
EPIC

OPERATION PIPELINE

PASSENGER VEHICLE DRUG INTERDICTION



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Kansas Highway Patrol**

DRUG INTERDICTION



SPECIFICALLY TARGETS NARCOTICS IN TRANSPORT

>THE WEAKEST LINK IN THE CHAIN

PRIMARY GOAL

>REDUCE THE FLOW OF DRUGS INTO THE SUBURBAN AND RURAL AREAS OF OUR COUNTRY, AND TO REDUCE CRIMES ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USAGE

TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS PROGRAM, AN OFFICER . . .

>MUST HAVE THE DESIRE

>MUST HAVE A GOOD, DIVERSE WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR TRAFFIC LAW

>NEED TO LOOK PAST THE TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS FOR INDICATIONS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

PROGRAM ADVANTAGES

>INTERDICTION TACTICS WILL LEAD TO THE DISCOVERY OF OTHER CRIMES

>INVESTIGATIVE MIND SET WILL FINE TUNE OFFICERS AWARENESS SKILLS

>SATISFACTION ACHIEVED THROUGH A CHALLENGING INVESTIGATION THAT YOU CREATE, AND A CRIMINAL DEFEATED

>PUTS EXCITEMENT INTO ROUTINE PATROL

>PROACTIVE RATHER THAN REACTIVE ENFORCEMENT

DEVELOPED FROM ACTUAL INTERDICTION CASES

COMMON SENSE

BE PROFESSIONAL AT ALL TIMES

BE AN INVESTIGATOR

DEVELOP YOUR OWN STYLE OF QUESTIONING

THINK OF COURT FROM THE START

NEVER RISK THE PROGRAM ON ONE STOP

PROGRAM IS SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE IT DOES NOT USE A PROFILE

NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU A SPECIFIC LIST OR NUMBER OF INDICATORS THAT IDENTIFY A DRUG SMUGGLER

NOT GOING TO GIVE A CHART SHOWING DATES AND TIMES DRUGS ARE MOVING

THE PROGRAM IS BASED ON.....

- HIGH VOLUME TRAFFIC STOPS
 - OBSERVATION OF INDICATORS
 - ROADSIDE INTERVIEWS
 - CONSENT
 - VEHICLES SEARCHES
-

THE TRAFFIC STOP

HIGH VOLUME LEGAL TRAFFIC STOPS

KNOW YOUR TRAFFIC LAWS



DON'T MAKE STOPS BASED ON A PROFILE

OFFICER SAFETY

- ALWAYS PICK A SAFE LOCATION FOR THE STOP
- ALWAYS WATCH FOR FOLLOW UP OR ESCORT VEHICLES

INDICATORS

OBSERVATIONS AN OFFICER MAKES, WHICH BASED ON HIS TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE, HE KNOWS TO BE CONSISTENT WITH CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

SHOULD BE OBSERVED AND DEVELOPED DURING TRAFFIC STOPS

NO ONE INDICATOR MAKES A SMUGGLER

INDICATORS MUST BE TAKEN IN TOTALITY

Vehicle Indicators

- ➔ **LUGGAGE**
APPROPRIATE FOR TRIP--TOO LITTLE, TOO MUCH

- ➔ **ATLAS/MAPS**
ROUTE OR CITIES MARKED DON'T MATCH STORY

- ➔ **TOOL / MARKS**
ON SCREWS, PANEL, NUTS AND BOLTS

- ➔ **KEY RINGS**
NOTE ONLY ONE KEY-- NO TRUNK KEY

- ➔ **FAST FOOD WRAPPER**
DRIVER DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE DRUGS OR MONEY

