

PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT PLAN

Friday, April 25, 2014 at 2200 hours to Saturday, April 26, 2014 at 0300 hours
Calvary Chapel St. Petersburg
8900 US 19 N
Pinellas Park, FL 33782

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SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT OPERATIONAL PLAN

Overview

The purpose of conducting Sobriety Checkpoints is to accomplish the following:

1. To detect and apprehend anyone operating a motor vehicle or in actual physical control of a vehicle who is under the influence of alcoholic beverages or any controlled substances to the extent their normal faculties are impaired.
2. To educate and create public awareness about the dangers of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic beverages and / or drugs.

Operational Plan Summary

The purpose of this plan is to establish operational procedures for conducting Sobriety Checkpoints. The Checkpoint will take place on Friday, April 25, 2014 and end on Saturday, April 26, 2014. This checkpoint plan is designed to utilize the resources of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office most effectively in operating a Sobriety Checkpoint while minimizing motorist inconvenience, maximizing safety and preventing/stopping illegal operation of a vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic beverages and / or drugs. The Sobriety Checkpoint will be conducted in an area in which DUI incidents are common.

- The Sobriety Checkpoint is scheduled to be in operation from 2200 hours on Friday, April 25, 2014 until 0030 hours on Saturday, April 26, 2014. There will be a 30 minute break, in which the Checkpoint area will remain sterile, and the Checkpoint will be operational again on Saturday April 26, 2014 from 0100 hours to 0300 hours. The site location is Calvary Chapel St. Petersburg located at 8900 US 19 N, Pinellas Park, FL 33782. Every 6th vehicle traveling southbound on US 19 N will be checked between 2200 hours on Friday, April 25, 2014 to 0030 hours on Saturday, April 26, 2014. If the traffic volume is greater than expected, the traffic count will be adjusted to every 8th vehicle to ensure traffic safety and to avoid unnecessary motorist delays. Every 3RD vehicle will be checked from 0100 hours on Saturday, April 26, 2014 to 0300 hours on the same date. If the traffic volume is greater than expected, the traffic count will be adjusted to every 5th vehicle to ensure traffic safety and to avoid unnecessary motorist delays.

***If the vehicle to be stopped is an emergency vehicle, oversized vehicle or commercial motor vehicle, contact will be made with the driver. If emergency vehicles are operating in emergency mode, they **will not** be stopped. ***

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to establish operational procedures for Sobriety Checkpoints.

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT:

The Sobriety Checkpoint is a law enforcement controlled roadblock, which is designed to heighten public awareness to the dangers of driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs. It is designed to detect and apprehend impaired drivers and to identify drivers and vehicle safety violations. These checkpoint operations vary in hours and location sites.

2. RESPONSIBILITY:

The overall responsibility for planning and implementing the mission rests with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.

3. PERSONNEL:

The personnel for this event will be members from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office along with another participating Law Enforcement Agency within Pinellas County. The participating agency will be Pinellas Park Police Department. The participating agency will be conducting the checkpoint pursuant to the Pinellas County Combined Mutual Aid Agreement.

OPERATION OF THE EVENT:

a. ***Reporting Times:***

An on-site briefing will be held at approximately 2000 hours in the parking lot of Calvary Chapel St. Petersburg. Following the briefing, all personnel will begin the site preparations ensuring a prompt start of operations at the specified time. The Sobriety Checkpoint will be operational from 2200 hours on April 25, 2014 to 0030 hours on April 26, 2014. There will be a 30 minute break, in which the Checkpoint area will remain sterile, and the Checkpoint will be operational again on April 26, 2014 from 0100 hours to 0300 hours. The site location is Calvary Chapel St. Petersburg located at 8900 US 19 N, Pinellas Park, FL.

