measuring devices | <input type="checkbox"/> Stop sticks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit | <input type="checkbox"/> "Police" tape | <input type="checkbox"/> Tape recorder | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight | <input type="checkbox"/> Pylons | <input type="checkbox"/> Tire jack | |

(28) Number of fusees _____

(29) Other _____

(30) Please indicate the type of trunk tire mount used.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle not equipped with a spare tire | <input type="checkbox"/> Trunk well mount |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Top mount bracket device | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

(31) Other _____

(32) Please indicate any special procedures your agency requires for packing equipment in the trunk.

- No special procedures
- Require hard items capable of penetrating the trunk to be stored left to right (parallel to the gas tank) and near the trunk opening.
- Require soft or crushable items to be stored at the rear of the trunk adjacent to the trunk wall.
- Other

(33) Other _____

(34) Where are shotguns mounted in patrol vehicles?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shotguns not issued to officers | <input type="checkbox"/> Upright, between the front seats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In the vehicle trunk, parallel to the gas tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Parallel to the roof, behind the officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In the vehicle trunk, perpendicular to the gas tank | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Against the driver's side door frame | |

(35) Other _____

(36) Where are MDC/laptop computers mounted in the patrol vehicle? _____

(37) Where are video camera's mounted in the patrol car? _____

(38) What type of prisoner barriers are installed in the patrol car?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None installed | <input type="checkbox"/> Plexiglas cage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Half cage | <input type="checkbox"/> Combination metal/Plexiglas cage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full cage | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metal cage | |

(39) Other _____

(40) Is a plastic prisoner restraint seat installed in the rear of the patrol vehicle? Yes No

(41) Prisoner restraint seat comments. _____

(42) Suggested alternatives to present practices or procedures: _____

(43) Comments: _____

Police Practices Survey - Results By Type of Agency

Question: How does your agency position patrol cars during violator stops?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Car position during violator stops?								
Park off set left	73.6%	95	79.1%	68	66.7%	20	53.8%	7
Park in rear of violator vehicle	70.5%	91	70.9%	61	70.0%	21	69.2%	9
Wheels turned to left	45.7%	59	41.9%	36	50.0%	15	61.5%	8
_ Feet from violator vehicle	38.8%	50	37.2%	32	33.3%	10	61.5%	8
Angle	20.2%	26	12.8%	11	36.7%	11	30.8%	4
Wheels turned to right	6.2%	8	8.1%	7	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
Other	6.2%	8	4.7%	4	10.0%	3	7.7%	1
Park off set right	3.9%	5	2.3%	2	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Park in front of violator vehicle	1.6%	2	0.0%	0	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
Park straight on	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Parking distance from violator vehicle.								
Minimum 16 to 20 feet	11.6%	15	9.3%	8	20.0%	6	7.7%	1
Minimum 5 to 10 feet	10.9%	14	11.6%	10	10.0%	3	7.7%	1
Minimum 11 to 15 feet	10.9%	14	12.8%	11	0.0%	0	23.1%	3
Minimum 21 feet or more	6.2%	8	3.5%	3	6.7%	2	23.1%	3
Others	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
No Answer	60.5%	78	62.8%	54	63.3%	19	38.5%	5
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		51		32		11		8

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Officer discretion.
- Time, distance, cover, containment. The position of the patrol car would be situational based on location of violator stop, i.e., less traveled road vs. busy city street or expressway/freeway. Officers are taught various options and choose the option they feel to be the most effective for the situation. Options covered are:
Officer safety lane (offset to left). Offset patrol car to the right if roadway permits (i.e. large enough shoulder). Angling the patrol car at the rear of the violator's vehicle in a high-risk takedown situation. There is no set policy on patrol car position. Officers determine the best location given the circumstances.
- We use the Wisc. state standard "Conduct Vehicle Contacts" as a base for all vehicle contacts.
- No standard rule.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Officers are taught various techniques, but emphasis is placed on angle parking behind the violator. Officers may use discretion in their application, based on circumstances.
- By Division policy, positioned, when possible, in such a manner that the Trooper will be protected when approaching the stopped vehicle.
- Only park offset left if there is sufficient space on shoulder so that the officer's vehicle is not in driving lane. If road is too narrow, no offset left.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Angle and distance depend on shoulder condition.

Question: Does your agency use different parking positions for different types of highways?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Use different parking positions for different highway types?								
No	69.8%	90	77.9%	67	53.3%	16	53.8%	7
Yes	27.9%	36	22.1%	19	36.7%	11	46.2%	6
No Answer	2.3%	3	0.0%	0	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		126		86		27		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

If yes, please explain.

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Angle for highway, off set left in city
- We teach options to choose from which best suit the circumstances for each of the above road types. If there is a shoulder, we use it when possible. Each stop is unique depending on circumstances since violators' actions are not predictable. Officers are taught to consider the Use of Force Model (time, distance, cover, communication and teamwork) when positioning patrol cars on highways. Location is a factor, i.e., busy downtown street vs lightly traveled suburban side street.
- May make right side approach if roadway is narrow or tactics call for.
- Interstate 95 approach on right side. Park the same.
- We are rural, however we have 1 highway and many curving, hilly roads.
- Can be modified for conditions.
- Highways on right.
- Primarily as in #6 [in rear, offset left, wheels left], but whatever is safest for the type of highway.
- Local Town Police Dept. - Type of street or state road may dictate alternate position.
- The officer uses the approach that best fits the vehicle being contacted and condition, also threat assessment.
- Park to rear and straight on, on narrow streets.
- Depends if there is a shoulder.
- On Interstate, we angle the car 30 or 50 degrees
- Traffic conditions.
- Many smaller roads do not allow offset, then directly behind.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Officers are taught various techniques, but emphasis is placed on angle parking behind the violator. Officers may use discretion in their application based on circumstances.
- Position would be up to the trooper's discretion depending on location and roadway design.
- Officer discretion.
- Officers are trained to angle vehicle but conditions may alter positions.
- Park as situation permits (officer safety, traffic volume, shoulder width, natural or manmade obstacles).
- Answers in #6 [park in rear of violator, angle, wheels turned to left] generally prevail unless road design or circumstances dictate otherwise.
- Depends on roadway and approach officer wants to use in making contact
- Positioned as far from roadway as practical.
- If more room for passing traffic is available, the patrol car is more off set to the left.
- Officers are given the latitude to alter the stopping technique to fit the roadway, environmental conditions, and traffic density.
- Metropolitan districts park in front of collision scene and off highway if at all possible.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Depends on shoulder condition.
- Depends on roadway and violator position.
- With rural roads, the shoulder area does not always allow for angle offset.
- If no lane to offset, park directly behind.
- Park off set right on freeways
- Two-lane gravel roads, can only park straight behind.

