

In the DWI Traffic Stop event, competitors find themselves in a simulated environment designed to emulate a real-world DWI stop. Participants will engage in dynamic roleplay, conducting specific field sobriety tests—Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), Walk and Turn, and One Leg Stand—on a violator.

Entry Requirements

- Competitors in this event compete individually, not as a team.
- Chapters can only register 2 individuals to compete.

Materials

Competitors can/should provide the following materials. Competitors are only permitted to bring in the below materials to the competition. TPSA does not provide the below materials.

Competitor Provided Materials

- **Duty Gear:** 1- Training Pistol, 1-2 set(s) of handcuffs with key, duty belt with holsters to secure all equipment, and any additional optional training equipment (I.E. training taser, training o/c spray, etc). No working radios are allowed in accordance with the Electronic Device policy in the **TPSA Rulebook**.
- **Pen:** Blue or Black Ink
- **Clipboard**
- **HGN Stimulus:** A dark colored stimulus that can be used to conduct the HGN test.
- **Photo Identification:** Reference the rulebook (<https://tpsa.info/rulebook>) for details

Supplemental Documents

- [Field Notes](#)

Procedures and Timeline

- **Check In (10 min Time Limit):** Competitors must check in to their event at their designated **check-in time**. Competitors that arrive **ten (10) minutes** after their designated check-in time will be marked as no-shows and not be allowed to compete out of respect for the time commitment made by our Judges and Volunteers.
- **Pre-Event Briefing (5 min Time Limit):** After check-in, Competitors will be guided to the designated event area. Once there, the Moderator will provide a comprehensive briefing, detailing the event's instructions, rules, and procedures. This briefing ensures that each Competitor is well-informed and prepared for the subsequent stages of the competition.
- **Scenario Briefing (5 min Time Limit):** The judge presents a detailed briefing of the traffic stop scenario. This will include specific information about the pre-stop traffic violation that may include but not limited to the stop location, unit number, and offences observed. The judge will read directly from the hard copy scenario document. The competitor is not permitted to take notes during this portion of the event. Upon completion of reading the pre-stop information the judge will start the timer and hand the document to the competitor. The competitor may not ask questions in attempt to garner additional information or clarify provided information.
- **Roleplay (20 min Time Limit):** Upon completion of reading the pre-stop information, the judge will start the timer and hand the document to the competitor. The competitor will notify dispatch of the traffic stop, approach the vehicle, make contact with the violator, conduct any pre-exit sobriety tests, instruct the violator to exit the vehicle, perform SFST's, complete a field notes document, and make an arrest decision. No actual arrest or post arrest searching will be conducted.
- **Evaluation and Scoring (5 min Time Limit):** After the completion of the event, the Judges will convene to assess each Competitor's performance based on a standardized rubric. This stage is conducted without the presence of the Competitor. Judges will evaluate the criteria outlined in the rubric to ensure a fair and objective scoring process. Once all assessments are finalized, scores will be recorded for each Competitor.

Rules

- **Command Compliance:** Actors are required to adhere to all instructions and commands issued by competitors, and are expected to do so without any form of resistance or hesitation.

Professional Dress Guidelines

To secure professionalism points, competitors should dress in attire that accurately reflects what professionals in the respective public

safety careers would wear while performing the tasks associated with the event. Competitors are also expected to consult and follow the professional dress guidelines in the rulebook to qualify for points. Additionally, participation is contingent upon meeting all prescribed safety protocols.

