

nhtsa sfst pocket card

nhtsa sfst pocket card is a crucial tool for law enforcement officers and legal professionals involved in impaired driving investigations. This compact guide, developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), provides a standardized, step-by-step approach to identifying and assessing impaired drivers. Understanding the intricacies of the NHTSA SFST pocket card is essential for accurate evidence collection and successful prosecution of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) cases. This article will delve into the purpose and significance of the NHTSA SFST pocket card, detailing the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests it outlines, the proper administration and interpretation of these tests, and the vital role the pocket card plays in enhancing DUI enforcement and public safety.

Understanding the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card

The NHTSA SFST pocket card serves as a standardized reference for law enforcement officers when conducting roadside sobriety evaluations. Its primary purpose is to ensure consistency and accuracy in the administration and interpretation of the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs). By adhering to the guidelines on the pocket card, officers can gather reliable evidence that is admissible in court, supporting their decision to arrest an individual for suspected impaired driving. The pocket card encapsulates years of research and scientific validation by NHTSA, making it the gold standard for DUI detection.

This essential tool is designed for ease of use in dynamic roadside environments. It breaks down complex procedures into simple, actionable steps, allowing officers to focus on observing driver performance without having to recall extensive protocols from memory. The pocket card is not just a reminder; it's a scientifically validated methodology that promotes objective evidence collection, thereby reducing the likelihood of wrongful arrests and strengthening the prosecution of impaired drivers. Its widespread adoption by law enforcement agencies across the United States underscores its importance in combating impaired driving.

The Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) Outlined

The NHTSA SFST pocket card meticulously details three distinct tests that collectively form the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests. These tests are designed to elicit physiological indicators of impairment, such as loss of

balance, coordination, and the ability to follow instructions. Each test has specific administration requirements and scoring criteria to ensure objectivity. The three core SFSTs are the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), the Walk-and-Turn (WAT), and the One-Leg Stand (OLS).

Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN) Test

The Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus test is the first and often most critical of the SFST battery. It assesses involuntary jerking of the eyes that occurs when the eyes are moved horizontally. The NHTSA SFST pocket card guides the officer on how to hold a stimulus (like a pen or finger) and move it from side to side in front of the suspect's eyes. The officer observes for three specific clues in each eye: lack of smooth pursuit, distinct and sustained nystagmus at maximum deviation, and onset of nystagmus prior to 45 degrees. The pocket card provides clear instructions on how to identify and count these clues to determine impairment.

Walk-and-Turn (WAT) Test

The Walk-and-Turn test is designed to assess a suspect's ability to divide attention and follow multiple instructions while maintaining balance and coordination. The NHTSA SFST pocket card instructs officers to divide the WAT into two phases: the "instructional phase" and the "walking phase." During the instructional phase, the suspect is told to stand on a suitable imaginary or real line and place their feet heel-to-toe. The officer then demonstrates and explains the nine steps of the test: taking nine heel-to-toe steps forward, turning around, and taking nine heel-to-toe steps back. The pocket card outlines the eight indicators of impairment to look for, such as inability to balance, starting too soon, or missing heel-to-toe steps.

One-Leg Stand (OLS) Test

The One-Leg Stand test measures a suspect's ability to balance on one foot while performing a simple counting task. According to the NHTSA SFST pocket card, the officer will instruct the suspect to stand on one foot, holding the other foot about six inches off the ground, and count aloud "one-one thousand, two-one thousand..." until instructed to stop. The officer observes the suspect for four specific indicators of impairment: swaying while balancing, using arms for balance, hopping, or putting the raised foot down. The pocket card provides a clear guideline for the duration of the test, typically 30 seconds, and how to interpret the observed clues.

Proper Administration and Interpretation of SFSTs

The effectiveness of the NHTSA SFST pocket card hinges on the officer's ability to administer and interpret the tests correctly. NHTSA has invested significant resources into training and research to ensure that the SFSTs are administered in a consistent and scientifically validated manner. The pocket card serves as an invaluable aid in this process, providing concise reminders of the correct procedures and scoring criteria.

Accurate administration involves ensuring that the testing environment is safe and conducive to performance, free from distractions, and on a hard, level surface. The officer must also provide clear and unambiguous instructions, demonstrating the tests when necessary. The interpretation phase involves objectively scoring the observed performance against the defined indicators of impairment as detailed on the pocket card. This objective scoring is crucial for establishing probable cause for arrest and for presenting credible evidence in court.