Question: Are emergency lights left on during the violator stops?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Are emergency lights left on during the stop?								
Both top lights and rear flashers left on	76.7%	99	81.4%	70	60.0%	18	84.6%	11
Other	18.6%	24	15.1%	13	30.0%	9	15.4%	2
Only full top mount lights left on	8.5%	11	10.5%	9	3.3%	1	7.7%	1
Only rear flashers left on	3.9%	5	2.3%	2	6.7%	2	7.7%	1
Yes	3.1%	4	1.2%	1	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
No	0.8%	1	0.0%	0	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- If the violator's vehicle is stopped in a potentially hazardous location or affects the free flow of traffic, rear lights are utilized after the violator has stopped. If the violator stop affects oncoming traffic, rear and front lights (roof top only) are utilized. If the violator stop does not present any potential hazards, no lights are required.
- Wig Wags and take down lights at night
- Corner strobes
- All emergency lights are left on.
- Amber light stick
- Up to officer
- Strobes
- Lights on front bumper with fully marked cars with top lights.
- Front and rear
- Only top mounts left on with arrow stick.
- Arrow stick in back window. We got one for each car after learning of rear impact problem. (4 cars)
- At times just front & rear wig/wags.
- At night, many officer flip "rear only" on.
- Left up to individual officer, usually full light bar.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Trooper discretion
- Depends on amount of visibility needed. At a minimum, rear flashers remain activated.
- All lights are activated.
- Trooper discretion
- Officer discretion
- Blue lights, hazard lights, take down lights (at night) and alternating headlights on during stop.
- Depends on officer and weather and road conditions
- Varies by officer. No set policy.
- Officer's discretion based on environment and volume of traffic.
- Back-up lights flash.
- In some instances, use spotlight and take down forward lights.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Officer discretion
- Optional, light bar and/or rear flashers.
- Spot lights on to illuminate inside of vehicle

Question: How do your officers approach the violator vehicle?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
How do your officers approach the violator vehicle?								
On the driver's side	63.6%	82	74.4%	64	40.0%	12	46.2%	6
Both	31.8%	41	24.4%	21	43.3%	13	53.8%	7
On the passenger side	3.9%	5	1.2%	1	13.3%	4	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.8%	1	0.0%	0	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
Totals	100.0%	129	100.0%	86	100.0%	30	100.0%	13

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- [On the driver's side] primarily - both acceptable
- Depends on situation
- Violators are approached on the passenger side, when possible. When two officers are present, the violator is approached on both sides of the vehicle when possible.
- Mostly on driver's side. Sometimes on passenger side.
- [Both] On passenger side when appropriate.
- [Both] Depends on the officer and where stop made.
- Cover officer (per policy) takes passenger side.
- [Both] We use driver's side as our primary approach side.
- Sometimes - passenger side approach.
- Mostly on the driver's side.
- Both depending on situation.
- We use both depending on traffic and violator.
- On driver's side except on limited access highway.
- Large percent on driver's side. Medium percent on passenger side.
- No SOP. Officer's choice based on situation. Trained in variety of methods.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- On the driver's side unless circumstances warrant a passenger side approach, i.e., traffic present or occupant behavior.
- Approach on passenger side where possible.
- Both sides are used as circumstances warrant.
- Depends on circumstance of stop. Re officer safety.
- [Both] Case dependent, normally on drivers' side
- Varies by situation and officer. Taught both ways.
- Officer's discretion.
- Generally on the driver's side, but officer choice.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Depends on how close violator parks to traffic lane.
- Usually driver's side.
- Allow officer discretion to alter as needed due to environment.
- On passenger side (freeways)

Question: Where is the officer located while issuing a citation?

	Overall		Type of Agency						
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office		
Officer location while issuing a citation?									
Seated in the patrol vehicle	58.1%	75	52.3%	45	70.0%	21	69.2%	9	
By the violator vehicle driver's door	25.6%	33	31.4%	27	20.0%	6	0.0%	0	
Standing at the patrol vehicle passenger-side door	17.1%	22	16.3%	14	16.7%	5	23.1%	3	
Other	9.3%	12	7.0%	6	16.7%	5	7.7%	1	
Standing to the rear of the patrol vehicle	8.5%	11	8.1%	7	6.7%	2	15.4%	2	
By the violator vehicle passenger door	4.7%	6	4.7%	4	6.7%	2	0.0%	0	
No Answer	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0	
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Replies		127		85		29		13	

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- This is taught through Use of Force training. Commonly officers are known to sit in their patrol cars when writing the citation. The officer then approaches the safest side of the violator's vehicle to issue the citation.
- Officer may from time-to-time issue the citation other than at the side of the car, but not very often.
- On curb, between violator and patrol unit.
- Depending on officer
- To the right of the patrol car, keeping a barrier between officer and violator.
- At times at PD
- In warmer weather, officers stay outside, rear of cruiser.
- Or passenger side rear corner of patrol vehicle.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- [Seated in the patrol vehicle] while writing ticket.
- Officers are trained to stand to the right rear of the patrol vehicle, but most of the time they are seated in the patrol vehicle.
- Standing to the right rear of violator vehicle and NOT between the violator vehicle and patrol vehicle.
- [Seated in patrol vehicle] This position is most common, but officers may exercise individual preferences and are not restricted by policy.
- Depends on officer, weather, and road conditions
- Officer discretion, but never seated.
- Usually standing at patrol vehicle passenger-side door. Options depending on situation include out of the vehicle and off or on the shoulder (passenger side).

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Right front fender of patrol vehicle.

Question: Where is the violator located while the officer issues the citation?

