

*"Keep Orlando a safe city by reducing crime and maintaining livable neighborhoods."*

**ORLANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE  
2402.0, COMMERCIAL AND CUSTODY EXCHANGE ZONE**

EFFECTIVE:	6/12/2019
RESCINDS:	N/A
DISTRIBUTION:	ALL EMPLOYEES
REVIEW RESPONSIBILITY:	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU
ACCREDITATION STANDARDS:	NONE
CHIEF OF POLICE:	ORLANDO ROLÓN

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**PURPOSE:** The Orlando Police Department occasionally responds to reports of crimes and theft stemming from the in-person and privately arranged sales. Members of the public would benefit from conducting their exchange in a well-lit, public parking lot, that is video recorded. On occasion, members of the Police Department are also called to a location to standby while parents engage in child custody exchanges. By allowing the child custody exchanges to occur in the police department parking lot, it allows our members to be more readily available to standby.

The Orlando Police Department is committed to serving our community through this program by offering the Orlando Police Department's video recorded parking lot as an exchange zone for members of the community to meet with potential sellers or purchasers of goods from an internet sale. The Orlando Police Department's visitor parking lot can also be used for other interactions such as child custody exchanges.

**POLICY:** The purpose of this policy is to create an exchange zone for the transfer of goods and money between sellers and buyers involved in an internet-based transaction, in-person sales or any other exchange, such as child custody.

**PROCEDURES:**

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The visitor parking lot of the department is video monitored and is open and available for the public to use as an "Exchange Zone" for conducting transactions that have been facilitated by online marketplaces, child custody exchanges or any other exchange where the parties want to utilize the department's visitor parking lot.

It is encouraged that in-person exchanges be made between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, when the department is open.

The Orlando Police Department makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises as to the safety or security of any in-person transactions that may take place on the department's premises.

It is not the intent of the Orlando Police Department to provide police personnel or staff to witness any transaction in person.

Any video captured will be used to further any criminal investigation by the department and no exchange should be considered private.

## **2. LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTACT WITH PUBLIC**

Whether the public utilizes the department's visitor parking lot or another location, personnel should inform individuals engaged in exchanges to:

1. Bring a cell phone in case of an emergency;
2. Notify friends or family of the intention to meet to conduct an exchange;
3. Bring another person with them;
4. Meet in a well-lit, public area;
5. Not invite strangers to their home or agree to meet at a stranger's home; and
6. Not conduct an exchange with someone who refuses to meet at the Police Department or other open public area.

If the parties are meeting for a child custody exchange and either party feels there could be a problem, an officer can standby to ensure a peaceful exchange occurs.

Informational reports, criminal investigation reports, or other investigations warranted by department members will be completed or conducted pursuant to department policies.

## **3. PROHIBITIONS**

Department personnel are not trained nor authorized to validate the legitimacy of any transaction, item for sale, the integrity of any product or goods, or legality of a sale.

No member should offer an opinion regarding any exchange.

Drugs and drug paraphernalia, unlawful items, or other such type of exchanges are not allowed on the Police Department's premises.