

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE DIRECTIVE
EQP-016, ELECTRONIC RECORDING OF INTERVIEWS AND INTERROGATIONS

RESCINDS: EQP-016, 2024-035, revised 11-12-2024	REVISED: 03-12-2025 2025-009
RELATED DOCUMENTS: EQP-015, OPS-037, OPS-062, OPS-201, OPS-203	RELATED CALEA STANDARDS (6th Edition): 41.2.7, 42.2.1, 44.2.3, 55.2.1, 55.2.4, 71.3.1, 71.3.3

I. POLICY

The Illinois State Police (ISP) will:

- I.A. Use electronic recording equipment to record certain interviews/interrogations (see Definitions section) in accordance with Illinois law regarding admissible oral, written, or sign language statements of certain individuals during custodial interrogations.
- I.B. Make electronic recording equipment available to officers in each troop and zone facility in which persons are, or may be, detained and questioned in connection with criminal charges against those persons.
- I.C. Establish procedures for training officers in the use of electronic recording equipment.

II. AUTHORITY

- II.A. 705 ILCS 405/5-401.5 "When statements by minor may be used."
- II.B. 725 ILCS 5/103-2.1, "When statements by accused may be used."

III. DEFINITIONS

III.A. Certain interviews/interrogations - interviews/interrogations for offenses in which the interview/interrogation must ordinarily be recorded to be admissible in subsequent criminal prosecution, and includes the following crimes:

- III.A.1. 720 ILCS 5/9-1, "First degree murder"
- III.A.2. 720 ILCS 5/9-1.2, "Intentional homicide of an unborn child"
- III.A.3. 720 ILCS 5/9-2, "Second degree murder"
- III.A.4. 720 ILCS 5/9-2.1, "Voluntary manslaughter of an unborn child"
- III.A.5. 720 ILCS 5/9-3, "Involuntary manslaughter and reckless homicide"
- III.A.6. 720 ILCS 5/9-3.2, "Involuntary manslaughter and reckless homicide of an unborn child"
- III.A.7. 720 ILCS 5/9-3.3, "Drug-induced homicide"
- III.A.8. 625 ILCS 5/11-501(d)(1)(F), "Driving under the influence of alcohol" (when there was an accident which resulted in a death)
- III.A.9. 720 ILCS 5/11-1.40, "Predatory criminal sexual assault of a child"
- III.A.10. 720 ILCS 5/20-1.1, "Aggravated Arson"
- III.A.11. 720 ILCS 5/10-2, "Aggravated kidnaping"
- III.A.12. 720 ILCS 5/18-4, "Aggravated vehicular hijacking"
- III.A.13. 720 ILCS 5/19-6, "Home Invasion"
- III.A.14. 720 ILCS 5/11-1.30, "Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault," if the custodial interrogation is conducted on or after June 1, 2016
- III.A.15. 720 ILCS 5/18-2, "Armed robbery," if the custodial interrogation is conducted on or after June 1, 2016
- III.A.16. 720 ILCS 5/12-3.05(e), "Aggravated battery," (based on use of a firearm) if the custodial interrogation is conducted on or after June 1, 2016

III.B. Custodial interrogation - an interrogation during which:

- III.B.1. A reasonable person in the subject's position would consider himself or herself to be in custody, and
- III.B.2. Questions are posed or statements are made which are reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response.

- III.C. Digital file - a block of data stored on, or independent of, computer media identified by a file name that is read by a computer or other device. Digital files include, but are not limited to, videos, audio files, images, documents, spreadsheets, text files, web pages, log files, or forensic copies of complete file systems.
- III.D. Electronic recording - includes motion picture, audiotape, videotape, or digital recording.
- III.E. Electronic recording equipment - any equipment used to make an audio, video, or audio/video recording, whether operated independently or in concert with other electronic equipment (i.e., audio tape recorder, audio/video tape recorder, camera, microphone, monitor, digital recorder).
- III.F. Electronic storage media - any data storage device (i.e., audio cassette tape, videotape, 8mm tape, CD, DVD, diskette, hard drive, thumb drive, or otherwise) used for the retention of digital files, including electronic recordings.
- III.G. Place of detention for adults - a building or a police station that is a place of operation for a municipal police department or county sheriff's department or other law enforcement agency, not a courthouse, that is owned or operated by a law enforcement agency at which persons are or may be held in detention in connection with criminal charges against those persons (725 ILCS 5/103-2.1, "Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963").
- III.H. Place of detention for minors - a building or a police station that is a place of operation for a municipal police department or county sheriff's department or other law enforcement agency at which persons are or may be held in detention in connection with criminal charges against those persons or allegations that those persons are delinquent minors (705 ILCS 405/5-401.5(a), "Juvenile Court Act of 1987").