Safety Protocols

- **Vehicle Operation:** No actual driving of vehicles will be allowed during the event. All simulated actions should be conducted with stationary vehicles only.
- **Emergency Stop Command: 'Index':** If the 'Index' command is issued by a Judge, Staff Member, Actor, or other designated authority, all Competitors must immediately cease all activities and actions. This includes stopping any ongoing tasks, disengaging from any current simulations, and discontinuing any interactions with other participants. If an Actor issues the 'Index' command while handcuffed, they must be immediately released from the handcuffs by the nearest Competitor or event staff member. All Competitors must promptly secure and holster any weapons they may be handling. After holstering, Competitors should adopt a neutral, attentive posture and await further instructions from event officials. Failure to promptly and accurately comply with the 'Index' command may result in immediate disqualification and/or other appropriate actions as determined by event officials.
- **Prohibited Materials:** Flash bangs, live munitions, or any type of projectiles are prohibited during the event. Use of any prohibited item will result in disqualification. Any damages that result from the use of prohibited items will be the financial responsibility of the competitors school. The chapter's membership shall be suspended.
- **Unusual Assaults or Tactics:** Unusual assaults or tactics may not be used during the event, if the team is unsure they should consult the Judge before the event begins.
- **Property Damage:** Teams are prohibited from breaking glass, windows, doors, etc, during the event. Such activity will result in a DQ and the competitor's school being responsible for any damages. Intentional property damage will result in chapter membership suspension.
- **Long Pants:** Long pants must be worn secured at the waist and shall not extend past the sole of the shoe. No portion of the leg shall be visible.
- **Jewelry:** Rings must feature a continuous, even, and unadorned exterior surface. Necklaces must not be visible from the outside of the uniform. Bracelets may not be worn. If competitors have piercings beyond a single stud in each ear, they must cover these additional piercings with band-aids or wear clear studs to maintain a professional appearance.
- **Hair:** All hair must be secured out of the eyes for the duration of the event. Competitors with hair extending past the top of the shoulder shall wear their hair secured neatly in a bun or ponytail ensuring that no hair extends below the collar of the uniform. It is not an exception to the rule that a Competitor's chosen hair style is too thick to be secured above the collar.
- **Pants:** Competitors must wear pants that cover the entire leg, with no portion of the leg visible. Pants shall be secured at the waist with a hem length not to extend past the sole of the shoe.
- **Shoes:** Competitors must wear low-heeled, closed-toed footwear for this event.
- **Firearm Handling:** If at any point during the event, an actor is within arms reach of the competitor, and the competitor is displaying unsafe firearm safety procedures, the actor may attempt to disarm the officer by grabbing the firearm. This shall not result in a struggle, and the actor shall not fight for the firearm.
- **Fingernail Length:** Competitors' fingernails shall not extend past the tip of the finger and shall be free of any/all adornments. Color is not a factor.
- **Shirt Sleeves:** IF Long sleeve shirts are worn, they shall fit closely at the wrist and not extend past the wrist.
- **Pant Length:** Pants shall not extend past the sole of the shoe.

Judge Qualifications

- Certified Law Enforcement officer that has completed DWI traffic stops and administered SFST's on more than one occasion.

Criteria	Unattempted	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Proficient	Exemplary	Points
Professionalism						
Professionalism This criterion evaluates the appropriateness of attire and the level of professional behavior displayed, considering industry standards relevant to the event.	0 No professionalism demonstrated. Attire and behavior are entirely inappropriate or unacceptable.	1 2 Attire is inappropriate for the event and does not meet industry standards. Professional behavior is inconsistent.	3 4 5 Attire is mostly appropriate but may not fully meet industry standards. Professional behavior is generally acceptable.	6 7 8 Attire meets industry standards and is appropriate for the event. Professional behavior is consistent.	9 10 Attire meets industry standards and is appropriate for the event. Professional behavior is outstanding and goes above and beyond expectations. Attire quality is not a factor between Proficient and Exemplary.	
Violator Contact						
Notification of Traffic Stop Prior to exiting the vehicle, the competitor will notify dispatch of a traffic stop. The competitor shall include stop location, vehicle information (color, make, model, body style, additional information), License Plate State, and License Plate Number. Optional information can be provided (number of occupants, etc.) but will not be scored.	0 No attempt was made to notify dispatch of the traffic stop.	2 The competitor did not notify dispatch of the traffic stop prior to exiting the vehicle and/or the competitor included less than 50% of the required information.	3 Prior to exiting the vehicle, the competitor notified dispatch of the traffic stop. The competitor included at least 50% of the required information.	4 Prior to exiting the vehicle, the competitor notified dispatch of the traffic stop. The competitor included at least 75% of the required information.	5 Prior to exiting the vehicle, the competitor notified dispatch of the traffic stop and provided 100% of the required information.	

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Vehicle Approach The competitor will approach the violator vehicle utilizing industry standards for officer safety. For the purpose of this event, the following requirements must be met. The competitor shall not have any items in their gun hand. The competitor must check the surroundings while approaching the vehicle. The competitor must touch the tailgate/trunk of the violator vehicle to ensure it is secure. The competitor must visually check the back seat or bed area of the vehicle for safety concerns. The competitor will stand in a bladed (~45 degrees) interview stance while making contact with the violator.	0 The competitor did not approach the violator's vehicle or approached the violator's vehicle with no attention to officer safety.	2 The competitor approached the violator's vehicle utilizing industry standards for officer safety. The competitor demonstrated less than 50% of the required safety standards.	7 The competitor approached the violator's vehicle utilizing industry standards for officer safety. The competitor demonstrated 50% of the required safety standards.	9 The competitor approached the violator vehicle utilizing industry standards for officer safety. The competitor demonstrated 75% of the required safety standards.	10 The competitor approached the violator vehicle utilizing industry standards for officer safety. The competitor demonstrated 100% of the required safety standards.	
Personal Contact The competitor will make contact with the driver by greeting the driver and providing their name and agency name. The competitor will ask for identification and proof of financial responsibility. Upon receipt of documentation, the competitor will confirm with the driver that all documentation is current and correct. The competitor will ensure that the violator's hands are visible at all times.	0 The competitor did not make contact with the driver and/or did not ensure that the driver's hands were visible throughout.	2 The competitor made contact with the driver and completed less than 50% of the required tasks, ensuring that the driver's hands were visible throughout.	3 The competitor made contact with the driver and completed at least 50% of the required tasks, ensuring that the driver's hands were visible throughout.	4 The competitor made contact with the driver and completed at least 75% of the required tasks, ensuring that the driver's hands were visible throughout.	5 The competitor made contact with the driver and completed 100% of the required tasks, ensuring that the driver's hands were visible throughout.	