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b. ***Uniform:***

The uniform for the Sobriety Checkpoint will be the member's uniform of the day. A reflective vest is mandatory for ALL personnel at the checkpoint, even if your assignment does not require sustained contact with the lane operations.

c. ***Communications:***

No on-site dispatcher will be used for this event. On-site radio communications will be conducted on radio channel SE-3. Department vehicles equipped with enhanced Mobile Data Browsers outfitted with Driver License scanners will be used for D/L checks and FCIC/NCIC inquiries whenever possible.

d. ***Command Post:***

The PCSO Mobile Command Center will be utilized and a Command Post will be established at the Checkpoint's staging area. Beginning and ending times of operation will be documented.

e. ***Transportation of Prisoners:***

Prisoner transport vans staffed with two (2) G4S Security Officers will be set up. In the event that additional transports are required, any member assigned to the detail with a properly equipped vehicle may assist.

f. ***ACISS Reports:***

All reports will be completed in a timely manner in accordance with PCSO General Order 8-5. All related documents to include VIPAR Affidavits, Impound Records, and Uniform Traffic Citations will be completed before the end of shift.

g. ***Assignments:***

i. ***Checkpoint Commander:***

The *Checkpoint Commander* will assume command of ALL personnel assigned to the Sobriety Checkpoint. The Checkpoint Commander will serve as the representative of the Sheriff and is responsible for public safety at the Sobriety Checkpoint. The Checkpoint Commander will have limited discretion to adjust the traffic count at each Sobriety Checkpoint location if the volume of traffic is greater than expected or if a traffic safety concern develops. The traffic count will be adjusted to a

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predetermined number to avoid unnecessary motorist delays. (See
Operation Plan Summer on page #2)

ii. Checkpoint Supervisor:

The *Checkpoint Supervisor* will manage the area adjacent to the Sobriety Checkpoint. The Checkpoint Supervisor will ensure that the staging area is adequately staffed and properly equipped with the necessary processing paperwork. The Checkpoint Supervisor will ensure appropriate set-up of a video camera system, violator processing area and vehicle impound area. The Checkpoint Supervisor will facilitate an effective flow of traffic into and out of the Sobriety Checkpoint. The Checkpoint Supervisor will also be on alert for significant traffic delays, and will keep the Checkpoint Commander advised of the checkpoint status at all times.

iii. Lane Operations Supervisor:

The *Lane Operations Supervisor* will manage the lane operation of the Sobriety Checkpoint. The Lane Operations Supervisor will ensure that all members working the Sobriety Checkpoint remain consistent from encounter to encounter. The Lane Operations Supervisor will constantly monitor the Contact Area of the Sobriety Checkpoint for the safety of checkpoint personnel and the driving public.

The Lane Operations Supervisor will record all information on the checkpoint detail given by the Checkpoint Commander or his/her designee. The Lane Operations Supervisor will record the time that each Sobriety Checkpoint begins and ends. He/she will record any unusual actions or incidents that take place relating to the Sobriety Checkpoint.

The Lane Operations Supervisor will record the average intrusion time of the checkpoint. A member will periodically time vehicles using a certified stopwatch from the entrance to the exit of the Sobriety Checkpoint. Upon completion of the Sobriety Checkpoints, the Lane Operations Supervisor will surrender all notes made to the Checkpoint Supervisor for the completion of an After-Action Report for the Checkpoint Commander.

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iv. Traffic Control Deputy:

The Traffic Control Deputy will be responsible for directing traffic into the checkpoint while maintaining a safe and orderly flow. The Traffic Control Deputy will also maintain an accurate count of the number of vehicles diverted into the Sobriety Checkpoint. The Checkpoint Commander at the direction of the Incident Commander is the ONLY person authorized to make any changes in the traffic count!

v. Entrance Area/Checkpoint Deputy/Officer:

The Entrance Area/Checkpoint Deputy/Officer will be responsible for monitoring the Sobriety Checkpoint entrance for obvious traffic violations, hazardous conditions or motorists that are attempting to avoid or run through the Sobriety Checkpoint site. These deputies/officers will be responsible to assist with ancillary traffic related violations within the checkpoint perimeter. The Entrance Area/Checkpoint Deputy/Officer will be familiar with the duties of the Contact Deputy/Officer.

vi. Flow Control Monitor (Deputy or Explorer):

The Flow Control Monitor will be responsible for directing vehicles from the entrance lane into contact lanes as a lane becomes free.

vii. Contact Deputy/Officer:

Members will be assigned to perform specific tasks at the Sobriety Checkpoint Area and will comply with the following:

- a. All members will wear a reflective vest at all times while at the Sobriety Checkpoint.
- b. All vehicles diverted into the checkpoint will be stopped.
- c. Contact Deputies/Officers and Traffic Enforcement Deputies/Officers will work in pairs on the Checkpoint Line. Traffic Enforcement Deputies/Officers will position their vehicles as indicated on the Checkpoint Diagram and will assist the designated **Contact Deputy/Officer** by performing a Driver License / FCIC-NCIC computer check of *EVERY* driver passing through the Sobriety Checkpoint.
- d. The Contact Deputy/Officer must be consistent in his/her initial comments to drivers. In an effort to ensure consistency, only

