

# **Proposal to Create a Felony Traffic Stop Manual For the Police Departments**

## **Summary**

Police departments through out the nation do not have a written form of how to properly conduct a felony traffic stop. There are many dangers when it comes to high-risk traffic stops, some of these risk can mean the lives of law enforcement officers. We could use this manual to better train police officers. This manual can educate officers on the possible risks and better ensure their safety.

I can complete the rough draft by June 27. No expenses will be needed because I will be donating my time to write and prepare the manual. If the rough draft is satisfactory, you will receive the final draft on July 3.

## **Current Problems with Felony Traffic Stops**

Police departments across the nation have academies to train their officers, but they all vary in the length of courses. Some focus on felony traffic stops more than others. If officers in training were not taught the risks and safety procedure then their lives would be placed in danger while on the line of duty. They would be unaware on how to

- avoid physically violent altercations
- have control of the situation

It is too often that we hear about law enforcement officials being killed during high-risk traffic stops. The purpose of their training is to give them the knowledge to not only do their vocation, but to also work as safely as possible. Due to departments not properly educating their officers the basic procedures of a felony traffic stop, officers are either losing cases due to improper procedure, getting injured or dying while attempting to conduct the stop.

## **Proposed Solution: A Felony Traffic Stop Manual**

The proposed Felony Traffic Stop Manual will provide officers in training with information to

- avoid physically violent altercations
- have control of the situation

I will write the Felony Traffic Stop Manual from my knowledge, experience, and consult with actual officers for more information. The Felony Traffic Stop Manual will include the following sections

## **Answering Officer Questions**

- Telephone Inquires
- Trainer contact information
- Referring back to the manual

## **Training New Officers**

- Teaching Necessary Procedure
- Repetition of the Teaching

## **Using Vehicles and Weapons**

- Positioning The Cruiser  
Uses of the Vehicle
- Knowing when to use your weapon

## **Understanding Procedures**

- Initiating the Traffic Stop  
Radio Communication with Dispatch  
Deciding To Call for Back Up  
Safety
- Challenging Personnel in the Vehicle  
Specific Commands to Occupant(s) of Vehicle
- Search the Occupants  
Questions to Ask Suspect(s)
- Ghost Challenge
- Search of Vehicle

## **My Qualifications for Writing the Proposed Manual**

I have been studying criminal justice for three years at the University of North Texas and have participated with organizations such as the criminal justice based fraternity, Lambda Alpha Epsilon. As a criminal justice student, I have gained a great deal of knowledge on the policing system as a whole. My time serving with Lambda Alpha Epsilon has given me closer communication with law enforcement officers and their complaints, so I know their concerns while they are working.

## **Conclusion**

I look forward to the possibility of preparing this much-needed manual for our law enforcement officers. This manual will improve the safety of our law enforcement officers while conducting felony traffic stops. I am enthusiastic of the possibility of working with current officers to write this manual.

## Work Cited

“Keys to surviving high-risk traffic stops” policeone.com. Sep. 2009. Dave Smith & Betsy-Brantner Smith. June 22 2013 <<http://www.policeone.com/patrol-issues/articles/1960198-Keys-to-surviving-high-risk-traffic-stops/>>