Instructional Phase Accuracy

The instructional phase of the SFSTs, particularly for the Walk-and-Turn and One-Leg Stand, requires meticulous attention to detail. The NHTSA SFST pocket card emphasizes that officers must provide instructions clearly and concisely, ensuring the suspect understands what is expected. For the WAT, this includes demonstrating the heel-to-toe gait and the turn. For the OLS, it involves explaining the counting method and the required foot position. Any deviation from these standardized instructions can compromise the validity of the test results, making the pocket card an indispensable guide for adherence to protocol.

Performance Observation and Clue Identification

During the performance phase of each SFST, the officer's role is to observe and record specific behavioral clues indicative of impairment. The NHTSA SFST pocket card lists these clues systematically for each test. For the HGN, the officer looks for the involuntary jerking of the eyes. For the WAT, clues include stumbling, missed heel-to-toe steps, and improper turns. For the OLS, swaying, arm movements, and hopping are noted. The pocket card provides a scoring system for these clues, allowing officers to quantify the level of impairment suggested by the suspect's performance.

Scoring and Probable Cause Determination

The scoring of SFSTs is a critical step in the DUI investigation process. The NHTSA SFST pocket card provides specific scoring criteria that officers use to assess a suspect's performance. Based on the number and types of clues observed, the officer can develop probable cause to believe that the suspect is impaired and should be arrested. This objective scoring, guided by the pocket card, ensures that decisions to arrest are based on observable evidence rather than subjective judgment alone. The pocket card effectively translates observed behaviors into a structured assessment of impairment.

The Role of the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card in DUI Enforcement

The NHTSA SFST pocket card plays a pivotal role in enhancing the effectiveness and consistency of DUI enforcement nationwide. By standardizing the procedures for administering and interpreting field sobriety tests, it elevates the quality of evidence collected, leading to more successful prosecutions and a greater deterrent effect on impaired driving.

Beyond its immediate application in roadside investigations, the pocket card also serves as a crucial training tool for new officers and a refresher for experienced ones. It reinforces the scientific basis behind SFSTs and the importance of adhering to best practices. This commitment to standardization, facilitated by the pocket card, ultimately contributes to safer roads for everyone.

Enhancing Law Enforcement Effectiveness

Law enforcement agencies rely heavily on the NHTSA SFST pocket card to equip their officers with the knowledge and tools necessary for effective impaired driving detection. The card's compact size makes it easily accessible during traffic stops, ensuring that officers have the correct protocols readily available. This standardization reduces variability in how SFSTs are performed, leading to more reliable data and stronger cases in court. The consistent application of SFSTs, as dictated by the pocket card, builds public trust in the DUI enforcement process.

Improving Courtroom Admissibility of Evidence

The scientific validity and standardization of the SFSTs, as documented and promoted by NHTSA and reflected in the pocket card, are key to the

admissibility of this evidence in court. Defense attorneys often challenge the administration and interpretation of field sobriety tests. However, when officers can demonstrate that they followed the precise procedures outlined on the NHTSA SFST pocket card, the evidence is more likely to be accepted by the court. This rigorous adherence to protocol strengthens the prosecution's case and helps ensure that impaired drivers are held accountable for their actions.

Public Safety and Impaired Driving Prevention

Ultimately, the NHTSA SFST pocket card is a critical component of the broader effort to enhance public safety by reducing impaired driving. By providing officers with a reliable and scientifically validated method for identifying impaired drivers, the pocket card contributes to removing dangerous drivers from the road. Increased enforcement effectiveness and consistent prosecution send a clear message to potential offenders, acting as a deterrent. The widespread availability and use of the SFST pocket card underscore NHTSA's commitment to saving lives through informed and standardized impaired driving enforcement strategies.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card and what is its primary purpose?

The NHTSA SFST Pocket Card is a portable guide that summarizes the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Its primary purpose is to provide law enforcement officers with a quick reference tool for correctly administering and interpreting the SFSTs during suspected impaired driving investigations.

Who typically uses the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card?

The NHTSA SFST Pocket Card is primarily used by law enforcement officers, including state troopers, sheriff's deputies, and local police officers, who are trained in administering Standardized Field Sobriety Tests. It serves as a reminder and a checklist to ensure consistency and accuracy in their procedures.