- ➔ **CB RADIO / RADAR DETECTORS**
CB TUNED TO LOW USE FREQUENCY

- ➔ **CAR PHONE / PAGER**
EVERYONE HAS THEM

- ➔ **ODOMETER READING**
HIGH MILEAGE SUSPICIOUS ON NEW VEHICLE

- ➔ ODORS**
NOTE OVERWHELMING ODORS - -USED TO MASK ODOR OF DRUGS

- ➔ HANDLES / KNOBS**
MISSING DOOR HANDLES/KNOBS OR THOSE OBSERVED ON THE FLOOR OR SEAT MAY INDICATE CONTRABAN IN DOOR

- ➔ NEWSPAPERS**
CITY AND DATE DON'T MATCH STORY

- ➔ TOOLS**
A FEW SPECIFIC TOOLS MAY INDICATE A HIDDEN COMPARTMENT

- ➔ DISCLAIMERS**
POLICE OR RELIGIOUS STICKERS

- ➔ WINDOWS**
IF THEY WON'T ROLL DOWN THEY MAY BE FILLED WITH CONTRABAN

- ➔ PRE-PAID PHONE CARDS**
USE OF THESE CARDS ARE POPULAR WITH DRUG COURIERS

- ➔ NON-FACTORY SWITCHES & BUTTONS**
MAY ACTIVATE ELECTRIC COMPARTMENT

- ➔ ATTORNEYS BUSINESS CARDS**
MAY INDICATE PREPAREDNESS TO CONTACT AN ATTORNEY IN CASE OF ARREST

- ➔ EXPENSIVE VEHICLE
NO LIEN

- ➔ TINTED WINDOWS
DIFFICULT TO SEE IN

- ➔ RENTAL VEHICLE
3RD PARTY RENTAL

- ➔ VEHICLE REGISTRATION
3RD PARTY OWNER NOT PRESENT

- ➔ DUCT TAPE
ROLL IN VEHICLE COULD HAVE BEEN USED TO WRAP OR SEAL DRUGS

- ➔ TRASH BAGS / SARAN WRAP
USED TO PACKAGE DRUGS

- ➔ PAINT / BONDO / SILICONE / ADHESIVE
USED TO COVER OR SEAL HIDDEN COMPARTMENTS OR VEHICLE ALTERATIONS

- ➔ SCREWS
LOOSE, MISSING, DAMAGED, NON-FACTORY, WORN HEADS

- ➔ LOOK BENT, BROKEN INTERIOR PANELS
MAY INDICATE USE FOR HIDING DRUGS

➔ **SIGNS OF RECENT DRUG USE**
*ROACHES IN THE ASHTRAY, SEEDS, NEEDLES, ROLLING PAPERS, ONE
HITTERS, BINDLES, ETC*

➔ **MOTEL RECEIPTS**
DO DATES AND LOCATIONS MATCH THE DRIVER'S STORY

VISUAL INDICATORS

- ✓ EYES
THE WINDOW TO THE SOUL
- ✓ DILATED PUPILS
ESPECIALLY DURING RELEVANT QUESTIONS
- ✓ EXCESSIVE BLINKING
- ✓ EYES WIDE OPEN (BUG EYED)
- ✓ NO EYE CONTACT
LOOKS AT GROUND
- ✓ DISTANT LOOK
- ✓ CLOSES EYES
HOPES YOU'LL GO AWAY
- ✓ SQUINTS
- ✓ FACIAL TWITCHES
- ✓ DRY MOUTH
SWALLOWS REPEATEDLY, LICKS LIPS, CLEARS THROAT
- ✓ CLENCHED JAW
- ✓ FROWNING
- ✓ TWISTED MOUTH
- ✓ YAWNING
EXCESSIVE OR REPEATED IS A STRONG SIGN OF DECEPTION
- ✓ BITES LIPS
- ✓ FACE TURNS RED, BLUSHES
- ✓ FACE PALES, TURNS WHITE OR ASHEN
DANGER SIGNAL
- ✓ SWEATING INAPPROPRIATE FOR CONDITIONS

- ✓ SHAKING HANDS
- ✓ GENERAL BODY TREMORS
- ✓ HIDES HANDS
DANGER SIGNAL
- ✓ POINTS AWAY
MISDIRECTION GESTURE
- ✓ COVERS EYES
- ✓ RUBS OR TOUCHES NOSE
- ✓ PLAYS WITH MUSTACHE
- ✓ TUGS AT EARS
- ✓ COVERS EARS
- ✓ PATS CHEEK
REASSURING GESTURE
- ✓ PATS OR SMOOTHS HAIR
- ✓ COVERS MOUTH
DOESN'T WANT YOU TO SEE HIM LYING
- ✓ COVERS THROAT OR GROIN
PROTECTIVE GESTURE
- ✓ FIDGETS / NERVOUS HANDS
*PLAYS WITH FINGERNAILS
TOYS WITH JEWELRY*
- ✓ PATS, SMOOTHS, OR MESSAGES ANY PART OF BODY
- ✓ TAPS CHEST
FINGERING THE CULPRIT
- ✓ RUBS HANDS OR FINGERS TOGETHER
- ✓ SCRATCHES REPEATEDLY
- ✓ TUGS AT CLOTHING
- ✓ CONTINUALLY PICKS LINT