Violator location while the officer writes citation?	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Seated in violator vehicle	96.1%	124	98.8%	85	90.0%	27	92.3%	12
Standing with the officer	7.8%	10	3.5%	3	16.7%	5	15.4%	2
Seated in the patrol vehicle	5.4%	7	3.5%	3	13.3%	4	0.0%	0
Other	3.1%	4	2.3%	2	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Depends on type of vehicle and number of occupants.
- [Seated in violator vehicle.] From time-to-time, another location may be used, but seldom.
- At times at PD
- Depending on the contact.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- [Seated in violator vehicle] Most often used, but not prohibited from using other options.
- Never seated in the patrol vehicle. Violators are not allowed in a patrol vehicle unless in custody.
- Varies by situation.
- Officer discretion.
- Standing with the officer most common position. May remain seated in violator vehicle depending on the situation.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- [none]

Where does your agency position the patrol vehicle at a collision scene?

Patrol vehicle position at collision scene?	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Park to the rear of the scene	82.2%	106	77.9%	67	86.7%	26	100.0%	13
Other	17.8%	23	18.6%	16	20.0%	6	7.7%	1
Park in front of the scene	9.3%	12	10.5%	9	6.7%	2	7.7%	1
No Answer	2.3%	3	3.5%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals		*		*		*		*
Replies		126		83		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Usually to rear. Also parked to front and side when necessary to protect scene.
- Scene safety dictates cruiser positioning
- Depending on the severity of the collision, the objective is to organize the accident scene to preserve evidence unless first aid is the priority.
- To best protect the scene.
- As situation dictates.
- Depends on type of scene and how to safely alert motorists.
- Varies.
- Depends on conditions and what is best for the scene.
- Depends.
- Wherever the scene is most vulnerable.
- Where needed for traffic control.
- In a location to protect the scene and alert approaching motorists.
- Depends on situation and location.
- Depends on logistics of individual crash site.
- Depends on situation
- Safest place possible
- Dependent of location/type of accident.
- Best location to limit traffic congestion.
- Sides

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Trooper discretion
- Reflective
- [Park] as needed to protect the scene.
- Where appropriate for safety.
- Depends on conditions present at scene and location needed for traffic control and presence.
- When the vehicles involved in an accident are all on the roadway shoulder, the CHP vehicle should be moved and parked in front of the vehicles involved where practical.
- park to the rear but not in roadway.
- Depends on the situation.
- Safest location off roadway unless traffic is closed down and vehicle is used for road closure.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Initial responder parks to rear of scene. Others take strategic positions.
- Depends on scene

Question: What type of vehicle (make/model) do you use for patrol?

Type of vehicle used for patrol?	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Only Ford CVPI	65.9%	85	75.6%	65	43.3%	13	53.8%	7
Ford CVPI and Chevrolets	14.0%	18	7.0%	6	30.0%	9	23.1%	3
CVPI and Various Others	4.7%	6	3.5%	3	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Ford CVPI and Other Fords	2.3%	3	3.5%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Ford CVPI, Chevrolets, and Dodges	1.6%	2	0.0%	0	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
No Answer	11.6%	15	10.5%	9	10.0%	3	23.1%	3
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		114		77		27		10

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Type of vehicle used for patrol?

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

65 Ford Crown Victoria PI
 0 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Camaro
 0 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Impala
 1 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Tahoe
 11 Other

- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Chevrolet Impala, Chevrolet Caprice, Jeep Cherokee, Ford Expedition
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Bronco, Expedition, and Taurus
- Ford Crown Victoria PI and Ford Expedition
- Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Suburban
- Ford Crown Victoria PI and Ford Explorer
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Chevrolet Caprice
- Ford Crown Victoria PI and some Chevrolets
- Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Caprice
- Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolets
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Chevrolet Caprice, Ford Explorers
- Ford Crown Victoria PI and Dodge Intrepid

Type of Agency = State Patrol

13 Ford Crown Victoria PI
 3 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Camaro
 5 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Impala
 0 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Tahoe
 6 Other

- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Ford Expedition, Chevrolet Impala, and Dodge Intrepid
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Dodge Intrepid, Dodge Durango, and Chevrolet Impala
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Chevrolet Impala, and SUVs
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Chevrolet Tahoe, and Camaro
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, Chevrolet Impala, and Dodge Intrepid
- Ford Crown Victoria PI, various pickups, and large SUVs.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

7 Ford Crown Victoria PI
 0 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Camaro
 1 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Impala
 2 Ford Crown Victoria PI and Chevrolet Tahoe
 0 Other

- [none]

Question: How are patrol vehicles marked?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
How are patrol vehicles marked?								
Reflective decals on both sides	86.8%	112	88.4%	76	83.3%	25	84.6%	11
Reflective decals on rear	62.8%	81	60.5%	52	66.7%	20	69.2%	9
Other	10.9%	14	7.0%	6	23.3%	7	7.7%	1
Nonreflective decals on both sides	8.5%	11	9.3%	8	3.3%	1	15.4%	2
Nonreflective decals on rear	7.0%	9	8.1%	7	3.3%	1	7.7%	1
No Answer	2.3%	3	0.0%	0	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		126		86		27		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Reflective decals on both sides, rear and roof.
- Black and white.
- 2 inch reflective stripe around bottom of entire vehicle.
- Unmarked
- Decals on front nose/bumper
- Distinctive black/white pattern

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- [In addition to reflective decals on sides and rear] Reflective numbers on the roof of the patrol vehicles.
- [In addition to reflective decals on sides and rear] Reflective material on driver's door (locking mechanism surface) and inside trunk lid.
- [In addition to reflective decals on sides and rear] Reflective decals on front.
- Reflective decal on rear bumper + overhead emergency light rack
- [In addition to reflective decals on sides and rear] Reflective taping on door interior edges and interior trunk area.
- [In addition to decals on side and rear] Reflective numbers on roof
- Some patrol vehicles are unmarked units with dash and deck type lights.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Reflective decal - front.

Question: What configuration of emergency lighting does your department use?