What information is generally found on the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card?

The card typically outlines the three standardized SFSTs: the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN) test, the Walk-and-Turn test, and the One-Leg Stand test. For each test, it details the "how-to" for administration, the "clues" or

indicators of impairment to look for, and often includes troubleshooting tips or common errors to avoid.

How does the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card contribute to traffic safety?

By providing a standardized and accessible reference, the pocket card helps ensure that SFSTs are administered consistently and correctly. This leads to more reliable identification of impaired drivers, potentially preventing impaired driving incidents, crashes, injuries, and fatalities, thereby enhancing overall traffic safety.

Are there different versions of the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card, and how can I find the most current one?

Yes, NHTSA periodically updates its training materials, which can lead to updated versions of the SFST Pocket Card. The most current versions are typically available for download or purchase directly from NHTSA's website or through official law enforcement training resources. It's crucial for officers to use the most up-to-date version.

Is the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card a legal document, and can it be used as evidence in court?

While the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card is a valuable training and reference tool, it is not a legal document itself. However, the SFSTs it describes are scientifically validated and widely accepted in legal proceedings. Testimony from officers regarding their administration and interpretation of SFSTs, guided by the principles outlined on the pocket card, can be used as evidence in court to establish probable cause for arrest and support impaired driving charges.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles, each related to the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card, with short descriptions:

1. Understanding the SFST Protocols: A Practical Guide

This book delves into the foundational principles and detailed procedures of the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) as developed by NHTSA. It breaks down each test—Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), Walk-and-Turn (WAT), and One-Leg Stand (OLS)—explaining the science behind them and common indicators of impairment. The guide aims to equip law enforcement officers, legal professionals, and even concerned citizens with a clear comprehension of how these tests are administered and interpreted.

2. SFST Refresher: Mastering Impairment Detection

Designed as a comprehensive review for officers already familiar with the SFSTs, this book reinforces best practices and highlights common pitfalls. It emphasizes the importance of proper demonstration, clear instructions, and accurate observation to ensure the reliability of test results. The text includes scenario-based learning and troubleshooting tips for challenging situations encountered in the field.

3. The Science Behind Impaired Driving Enforcement

This title explores the physiological and psychological effects of alcohol and drugs on human performance, providing the scientific rationale for the SFSTs. It discusses how various substances affect balance, coordination, and cognitive functions, directly linking these effects to the movements and observations required during the tests. Understanding this scientific basis is crucial for officers to effectively and accurately assess impairment.

4. SFST Field Manual: Pocket Card Companion

This manual serves as an extensive resource that complements the concise information found on the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card. It provides a more in-depth explanation of each SFST component, including detailed checklists, common deviations, and the legal standards for probable cause. The book is intended to be a readily accessible reference for officers during roadside investigations.

5. Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and SFST Integration

This book examines the critical relationship between the SFSTs and the more advanced Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program. It explains how SFST performance can indicate impairment that warrants further investigation by a DRE, and how DRE findings can corroborate or explain SFST results. The text is valuable for officers seeking to enhance their skills in identifying and dealing with drugged drivers.

6. Legal Aspects of SFST Administration

Focusing on the legal ramifications of administering the SFSTs, this book explores relevant case law and departmental policies. It addresses issues such as consent, implied consent, the admissibility of SFST evidence in court, and the importance of meticulous documentation. Understanding these legal nuances is essential for ensuring that SFSTs are conducted in a constitutionally sound manner.

7. SFST Training: From Academy to Advanced Patrol

This title outlines the progression of SFST training, from initial instruction during police academy years to ongoing advanced education for experienced officers. It discusses the evolution of the protocols and the importance of continuous learning to maintain proficiency. The book also touches upon the curriculum development and teaching methodologies used to effectively convey SFST knowledge.

8. Impaired Driving Stops: Strategies and Best Practices

This resource offers tactical advice and effective strategies for law enforcement officers conducting traffic stops that may lead to impaired

driving investigations. It covers everything from the initial approach to the vehicle, officer safety considerations, and the seamless integration of SFST administration. The goal is to provide officers with a comprehensive approach to handling these high-stakes encounters.

