



Wanding & Search Protocol

1. Purpose

This protocol establishes standardized, legally compliant procedures for conducting handheld metal detector wanding and bag/pocket searches to ensure prohibited items are not brought into protected facilities.

2. Scope

This protocol applies to all Black Flag Officers assigned to entry screening, and all visitors, contractors, volunteers, students, and staff subject to screening.

3. Definitions

Wanding: Non-contact scan of a person's body using a handheld metal detector.

Search: Inspection of bags, jackets, or pockets when authorized and with consent.

Prohibited Items: Weapons, sharp objects, chemicals, vapes, drugs, alcohol, etc.

4. Officer Requirements

Officers conducting wanding must:

- ✓ Display professionalism and neutrality
- ✓ Use gender-appropriate screeners when possible
- ✓ Maintain personal space and avoid physical contact
- ✓ Follow site-specific prohibited items list
- ✓ Document all searches

5. Consent & Communication

Mandatory Script:

"For everyone's safety, we are conducting a screening. I will perform a wand scan around your body without touching you. Do you consent to screening?"

If person refuses, access is denied and refusal documented.

6. Wanding Procedure

Visitor Positioning:

- Feet shoulder-width apart
- Arms slightly out
- Remove metal items

Scan Order:

1. Right shoulder → arm
2. Left shoulder → arm
3. Chest/torso
4. Waistline
5. Right leg → ankle
6. Left leg → ankle
7. Back
8. Feet/shoes

Do NOT wand directly over sensitive areas.

7. Response to Wand Alarm

"The detector indicated an item in this area. Please check your pockets or remove any metal objects."

Steps:

1. Inform the individual
2. Have them empty items voluntarily
3. Re-wand area
4. If alarm persists, verify visually or deny entry

8. Bag & Property Search Procedure

Consent Required Script:

"I need to take a look inside your bag as part of the security screening. Do you consent?"

Procedure:

- Bag on stable surface
- Officer wears gloves if required
- Open compartments one at a time
- Avoid digging with hands
- Look for weapons, drugs, alcohol, tools, or prohibited items

9. Prohibited Actions

Officers may NOT:

- Conduct pat-downs

- ✗ Touch a person's body during wand
- ✗ Search without consent
- ✗ Profile based on appearance
- ✗ Confiscate items without authority
- ✗ Allow entry after failed screening

10. Special Situations

Religious Garments: Offer alternative screening.

Medical Devices: Allow bypass if medically necessary.

Disabilities: Provide reasonable accommodations.

High-Traffic Events: Use multi-lane stations and pre-emptying pocket procedures.

11. Documentation Requirements

Record each screening session in logs including:

- Time
- Officer name
- Visitor name
- Items removed
- Contraband found
- Refusals

12. Officer Safety Considerations

- ✓ Maintain reactionary gap
- ✓ Keep wand in dominant hand
- ✓ Position body at slight angle
- ✓ Maintain situational awareness
- ✓ Prevent crowding or line collapse

13. Training Requirements

Officers must complete:

- Wand and Search training module
- Practical assessment
- Annual refresher
- Scenario evaluation