Emergency lighting configuration?	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Top mounts	92.2%	119	93.0%	80	86.7%	26	100.0%	13
Strobes	75.2%	97	76.7%	66	66.7%	20	84.6%	11
Red and blue lights	72.9%	94	76.7%	66	56.7%	17	84.6%	11
Deck lights	47.3%	61	39.5%	34	66.7%	20	53.8%	7
Halogens	36.4%	47	34.9%	30	40.0%	12	38.5%	5
Other	28.7%	37	30.2%	26	23.3%	7	30.8%	4
Red lights	14.7%	19	14.0%	12	20.0%	6	7.7%	1
No Answer	3.1%	4	1.2%	1	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		125		85		27		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- New equipped with LED.
- LED
- LED
- Piercers & messengers
- Top mounts and red & white lights.
- Wig Wags
- Amber/yellow
- Take down lights also
- Amber to rear
- Tail and backup also
- LED
- Also amber to the rear.
- Arrow sticks
- Lights also mounted on front bumper.
- Top mounts are blue. Headlamps flash, arrowstick yellow.
- Wig Wag headlights
- Only some cars have strobes.
- Most of roof lights are red, with one white facing rear and one amber facing rear
- LED
- Blue lights
- LED
- Wheelen strobe w/halogen flashers. All blue, arrow stick back window.
- Wig Wag headlights and 4 corner strobes
- Arrow stick on rear dash.
- Wig Wags
- Amber light stick rear.
- Tail lights, head light, wig wag
- Experimenting with LEDs
- Code 3 MX 7000 - Federal Signal V-Bar

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Various configurations for marked, cleantop, and unmarked cars.
- [Top mount strobes are] Blue only.
- LED. 60% of fleet have light bars, 40 % are clean roof.

- LED
- LED
- Some vehicles are equipped with LED lighting technology.
- Strobes on just a few vehicles (slick roof patrol cars).
- Blue/white and Blue/amber
- 20% of fleet are slick-top with deck and windshield lights.
- Strobes are blue.
- Wig Wag headlights

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- LED
- Spotlights on door posts
- 4 corner strobes, grill strobes red/blue
- LED

Question: Please check all equipment carried or mounted in the patrol vehicle trunk.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Equipment carried or mounted in trunk?								
Fire extinguisher	93.8%	121	90.7%	78	100.0%	30	100.0%	13
First aid kit	93.0%	120	89.5%	77	100.0%	30	100.0%	13
"Police" tape	85.3%	110	91.9%	79	66.7%	20	84.6%	11
Radio transmitter	83.7%	108	76.7%	66	96.7%	29	100.0%	13
Spare tire	82.2%	106	75.6%	65	100.0%	30	84.6%	11
Highway fusees	80.6%	104	75.6%	65	90.0%	27	92.3%	12
Blanket	77.5%	100	69.8%	60	90.0%	27	100.0%	13
Tire jack	76.7%	99	70.9%	61	90.0%	27	84.6%	11
Measuring devices	71.3%	92	65.1%	56	86.7%	26	76.9%	10
Forms	60.5%	78	55.8%	48	66.7%	20	76.9%	10
Stop sticks	58.9%	76	48.8%	42	83.3%	25	69.2%	9
Raincoat	56.6%	73	45.3%	39	80.0%	24	76.9%	10
Video camera recording device	55.0%	71	40.7%	35	90.0%	27	69.2%	9
Camera	51.2%	66	43.0%	37	60.0%	18	84.6%	11
Shotgun	45.7%	59	46.5%	40	43.3%	13	46.2%	6
Briefcase	43.4%	56	37.2%	32	46.7%	14	76.9%	10
Helmet	41.1%	53	27.9%	24	66.7%	20	69.2%	9
Manuals	38.0%	49	27.9%	24	60.0%	18	53.8%	7
Arrestee restraints	36.4%	47	33.7%	29	36.7%	11	53.8%	7
Jumper cables	35.7%	46	26.7%	23	60.0%	18	38.5%	5
Pylons	34.1%	44	27.9%	24	53.3%	16	30.8%	4
Flashlight	32.6%	42	34.9%	30	33.3%	10	15.4%	2
4-way lug wrench	32.6%	42	15.1%	13	80.0%	24	38.5%	5
Other	27.9%	36	24.4%	21	40.0%	12	23.1%	3
Binoculars	26.4%	34	29.1%	25	20.0%	6	23.1%	3
Shovel	23.3%	30	11.6%	10	50.0%	15	38.5%	5
Impact weapons	19.4%	25	15.1%	13	30.0%	9	23.1%	3
Water bottle	15.5%	20	7.0%	6	33.3%	10	30.8%	4
Tape recorder	14.0%	18	11.6%	10	23.3%	7	7.7%	1
Back-up weapon	12.4%	16	12.8%	11	13.3%	4	7.7%	1
Specialty jack	11.6%	15	5.8%	5	23.3%	7	23.1%	3
Tow straps	5.4%	7	0.0%	0	20.0%	6	7.7%	1
No Answer	0.8%	1	1.2%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		128		85		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Number of fuses								
Between 10 and 20	19.4%	25	19.8%	17	23.3%	7	7.7%	1
Between 31 and 50	18.6%	24	15.1%	13	20.0%	6	38.5%	5
Ten or less	12.4%	16	15.1%	13	3.3%	1	15.4%	2
Between 21 and 30	9.3%	12	5.8%	5	13.3%	4	23.1%	3
Over 50	3.9%	5	3.5%	3	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
Varies	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
No Answer	34.9%	45	39.5%	34	30.0%	9	15.4%	2
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		84		52		21		11

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Laptop computer
- [Spare tires] detectives only
- Life rings/flotation, bolt cutters, spare keys, trunk organizer, riot shields
- Camera, measuring devices and AR-15 in Sergeants' vehicles
- Flares and optional unit specific required equipment
- Defibrillator, pry bar, saw, ax, rope, flotation device. [Only some of the cars have] Binoculars, shotgun, stop sticks.
- Haz Mat kit, Slim Jim
- AED O2 Processing kit
- Hydrant wrench.
- PSO fire gear
- Vehicle lock out kit, Lifepak defibrillator, tool kit.
- Ballistic Shield
- In car computer and cell phone
- Fingerprint kit, Haz Mat suit, pry bar, rope, floatation vest
- GPS equipment, tire snow chains, oxygen bottle, vehicle computer transmitter and receiver
- Rifles
- Sharps container, rubber gloves, tire chains
- AED
- Tool kit, hazardous waste kit, reflective vest, broom, sledge hammer, flares
- Oxygen unit, sledge hammer, haligen bar, first aid kit (plastic), crime scene plastic box, lock jok, gas mask, radios, tape measure, flares (in box)
- Rope flotation device, "drag" sled, evidence kit.
- Haligen rescue tool