9. SFST Pocket Card: A Critical Review and Application

This book provides a critical analysis of the NHTSA SFST Pocket Card itself, examining its strengths and limitations. It discusses how the pocket card serves as a vital, portable reference tool for officers, and explores scenarios where its concise format is particularly useful. The text also offers insights into how officers can best utilize the information presented on the card in real-world situations.

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NHTSA SFST Pocket Card: Your On-The-Go Guide to Standardized Field Sobriety Testing

Are you tired of struggling to remember the intricate details of Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) during crucial moments? Do you need a quick, reliable reference that fits in your pocket, ensuring you always perform accurate and legally sound tests? Failing to administer SFSTs correctly can lead to costly legal battles, jeopardize public safety, and damage your professional reputation. Remembering all the steps, nuances, and legal considerations under pressure is a significant challenge for law enforcement professionals. This concise guide eliminates that challenge.

This ebook, "NHTSA SFST Pocket Guide: Mastering Standardized Field Sobriety Tests," provides the essential information you need, instantly accessible in a compact, easy-to-use format.

Contents:

Introduction: Understanding the Importance of Accurate SFST Administration

Chapter 1: The Three Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus, Walk-and-Turn, One-Leg Stand) - Detailed explanations and illustrations of each test, including administration procedures, clues of impairment, and potential challenges.

Chapter 2: Legal Considerations and Documentation: Ensuring proper procedure, documentation, and legal compliance. Covering crucial aspects such as Miranda rights, chain of custody, and avoiding legal pitfalls.

Chapter 3: Recognizing Clues of Impairment: Beyond the tests themselves; recognizing additional indicators of intoxication.

Chapter 4: Troubleshooting Common Issues and Challenges: Addressing practical obstacles and resolving potential complications during SFST administration.

Chapter 5: Staying Updated on Best Practices and Legal Changes: Maintaining compliance with the evolving legal landscape surrounding SFSTs.

Conclusion: Reinforcing the importance of accurate and consistent SFST administration for effective law enforcement and public safety.

NHTSA SFST Pocket Guide: Mastering Standardized Field Sobriety Tests

Introduction: The Crucial Role of Accurate SFST Administration

Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) are a cornerstone of effective drunk driving enforcement. Their proper administration is not merely a procedural matter; it's a critical element in ensuring public safety and upholding the integrity of the legal process. Inaccurate or improperly documented SFSTs can lead to dismissed charges, legal challenges, and potentially dangerous consequences. This guide aims to provide a concise and readily accessible resource for law enforcement professionals to master the administration and interpretation of SFSTs. Understanding the nuances of these tests is paramount to maintaining accuracy, upholding legal standards, and ultimately, protecting the public. The consequences of errors can be far-reaching, encompassing legal challenges, reputational damage, and even tragic outcomes. This guide serves as a comprehensive yet portable tool to mitigate these risks.

Chapter 1: The Three Standardized Field Sobriety Tests

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has standardized three field sobriety tests: the Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), the Walk-and-Turn (WAT), and the One-Leg Stand (OLS). Each test presents a unique set of clues indicating impairment, and their correct administration and interpretation are crucial.

1.1 Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN): HGN involves observing the involuntary jerking of the eyes as a person follows a moving stimulus (typically a pen or finger). This test assesses the presence of nystagmus, an involuntary rhythmic oscillation of the eyeballs. Key clues include:

Lack of Smooth Pursuit: The inability of the eyes to smoothly track the stimulus.

Distinct and Sustained Nystagmus at Maximum Deviation: Jerking of the eyes at the extreme point of lateral gaze.

Onset of Nystagmus Prior to 45 Degrees: Jerking beginning before the eyes reach 45 degrees of lateral gaze.

Proper administration includes ensuring adequate lighting, maintaining a safe distance, and avoiding any distractions. Detailed observation and accurate documentation are critical.

1.2 Walk-and-Turn (WAT): The WAT test assesses balance and coordination. The subject is instructed to take nine heel-to-toe steps, turn, and return. Clues of impairment include:

Unable to maintain balance during instruction: Difficulty understanding or following instructions.

Starts too soon: Beginning the test before instructions are completed.

Stops walking to regain balance: Losing balance and halting progress.

Improper turn: Not performing a proper 180-degree turn.

Steps off line: Stepping outside the designated line during walking.

Uses arms for balance: Using arms for support rather than maintaining balance independently.