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members designated as a **Contact Deputy/Officer** will state:
"This is a Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Sobriety Checkpoint. I am Deputy / Corporal / Sergeant _____. We are stopping vehicles looking for impaired drivers. You will only be detained for a minute or two. Please place your vehicle in park / neutral. May I see your Driver License, Vehicle Registration and Proof of Auto Insurance?" Pinellas Park Police Officers will use the same verbiage with the exception of introducing themselves as "I am Officer _____ with the Pinellas Park Police Department.

- e. A driver suspected of DUI shall be asked to exit their vehicle and will be escorted by the Contact Deputy/Officer to the Staging Area. While in the Staging Area, the Contact Deputy will conduct a DUI Investigation. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFST) shall be administered and recorded on video. A driver determined to be impaired shall be arrested and offered a breath test in the Mobile Breath Test Center.
- f. The Arresting Contact Member will then complete a twenty-minute observation period consistent with standard breath test procedures.
- g. The Arresting Contact Member shall then monitor the arrestee as the Breath Test Operator administers the breath test. At no time will the arrestee be left alone with the civilian BTO.
- h. Standard DUI procedures will be followed for breath /urine test refusals.
- i. A Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) may evaluate cooperative arrestees who have breath test results below .08 BRAC.
- j. The Arresting Contact Member shall complete a VIPAR Affidavit and any appropriate Uniform Traffic Citations.
- k. Upon completion of processing, the arrestee shall then be turned over to deputies from the Prisoner Transportation Unit. The Contact Member shall then return to their assigned duties on the Sobriety Checkpoint Line.
- l. If a non-impaired traffic offender is identified, the member will take appropriate enforcement action prior to allowing the driver to continue. Deputies/Officers will complete and issue citations to traffic offenders using the in-car UTC printers to accelerate this process. Drivers without a valid Driver License **WILL NOT** be permitted to drive a vehicle from the Sobriety Checkpoint.

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- m. All arrest warrants will be confirmed in accordance with existing PCSO policy.
- n. All vehicles driven by arrestees shall be impounded unless a licensed driver is present possessing a valid Driver License. Under no circumstances shall a violator's vehicle be parked and left unattended at the Sobriety Checkpoint site. Drivers who are cited for DWLSR without knowledge will be offered an opportunity to summon a wrecker of their choice to remove their vehicle or an authorized licensed driver. Failure to do so will result in impound of the vehicle.
- o. All motorists who pass through the checkpoint will be provided with an approved information brochure explaining the PCSO Sobriety Checkpoint Program as a public awareness tool.

viii. Traffic Enforcement Deputy/Officer:

Traffic Enforcement Deputies/Officers assigned to the Sobriety Checkpoint will work in pairs with assigned Contact Deputies/Officers. Traffic Enforcement Deputies/Officers will position their vehicles as indicated on the Checkpoint Diagram and will assist the designated Contact Deputy/Officer by performing a Driver License / FCIC-NCIC computer check of *EVERY* driver passing through the Sobriety Checkpoint. The Traffic Enforcement Deputy/Officer will utilize their department vehicles equipped with enhanced Mobile Data Browsers outfitted with Driver License scanners. The scanners will be used for D/L checks and FCIC/NCIC inquiries whenever possible. If a traffic violation is observed in the Contact Lane, the Traffic Enforcement Deputy/Officer will issue citations utilizing in-car printers to reduce traffic delay times in the Contact Area.

ix. Vehicle Impound Deputy/Officer:

The Vehicle Impound Deputy/Officer will be responsible for removing vehicles from the checkpoint lane when a driver is detained for any suspected violation of the law. If a detainee is ultimately arrested, the vehicle may be released to a licensed driver accompanying the arrestee so long as they have not been drinking alcoholic beverages.

If no one is available at the scene to take possession of the vehicle, the Vehicle Impound Deputy/Officer will inventory the vehicle and complete an Impound Record. Trained PCSO Explorers or Traffic Crash Investigators may assist the Impound Deputy in the completion of the Impound Record but will not be permitted to inventory vehicles.