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Reflective vest, decontamination toweletts, disposable gloves, ax, bodily fluid bags, brook life airway, broom, and communicable disease kit.
- (no spikes) and wrecking bar
- Tire chains, reflectorized traffic vest, wet weather gear, foul weather boots, spare ammunition, and mobile field force equipment
- Special team equipment as assigned to team members
- Specialty equipment SWAT and mobile response team members, some weapons, crowd control gear and other.
- Animal snare, pry bar, evidence scene spray paint, wooden equipment storage box
- Infectious disease kit, empty gas container.
- Ripping bar, bio-hazard kit, plastic reflector kit (red plastic reflector triangles).

- Pry/wrecking bar.
- Other equipment depends on the individual.
- Winter survival gear, search and rescue backpacks, M-16 rifle, parka, bunny boots, laptop in hard case.
- Pry bar and tire deflation device.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Evidence collection kit
- Mobile data computer
- MDC and AVL computer equipment

Question: Please indicate the type of trunk tire mount used.

Type of trunk tire mount used?	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Top mount bracket device	51.2%	66	47.7%	41	63.3%	19	46.2%	6
Trunk well mount	25.6%	33	23.3%	20	30.0%	9	30.8%	4
Vehicle not equipped with a spare tire	19.4%	25	26.7%	23	0.0%	0	15.4%	2
Other	2.3%	3	1.2%	1	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
No Answer	3.1%	4	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	15.4%	2
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		125		85		29		11

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- [Trunk well mount] Detectives only
- Special securing
- Stock Ford
- Factory mounted
- We are considering taking the spare out for more room.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- O.E.M. mount
- Use factory installed tire mount with no modifications. However, when the spare tire is used, officers find it difficult to remount the tire in the bracket. Therefore, they often leave it unsecured on the trunk floor.
- Mounted upright parallel to fuel tank
- Factory mount.
- Manufacturers standard full size mount.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- [none]

Question: Please indicate any special procedures your agency requires for packing equipment in the trunk.

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Any special procedures for packing the trunk?								
No special procedures	84.5%	109	83.7%	72	83.3%	25	92.3%	12
Other	11.6%	15	14.0%	12	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Require hard items capable of penetrating the trunk to be stored left to right (parallel to the gas tank) and near the trunk opening.	5.4%	7	4.7%	4	6.7%	2	7.7%	1
Require soft or crushable items to be stored at the rear of the trunk adjacent to the trunk wall.	1.6%	2	1.2%	1	3.3%	1	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- "Rubbermaid" plastic storage containers are utilized
- Trunks are fitted with a wooden storage box
- As determined safe by police mechanic (bolted).
- Equipment storage tray - No special instructions
- Items placed in a hard cruiser box.
- Organizer box
- Most items stored in trunk organizer.
- Pending recommendation from Blue Ribbon Panel.
- We just try to make sure things are not flying around, especially during emergency runs.
- Prior to Aug. 2002, no special procedure. Will conform to manufacturer's suggestion on on future installations.
- All items secured, loose items in containers.
- Hard plastic custom designed box installed on driver's side taking up 1/4 of trunk
- Placed in trunk organizer

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Cruisers equipped with large storage boxes.
- No special packing procedure but a 250 pound weight limit
- VC recording device mounted on ledge to left and above trunk well behind left rear wheel well
- Procedures dependent on spacing in trunk. Fleet services designs location of equipment based on trunk configuration and manufacturer recommendations.
- Trunk configuration only allows items to be stored parallel to gas tank.
- Equipment must be secured.
- Stop sticks must be mounted to inside of trunk lid.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- [none]

Question: Where are shotguns mounted in patrol vehicles?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Where are shotguns mounted in patrol vehicles?								
Parallel to the roof, behind the officer	45.0%	58	47.7%	41	33.3%	10	53.8%	7
Other	27.9%	36	23.3%	20	40.0%	12	30.8%	4
Upright, between the front seats	21.7%	28	22.1%	19	16.7%	5	30.8%	4
In the vehicle trunk, parallel to the gas tank	14.0%	18	12.8%	11	16.7%	5	15.4%	2
Shotguns not issued to officers	7.8%	10	8.1%	7	6.7%	2	7.7%	1
In the vehicle trunk, perpendicular to the gas tank	4.7%	6	3.5%	3	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
Against the driver's side door frame	1.6%	2	0.0%	0	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- [Parallel to the roof, behind officer] on cage bar, top.
- [In addition to shotguns mounted behind officer] Rifles mounted upright between front driver and front passenger seats.
- [Shotgun] Angled down in center front. M16 roof mounted.
- [If carried in trunk] Loose in case.
- If carried, secured in soft carrying case in the trunk.
- Bean bag shotguns only.
- MP5 automatic rifles between the front seats.
- Rifles positioned at officer's discretion.
- Passenger front by console.
- Shotguns are currently being switched for less-lethal, .223 rifles are mounted between the seats.
- Attached to cage above the officer's head
- Not mounted. Optional to individual officers. Carried in plastic gun case in trunk.
- Roof of trunk lid
- On trunk lid - inside.
- Front muzzle down between seats
- N/A
- Some vehicles are not equipped with shotgun racks.
- Angled between seats
- And in gun case in trunk.
- car-15 instead of shotguns
- In case kept in trunk, no mounts.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Barrel down between front seats, some barrel up between front seat backs (full cages)
- Carried in trunk.
- Stored in the trunk but currently switching to upright between front seats.
- [Shot guns currently mounted] parallel to the roof, behind the officer. Moving to upright, between the front seats.
- Rear seat cover