Incorrect number of steps: Taking fewer or more steps than instructed.

Accurate observation and recording of these clues are essential.

1.3 One-Leg Stand (OLS): This test assesses balance and coordination by requiring the subject to stand on one leg with eyes closed for a specified time (typically 30 seconds). Clues of impairment include:

Sways: Significant swaying or loss of balance.

Puts foot down: Placing the other foot down to regain balance.

Uses arms for balance: Utilizing arms for support.

Hops: Hopping to maintain balance.

Detailed observation and meticulous recording are necessary for legal defensibility. The administration of each test must follow the NHTSA guidelines precisely. Any deviation can significantly weaken the evidentiary value of the test results.

Chapter 2: Legal Considerations and Documentation

The legal ramifications of SFST administration are significant. Proper documentation is not merely a formality; it's a critical element in ensuring the admissibility of evidence in court. Key legal considerations include:

Miranda Rights: Ensuring that the subject is informed of their rights before the tests are administered.

Chain of Custody: Maintaining proper documentation and control of the evidence collected during the tests.

Video Recording: Whenever possible, recording the tests to provide a visual record of the procedures and the subject's performance.

Subject's Physical Condition: Considering any pre-existing medical conditions that might affect the test results.

Environmental Factors: Accounting for external factors, such as uneven surfaces or inclement weather, that could influence the results.

Proper documentation includes detailed notes on each clue observed during the administration of

each test, as well as any relevant observations regarding the subject's demeanor, speech, and physical condition. Accurate and complete documentation is essential to withstand legal scrutiny.

Chapter 3: Recognizing Clues of Impairment: Beyond the Tests

While the three standardized tests are crucial, recognizing additional clues of impairment is equally important. These may include:

Bloodshot Eyes: Red or bloodshot eyes can indicate alcohol consumption or other substance use.

Slurred Speech: Difficulty articulating words clearly.

Odor of Alcohol: A strong smell of alcohol on the breath.

Impaired Coordination: Clumsiness or difficulty with motor skills.

Disorientation: Confusion or disorientation regarding time, place, or person.

Admitting to Alcohol Consumption: A subject's own admission of drinking.

These observations, when documented accurately, provide a more comprehensive picture of the subject's level of impairment.

Chapter 4: Troubleshooting Common Issues and Challenges

Several challenges can arise during SFST administration. Addressing these effectively is essential. These can include:

Subject Refusal: Handling situations where the subject refuses to take the tests.

Medical Conditions: Accommodating subjects with physical limitations or medical conditions that may affect their performance.

Environmental Factors: Adapting to challenging environmental conditions such as poor lighting or uneven surfaces.

Language Barriers: Effectively communicating with subjects who do not speak the same language.

Having a plan in place for these situations is vital.

Chapter 5: Staying Updated on Best Practices and Legal Changes

The legal landscape surrounding SFSTs is constantly evolving. Staying informed about best practices and legal updates is crucial. This includes regularly reviewing NHTSA guidelines and attending relevant training courses.

Conclusion: Consistent and Accurate SFST Administration - A Cornerstone of Public Safety

Mastering SFSTs is not just about passing a test; it's about protecting the public and upholding the integrity of the justice system. Through consistent, accurate application of the NHTSA guidelines and thorough documentation, law enforcement officers can significantly contribute to reducing impaired driving incidents. This pocket guide serves as a valuable tool to ensure that you are equipped with the knowledge and resources to perform these tests correctly and confidently.

FAQs:

1. What is the legal basis for using SFSTs? SFSTs are generally admissible in court as evidence of impairment, provided they are administered correctly and documented properly.
2. Can I use SFSTs without proper training? No, proper training is essential for accurate administration and legal defensibility.
3. What should I do if a suspect refuses to take the SFSTs? Document the refusal and proceed with other investigative measures.
4. How do I handle a suspect with a medical condition? Consider the condition and make reasonable accommodations if necessary, while still ensuring the integrity of the test.
5. What if the weather conditions are poor? Note the conditions in your documentation and consider the impact on the test results.
6. How important is video recording? Video recording is highly recommended to provide an objective record of the tests.
7. What are the consequences of incorrectly administering SFSTs? Incorrect administration can lead to inadmissible evidence, legal challenges, and potentially dangerous outcomes.
8. Where can I find updated NHTSA guidelines on SFSTs? The NHTSA website is a valuable resource for the latest guidelines and information.
9. Are there specific legal requirements for documenting SFST results? Yes, each agency may have specific requirements; review your department's policy for detailed guidance.

