


 PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT
 HEADQUARTERS
 Colonel Dean M. Esserman
 CHIEF OF POLICE

TYPE OF ORDER	NUMBER/SERIES	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Memorandum	#31 of 2007	12-12-07	12-12-07
SUBJECT TITLE		PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DATES	
Interviewing Subjects in Hospital Custody			
REFERENCE		RE-EVALUATION DATE	
SUBJECT AREA		DISTRIBUTION	
		All Personnel	

The Providence Police Department recognizes that officers will encounter incidents where an individual, i.e.: witness, suspect, or victim, may be transported to an area hospital for treatment of injuries prior to the conclusion of an investigation.. While conducting any investigation, it may be necessary to speak to one of these individuals inside or outside of the hospital facility. Therefore, it is important to reiterate the following guidelines when encountering one of these situations:

Unless exigent circumstances occur, officers and/or supervisors shall attempt to speak with the treating physician prior to questioning any subject in hospital care. In the event a subject cannot be questioned immediately or the investigation will require questioning outside of the hospital facility, officers and/or supervisors shall speak to the treating physician regarding the duration the individual will be in hospital custody. In the interest of protecting the health and safety of all persons, arrangements shall be made to transport any subject for questioning *only after* the hospital has completed medical treatment and released the individual from its' care.

An officer may be required to be "short posted" at the hospital facility, as determined by the O.I.C., until the completion of such medical treatment.

APPROVED:

DEAN M. ESSERMAN
 COLONEL
 CHIEF OF POLICE