



GENERAL ORDER

DURHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT
DURHAM, NC

NUMBER:

1028 R-5

POLYGRAPH & VOICE-STRESS ANALYSIS EXAMINATIONS

Effective Date: 12/15/1995

Revision Dates: R-1 09/01/2002; R-2 07/25/2003; R-3 02/09/2010; R-4
05/16/2016; **R-5 07/20/2020**

INTRODUCTION

The Durham Police Department (DPD) conducts truth verification examinations performed by certified officers for users both inside and outside the Department. Truth verification is performed using polygraph examinations or voice-stress analysis by certified examiners. Any contracted examiner shall only be used in this capacity if they are in compliance with the laws set forth in N.C.G.S. Chapter [74C](#) and the regulations contained within the North Carolina Administrative Code ([12 NCAC 07D - § .0500](#)).

TRUTH VERIFICATION EXAMINATION REQUESTS AND SCHEDULING

An investigator requesting the services of the truth verification examiner for a criminal case to verify, corroborate, and/or refute statements relating to the investigation shall review the purpose for the examination with their supervisor and consider discussing the use of these services with the District Attorney's office. Following the review, the request will be sent to the investigator's chain of command for approval. Once approved, the investigator will contact an agency contracted with the City or the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to schedule an appointment for the examination. The investigating officer is solely responsible for scheduling and coordinating the truth verification examination.

TRUTH VERIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

The individual to be examined should submit voluntarily. Before administering any examination, the examiner will have the individual complete and sign a consent waiver form. Those individuals under the age of eighteen (18) must also have a parent or guardian sign this form.

The investigating officer from the requesting division will accompany the individual to be examined to the examination and shall remain available to the examiner throughout the examination.

The investigating officer will furnish the examiner with all pertinent information concerning the case, including but not limited to a copy of all statements, investigative reports, and other available background information necessary to conduct a valid examination.

The individual should not be interrogated immediately before the examination.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT EXAMINATIONS OF DEPARTMENT APPLICANTS

Requests and Scheduling

The Recruiting Unit Sergeant, or designee, will schedule the pre-employment truth verification examination with an agency contracted with the City and notify the applicant.


Truth Verification Examination Procedures for Pre-Employment

The Recruiting Unit will provide the truth verification examiner with any pertinent background and application information about the subject necessary to conduct a valid examination. The applicant will be provided with the questions to be asked before the test. Truth verification examinations are considered as a supplement to a background investigation. They will not be used as the single determinant of employment status.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS

Truth verification examinations may be used in conjunction with an internal investigation being conducted by the Professional Standards Division (PSD).

- Upon approval of the division commander, the investigator will contact the SBI or a private truth verification examiner to schedule an examination.
- The PSD will provide the examiner all pertinent information concerning the case. This will include but is not limited to a copy of all statements, investigative reports, and other available background information necessary to conduct a valid examination.
- The PSD is responsible for scheduling and coordinating internal affairs examinations.



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Chief of Police