



MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

085 – CITIZEN CONTACTS, FIELD INTERVIEWS, SEARCH AND SEIZURE

GENERAL ORDER: 2025-65
ISSUED: December 26, 2025

EFFECTIVE: December 26, 2025

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:
Assistant Chief Craig Sarnow
DATE: November 18, 2025

ACTION: Amends General Order 2025-36 (August 4, 2025)

WILEAG STANDARD(S): 1.7.3, 1.7.4, 1.7.7,
6.1.8, 6.2.3, 6.2.5, 10.1.1

ROLL CALL VERSION

Contains only changes to current policy.
For complete version of SOP, see SharePoint.

085.65 STRIP SEARCHES (WILEAG 1.7.7)

B. No person shall be subject to a strip search unless they are a detained individual. [Wis. Stat. § 968.255\(1\)](#) defines detained as any of the following:

2. A person arrested for specified misdemeanors, which are primarily weapons-related offenses. These offenses are covered under the following Wis. Stat. §:

- [167.30\(1\)](#) (Use of firearms, etc., near park, etc.);
- [940.19](#) [940.60](#) (Battery; substantial battery, aggravated battery);
- [941.20\(1\)](#) (Endangering safety);
- [941.23](#) (Carrying a concealed weapon);
- [941.231](#) (Carrying a concealed knife);
- [941.237](#) (Carrying handgun and alcoholic beverages);
- [948.60](#) (Possession of dangerous weapon by a person under 18); or
- ~~[948.605](#) (Gun-free school zone) or~~
- [948.61](#) (Dangerous weapons on school premises).

C. Pursuant to [Wis. Stat. § 968.255\(2\)](#): No person may be the subject of a strip search unless he or she is a detained person and if:

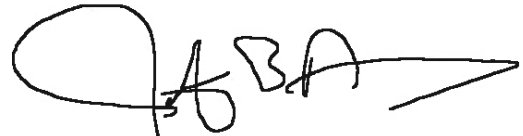
5. A *Strip Search report Authorization Report* (form PS) is completed in the ~~Administrative Investigations Management (AIM) system~~ **personnel management software** regarding the search.

D. JUSTIFICATION FOR A STRIP SEARCH

1. A strip search shall only be conducted when the detained person has been taken into custody for any of the offenses listed in 085.65(B) subsection 1, 2 and 3 and the police member can articulate, in writing on **the report form PS** (~~in the Administrative Investigations Management system~~), the reason why he/she believes the detainee is concealing an object which may pose a safety risk or may constitute evidence of a crime.

E. STRIP SEARCH AUTHORIZATION REPORT (~~FORM PS~~)

2. The shift commander receiving approval for a strip search shall cause a *Strip Search Authorization* report to be completed in the ~~AIM system~~ personnel management software prior to the search being conducted. Minimally the following fields shall be completed on the report prior to the subject being provided a copy of the form as stated in subsection 5:
 - a. Date/time of incident;
 - b. Location of stop or incident;
 - c. Suspect's name/address and other demographics;
 - d. Police member conducting the search and police member witness;
 - e. Authorizing command officer (as specified in subsection 1);
 - f. Was justification or probable cause found to authorize search (yes or no);
 - g. Reason / justification statement for the search entered in the incident notes section - (as specified in subsection D).
3. Once all the data from subsection 2 has been entered into ~~AIM~~ the personnel management software, the form will be printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.B. Norman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

JEFFREY B. NORMAN
CHIEF OF POLICE

JBN:mfk