Criteria	Unattempted	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Proficient	Exemplary	Points
Interview The competitor will interview the driver to elicit information and look for face-to-face signs of intoxication. Observations shall be documented on the approved field notes document.	0 The competitor did not interview the driver and/or look for face-to-face signs of intoxication.	2 The competitor interviewed the driver but did not document observations on the field notes document.	3 The competitor interviewed the driver and documented only a few face-to-face observations on the field notes document.	4 The competitor interviewed the driver and documented face-to-face observations on the field notes document. Observations are not complete or in the wrong location.	5 The competitor interviewed the driver and documented face-to-face observations in the appropriate location of the field notes document. Documentation includes all relevant statements and sensory observations.	
Pre-exit sobriety test The competitor will complete one pre-exit divided attention sobriety test prior to asking the driver to step out of the vehicle, such as asking for insurance and driver's license at the same time or driver's license and turning the radio or car off. Correctly document the results on the field notes document. This test may be performed at any point during the personal contact phase.	0 The competitor did not attempt one pre-exit divided attention sobriety test prior to asking the driver to step out of the vehicle.	2 The competitor completed one pre-exit divided attention sobriety test and did not document the results on the field notes document.	4 The competitor completed one pre-exit divided attention sobriety test and documented results on the field notes document however the documentation is incomplete, incorrect, or in the wrong section of the document.		5 The competitor completed one pre-exit divided attention sobriety test and correctly documented the results on the field notes document.	
Violator exit from vehicle The competitor will direct the driver to exit the vehicle. The competitor will document observations regarding how the driver steps and walks from the vehicle on the field notes document.	0 The competitor did not instruct the driver to exit the vehicle.	2 The competitor instructed the driver to step from the vehicle and did not document signs of impairment on the field notes document.	4 The competitor instructed the driver to step from the vehicle and documented less than 50% of the signs of impairment on the field notes document.		5 The competitor instructs the driver to step from the vehicle and correctly documented all signs of impairment on the field notes document.	
SFST Safety						

Criteria	Unattempted	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Proficient	Exemplary	Points
SFST Safety The competitor ensures that the standardized field sobriety tests are performed on a dry, hard, level, non-slippery surface, and out of the flow of traffic. The officer ensures that all instructions are provided with officer safety in mind. If the subject can't do the test, the competitor will record observed clues and document the reason for not completing the test, e.g. subject's safety.	0 The competitor did not attempt to ensure the safety of the driver and/or the officer.	3 The competitor did not ensure that all SFSTs were performed without undue safety concerns for the driver and/or the officer.	4 The competitor ensured that some SFSTs were performed without undue safety concerns for the driver and the officer.		10 The competitor ensured that all SFSTs were performed without undue safety concerns for the driver and the officer.	
Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus						
HGN Instructions To test for HGN, the competitor instructs the driver to stand with feet together, hands at sides, hold the head still, and follow the motion of a stimulus with the eyes only. If wearing glasses, the competitor asks the driver to remove their glasses for the test.	0 The competitor does not provide instructions to the driver.	2 The competitor does not provide all required instructions to the driver and/or does not ask the driver to remove glasses if applicable.	3 The competitor provides most of the required instructions to the driver and asks the driver to remove glasses if applicable.	5 The competitor provides all required instructions to the driver and asks the driver to remove glasses if applicable.		

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HGN Assessment The competitor will conduct the HGN test using a stimulus that contrasts with the environmental background. The stimulus will be held 12 to 15 inches from the driver's nose above eye level. Two or more passes are made before each eye to look for each of the clues for nystagmus. The competitor will take 2 seconds out and 2 seconds back over each eye to check smooth pursuit. The competitor will hold for 4 seconds at max deviation to check for sustained nystagmus. Vertical Gaze Nystagmus will not be assessed. All results are documented correctly on the field guide document. (The judge will provide results of the nystagmus test during the assessment)	0 The competitor does not conduct the HGN assessment.	1 The competitor completed less than 50% of the required actions and/or incorrectly documented results on the field guide document.	3 The competitor completed at least 50% of the required actions and correctly documented results on the field guide document.	4 The competitor completed at least 75% of the required actions and correctly documented results on the field guide document.	5 The competitor completed 100% of the required actions and correctly documented results on the field guide document.	
Walk and Turn						

