

## Search and Seizure

### 312.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Both the United States and the Wisconsin Constitutions provide every individual with the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures. This policy provides general guidelines for Marquette University Police Department personnel to consider when dealing with search and seizure issues.

### 312.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Marquette University Police Department to respect the fundamental privacy rights of individuals. Members of this department will conduct searches in strict observance of the constitutional rights of persons being searched. All seizures by this department will comply with relevant federal and state law governing the seizure of persons and property.

The Department will provide relevant and current training to officers as guidance for the application of current law as well as local community standards and prosecutorial considerations to specific search and seizure situations as appropriate.

### 312.3 SEARCHES

The U.S. Constitution generally provides that a valid warrant is required in order for a search to be valid. There are, however, several exceptions to the rule that permit a warrantless search.

Examples of law enforcement activities that are exceptions to the general warrant requirement include, but are not limited to, searches pursuant to the following:

- Valid consent
- Incident to a lawful arrest
- Legitimate community caretaking interests
- Vehicle searches under certain circumstances
- Exigent circumstances
- Statutory authority

Certain other activities are recognized by federal and state courts and by certain statutes as legitimate law enforcement activities that also do not require a warrant. Also as



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Policy Manual