- ✓ CANNOT HOLD ARMS OR HANDS STILL
- ✓ FOLDS ARMS ACROSS CHEST
BUILDING A BARRIER
- ✓ LEANS EXCESSIVELY
- ✓ LOCKS ONTO AN OBJECT
- ✓ TENSE RIGID MOVEMENTS
- ✓ EXAGGERATED MOVEMENTS
- ✓ RESTLESSNESS
- ✓ CANNOT KEEP FEET STILL
- ✓ FOOT TAPPING
- ✓ NAUSEA
- ✓ VOMITING
- ✓ GOOSE BUMPS
- ✓ HAIR STANS ON END
ARMS AND BACK OF NECK
- ✓ PULSE IN ABDOMEN

AUDITORY INDICATORS

THE TRUTHFUL PERSON

- ANSWERS ARE SPONTANEOUS
- ANSWERS ARE CONSISTENT
- USE REALISTIC WORDS
- DOES NOT QUALIFY THEIR RESPONSE
- IS SINCERE, DIRECT, HELPFUL, AND CONCERNED

THE DECEPTIVE PERSON

- HESITATES --- "UH"
- RELUCTANT TO ANSWER
GIVES CAREFULLY GUARDED ANSWER
- INABILITY TO ANSWER
CAN'T THINK FAST ENOUGH
- ANSWERS QUESTIONS WITH A QUESTION
- REPEATS YOUR QUESTION OR ASKS YOU TO REPEAT IT
- CONTINUALLY ASKS YOU TO CLARIFY YOUR QUESTION
- DOES NOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION
RESPONDS WITH UNRELATED INFORMATION

YOU MAY ALSO HEAR.....

- SHAKY VOICE
VOICE CRACKS OR CHANGES
- STUTTERS
- MAKES A CLICKING SOUND
- SIGHS DEEPLY
- WILL BE OVERLY FRIENDLY
- WILL ASK ABOUT YOU
*THEY DON' T CARE
TRYING TO CONTROL THE CONVERSATION*

THE DECEPTIVE PERSON WILL ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE YOU WITH QUALIFIED ANSWERS...

- "HONESTLY"
- "TRUTHFULLY"
- "BELIEVE ME"
- "TO BE PERFECTLY FRANK"
- "TO TELL THE TRUTH"
- "I SWEAR... TO GOD, ON MY MOTHER'S GRAVE"
- "MAY GOD STRIKE ME DEAD"
- "I WOULDN'T LIE TO YOU"
- "TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE... RECOLLECTION"

USE OF "NO" THAT INDICATES DECEPTION

- ☞ THE FIVE SECOND NO.... "NOOOOOOOO"
- ☞ NO, FOLLOWED BY THE CROSSING OF THE ARMS
- ☞ A LATE OR HESITANT NO WHEN OTHER ANSWERS HAVE BEEN ON TIME
- ☞ NO, FOLLOWED BY CLOSING THE EYES
- ☞ NO, WITH AN EMPTY OR VACANT LOOK
- ☞ NO, FOLLOWED BY NERVOUS OR RIOTOUS LAUGHTER OR NERVOUS CHUCKLE
- ☞ SAYING NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!!!

OFFICER SAFETY

- ☞ YOUR BODY LANGUAGE IS AS IMPORTANT AS THEIRS
- ☞ THEY WILL BE WATCHING YOU
- ☞ DON'T GIVE YOURSELF AWAY



ROADSIDE INTERVIEW

USE YOUR CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

AVERAGE TRAFFIC STOP LASTS 6 TO 8 MINUTES
1.5 TO 2 MINUTES EYE TO EYE CONTACT

BE AN INVESTIGATOR

ASK CLARIFYING QUESTIONS

THE INTERVIEW BEGINS WITH INITIAL CONTACT

→ LOOK FOR INDICATORS ON APPROACH TO VEHICLE

→ PRIMARY FOCUS SHOULD BE ON OCCUPANTS

→ LOOK AT THE DRIVER

→ OBTAIN HIS DRIVERS LICENSE

→ LISTEN TO HIS SPEECH

→ LOOK AT THE PASSENGERS

→ OFFICER SAFETY --- ***MOST IMPORTANT!***

★★ WATCH THE HANDS ★★

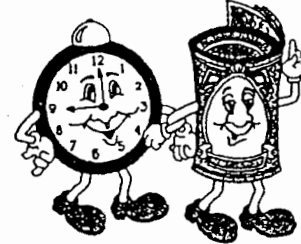
★★ LOOK FOR WEAPONS ★★



THE TRAFFIC CONTACT

→ TIME YOU SPEND WITH THE DRIVER DISCUSSING THE TRAFFIC VIOLATION

- GET DRIVER OUT OF THE CAR
- LEAVE OTHER OCCUPANTS IN THE VEHICLE
- DISCUSS VIOLATION WITH DRIVER
- DOCUMENT IN YOUR REPORT