- Parallel to the floor behind the officer
- Sleeve attached to front surface of rear seat
- [Both parallel behind officer and between front seats] Changing to between the seat mount.
- Officers discretion.
- Roof mounts, cage mounts, floor mounts.
- Carbine 9mm Ruger stored in the trunk.
- Varies with age and type of vehicle.
- Left side of driver's seat with muzzle pointed to the rear.
- Beside console or floor lock device on front passenger side

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Top of trunk of vehicle
- Left up to the officer.
- [Shotguns not issued to officers.] Personal shotguns permitted. Mounting case by case, usually in passenger compartment, upright, out of air bag deployment area.
- Less lethal shot gun in gun case in trunk.
- Passenger floorboard

Question: Where are MDC/laptop computers mounted in the patrol vehicle?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Where are MDC/laptop computers mounted?								
Center console area	63.6%	82	61.6%	53	76.7%	23	46.2%	6
N/A or None	20.2%	26	19.8%	17	13.3%	4	38.5%	5
Passenger area	10.1%	13	10.5%	9	10.0%	3	7.7%	1
No Answer	6.2%	8	8.1%	7	0.0%	0	7.7%	1
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		121		79		30		12

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Where are MDC/laptop computers mounted in the patrol vehicle?

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

12 N/A	1 Center between front seats
5 None	2 Center console.
5 Between front seats	1 Center front
4 Center console	1 Console area
3 Front center	1 Front passenger side.
1 Between the front seats	2 Passenger side
1 Between driver and front passenger seats	38 Other
2 Between driver and passenger seats.	

- Between driver and passenger.
- Center, against dash panel.
- Above center console
- Computers are mounted in trunk, monitors mounted on dashboard, keyboards are mounted between seats movable for use
- Front of console on adjustable laptop mount
- Equipment between driver/passenger
- Over center console
- Front
- Between bucket seats against dashboard
- Center console between bucket seats
- On hump front of dash
- Middle dash/console area
- On mount between front seats
- Front seat between driver and passenger.
- Right side of center console
- Center console dash.
- On a console bracket between front seats.
- Dash display, console keyboard, glove box MDC
- Passenger seats
- Between front seats to right of driver
- Center
- Passenger area
- Between the seats and as far forward as we can.
- Between bucket seats
- In front and left of passenger's seat

- Airbag safe area in center
- Center, in front of dash
- Between the two front seats
- Floor, between seats
- Dash mounted screen, key board on transmission hump, computer in glove box
- Mounted to front passenger seat stand upright to left of passenger seat swivel.
- Passenger side of hump, front seat
- Center, at front of console
- Between the seats
- Mounted to the floor, between seats, near dash
- Between driver & passenger blocking car radio
- Bracket between seats, over radio, swivel
- Center dash area between dash & front seat.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

3 N/A	1 Center between front seats
0 None	0 Center console.
1 Between front seats	1 Center front
1 Center console	1 Console area
1 Front center	1 Front passenger side.
2 Between the front seats	0 Passenger side
0 Between driver and front passenger seats	18 Other
0 Between driver and passenger seats.	

- Stand between front seats
- Center console, on a swing arm
- Between seat
- Between driver and passenger - flip up bracket.
- front seat console
- Front seat/console
- Center console out of airbag zone
- Between the front seats, forward of the seats and near the dashboard
- On center console
- Center console, front
- Console area between seats. On swivel/extension right of control console.
- On docking station between front seats - out of airbag deployment zone.
- In front passenger area.
- In between front seats either adjacent to, or over, center console, on their own mount.
- Front seat
- Right of center.
- We will be mounting them shortly, but where has not yet been determined.
- In the radio console area between the two front seats.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

3 N/A	0 Center between front seats
2 None	0 Center console.
0 Between front seats	0 Center front
0 Center console	0 Console area
0 Front center	0 Front passenger side.
0 Between the front seats	0 Passenger side
1 Between driver and front passenger seats	6 Other
0 Between driver and passenger seats.	

- Center front console
- Trunk/Center console
- On top of radio, center console.
- Between bucket seats in front of dash
- Computer and docking station in trunk. Pedestal on console in front of dash.
- Passenger side front seat

Question: Where are video cameras mounted in the patrol car?

Where are video camera's mounted?	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
N/A or None	27.9%	36	40.7%	35	0.0%	0	7.7%	1
Windshield mount	22.5%	29	14.0%	12	43.3%	13	30.8%	4
Roof/ceiling mount	14.7%	19	12.8%	11	20.0%	6	15.4%	2
By rear view mirror.	8.5%	11	7.0%	6	16.7%	5	0.0%	0
Front dash	7.8%	10	4.7%	4	10.0%	3	23.1%	3
Center	5.4%	7	5.8%	5	3.3%	1	7.7%	1
Trunk	4.7%	6	4.7%	4	0.0%	0	15.4%	2
Others	3.1%	4	2.3%	2	6.7%	2	0.0%	0
No Answer	5.4%	7	8.1%	7	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	100.0%	129	100.0%	86	100.0%	30	100.0%	13

Where are video camera's mounted in the patrol car?

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

29 N/A	2 Near rearview mirror	1 Dash	36 Other
5 None	2 Trunk	1 On windshield	
1 Front dash	0 Windshield	2 Overhead	

- Upper front windshield
- Above rear view mirror.
- (One car) Front passenger side window
- Roof by rearview mirror
- Cameras are mounted on passenger side suspended from ceiling
- Attached to inside roof near rearview mirror
- Passenger side windshield
- Center - overhead
- Front - some.
- At roof - windshield insertion
- Windshield mount
- Center roofline.
- Beside the rearview mirror.
- Camera over rear view mirror, tape recorder on trunk deck.
- Forward/center of roof
- Center
- Ceiling mounted.
- Ceiling, center
- Windshield, upper left to rearview mirror. Recorder mounted in trunk
- Windshield rear view mirror
- Top deck/side of trunk
- Window front
- Center, above dash
- On cage or above mirror.
- Console overhead on interior roof. Vault stored in trunk.
- Trunk and overhead control center
- Windshield mount center by mirror.
- Front dash at rear view mirror.
- Dash and roof
- Seat bracket

- Center windshield
- Right side windshield
- Left side of trunk
- By visor/rear view mirror
- Roof, between seat
- Not widely used

