

DECONFLICTION

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Omaha Police Department (OPD) to use the process of deconfliction at the beginning of an investigation in order to enhance officer safety, prevent duplication of investigative efforts, and develop case linkages. The OPD uses the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Secure Automated Fast Event Tracking Network (SAFETNet) System to deconflict investigations by seeking similar Targets and Events.

DEFINITIONS:

Deconfliction: A process that allows law enforcement personnel to determine if a Target or Event is currently being, or has ever been, investigated by another member law enforcement agency. The process involves the sharing of information and the coordination of Events, maneuvers, etc., between employees/entities in order to reduce and/or avert risk.

Event: A location defined by an address, intersection, or latitude/longitude coordinates that is the subject of a law enforcement investigation.

SAFETNet: An automated deconfliction system that provides non-communicating agencies in local, state, and federal law enforcement a common gateway to identify conflict with their Events and Targets.

Target: A person, business, vehicle, weapon, or email address that is the subject of a law enforcement investigation.

PROCEDURES:

I. SAFETNet Guidelines

- A. OPD employees will use the Midwest HIDTA's SAFETNet System, when appropriate, to deconflict Targets and/or Events.
 - 1. Information obtained through SAFETNet is confidential and law enforcement sensitive.
 - 2. Officers will not refer to SAFETNet in any case documentation.
 - 3. Officers will make certain submissions contain accurate information and are related to an active investigation.
 - 4. All submissions to the SAFETNet System require a case report number (RB Number).
- B. Accessing the SAFETNet System.
 - 1. To access the SAFETNet System, enter deconfliction information using remote access via the Intranet "Applications Page" internal web link.
 - 2. Field officers and employees without remote access to SAFETNet will call the Midwest HIDTA Watch Center (See [Appendix A](#) for the phone number).
 - a. Officers may call the Midwest HIDTA Watch Center phone number 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Calls received outside the Watch Center's regular business hours (Monday – Friday from 0800 to 1700 hours; closed on holidays) will automatically be forwarded to the Missouri Information Analysis Center (MIAC) for access to the system.

3. All users will be required to complete Midwest HIDTA security control forms to gain access to the system. Officers can obtain these forms by contacting the OPD HIDTA Analyst or the Midwest HIDTA Watch Center.
 - a. Once the form is completed, the unit lieutenant will review and approve the form. The approved security form will then be faxed to the Midwest HIDTA Watch Center for final processing (See [Appendix A](#) for the fax number).

II. Investigative Employees

- A. Prior to executing a search warrant, all listed persons and locations will be deconflicted.
- B. All suspects and investigative targets involved in a criminal investigation will be deconflicted.
- C. All locations and identified addresses that are subject to an on-going investigation will be deconflicted. This includes investigations involving search warrants, “knock and talks” pursuant to an existing case file, long-term surveillance, Title III – Federal Wiretap Act cases, etc.
- D. Supervisors are responsible for making certain their assigned employees deconflict Targets and Events at the onset of investigations. Post-investigation entries into the system are counter intuitive to the system’s purpose.

III. Uniform Patrol Bureau Employees

- A. Uniform Patrol Bureau (UPB) officers are encouraged to use the SAFETNet System when investigating persons and/or locations that are not related to routine calls for service or other regular patrol activities. These situations may include, but are not limited to:
 1. Proactive problem solving projects (subjects and locations).
 2. Patrol initiated surveillance.
 3. Proactive enforcement operations.

IV. All Employees / Additional Considerations

- A. When possible, deconfliction should occur at the outset of an investigation. If an investigative conflict is discovered, the inquiring employee will contact the listed investigator or agency to discuss the conflict.
- B. Training is provided by the Midwest HIDTA Watch Center. Any employee who requires training or access to the system should contact the OPD HIDTA Analyst or the Narcotics Unit Lieutenant.
- C. As a reminder, after Deconfliction is conducted and prior to any special operation being conducted OPD employees are required to complete an OPD Special Operations Checklist form ([OPD Form 27](#)) and present the form to the respective CIB Captain or their designee via chain of command for review. See the OPD “[Undercover Operations](#)” policy for details.

REFERENCES:

I. Previous OPD Orders

- A. Previous General Orders: #44-12, 51-14, and 48-24.