→ LOOK FOR PHYSICAL INDICATORS
--- DO INDICATORS INCREASE, DECREASE, OR REMAIN THE SAME
--- DO OTHER INDICATORS MANIFEST THEMSELVES

→ WATCH THE OCCUPANTS OF THE VEHICLE
--- ARE THEY OVERLY INTERESTED IN WHAT YOU ARE DOING
--- ARE THEY TRYING TO HEAR WHAT YOU ARE SAYING

THE INVESTIGATIVE CONVERSATION

→ FOUR QUESTIONS TO ALWAYS ASK

1. POINT OF ORIGIN
2. DESTINATION
3. REASON FOR TRIP
4. LENGTH OF STAY



→ OTHER GOOD QUESTIONS TO ASK

- ☛ WHAT TYPE OF WORK DO YOU DO?
- ☛ WHAT ARE THE PASSENGER'S NAMES
- ☛ HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN THEM?

→ INCORPORATE THE QUESTIONS INTO CONVERSATION

→ MAKE A MENTAL NOTE OF THEIR RESPONSES

→ CONTACT THE OTHER OCCUPANTS

☞ ASK THE SAME QUESTIONS

→ ASK CLARIFYING QUESTIONS

☞ IF YOU NOTE DISCREPANCIES

→ RENTAL VEHICLE QUESTIONS

☞ ALWAYS GET RENTAL CONTRACT

☞ WHO RENTED VEHICLE?

☞ WHEN AND WHERE VEHICLE RENTED?

☞ WHEN AND WHERE VEHICLE TO BE RETURNED?

→ THIRD PARTY OWNER QUESTIONS

☞ DOES DRIVER KNOW OWNER'S NAME

☞ RELATIONSHIP OF DRIVER AND OWNER

☞ ROUND TRIP - ONE WAY



→ BASELINE RESPONSE

→ MAKE SURE NOTE CHANGES IN REACTIONS AS THE QUESTIONING CHANGES FROM DRUG RELATED TO NON-DRUG RELATED

→ COMPLETE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTION AND RETURN ALL PAPERWORK

INTERDICTION QUESTIONS

→ ASK THE DRIVER IF YOU COULD TALK TO HIM

→ ASK THE DRIVER THE FOLLOWING SIX QUESTIONS...

--- DO YOU HAVE ANY WEAPONS IN YOUR VEHICLE?

--- DO YOU HAVE ANY MARIJUANA ?

--- DO YOU HAVE ANY COCAINE IN YOUR VEHICLE?

--- DO YOU HAVE ANY METHAMPHETAMINE?

--- DO YOU HAVE ANY HEROIN?

--- DO YOU HAVE ANY LARGE AMOUNTS OF CASH?

--- ARE YOU SURE?

WAIT A FEW SECONDS TO ASK THIS

→ ASK EACH QUESTION

→ IF YOU SEE INDICATORS — ASK FOR CONSENT

→ REMEMBER! — DON'T GET SO HUNG UP ON LOOKING FOR INDICATORS THAT YOU FORGET TO BE SAFE

SIX QUESTIONS USED TO DETECT DRUG SMUGGLERS DURING AN INTERDICTION STOP

6. "ARE THERE MANY PROBLEMS WITH COCAINE AND MARIJUANA IN YOUR CITY?"

Innocent: "Yes, there are a lot of problems; dope is everywhere."

Suspicious: "No, I don't really hear of any. I stay away from it."

5. "WHAT DO YOU THINK POLICE SHOULD DO TO PEOPLE CAUGHT SMUGGLING MARIJUANA AND COCAINE?"

Innocent: "Hang'em! Lock them up and throw away the key."

Suspicious: "Uh, I don't know." (Any answer that says, "don't hurt me")

4. "WHAT IS THE ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE YOU'RE GOING TO VISIT IN (DESTINATION CITY)?"

Innocent: "I have the address right here, it is"

Suspicious: "I don't know. I have to make a phone call when I get close to (whatever city). I'm not sure what I did with the number."

3. "WOULD THERE BE ANY REASON WHY SOMEONE WOULD HAVE CALLED THE POLICE WITH YOUR CAR DESCRIPTION AND SAID YOU WERE A DRUG DEALER?"

Innocent: "Absolutely no reason!"

Suspicious: "Attempts to explain why someone may have associated him/her with a drug dealer in the past or may just give an unsure "no".

2. "DO YOU HAVE ANY MARIJUANA OR COCAINE IN YOUR CAR TODAY, SIR?"

Innocent: "No!"

Suspiciousous: "No (but will show you many verbal and non-verbal signals, may hesitate, repeat the question or ask if you think he/she looks like a drug dealer. Many avoid the question and say he/she is a family or religious person).

