

# Participant Manual

# DWI Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)

Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

1 Hour 30 Minutes

## Session 6

### Phase Two: Personal Contact



DWI Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing



Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

## Phase Two: Personal Contact

**Interview and  
Observation  
of the Driver**

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**Observation of  
the Exit**



**Should  
Driver  
Exit?**




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### **A. Overview Tasks and Decisions**

DWI Detection Phase Two: Personal Contact, like Phases One and Three, comprise two major evidence gathering tasks and one major decision. Your first task is to approach, observe, and interview the driver while they are still in the vehicle to Note any face to face evidence of impairment. During this face to face contact you may administer some simple pre-exit sobriety tests to gain additional information to evaluate whether or not the driver is impaired. After this evaluation, you must decide whether to request the driver to exit the vehicle for further field sobriety testing. In some jurisdictions, departmental policy may dictate that all drivers stopped on suspicion of DWI be instructed to exit. It is important to Note that by instructing the driver to exit the vehicle, you are not committed to an arrest; this is simply another step in the DWI detection process. Once you have requested the driver to exit the vehicle, your second task is to observe the manner in which the driver exits and to Note any additional evidence of impairment.

**You may initiate Phase Two without Phase One. This may occur, for example, at a checkpoint, or when you have responded to the scene of a crash.**

#### *Task One*

The first task of Phase Two, interview and observation of the driver, begins as soon as the driver vehicle and the patrol vehicle have come to complete stops. It continues through your approach to the driver vehicle and involves all conversation between you and the driver prior to the driver's exit from the vehicle.

You may have developed a strong suspicion that the driver is impaired prior to the face to face observation and interview. You may have developed this suspicion by observing something unusual while the vehicle was in motion, or during the stopping sequence. You may have developed no suspicion of DWI prior to the face to face contact. The vehicle operation and the stop may have been normal; you may have seen no actions suggesting DWI.



















Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

## Interview/Questioning Techniques

- Asking for two things simultaneously
- Asking interrupting or distracting questions
- Asking unusual questions



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**D. Interview/Questioning Techniques**

There are a number of techniques you can use to assess impairment while the driver is still behind the wheel. Most of these techniques apply the concept of divided attention. They require the driver to concentrate on two or more things at the same time. They include both questioning techniques and psychophysical (mind/body) tasks.

These techniques are not as reliable as the Standardized Field Sobriety Tests but they can still be useful for obtaining evidence of impairment. **THESE TECHNIQUES DO NOT REPLACE THE SFSTs.**

*Questioning Techniques*

The questions you ask and the way in which you ask them can constitute simple divided attention tasks. Three techniques are particularly pertinent:

- Asking for two things simultaneously
- Asking interrupting or distracting questions
- Asking unusual questions.

An example of the first technique, asking for two things simultaneously, is requesting the driver to produce both the driver's license and the vehicle registration. Possible evidence of impairment may be observed as the driver responds to this dual request. Be alert for the driver who:

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Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

### Test Your Knowledge

The two major evidence gathering tasks of Phase Two are \_\_\_\_\_

The major decision of Phase Two is \_\_\_\_\_

Among the describable clues an officer might see during the Phase Two interview are: A.  
B.  
C.




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Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

### Test Your Knowledge

Among the describable clues an officer might hear during the Phase Two interview are:




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TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the following sentences.

1. The two major evidence gathering tasks of Phase Two are

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2. The major decision of Phase Two is

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3. Among the describable clues an officer might see during the Phase Two interview are:

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4. Among the describable clues an officer might hear during the interview are:

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Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

## Test Your Knowledge

Among the describable clues an officer might *smell* during the Phase Two interview are:




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Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

## Test Your Knowledge

Three techniques an officer might use in asking questions that constitute simple divided attention tasks.

The Countdown Technique requires the subject to:




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Session 6-Phase Two: Personal Contact

## Test Your Knowledge

Leaning against the vehicle is a clue to DWI which may be observed during \_\_\_\_\_.




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5. Among the describable clues an officer might smell during the interview are:

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6. There are three techniques an officer might use in asking questions that constitute simple divided attention tasks. These techniques are:

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7. The Count Down Technique requires the driver to \_\_\_\_\_.

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8. Leaning against the vehicle is a clue to DWI which may be observed during the \_\_\_\_\_.

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