Related Articles:

1. NHTSA SFST Training Resources: A comprehensive guide to available training programs and resources.
2. Legal Challenges to SFST Evidence: An analysis of common legal challenges and how to address them.
3. The Impact of Environmental Factors on SFST Results: A detailed exploration of how environmental factors can affect test results.
4. Effective Documentation Techniques for SFSTs: Best practices for documenting SFSTs for legal admissibility.
5. Addressing Subject Refusal of SFSTs: Strategies for handling situations where a suspect refuses to participate.
6. SFSTs and Individuals with Disabilities: Accommodations and considerations for individuals with disabilities.

7. The Role of Video Recording in SFST Administration: The importance and benefits of video recording SFSTs.
8. Common Errors in SFST Administration and How to Avoid Them: An in-depth look at common mistakes and preventative measures.
9. The Future of SFST Technology and Applications: Exploring advancements in technology related to SFSTs and their potential applications.

nhtsa sfst pocket card: *The Visual Detection of DWI Motorists* , 1998

nhtsa sfst pocket card: Achieving Traffic Safety Goals in the United States National Academies (U.S.). Committee for the Study of Traffic Safety Lessons from Benchmark Nations, 2011 The tool kit will vary among jurisdictions depending on basic legal constraints, community attitudes, road system and traffic characteristics, and resources. The Transportation Research Board (TRB) undertook a study to identify the sources of safety improvements in other countries. Researchers do not have a complete understanding of the underlying causes of long-term trends in crashes and fatalities. Differences among countries are in part attributable to factors other than government safety policies. To identify keys to success, the TRB study committee examined specific safety programs for which quantitative evaluations are available and relied on the observations of safety professionals with international experience. The committee's conclusions identify differences between U.S. and international practices that can account for some differences in outcomes. The committee recommendations, which are addressed to elected officials and to government safety administrators, identify actions needed in the United States to emulate the successes that other countries have achieved. The recommendations do not comprehensively address all aspects of traffic safety programs but rather address areas of practice that are highlighted by the international comparisons and for which credible evidence of effectiveness is available.--Pub. desc.

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nhtsa sfst pocket card: *Saturation Patrols & Sobriety Checkpoints* , 2000

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nhtsa sfst pocket card: Electronic Crime Scene Investigation David E. Learner, 2009 This book is intended to assist State and local law enforcement and other first responders who may be responsible for preserving an electronic crime scene and for recognising, collecting, and safeguarding digital evidence. It is not all inclusive but addresses situations encountered with electronic crime scenes and digital evidence. All crime scenes are unique and the judgement of the first responder, agency protocols, and prevailing technology should all be considered when implementing the information in this guide. First responders to electronic crime scenes should

adjust their practices as circumstances -- including level of experience, conditions, and available equipment -- warrant. The circumstances of individual crime scenes and Federal, State, and local laws may dictate actions or a particular order of actions other than those described in this guide. First responders should be familiar with all the information in this guide and perform their duties and responsibilities as circumstances dictate. This is an edited and excerpted edition of a U.S. Dept. of Justice publication.

nhtsa sfst pocket card: Narcotics Investigator National Learning Corporation, 2013 The Narcotics Investigator Passbook(R) prepares you for your test by allowing you to take practice exams in the subjects you need to study. It provides hundreds of questions and answers in the areas that will likely be covered on your upcoming exam, including but not limited to: evaluating information and evidence; preparing written material; understanding and interpreting written material; investigative techniques; advanced investigative techniques; and more.