Criteria	Unattempted	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Proficient	Exemplary	Points
Walk and Turn Instructions The competitor will explain the test requirements by giving the following instructions, accompanied by demonstrations: When I tell you to start, take nine heel-to-toe steps on the line, turn, and take nine heel-to-toe steps down the line. When you turn, keep the front (lead) foot on the line, and turn by taking a series of small steps with the other foot, like this. While you are walking, keep your arms at your sides, watch your feet at all times, and count your steps out loud. Once you start walking, don't stop until you have completed the test. Do you understand the instructions? (Make sure the subject understands.) Instruct the person to begin the test.	0 The competitor did not provide instructions for the walk-and-turn test.	1 The competitor provided less than 50% of the required instructions and demonstrations for the driver and/or did not ask the driver if they understood.	3 The competitor provided at least 50% of the required instructions and demonstrations for the driver and asked the driver if they understood.	4 The competitor provided 75% of the required instructions and demonstrations for the driver and asked the driver if they understood.	5 The competitor provided all required instructions and demonstrations for the driver and asked the driver if they understood.	
Walk and Turn Test The competitor instructs the driver to begin the test. If the subject does not count out loud or watch his/her feet, the competitor must remind him/her to perform these tasks. The competitor correctly documents all results on the field guide document.	0 The competitor did not complete the walk-and-turn test.	2 The competitor instructed the driver to begin the test. If the subject did not count out loud or watch his/her feet, the competitor did not remind him/her to perform these tasks, and/or the competitor did not correctly document all results on the field guide document.	3 The competitor instructed the driver to begin the test. If the subject did not count out loud or watch his/her feet, the competitor reminded him/her to perform these tasks. The competitor correctly documented most of the results on the field guide document.	5 The competitor instructed the driver to begin the test. If the subject did not count out loud or watch his/her feet, the competitor reminded him/her to perform these tasks. The competitor correctly documented all results on the field guide document.		
One Leg Stand						

Criteria	Unattempted	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Proficient	Exemplary	Points
One Leg Stand Instructions The competitor will Initiate the one-leg stand test by giving the following instructions, accompanied by demonstrations. Please stand with your feet together and your arms down at the sides, like this. Do not start to perform the test until I tell you to do so. Do you understand the instructions so far? Obtains affirmation from the driver. When I tell you to start, raise either leg with the foot approximately six inches off the ground, keeping your foot parallel to the ground. Keep both legs straight and your arms at your side. While holding that position, count out loud in the following manner: "One thousand one, one thousand two, one thousand three," and so on until told to stop. Keep your arms at your sides at all times and keep watching the raised foot. Do you understand? Receive affirmation of understanding.	0 The competitor does not provide instructions for the one-leg stand.	1 The competitor provided less than 50% of the required instructions and/or proceeded without the affirmation of instructions where required.	3 The competitor provided at least 50% of the required instructions and did not proceed without the affirmation of instructions where required.	4 The competitor provided 75% of the required instructions and did not proceed without the affirmation of instructions where required.	5 The competitor provided 100% of the required instructions and did not proceed without the affirmation of instructions where required.	
One Leg Stand Test The competitor instructs the driver to go ahead and perform the test. The Officer times the 30 seconds and discontinues the test after 30 seconds.	0 The competitor did not perform the test on the driver.	2 The competitor instructed the driver to go ahead and perform the test. The Officer did not time the 30 seconds and/or did not discontinue the test after 30 seconds.	3 The competitor instructed the driver to go ahead and perform the test. The Officer timed more than 30 seconds and discontinued the test after 30 seconds.	5 The competitor instructed the driver to go ahead and perform the test. The Officer timed the 30 seconds and discontinued the test after 30 seconds.		
Arrest Decision						

Criteria	Unattempted	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Proficient	Exemplary	Points
Arrest Decision The competitor makes a decision to either arrest the driver for suspected driving while intoxicated or to release the driver. This decision is documented in the field guide document. If arresting the driver, the officer will advise dispatch one in custody and the event will conclude. No handcuffing or searching will be completed. If releasing the driver, the competitor advises the driver that they are free to leave, and returns the driver's license and proof of financial responsibility. The event concludes when the officer advises dispatch that they are clear from the traffic stop.	0 The competitor did not make an arrest decision or did not complete the event in the allotted time.	1 The competitor made the incorrect arrest/release decision based on the evidence presented during the traffic stop.	7 The competitor made the correct arrest/release decision based on most of the correct arrest decision points of the evidence presented during the traffic stop.		15 The competitor made the correct arrest/release decision based on all of the correct arrest decision points of the evidence presented during the traffic stop.	
Total Score: _____ / 100 pts						