

## A. Introduction

Miami Dade Fire Rescue Paramedics will comply with all law enforcement agencies' requests by withdrawing blood for test purposes under the specific conditions set forth in Florida Statutes 316.1932, 316.1933, 322.63, 327.352, and 327.353.

## B. Indications

1. When a law enforcement officer is at an incident involving a vehicle and/or vessel crash or vehicle/vessel stop, and the officer has probable cause to believe that a person involved is under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances, they may request a paramedic to withdraw a blood sample for testing. This request is valid and must be complied with, and performed in a reasonable manner and within the parameters established by Florida Statutes and this procedure.
2. Priority must be given to the examination and treatment of all injured persons. If a person is injured, or has signs/symptoms of a potential medical emergency, the person (patient) is to be treated and transported according to the appropriate Medical Operations Manual (MOM) Protocols/Procedures.
3. If the suspect resists the taking of a blood sample, it is the law enforcement officer's responsibility to inform the suspect of the provisions in Florida Statutes 316.1932 and 316.1933 that permit the use of reasonable force by law enforcement officers to restrain a person in an effort to obtain a blood sample. If, in the judgment of the paramedic, the person is still too combative even after restraint, the blood will not be withdrawn and the law enforcement officer will abide by that decision.

## C. Procedure

### ALS

1. A blood glucose test will be performed on the suspect/patient prior to the law enforcement blood draw for the purpose of assessing the suspect/patient for impaired consciousness [Protocol 36](#)
2. The law enforcement officer will provide the approved blood collection kit. These are the only kits that will be used for the purpose of blood draw under the Florida Statutes (no MDFR blood tubes shall be utilized).
3. Only the items provided in the law enforcement approved and provided blood collection kit will be used for this procedure. Once used, all items will be returned to the kit with the Betadine prep pad being sealed in the plastic bag provided. The investigating officer will seal the blood collection kit, maintain the chain of custody and complete the documentation.

**NOTE:** Dispose of the used needle properly. DO NOT return the used needle to the blood collection kit.

4. The paramedic is to ensure that the investigating law enforcement officer observes every action of the paramedic withdrawing the blood during these procedures.

## **D. Documentation**

1. Documentation of the request to withdraw blood is required in all cases, if it was successful or failed. It will be reported in the narrative section of the ePCR with the following information:
  - a) The name of the Paramedic who performed the procedure.
  - b) The name and agency of the requesting officer.
  - c) The reason for withdrawing blood.
  - d) The procedure/site used for withdrawing blood.
2. Should the paramedic receive an on-scene request for identification and technical certification credentials, the paramedic will advise the law enforcement officer that these certificates are on file and available through Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department Headquarters.