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nhtsa sfst pocket card: The Detection of DWI Motorcyclists , 1992

nhtsa sfst pocket card: MANAGING THE INVESTIGATIVE UNIT Daniel S. McDevitt, 2012-08-01 Managing the investigative unit can be an extremely rewarding part of any law enforcement professional's career, or it can be an absolute nightmare. The goal of this newly revised second edition is to continue to provide the investigative manager with the updated tools and techniques necessary to successfully manage the investigative unit. Many of these techniques and strategies were learned through trial and error. It begins with a look at the various elements of the investigative process. These elements include the basics of criminal investigations, the role of patrol in the investigative process, organizing the investigative unit, rank/position/status of investigators, selecting and supervising investigative personnel, developing new investigators, case management, managing confidential source programs, supervision of undercover personnel, raid and arrest planning, the qualifications for the undercover officer, and evaluating performance of personnel. Administrative considerations, such as managing confidential source programs and case management are examined in detail. The final sections of the book examines performance evaluation of investigative personnel, which differs greatly from the evaluation of patrol personnel. Investigative "marginal performers" are studied, and useful techniques for managing these individuals are provided. Methods of developing new investigators as well as mechanisms to train patrol personnel for potential assignment to investigations are also covered. In addition, the Appendices contains material and forms on responsibilities, time allocation, selection and application, case screenings, case reviews, referrals, fund and payment policy, operational plan, and evaluation design. The book will be useful for patrol officers or detectives who are interested in preparing themselves for supervisory or management positions.

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Authoritative and interdisciplinary in scope - integrating biological and behavioral science

nhtsa sfst pocket card: *DYING FOR THE JOB* John M. Violanti, 2014-02-01 When one thinks of police work, the immediate danger of this occupation comes to mind—the everyday threat of violence, death, and witnessing traumatic events in their work. Less noted however is the physical and psychological danger associated with police work, including harmful environmental exposure, stress and trauma. Based on research, the adverse health and psychological consequences of this occupation far outweigh the dangers of the street. The primary purpose of this book is therefore to focus on these less known, less talked about dangers in policing. The mental well-being, health, and average life span of police officers appear to be affected by these factors. Hence, the title –“dying for the job”—reflects not so much the danger on the street but the hidden health dangers associated with policing. Many of the researchers who contributed to this book are epidemiologists and biostatisticians who are part of a National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) CDC five-year research study on police health titled “BCOPS”—the Buffalo Cardio-Metabolic Occupational Police Stress study. Still other contributors are experts in cancer, cardiovascular disease and psychological trauma. Recent events such as 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, the Sandy Hook school tragedy, and the Boston Marathon bombings emphasize the need to have a vibrant, healthy police force. It is necessary to maintain a high level of reliability by initiating health and stress prevention efforts. Chapters include: an examination of harmful physical work exposures; health disparities among police officers; cardiovascular risk in law enforcement; risk of cancer incidence and mortality among police officers; shift work and health consequences in policing; stressors and associated health effects for women police officers; suicide; post-traumatic stress disorder; resilience in policing; and PTSD symptoms, psychobiology, and coexisting disorders in police officers. Both law enforcement practitioners and administrators alike will benefit from reading this book.

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nhtsa sfst pocket card: *Saturation Patrols & Sobriety Checkpoints* , 2000

nhtsa sfst pocket card: *Police Allocation Manual* Northwestern University (Evanston, Ill.). Traffic Institute, 1992

nhtsa sfst pocket card: *Police Theory in America* Robert C. Wadman, 2009 measurement of effective policing is based on a quick response to crime that has already been committed, the value of crime prevention has become an afterthought in America's police departments. The middle chapters outline these issues and identify the strategies to improve police community relationships and adjust the measurements for effective policing. The concluding chapters identify strategies designed to facilitate police department organizational change. Using terms from the discipline of economics, a micro strategy and a macro strategy are outlined. A new theory of policing concludes the book. The book is intended primarily as a textbook for criminal justice students, but it will also prove useful to police departments, police academies, city managers, and elected officials responsible for police administration and community safety. --Book Jacket.

nhtsa sfst pocket card: *Youth Violence and Delinquency* Frank P. Williams, Marilyn D. McShane, 2007-05-30 Juvenile crime and violence has always piqued the public's interest. Indeed, each generation of Americans tends to define the youth crime problem as more serious than any previous generation. Even though juvenile homicides have been decreasing since the mid-1990s, the media is still quick to provide dramatic examples of juvenile monsters who are terrorizing their communities. Shootings at school, gang banging and trafficking drugs, school bullies, and charging juveniles as adults are subjects that have recently received wide media coverage. This three volume set on the nature, incidence, consequences, and treatment of youth crime and violence will help readers understand the true nature of youth crime and violence from a variety of perspectives. Each volume covers a different area and experts write on topics ranging from sex offending to fire

starting, from gangs to guns, from juvenile probation to charging youths as adults, from mandatory mental health treatment to police in school settings, and more. What drives a teenager to steal? To kill? Why does youth crime and violence occur? Why are youths such vulnerable targets? What can be done to stop youth offenders, and what can be done to help youthful victims? How does the criminal justice system respond? What do communities do to punish and protect youths? What can schools do to intervene? All these questions and more are answered in this set on this timely and important topic. Our youth are our most precious commodity, and protecting vulnerable children as well as helping offenders is of paramount importance for steering them toward safe and productive lives. These volumes help readers better understand the causes and consequences of youth violence and crime and consider ways to address the problems.

