

# MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Bureau of Internal Oversight

Audits and Inspections Unit



**Targeted Integrity Inspection: April 2024**

Inspection Report # BI2024-0046

The Audits and Inspections Unit (AIU) of the Sheriff's Office Bureau of Internal Oversight (BIO) Conduct a targeted inspection, ranging from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, on patrol deputies who were identified as making traffic stops for stop sign violations from the TSQR 12 dataset while working in a Lake Patrol Assignment. Traffic Stop Analysis Unit (TSAU) identified post stop outcome disparities between White and Hispanic drivers for stop sign violations.

Inspection BI2024-0046 will examine traffic stop data from BWC videos, Vehicle Stop Contact Form(s) (VSCF), and Warnings/Citations/Incidental Contact Form(s) (ICF) produced by the patrol deputies selected during the targeted inspection for the time period of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. To accomplish this task, data was obtained from the TSQR 12 dataset from patrol deputies who conducted traffic stops, for stop sign violations, while working in a Lake Patrol Assignment. The information was then filtered to identify all traffic stops in which the violator was documented on the VSCF as being Hispanic. 63 traffic stops were identified and a sample size of 25% or 16 stops was selected. The BWC video, VSCF & Citation/Warning/ICF were uniformly inspected utilizing a matrix developed by the Audits and Inspections Unit in accordance with the procedures outlined in policy and the AIU Operations Manual. In the inspection, a "reasonable person" standard will be utilized by inspectors.

**Compliance Objectives:**

- Determine if the Deputy took appropriate law enforcement action given the circumstances.
- Determine if there is an indication of repetitive improper decision-making.

**Criteria:**

MCSO Policy EB-1; *Traffic Enforcement, Violator Contacts, And Citation Issuance*  
MCSO Policy GJ-35; *Body-Worn Camera*  
Section 303 of the AIU Operations Manual.

**Conditions:**

Data from TSQR 12 showed post stop outcome disparities between White and Hispanic drivers when a stop sign violation occurred. Data showed a total of 230 traffic stops were made by patrol deputies, working in a Lake Patrol Assignment, for stop sign violations between January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Of the 230 traffic stops conducted, 63 of those stops were identified as Hispanic drivers. A 25% sample of the 63 stops, or 16 stops, were randomly selected for review to identify violations of office policy for evidence of criminal, serious or continual, repetitive, and willful acts of minor misconduct.

**Results:**

All 16 stops, from the 63 stops identified as Hispanic violators, were uniformly inspected utilizing a matrix developed by the Audits and Inspections Unit in accordance with the procedures outlined in policy and the AIU Operations Manual. The results of the inspection were as follows:

- 16 of the 16 stops (or 100%) contained no compliance deficiencies.
- 4 of the 16 stops (or 25.00%) contained Non-compliance related deficiencies.
  - 3 of the 4 stops, the BWC had a late activation.
  - 1 of the 4 stops, there was documentation issues.
- 12 of the 16 stops (or 75.00%) contained no deficiencies.

**Conclusion:**

The determination by AIU regarding the disposition of this targeted inspection is a **PASS**. AIU did not observe evidence of criminal, serious or continual, repetitive, and willful acts of minor misconduct; however, AIU believes based on Body Worn Camera video, three (3) Deputies had issues with late activation of their BWC, and one (1) Deputy did not provide an ICF when required.

The targeted inspection disposition of PASS is a PROCEDURAL PASS according to Section 303 of the BIO Operations Manual and the disposition does not require a referral to the Professional Standards Bureau. As stated above, there were four (4) non-compliance deficiencies identified. A search within the IA Pro system was conducted to see if there was supervisor intervention, for the identified deficiencies during this targeted integrity test, while conducting the monthly traffic stop review process or if the deficiencies were identified during the monthly traffic stop review inspection. Both searches resulted in a return of negative results. Due to the fact these deficiencies occurred up to 24 months ago, the BIO Action Form process of addressing the results would not provide a suitable means of education to the employee so the Audits and Inspection Unit (AIU) will reach out to the respective divisions and provide comments, as to the results of this test, for them to address as they deem appropriate.

**Action Required:**

No BAF’s will be issued as a result of this targeted integrity test. The four (4) deficiencies related to late BWC activation issues and one (1) deficiency related to not issued an Incidental Contact Receipt. The Incidental Contact Receipt procedural issue was addressed with the employee after the traffic stop, the BWC procedural issues were addressed with three of four employees after the traffic stops occurred, and the fourth employee had no other identified BWC procedural issues.

District	MC#	Employee	Supervisor	Commander
Lakes	Redacted	Deputy	Sergeant	Captain
<b>Deficiency</b>				
1. BWC was not placed in event mode as soon as the decision to stop the vehicle was made. (Policy EB-1.9.A)				

District	MC#	Employee	Supervisor	Commander
Lakes	Redacted	Deputy	Sergeant	Captain
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1. BWC was not placed in event mode as soon as the decision to stop the vehicle was made. (Policy EB-1.9.A)				

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<b>Deficiency</b>				
1. BWC was not placed in event mode as soon as the decision to stop the vehicle was made. (Policy EB-1.9.A)				

District	MC#	Employee	Supervisor	Commander
Lakes	Redacted	Sergeant	Lieutenant	Captain
Deficiency				
1. Incidental Contact Form not provided to passenger. (Policy EB-1.12.C.2) <b>Note:</b> Sergeant had the passenger submit to a PBT to verify alcohol level.				

Date Inspection Started: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Date Completed: April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Timeframe Inspected: January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Assigned Inspector(s): Sgt. R. T. Bierwalter S1263

I have reviewed this inspection report.

*Lt. Brian Arthur S1806*

4/24/2024

Lt. T. Brian Arthur S1806  
 Commander, Audits & Inspections Unit  
 Bureau of Internal Oversight

Date