223.01 SUMMARY

The field interview is a tool to provide Officers with basic information used to identify persons during investigative contacts where no report is written. A resource for documenting these contacts is the field interview (FIR) card. This directive describes the procedures for conducting field interviews. (Also see the directive “Profiling” (ADM-133))

223.02 GENERAL PROCEDURES

There are two forms or types of field interviews conducted by Officers in the course of their duties:

- **CONSENSUAL** – A consensual encounter in which the subject of the contact is free to leave at any time and is clearly aware of the freedom to leave.

- **INVESTIGATIVE DETENTION** – A contact which involves a brief detention is permissible when done for investigative purposes and is initiated based on a reasonable suspicion supported by articulable facts that criminal activity may be occurring.

**PAT-DOWN SEARCH** – During the course of the above contacts, if an Officer develops a reasonable belief the subject may be armed and dangerous, the Officer is authorized to conduct a cursory or pat-down search to look for weapons per C.R.S. 16-3-103 (2).

The time allowed for the interview or interrogation is directly related to the scope of the contact. The information obtained during a contact or stop with a citizen should be reduced to writing.

- The field interview card should be used for pertinent information on contacts.

- If the contact is in reference to a crime report, a supplemental report form should be completed.

**FIR CARDS** – The field interview card will be forwarded to the Patrol Supervisor for review. Records Section personnel will enter the information into the Records data-base and the field interview card will be retained by the Records Section for a minimum of one year.

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