nhtsa sfst pocket card: *APA Handbook of Forensic Psychology* Brian L. Cutler, Patricia A. Zapf, 2015 The APA Handbook of Forensic Psychology consolidates and advances knowledge about the scientific foundations and practical application of psychology to law, the practice of law, and law-related policy. Drawing upon contemporary psychological research and practice, this Handbook provides a thorough, up-to-date, and far-reaching reference on forensic psychological issues that are important to researchers, practitioners and students in psychology, other social sciences and practice disciplines, and law. The Handbook is divided into 2 Volumes, each comprised of 3 sections.--Publicity materials.

nhtsa sfst pocket card: PUBLIC SAFETY SUICIDE Mary Van Haute, John M. Violanti, 2015-01-01 This book takes an individual human approach to the problem of suicide in public safety occupations. As a researcher in suicide, coauthor John Violanti relies heavily upon statistics to make the case for prevention. These worthwhile statistics help to form the big picture, but one must keep in mind that these are just statistics and not people. With coauthor Mary Van Haute and her knowledge of the human condition and experience in interventions, she adds the human dimension by relating her stories of real people who worked in public safety occupations and their difficult and sometimes tragic consequences with near and completed suicide. Added to her expertise is her own life experience: she is a survivor of her brother's death by suicide. For the reader, the book provides a detailed insight into the reality of suicide and how it tears into the very fiber of being human in an occupational culture that requires one to forget emotions, feelings, and at times compassion. Stigma and a myriad of misnomers silence the majority of suicide attempt survivors, robbing suicide prevention specialists of lifesaving knowledge and perspective. Here are the stories of people who have balanced the risk of being judged and misunderstood with the value of being a mentor and role model to others. They share their stories about living with mental illness, addiction, and suicide in the hopes that it will have a positive impact on the readers and ultimately save a life. It is also a look back at the beaten path of Van Haute's own double road of grief—from a time of ignorance through years of hard-knocks education to a point of peaceful resolve, the trials and tasks facing a survivor of suicide loss are chronicled. Each chapter concludes with a case analysis of lessons learned from the story courageously shared. This book is an opportunity to see that there is life after lifelessness, hope after hopelessness and peace after restlessness.

nhtsa sfst pocket card: **Significant Tactical Police Cases** Tomas C. Mijares, Ronald M. McCarthy, 2015 While skill development is important in the world of law enforcement, today there appears to be a disturbing lack and understanding of history, how it impacts the present, and how it ultimately affects the future. Accordingly, the primary purpose of this book is to provide the professional SWAT officer with the appropriate historical references in order to improve the individual and overall performance of this very specialized aspect of law enforcement. The text offers analysis of significant case histories, much in the same manner as the approach to learning used by the Harvard Business School and the United States Army War College. Tactics, equipment, organizational preparedness, and operational execution are examined to identify what was successful and can be maintained or improved for future use or what was ineffective and should be avoided. In reviewing the significant case histories, a variety of methods was used for data collection, including original police and court records, interviews with participants in these events,

and even direct observation. By examining these cases, the reader becomes better equipped and more able to understand how the standards were developed in the police tactical world and why they are so important to operational success. In addition to SWAT specialists, this book is also written for police officers of all levels, particularly those who are charged with the responsibilities of supervising personnel, allocating scarce resources, and making policy. Without a proper historical reference, performance of these skills often becomes an exercise in futility and even counterproductive. The text will also be beneficial to college and university students of criminal justice and to those whose vocations take them close to the criminal justice world such as politicians, journalists, social workers, and other caregivers.

nhtsa sfst pocket card: Marine Corps Directives Management Program Department Navy, 2013-06-10 This publication provides policy for the preparation, approval, and maintenance of Marine Corps directives.

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