1. "ARE YOU SURE?"

Hesitate a few seconds before asking this question which can be done after any of the preceding queries. Play a game . . . make it appear that you already know the answer or know more than the suspect is telling you. Watch for the many verbal and non-verbal signals coming at you while you're talking with the subject.

WHY DO CROOKS CONSENT?

The California Supreme Court noted a number of “rational reasons” for their consent . . .

- ☺ THEY WISH TO APPEAR COOPERATIVE

- ☺ THEY BELIEVE THE EVIDENCE WILL BE OVERLOOKED.

- ☺ IF EVIDENCE IS FOUND, THEY BELIEVE THEY CAN DENY KNOWLEDGE OF IT OR EXPLAIN ITS PRESENCE.

- ☺ THEY THINK CONSENT WILL INGRATIATE THEM WITH THE COURTS.

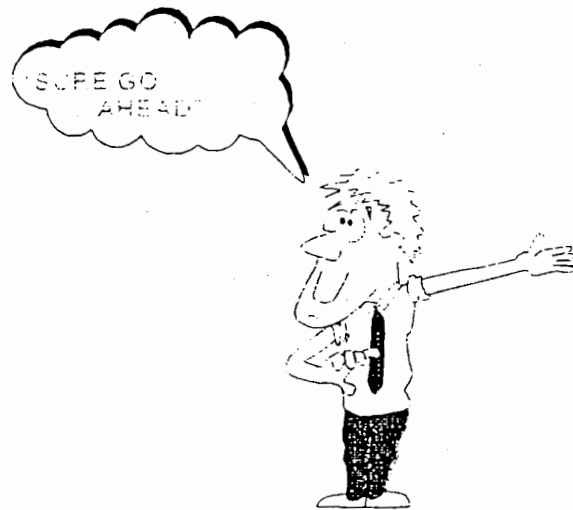
- ☹ THEY THINK THEY’VE “BEEN HAD” AND SIMPLY GIVE UP.

MOST COMMON LEGAL ISSUES IN CONSENT CASES

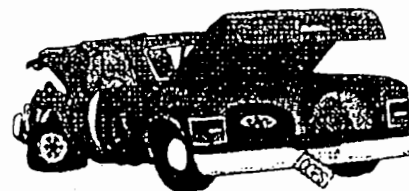
√ Was it voluntary?



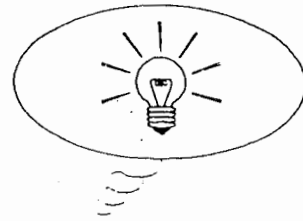
√ Did the person
have authority?



√ Did the officers
act within the scope of the
consent?



CONSENT



→ ALWAYS ASK --- CAN I **SEARCH**
DON'T SAY "LOOK INTO", "LOOK THROUGH", "GO THROUGH", ETC

→ FILL OUT THE CONSENT PRIOR TO ASKING FOR CONSENT

BE SPECIFIC ON THE LINE DESCRIBING THE PROPERTY TO BE SEARCHED

A RED 1997 FORD TAURUS BEARING AZ REGISTRATION ABC-123 AND ALL CONTENTS



→ PRESENT THE FORM TO THE DRIVER

*ASK THEM TO READ THE FORM AND IF THEY UNDERSTAND IT TO SIGN IT AND DATE IT
DOCUMENT THAT THEY READ THE FORM*

→ WON'T SIGN FORM, BUT WILL GIVE YOU VERBAL CONSENT

SEARCH!

→ IF THEY ASK ABOUT WITHDRAWING CONSENT

→ IF CONSENT IS REFUSED -- **DO NOT SEARCH!!!**

VEHICLE SEARCH

CONTROL THE VEHICLE OCCUPANTS

- HAVE BACK-UP OFFICERS --- NEVER SEARCH ALONE!!!
- REMOVE ALL OCCUPANTS FROM VEHICLE
- PAT DOWN SUSPECTS PRIOR TO SEARCHING THE VEHICLE

BE AGGRESSIVE

- IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SEARCH DON'T

BE METHODICAL

- USE A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH THAT'S COMFORTABLE TO YOU