Type of Agency = State Patrol

0 N/A	1 Near rearview mirror	0 Dash	26 Other
0 None	0 Trunk	0 On windshield	
2 Front dash	1 Windshield	0 Overhead	

- Overhead by the rear-view mirror
- Upper windshield
- Attached to windshield to the immediate right of the rear view mirror. Control/monitor on ceiling, immediately back of rear view mirror.
- From roof
- Future installment, center front in the patrol vehicles.
- Rear view mirror
- front dash/roof
- Near inside rear-view mirror
- Front seat roof/console
- On windshield next to rearview mirror
- Front window top over rearview mirror
- Upper part of the front inside windshield, between the rearview mirror and the passenger side sun visor
- Right of rearview mirror attached to top of windshield molding
- Camera head attached to windshield to the right of rearview mirror. Recorder in trunk.
- Front windshield, under rearview mirror
- Cab height on roof/ceiling. Control centered laterally on headliner, recorder in trunk.
- Cameras are mounted on right side of rearview mirror. Video recorder in vault mounted on right side of trunk.
- Near top of windshield
- To the right of rear view mirror
- The majority are mounted on the headliner next to passenger side sun visor. A few are mounted on headliner behind front passenger seat (Camaro).
- Front window, rear view mirror or dash.
- Top of windshield and right of rearview mirror.
- Passenger side windshield.
- Right front visor
- Varies
- Ceiling area of the car in the front passenger side.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

0 N/A	0 Near rearview mirror	1 Dash	7 Other
1 None	1 Trunk	1 On windshield	
0 Front dash	2 Windshield	0 Overhead	

- Center overhead
- Trunk/left side
- Dashboard or adjacent to rearview mirror
- Overhead controls, camera to right of mirror on glass.
- Roof line for camera (8mm). Recorder in trunk for VHS system.
- Above passenger side dash board
- Receiver in trunk and camera on roof next to rearview mirror

Question: What type of prisoner barriers are installed in the patrol car?

Type of prisoner barriers installed?	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Combination metal/Plexiglas cage	66.7%	86	75.6%	65	43.3%	13	61.5%	8
Full cage	33.3%	43	34.9%	30	26.7%	8	38.5%	5
Plexiglas cage	14.7%	19	17.4%	15	10.0%	3	7.7%	1
None installed	10.9%	14	2.3%	2	36.7%	11	7.7%	1
Other	7.0%	9	3.5%	3	10.0%	3	23.1%	3
Metal cage	5.4%	7	3.5%	3	6.7%	2	15.4%	2
Half cage	4.7%	6	3.5%	3	10.0%	3	0.0%	0
No Answer	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		129		86		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Some vehicles have metal 1/2 cages. Others metal/plexi full cages.
- Installing SETINA #8 in new units. Other units have a combination.
- Crown Vic used for K-9, rear seat removed for full K-9 cage (metal).
- One car has cage. Two cars have none.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Not all vehicles are equipped with barriers.
- 1/4 cage
- Full cage installed in 10% of marked cars.
- Varies on age and type of vehicle.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Full cage in some vehicles.
- [Full metal cage] with split seat protector.
- Roll bar type with plex

Question: Is a plastic prisoner restraint seat installed in the rear of the patrol vehicle?

	Overall		Type of Agency					
			Police Dept.		State Patrol		Sheriff's Office	
Plastic prisoner restraint seat installed?								
No	71.3%	92	65.1%	56	83.3%	25	84.6%	11
Yes	28.7%	37	34.9%	30	16.7%	5	15.4%	2
No Answer	0.8%	1	1.2%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0
Totals	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Replies		128		85		30		13

* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

Other comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Partial fleet using restraint seat

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Passenger/suspect room minimal

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- [none]

Question: Suggested alternatives to present practices or procedures?

Suggested alternatives to present practices or procedures:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- M. V. stops - want officers to approach on passenger side. We do not want shotguns in the trunk, but with all the equipment in cars, room is at a premium.
- Reduce amount of necessary equipment to a more compact storage container.
- Considering full trunk container
- I would like to see a better mount for MDC/radio.
- Plastic prisoner seat. No cage/cage -vs- crash safety.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- Emphasis and training placed on parking of cruisers and scene protection. Officers are strongly encouraged to use fusees verses cruisers for traffic diversion and as warning devices.
- We really don't have any required method of how and where items are to be carried in the trunk but would be interested in any suggestions which would enhance officer safety.
- It should be reinforced that anything stored in trunk should be parallel to the gas tank to prevent penetration in the event of rear end collision.
- I think we all carry more in the trunk than is needed.
- "Traffic Stop/Back Up" method. Officer parks behind violator (off set left), approaches and obtains documents, returns to cruiser, backs vehicle further to the right, does paper work, pulls cruiser back to original position for cover as officer approaches the violator. [Diagram included.]
- Remove top mount light bars, mount grill and rear deck lamps.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Open.

Question: Comments?

Comments:

Type of Agency = Police Dept.

- Most equipment in trunk is contained in a plastic trunk box for protection and control.
- We very much like the Crown Vics and have NO plans on changing make/models. Would like to see an area specific for laptops/MDTs and shotguns - even if it means cutting down on passenger (front) compartment.
- Since policy and state law requires the use of seat belts, it has been noticed that "unbuckling" has gotten more difficult when trying to exit cruiser in an emergency. The center console and right side firearms make it a challenge.
- August 18, 2002, one of our police units was involved in a rear end collision, causing total collapse of trunk section. The gas tank was punctured but did not burst into flames. If you would like more information about this accident, please give me a call at 580-221-2553.
- I hope that Ford Motor Co. doesn't reduce the size of the Crown Victoria or change it to a front wheel drive. As I see it from our perspective, the Crown Victoria is the only vehicle available for the type of work we do, so continue to improve upon it. We are a 14 officer agency in a community of just over 8,000. The Crown Vic is our primary patrol car, and we are not impressed by anything built by other manufacturers.
- A trunk storage box should come with all police vehicles.
- We are upgrading our policy and procedure manuals at this time.
- Mounting of equipment in vehicles is not consistent.
- We have 3 DUI officers.
- Thanks for your efforts in giving us the best info one could ask for.
- Would like to see donut spare tire (temp spare). Something smaller than rear spare. Takes up too much trunk space. We have considered taking spare out and having local tow co. keep spare for us. Then, if needed, we call, they change. Only issue is if we are out of area or state.

