

Section 40 – Patrol Functions

New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program

40.1 Responsibilities of Patrol Officers

OPERATIONS

STANDARD 40.1 **The agency has a written directive that identifies the responsibilities of patrol officers including:**

- A. The tasks associated with the patrol function (e.g., traffic control, maintaining law and order, crime prevention, responding to calls for service, etc.); and**
- B. The categories of crimes and incidents wherein patrol officers are responsible for conducting preliminary and/or follow-up investigation(s) and preparation of reports.**

Commentary: *In some incidents, a patrol officer will be able to conduct both the preliminary and follow - up investigations. In other situations, follow-up investigations may be conducted by investigative or other specialized units. This should be established by the agency.*

Compliance Verification Strategies

Assessors may seek to verify compliance with this standard by using one or more of the strategies listed below. There may be other strategies identified by the agency which could also be acceptable.

1. A copy of the written directive is available for review.
2. A review of investigative reports to determine if crimes and incidents are being investigated in accordance with agency policy.
3. Observation of the patrol component to verify personnel knowledge and understanding of the function.
4. Interview(s) with both patrol and plainclothes officers to determine if they understand and follow the agency's investigative policies.