USE YOUR SENSES

- SIGHT
- SMELL
- TOUCH
- HEARING

THINK BEFORE MOVING ANYTHING

- IS IT EVIDENCE
- IS IT A BOOBY TRAP

BE PROFESSIONAL AND COURTEOUS

- BE CAREFUL OF THEIR PROPERTY
IF YOU BREAK SOMETHING TELL THEM
- PUT THINGS BACK THE WAY YOU FOUND THEM

OFFICER SAFETY

- ALWAYS HAVE A BACK-UP
- WATCH FOR ESCORT VEHICLES
- PAT DOWN SUSPECTS PRIOR TO SEARCH
- **ALWAYS WEAR LATEX GLOVES**



COMMON LOCATIONS THAT DRUGS ARE HIDDEN

→ INSIDE SEAT SPRINGS

PUSH DOWN ON SEAT AND SEAT BACKS TO FEEL FOR PACKAGES. LOOK UNDERNEATH FOR PACKAGES WHILE WATCHING WHERE YOU PUT YOUR FINGERS. *ALWAYS LOOK BEFORE FEELING.*

→ INSIDE DOORS

USE YOUR FLASHLIGHT TO ILLUMINATE DOWN THE DOOR ALONG THE WINDOW TRACK WHERE THE RUBBER SEAL MEETS THE GLASS. THIS CAN BE DONE WITH THE WINDOW DOWN OR PARTIALLY DOWN. *REMEMBER, JUST BECAUSE THE WINDOW ROLLS DOWN DOESN'T MEAN THE DOOR IS EMPTY.* CHECK VENT IN DOOR JAM TO SEE IF IT HAS BEEN REMOVED RECENTLY.

→ HEADLINERS

CHECK FOR SCREWS, LOSE MATERIAL OR A NON-FACTORY LOOKING HEADLINER. REMEMBER TO CHECK THE VISOR.

→ FENDERS

CHECK FOR BONDO AND PAINT. TAP ON THE FENDERS; LISTEN FOR A NON-HOLLOW SOUND. LOOK FORM INSIDE, IF POSSIBLE. CHECK FENDER WELLS FOR ACCESS DOOR TO ROCKER PANELS.

→ QUARTER PANELS

SAME INDICATORS AS FOR FENDERS.

→ INSIDE SPARE TIRES

BOUNCE TIRES; LISTEN FOR THUDDING SOUND. LET OUT SOME OF THE AIR AND SMELL IT. STAND THE TIRE UP AND SHAKE IT; FEEL FOR SOMETHING HITTING INSIDE. STRIKE THE TIRE AND RIM; LISTEN FOR A RINGING SOUND INSIDE. IF IT DOESN'T RING, THE TIRE MAY BE LOADED WITH CONTRABAND.

→ LUGGAGE

CHECK ALL LUGGAGE THOROUGHLY.



→ VEHICLE'S HOOD

CHECK UNDER THE VEHICLE'S HOOD; LOOK FOR FRESH SMUDGES ON THE AIR BREATHER. WATCH FOR PACKAGES INSIDE THE FENDERS, BEHIND THE LIGHTS OR INSIDE A FAKE BATTERY CASE. CHECK THE BOLTS ON THE HEATER SQUIRREL CAGE ON THE FIRE WALL.

→ FALSE BOTTOM IN TRUNKS

CHECK THE THICKNESS OF THE TRUNK. TAP ON THE BOTTOM OF THE TRUNK WHILE LOOKING FOR TELLTALE SIGNS OF BODY WORK, A NEW PAD OR NEW GLUE ON AN OLD PAD.

→ DUAL MUFFLERS

START THE VEHICLE TO SEE IF BOTH MUFFLERS ARE HOOKED UP. A DISENGAGED MUFFLER MAY BE LOADED WITH CONTRABAND.

→ DUAL GAS TANKS

CHECK GAUGES, TAP ON THE TANKS AND TAKE OFF THE CAPS AND SNIFF. ONE OF THE TANKS MAY BE USED TO TRANSPORT ILLEGAL CARGO. LOOK FOR EXTRA GAS CANS IN THE VEHICLE. *THE SMELL OF GAS DOES NOT MEAN AN ABSENCE OF DRUGS. COMPARTMENTS ARE FREQUENTLY BUILT INSIDE THE TANK TO PERMIT THE CONTRABAND TO BE SURROUNDED WITH GASOLINE.*

→ ADDITIONAL TANKS IN PICKUP TRUCKS

THESE TANKS MAY BE HOLLOW OR HAVE A DOOR IN THE BACK SIDE. IF YOU CAN DIP THE TANK WITH A STICK OR CHECK THE DEPTH, DO SO. ALSO CHECK THE GAS TANK STRAPS AND LOOK FOR PAINT OR UNDERCOATING.

→ FALSE FRONT END OF PICKUP TRUCK BED

MEASURE THE INSIDE AND COMPARE THAT FIGURE WITH THE OUTSIDE MEASUREMENT. LOOK FOR BONDO FOR FRESH PAINT. A CAMPER SHELL WITH A BOARD ACROSS THE INSIDE MAY CONCEAL THIS TYPE OF COMPARTMENT.

