

BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

SHOTS FIRED

Reviewed by: Lt. Kenneth Bays	Effective Date: June 27, 2012
Authorized by: Chief Daniel Donath	Revision Date: November 8, 2019

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure is to give direction on how public complaints of "shots fired" should be handled by the Bloomington Police Department.

PROCEDURE

Public Complaints of "shots fired" or similar language indicating discharge of a firearm shall be documented as a general incident on an EJS report, providing there is any information obtained beyond minimal information furnished to dispatch that can be documented to support a discharge of a firearm possibly occurred.

Following is a brief list of possible information which would require an EJS report:

1. Reporting witness has detailed information beyond just hearing shots fired.
2. Witnesses other than the caller report suspicious activity and/or hearing shots.
3. Arriving officer observes activity in the area such as numbers of people or vehicles quickly leaving the area. The officer should document registration numbers and names of people who were in the area.
4. Shell casings.
5. Damage from bullet penetration.

REPORTING

Incidents in which evidence is obtained that supports a specific offense did occur should be documented as that offense. For example if evidence supports a handgun was fired from a vehicle at someone, or a handgun was fired into an occupied house, those would be documented as Aggravated Reckless Discharge of a Firearm. For incidents where information suggests a discharge of a firearm possibly occurred but there is no specific evidence regarding a specific offense, the report should be documented under the offense of "Other Suspicious Activity" (EJS Code 6039.) If information warrants, CID should be contacted immediately to support the investigation of the incident. If immediate follow up is not required, CID command should be made aware of the incident and report via email or other method. Upon this notification CID should screen the reports, consider them for assignment, and consider detailing Crime Scene to canvas the area for any possible evidence or damage during daylight hours.