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

- IV.A. The Troop/Zone Commander will:
 - IV.A.1. Ensure electronic recording equipment is stored, maintained, and accessible to officers in each troop/zone facility in which persons may be detained and questioned in connection with criminal charges against those persons.
 - IV.A.2. Issue electronic recording equipment to individual officers trained in the use of such equipment, as they deem prudent.
 - IV.A.3. Ensure a supply of electronic storage media is maintained and accessible to officers.
- IV.B. Officers issued and/or using electronic recording equipment will:
 - IV.B.1. Ensure proper care and maintenance of the electronic recording equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - IV.B.2. Ensure proper security of the electronic recording equipment in accordance with ISP Directive EQP-002, "Department Vehicle Usage."
 - IV.B.3. Follow proper procedures for handling, using, submitting, and storing electronic storage media.
 - IV.B.4. Immediately report any equipment failure to their immediate supervisor. Officers will never attempt to make any repairs that would require them to access any internal parts of the electronic recording equipment.
 - IV.B.5. Ensure they are familiar with the electronic recording equipment and that it is operating properly.
 - IV.B.6. Ensure they are familiar with and adhere to Illinois law as it relates to electronically recording interviews/interrogations, specifically:

- IV.B.6.a. 705 ILCS 405/5-401.5, "Juvenile Court Act - when statements by minors may be used"
- IV.B.6.b. 720 ILCS 5/14, "Criminal Code of 2012 - Eavesdropping"
- IV.B.6.c. 725 ILCS 5/103-2.1, "Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 - when statements by accused may be used"

IV.C. Officers conducting interviews/interrogations will:

- IV.C.1. Take all necessary and reasonable steps to safeguard the court admissibility of information/statements obtained during the interview/interrogation.
- IV.C.2. Ensure they are familiar with and adhere to Illinois law as it relates to electronically recording interview/interrogations, specifically:
 - IV.C.2.a. 705 ILCS 405/5-401.5, "Juvenile Court Act - when statements by minors may be used"
 - IV.C.2.b. 720 ILCS 5/14, "Criminal Code of 2012 - Eavesdropping"
 - IV.C.2.c. 725 ILCS 5/103-2.1, "Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 - when statements by accused may be used." Failure to follow these statutory guidelines for recording statements by the accused renders statements by the accused obtained during a custodial interrogation in a place of detention presumptively inadmissible against the accused in any subsequent criminal prosecution. 725ILCS 5/103-2.1(d).

IV.D. The Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) will develop and administer the training process for instructors to train personnel in the legal requirements and the proper use of electronic recording equipment during an interview/interrogation.

V. PROCEDURE

- V.A. During custodial interviews/interrogations of a juvenile or adult suspect, the investigating officer(s) will:
 - V.A.1. Make every reasonable effort to clearly and accurately record the interview/interrogation in its entirety using the best available electronic recording equipment. In the event the suspect requests, prior to making a statement, to respond to the interrogator's questions only if an electronic recording is not made of the statement, then the investigating officer will electronically record the subject's willingness to respond to questions only if a recording is not made of the statement.
 - V.A.2. Document on the appropriate report, or other related documents if the:
 - V.A.2.a. Interview/interrogation was recorded.
 - V.A.2.b. Interview was not recorded and document the reason for the lack of recording. Include the efforts by the officer to record the interview/interrogation and all relevant circumstances that prevented the recording.
- V.B. During non-custodial interviews/interrogations, the investigating officer(s):
 - V.B.1. Shall notify the party that the interview is being electronically recorded pursuant to Department policy and the Law Enforcement Officer-Worn Body Camera Act, and electronically record the interview/interrogation, unless the recording must be turned off pursuant to recording restrictions identified in ISP Directive EQP-015, "Law Enforcement Mobile Recording Equipment (LEMRE)."
 - V.B.2. Will document on an appropriate report, or other related document that an interview/interrogation was recorded or not and document the reason for terminating the recording.
- V.C. The original or exact duplicate of any recording of applicable interviews or interrogations, excluding recordings covered by ISP Directive EQP-015, "In-Car Video Camera Recording Equipment":

- V.C.1. Will be collected and secured as evidence in accordance with ISP Directive OPS-201, "Evidence – Collecting and Packaging," and ISP Directive OPS-203, "Evidence - Inspection, Inventory, Retention, and Disposal."
- V.C.2. May be duplicated for review, other work-related purposes, or dissemination to the court of venue as required and will be marked to identify the:
 - V.C.2.a. Case number
 - V.C.2.b. Interviewed subject's name
 - V.C.2.c. Officer's name, ID number, and assignment
 - V.C.2.d. Date and time of recording
- V.C.3. Will **not** be made available, in its original or duplicated form, for public review unless authorized by a supervisor and judicial or statutory authority, in which case the person/firm making the authorized request will provide a blank recording medium that is compatible with ISP equipment.

| Indicates new or revised items.

-End of Directive-