→ INSIDE CAMPER SHELLS

CHECK FOR FALSE TOPS OR SIDES AND WOODEN BUNKS BUILT IN WITH A HOLLOW INSIDE AREA TO CONCEAL CONTRABAND. ALWAYS LOOK UNDER THE BUNKS.

→ UNDER DASH BOARDS

LOOK INSIDE THE HEATER DUCTS OR ANYWHERE UNDER THE DASH. KICK THE PLATES NEAR THE FLOOR.

→ BEHIND REAR SEATS

CHECK FOR NEW CARDBOARD OR PLASTIC BACKING ON THE SEAT.

→ BEHIND FRONT SEATS

SOME VEHICLES HAVE SEAT BACKS THAT POP OFF TO REVEAL A NATURAL HIDING PLACE.

→ INSIDE ARM RESTS

PUNCH DOWN OR UNZIP TO CHECK INSIDE.

→ INSIDE HEAD RESTS

LIFT THE HEAD REST TO LOOK INSIDE.

→ FRAMES

CHECK FOR PACKAGES ATTACHED TO THE VEHICLE FRAME OR COMPARTMENTS WELDED ONTO THE FRAME.

→ REAR SEAT ARM REST AREA

PULL OUT THE ASH TRAY TO LOOK INSIDE; CHECK SCREW HEADS.

→ REAR WINDOW DECK AREA

CHECK FROM THE TRUNK; LOOK IN THE SPEAKER BOXES...CAN YOU SEE THE SPEAKER BOXES?

→ AIR BAG COMPARTMENT

CHECK THE PASSENGER SIDE AIR BAG COMPARTMENT, IS THE COVER LOOSE OR APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN REMOVED. ARE THERE ANY TOOL MARKS. CHECK UNDER THE DASH TO SEE IF IT ALL APPEARS TO BE THERE.

→ BUMPERS

CHECK TO SEE IF THE RUBBER OR PLASTIC COVER OVER THE BOTTOM OF THE BUMPER HAS BEEN REMOVED. ARE THE PLASTIC FASTENERS LOOSE OR DAMAGED

→ BODY/CLOTHING

VERY COMMON AND EASILY OVERLOOKED CONCEALMENT LOCATIONS.

REPORT WRITING

- WRITE IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER
- MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE
 - REASON FOR STOP AND ANY ADMISSIONS
 - INDICATORS, EITHER AS A OR LIST IN THE NARRATIVE
 - BE SURE TO NOTE CHANGES IN PERSONS REACTIONS TO THE CHANGE IN QUESTIONING*
 - MAY BE YOUR ONLY LINK BETWEEN DRUGS AND THE SUSPECT LIST ONLY ARTICULABLE FACT, NOT GUT FEELINGS --- "DON'T SAY NERVOUS"*
 - TIMES
 - OF STOP, SIGN CONSENT, BACK UP ARRIVED, FOUND EVIDENCE, TIME OF ARREST*

COURT

- TAKE COURT SERIOUSLY
- YOU ARE REPRESENTING ALL OF US WHEN YOU ARE TESTIFYING SO BE PROFESSIONAL
- START PREPARATIONS FOR COURT WITH INITIAL STOP
 - LEGAL STOP
 - FOLLOW PROPER PROCEDURE
 - MAKE SURE CONSENT IS VOLUNTARY
- KNOW YOUR REPORT WELL
- REMEMBER --- *NO AMOUNT OF DOPE IS WORTH LYING FOR*
- YOU WILL NEED TO TRAIN YOUR PROSECUTOR
- GETTING DRUGS IS ONLY 1/2 OF THE BATTLE
 - THESE GUYS NEED TO GO TO JAIL
- OPERATION VALKYRIE HANDOUT



Preparing to Testify

The following notes about courtroom demeanor and the importance of testimonial preparation were excerpted from a presentation by the United States Attorney, Central District of Illinois.

1. Before you testify, review your reports in detail. A pre-trial conference with the Assistant United States Attorney should have been held in advance of your testimony. If the Assistant United States Attorney doesn't schedule a pre-trial conference, you should request one. The purpose of a pre-trial conference is so you will know what questions will be asked and so the Assistant United States Attorney will know your answers. Potential areas of cross examination should also be discussed as well as ways to rehabilitate you on re-direct.
2. **SPEAK IN YOUR OWN WORDS.** Don't try to memorize what you are going to say. Doing so will make your testimony sound "pat" and unconvincing. Instead, be yourself and prior to trial, go over in your own mind those matters about which you will be questioned.
3. A neat appearance and proper dress in court are important. The trouble with an appearance that seems very casual or very dressy is that it will distract the jury during the brief time you're on the stand - and they won't concentrate on your testimony.
4. For the same reason, avoid distracting mannerisms such as chewing gum while testifying. Present your testimony clearly, slowly and loud enough so that the juror farthest away can easily hear and understand everything you say.