Type of Agency = State Patrol

- We have had numerous rear-end collisions involving our Crown Vic. cruisers. None have resulted in fire.
- Please keep in mind that the Texas DPS instruction allows for a great deal of officer discretion and that many of the answers to these questions are based on the general practices.
- Trunk and storage space is becoming a premium as more and more equipment is placed in the trunk. With computers and other equipment needed by officers in the passenger area more and more is moved to the trunk. Another concern is equipment weight and the amount of weight we are now carrying in patrol vehicles with the added equipment and the performance of vehicles with this additional weight. An alternative contemplated by this agency is to eventually remove the right front passenger seats and design an officer work station to be mounted in that area - affording more room for the officer to work and store items in.
- Only some of the vehicles are equipped with a plastic restraint seat. Although computers are not mounted in vehicles, many officers carry laptops in hard cases.

Type of Agency = Sheriff's Office

- Clean and the use of a trunk organizer in the trunk has to be maintained by the department. We also have the shift sergeants inspect trunks at least once a month.

Responding Agencies

Police Departments

Ardmore Police Dept. (OK)	Manchester Police Dept. (MD)
Arvada Police Dept. (CO)	Manchester Police Dept. (VT)
Ashland Police Dept. (KY)	Mandan Police Dept. (ND)
Aurora Police Dept. (CO)	Mesa Police Dept. (AZ)
Baltimore County Police Dept. (MD)	Middle Township Police Dept. (NJ)
Bedford Police Dept. (NY)	Milford Police Dept. (CT)
Benton Police Dept. (IL)	Millburn Police Dept. (NJ)
Berlin Police Dept. (CT)	Minnetonka Police Dept. (MN)
Brookfield Police Dept. (CT)	Morehead City Police Dept. (NC)
Brown City Police Dept. (MI)	Mount Pleasant Police Dept. (NY)
Caln Township Police Dept. (PA)	Mount Laurel Township Police (NJ)
Campton Police Dept. (NH)	National Park Service (Gettysburg, PA)
Canton Police Dept. (CT)	Nekoosa Police Dept. (WI)
Carrollton Police Dept. (GA)	New Canaan Police Dept. (CT)
Clinton Police Dept. (CT)	New Milford Police Dept. (CT)
Connecticut State Capitol Police (CT)	New Haven Police Dept. (CT)
Coral Gables Police Dept. (FL)	Newington Police Dept. (CT)
Coventry Police Dept. (CT)	North Branford Police Dept. (CT)
Dalton Police Dept. (OH)	Northside Ind. School Dist. Police Dept. (TX)
Davidson Police Dept. (NC)	Ocean City Police Div. (NJ)
Derry Police Dept. (NH)	Olney Police Dept. (IL)
Dunbar Police Dept. (WV)	Pflugerville Police Dept. (TX)
Eagle Police Dept. (WI)	Phoenix Police Dept. (AZ)
Elmira Police Dept. (NY)	Plainfield Twsp. Police Dept. (PA)
Empire Police Dept. (OH)	Port Arthur Police Dept. (TX)
Englewood Police Division (CO)	Portland Police Bureau (OR)
Florence Police Dept. (AZ)	Pulaski Police Dept. (TN)
Fremont Police Department (CA)	Quitman Police Dept. (AR)
Old Saybrook Police Department (CT)	Ramsey Police Dept. (NJ)
Gaithersburg Police Department (MD)	Santa Fe Police Dept. (NM)
Galloway Township Police Dept. (NJ)	Saxonburg Police Dept. (PA)
Greenwich Police Dept. (CT)	Scotland Neck Police Dept. (NC)
Groton Police Dept. (CT)	Sierra Vista Police Dept. (AZ)
Gunnison City Police Department (UT)	Simsbury Police Dept. (CT)
Hartford Police Dept. (VT)	Thornton Police Dept. (CO)
Jupiter Police Dept. (FL)	Toronto Police Service, Ontario, Canada
Knoxville Police Dept. (TN)	Town Creek Police Dept. (AL)
La Porte Police Dept. (TX)	Verona Police Dept. (WI)
Lady Lake Police Department (FL)	West Linn Police Dept. (OR)
Lake Zurich Police Dept. (IL)	West Haven Police Dept. (CT)
Lakemoor Police Dept. (IL)	Westerly Police Dept. (RI)
Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Dept. (NV)	Westport Police (CT)
Lubbock Ind. School District Police	Worthington Borough Police Dept. (PA)

Responding Agencies

State Patrol Agencies

Alaska Dept. of Public Safety	Nevada Highway Patrol
Arizona Dept. of Public Safety	New York State Police
California Highway Patrol	New Hampshire State Police
Colorado State Patrol	New Jersey State Police
Connecticut State Police	North Carolina State Highway Patrol
Delaware State Police	North Dakota Highway Patrol
Florida Highway Patrol	Oregon State Police
Illinois State Police	Pennsylvania State Police
Iowa State Patrol	Tennessee Highway Patrol
Kansas Highway Patrol	Texas Department of Public Safety
Maine State Police	Utah Highway Patrol
Minnesota State Patrol	Vermont State Police
Missouri State Highway Patrol	Virginia State Police
Montana Highway Patrol	Wisconsin State Patrol
Nebraska State Patrol	Wyoming Highway Patrol

Sheriff's Offices

Charles County Sheriff's Office (MD)	Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office (UT)
Clinton County Sheriff's Office (MI)	Siskiyou County Sheriff's Dept. (CA)
Frederick County Sheriff's Office (MD)	Stafford County Sheriff's Office (VA)
Hennepin County Sheriff's Office (MN)	Wabasha County Sheriff's Department (MN)
Josephine County Sheriff's Office (OR)	Wake County Sheriff's Office (NC)
McIntosh County Sheriff's Dept. (GA)	Walla Walla County Sheriff (WA)
Nye County Sheriff's Office (NV)	