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Drivers who are cited for DWLSR without knowledge will be offered an opportunity to summon a wrecker of their choice or an authorized licensed driver to the scene to remove the vehicle that they had been driving. If this cannot be accomplished in a reasonable amount of time, the vehicle will be impounded.

x. Prisoner Transport Unit

A PCSO Prisoner Transportation Van will be assigned near the MCC during the operation of the Sobriety Checkpoint. Two G4S Security Officers will staff the Transportation Vans at all times. The Transportation Unit will be used to transport all arrestees from the Sobriety Checkpoint to the Pinellas County Jail. Transportation Security Officers will not be expected to participate in any enforcement action at the Sobriety Checkpoint.

xi. Canine Deputy (K-9):

The Canine Deputy will be responsible for conducting narcotics searches upon the request of Contact Deputies/Officers who have reasonable suspicion that narcotics are in a vehicle stopped in the contact area. The suspect vehicle will **NOT** be moved prior to deployment of the Canine Team. All occupants will be removed from the vehicle prior to canine use.

If the canine alerts on the vehicle, the vehicle will be moved to the impound area prior to a search. If the canine does not alert, the occupants will be instructed to re-enter the vehicle in place.

The Canine Team **WILL NOT** be utilized to examine vehicles in any other manner during this detail. The Canine Deputy/Officer will document all deployments of the canine whether or not narcotics are located in the stopped vehicle.

xii. Mobile Command Center (MCC):

(Deputy – Operator and Civilian/Explorer – Monitor)

The Mobile Command Center Operator will be responsible for ensuring that the MCC is properly equipped and moved to the Sobriety Checkpoint site. The Mobile Command Center Operator will set up

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and monitor the MCC during the Sobriety Checkpoint, ensure that all onboard systems are functioning properly and be designated as the Checkpoint Scribe.

The Civilian MCC Monitor will monitor and will restrict entrance into the MCC to authorized personnel only. In addition, the MCC Monitor will maintain the Checkpoint Arrest Log. The aft cabin of the MCC will be designated as the Mobile Breath Test Center (MBTC) and will be under the control of the Breath Test Operator (BTO).

The MCC will under no circumstances be left unsecured or without a BTO to monitor the evidentiary breath test instrument used for this detail.

xiii. Breath Test Operator (BTO):

The Breath Test Operator will be responsible for ensuring that an evidentiary breath test instrument (Intoxilyzer 8000) is properly set up in the MCC prior to the starting time for this detail. The BTO will be responsible to ensure security of the Intoxilyzer 8000 during the Sobriety Checkpoint and will administer breath tests according to FDLE rules. Upon completion of the detail, the BTO will be responsible for moving the evidentiary breath test instrument back to the Central Breath Test Facility.

xiv. Probation and Parole Officer – Florida Department of Corrections (FDOC):

The Probation and Parole Officer will be responsible for determining the conditions of supervision for any driver or passenger determined to be on probation while passing through the Sobriety Checkpoint. If a probation violation is established, the FDOC Probation Officer will determine if a probable cause arrest is appropriate. If an arrest is made, the arrestee will be turned over to PCSO deputies for transport just as any other Sobriety Checkpoint prisoner.

xv. Drug Recognition Expert (DRE):

Whenever possible the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) will be assigned as a Contact Deputy/Officer at the Sobriety Checkpoint and will be familiar with the Contact Deputy/Officer responsibilities.

The Drug Recognition Expert shall adhere to the following guidelines when an arrested subject has a BrAC of less than .080 g/210L:

- a. The DRE will conduct a preliminary examination to ensure that the subject meets the criteria and is willing to participate in a drug influence evaluation.

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- b. The arresting Contact Member will be responsible for the collection and submission of the urine sample.
- c. After determining that the subject's impairment is not consistent with their breath test results, the DRE will conduct an interview of the arresting Contact Member.
- d. The DRE will then collect the booking paperwork from the arresting Contact Member and transport the arrestee to the Central Breath Testing Facility to conduct the Drug Influence Evaluation.
- e. The DRE will ensure that there is a witness/backup deputy present at CBT during the entire Drug Influence Evaluation.
- f. After completion of the Drug Influence Evaluation the DRE will book the arrested subject into the Pinellas County Jail.
- g. The DRE will complete a Drug Influence Evaluation face sheet and narrative and will be responsible for forwarding copies to the State Attorney's Office, the arresting Contact Member and PCSO Records Division.
- h. The arresting Contact Member will be responsible for forwarding a copy of the toxicology results to the DRE when received from the Medical Examiner's Office.