5. Jurors who are or will be sitting on the case in which you are a witness may be present in the same public areas where you will be. For that reason, you should not discuss the case with anyone. Remember, too, that jurors may have an opportunity to observe how you act outside of the courtroom.
6. When you are called into court for any reason, be serious, avoid laughing and avoid saying anything about the case until you are actually on the witness stand.
7. When you are called to testify, you will first be sworn in. When you take the oath, stand up straight, pay attention to the clerk and say "I do" clearly.
8. Most important of all, you are sworn to **TELL THE TRUTH**. Tell it. Every true fact should be readily admitted. Do not stop to figure out whether your answer will help or hurt either side. Just answer the questions to the best of your memory. Do not carry your reports into the courtroom. You should not refer to your reports unless directed to do so by the attorney or the court.
9. Do not exaggerate. Don't make overbroad statements that you may have to correct. Be particularly careful in responding to a question that begins with, "Wouldn't you agree that . . .?" The explanation should be in your own words. Do not allow an attorney to put words in your mouth.
10. The basic purpose of direct examination is for you to tell the judge and jury what you know about the case. The basic purpose of cross-examination is to raise doubts about the accuracy of your testimony. Don't get mad if you feel you are being doubted in cross-examination - that is the defense counsel's job. **DO NOT LOSE YOUR TEMPER.**
11. A witness who is angry may exaggerate or appear to be less than objective. Keep your temper. Always be courteous, even if the lawyer questioning you appears discourteous. Don't appear to be a "wise-guy" or you will lose the respect of the judge and the jury.
12. Although you are responding to the questions of a lawyer, remember the questions and answers are really for the jury's benefit. Always speak clearly and loudly so that every juror can easily hear you.

13. **DO NOT** nod or shake your head for a "yes" or "no" answer. Speak so the court reporter (or recording device) can hear the answer.
14. Listen carefully to the questions you are asked. Understand the question, have it repeated if necessary and then give a thoughtful, considered answer. **DO NOT GIVE AN ANSWER WITHOUT THINKING.** While answers should not be rushed, neither should there be an unnaturally long delay to a simple question if you know the answer.
15. Explain your answer if necessary. Give the answer in your own words, and if a question can't be truthfully answered with a "yes" or "no," explain the answer.
16. Answer **ONLY** the question asked you. Do not volunteer information not actually asked for.
17. If your answer was not correctly stated, correct it immediately. If your answer was not clear, clarify it immediately. It is better to correct a mistake yourself than to have the attorney discover an error in your testimony. If you realize you have answered incorrectly, say, "May I correct something I said earlier?"
18. The judge and the jury are interested in the facts that you have observed or personally know about. Therefore don't give your conclusions and opinions and don't state what someone else told you, unless you are specifically asked.
19. Unless certain, don't say, "That's all of the conversation," or "Nothing else happened." Instead say, "That's all I recall," or "That's all I remember happening." It may be that after more thought or another question, you will remember something important.
20. Sometimes witnesses give inconsistent testimony - something they said before doesn't agree with something they said later. If this happens to you, don't get flustered. Just explain honestly why you were mistaken. The jury, like the rest of us, understands that people make honest mistakes.
21. Stop instantly when the judge interrupts you or when an attorney objects to a question and wait for the judge to tell you to continue.

22. Give positive, definite answers when at all possible. Avoid saying, "I think," "I believe," or "In my opinion," if you can be positive. If you don't know, say so. Don't make up an answer. You can be positive about important things which you naturally would remember. If you are asked about little details which a person naturally would not remember, it is best just to say so if you don't remember.
23. When being questioned by defense counsel, don't look at the Assistant United States Attorney or at the judge for help in answering a question. You are on your own. If the question is improper, the Assistant United States Attorney will object. If a question is asked and there is no objection, answer it. Never substitute your ideas of what you believe the rules of evidence are.
24. Sometimes an attorney may ask this question: "Have you talked to anybody about your testimony?" Answer the question truthfully. It is perfectly proper for you to have talked with the prosecutor before you testify and you should, of course, respond truthfully to this question.
25. After a witness has testified in court, (s)he should not tell other witnesses what was said during the testimony until after the case is over. Do not ask other witnesses about their testimony and do not volunteer information about your own testimony.