



MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

970 – SEARCH WARRANTS

GENERAL ORDER: 2026-02
ISSUED: January 20, 2026

EFFECTIVE: January 20, 2026

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:
Assistant Chief Steven Johnson
DATE: December 2, 2026

ACTION: Amends General Order 2024-02 (January 2, 2024)

WILEAG STANDARD(S): NONE

ROLL CALL VERSION

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

970.15 PRE-APPLICATION

- F. After receiving permission to proceed, a supervisor shall open ~~the appropriate~~ a search warrant report form in the ~~AIM system~~ personnel management software and generate a search warrant number. The name of the shift commander or higher authority granting permission to proceed, along with the date and time that permission was granted, must be recorded at this time. After drafting the search warrant application, the affidavit must be thoroughly reviewed by the member's shift commander and an assistant district attorney prior to presentation to a judge or court commissioner for signing.

970.20 DECONFLICTION

- B. The HIDTA Watch Center / Fusion Division Watch Desk can be contacted at [REDACTED] (Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. ~~1:00 a.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.~~). The alternative number for the Fusion Division Watch Desk is [REDACTED]

970.25 SEARCH WARRANT RISK ASSESSMENT AND EXECUTION

B. EXECUTION OF A SEARCH WARRANT

3. Notification

a. Patrol Initiated

1. Monday – Friday (8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.). The shift commander of the district in which the warrant is being served shall notify ~~the Technical Communications Division~~ a Department of Emergency Communications (DEC) supervisor at extension [REDACTED] and the assistant chief of the Patrol Bureau at extension [REDACTED].
2. Monday – Friday (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m.), weekends, and city holidays. The shift commander of the district in which the warrant is being served shall notify ~~the Technical Communications Division~~ a DEC supervisor at

extension [REDACTED] and the night watch commander.

b. Criminal Investigation Bureau Initiated

1. Monday – Friday (8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.). A supervisor assigned to the division that is initiating the search warrant shall notify ~~the Technical Communications Division~~ a DEC supervisor at extension [REDACTED], the assistant chief of the Criminal Investigation Bureau at extension [REDACTED], and the shift commander of the district in which the warrant is being served.
2. Monday – Friday (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m.), weekends, and city holidays. A supervisor assigned to the division that is initiating the search warrant shall notify ~~the Technical Communications Division~~ a DEC supervisor at extension [REDACTED], the night watch commander, and the shift commander of the district in which the warrant is being served.

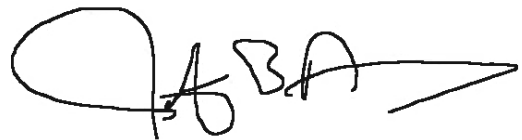
Note: The supervisor in charge of executing the warrant shall notify ~~the Technical Communications Division~~ DEC of the district of where the warrant will be executed prior to the execution of the warrant for this entire subsection and not the actual target address along with a list of squads that will assist with the execution of the search warrant. The supervisor in charge of executing the warrant shall notify the ~~Technical Communications Division~~ DEC of the actual target address when the entry team is on scene and approaching the target address to execute the warrant.

970.35 POST SEARCH WARRANT

- B. The sergeant or lieutenant in charge of executing the search warrant and the supervisor of the division or district which obtained the search warrant shall complete the appropriate search warrant report form in the ~~AIM system~~ personnel management software, as well as in-depth statistical intelligence gathered from the execution of the warrant. A *Narcotics Supervisor's Search Warrant* (form PN-20E) report shall also be completed if applicable. If the risk category at the time of warrant execution was raised or lowered from the initial risk assessment, the supervisor completing the ~~AIM Search Warrant~~ report shall explain the basis for revision and that the warrant was executed in accordance with the revised risk category in the ~~notes~~ Notes / Narrative section field of the ~~AIM Search Warrant~~ report.
1. The ~~AIM Search Warrant~~ report is to be completed and ~~tracked~~ submitted to the appropriate supervisor/shift commander within ~~three (3)~~ eight (8) days following the date on which the warrant was returned to the Clerk of Court.
 2. ~~Each subsequent review by the shift commander/commanding officer shall be completed and tracked in an expeditious manner.~~
 2. The *Search Warrant* report shall be reviewed by the supervisor / shift commander

within 10 days following the receipt from the supervisor who completed the report (within 18 days following the date on which the warrant was returned to the Clerk of Court). The *Search Warrant* report shall then be submitted by the supervisor / shift commander to their commanding officer.

3. The *Search Warrant* report shall be reviewed by the commanding officer within 17 days following the receipt from the supervisor / shift commander (within 35 days of the following the date on which the warrant was returned to the Clerk of Court).
 43. The AIM *Search Warrant* report (except in the instance of a sealed search warrant) shall be thoroughly completed and reviewed within ~~thirty (30)~~ thirty-five (35) days following the date on which the warrant was returned to the Clerk of Court and ~~tracked submitted~~ to the ~~Inspections Section~~ Compliance Management Section. Expired sealed search warrants shall be thoroughly completed and reviewed within ~~thirty (30)~~ thirty-five (35) days following the date on which the warrant's final seal expired and ~~tracked submitted~~ to the ~~Inspections Section~~ Compliance Management Section.
 54. The ~~Inspections Section~~ Compliance Management Section shall review AIM *Search Warrant* reports within ~~fourteen (14)~~ twenty-one (21) days following receipt from the commanding officer of that work location.
- D. Members shall return search warrants to the clerk of court within 48 hours of the execution of the warrant in accordance with [Wis. Stat. § 968.17](#).
1. The member returning the search warrant to the clerk of court shall obtain the tracking number from the clerk of court and provide it to the supervisor completing the AIM *Search Warrant* report.
 2. The supervisor completing the AIM *Search Warrant* report in accordance with 970.35(B) shall include the tracking number in the corresponding field of the AIM *Search Warrant* report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.B.N.' with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

JEFFREY B. NORMAN
CHIEF OF POLICE