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Checkpoint Date

Friday April 25, 2014 from 2200 hours to Saturday April 26, 2014 0300 hours.

Checkpoint Location

Calvary Chapel St. Petersburg located at 8900 U.S. 19 N. Pinellas Park, Florida

Checkpoint Plan

Every 6th vehicle traveling southbound on U.S. 19 N. was checked from 2200 hours on Friday April 25, 2014 to 0030 hours on Saturday April 26, 2014. There was a break from 0030 to 0100 hours on Saturday April 26, 2014. During this time the Checkpoint area remained sterile. Every 3rd vehicle was checked from 0100 hours on Saturday April 26, 2014 to 0300 hours on the same date.

Checkpoint Briefing

An on-site briefing was conducted at approximately 2100 hours in the parking lot of Calvary Chapel St. Petersburg located at 8900 U.S. 19 N. Pinellas Park, FL. The Checkpoint began on April 25, 2014 at 2200 hours and was completed on April 26, 2014 at 0300 hours. A 30 minute break was conducted between 0030 and 0100 hours on April 26, 2014. During this time the Checkpoint area did remain sterile. During the briefing the following assignments were made:

Assignment	Name
Checkpoint Commander	Sgt. M. Paniagua
Incident Commander	Capt. Paul Halle
Checkpoint Supervisor	Sgt. N. Lazaris
Lane Operation Supervisor	Cpl. M. Eastty
MCC Operator	Dep. M. Reed
Traffic Control Deputy	Dep. R. Serra/Dep. J. Lopes
Entrance Deputy / Officers	Deputies (See Log)
Flow Control	Explorers (See Log)
Contact Deputies / Officers	7 assigned (See Log)
Drug Recognition Expert	3 assigned (See Log)
Traffic Deputy/ Officer	4 assigned (See Log)
Breath Test Operator	Malcolm Deane
Impound Deputy	Deputy Smalios
Prisoner Transport	GS4 M. Young/D. Rath
Light Tower	Not Needed
Checkpoint Cone Trailer	Deputy Sibley
Towing	YOHO Towing

All members present were provided with a copy of the following forms:

- Checkpoint Operational Plan
- Checkpoint Assignment Log
- Specific Assignment Description

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Checkpoint Hours of operation

- The Checkpoint was opened and the first car was diverted into the checkpoint on 04/25/2014 at approximately 2200 hours.
- The Checkpoint was closed and the last car was diverted into the checkpoint on 04/26/14 at approximately 0300 hours.

Average Intrusion Time 2 Minute 06 Seconds

Using a stopwatch, an average intrusion time was determined on an hourly basis beginning approximately 30 minutes after the activation of the Sobriety Checkpoint.

Time of day	Vehicle Tag	Intrusion Time
2233	83EEG	1:55
2334	CKYN96	1:59
0028	A552NR	2:02
0132	N744QB	2:13
0232	496TDX	2:20

The checkpoint concluded at 0300 and was shut down with no further vehicles being diverted.

Checkpoint Vehicle Count

Using a hand counter, the Traffic Control Deputy (Dep. R. Serra) maintained a record of the number of vehicles diverted from U.S. 19 N into the Sobriety Checkpoint. The number of vehicles diverted was monitored on an hourly basis beginning approximately 1 hour after the activation of the checkpoint.

Time of day	Number of vehicles diverted
2300	129
0000	225
0030	263 (X6)
0200	319
0300	361 (X3)

Of the 2661 vehicles that passed through the Sobriety Checkpoint, 361 were diverted for assessment by a Contact Deputy.

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Checkpoint Enforcement Activity

Total Arrests – 22

Charges:

- 6 DUI
- 13 DWLSR
- 1 No Valid DL
- 1 Fleeing to elude
- 5 Possession of Marijuana
- 3 Possession of Crack Cocaine
- 1 Refusal to submit to testing
- 2 Possession of Hydromorphone
- 1 Tampering with physical evidence
- 4 Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- 1 Possession of Methamphetamine
- 1 Possession of controlled substance
- 1 Possession of Hydrocodone

Citations: 25

Checkpoint K-9 Activity

The Canine used for this detail was deployed for drug searches only upon the development of reasonable suspicion articulated by the requesting Deputy.

None	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A

Other Checkpoint Activity

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