

WINONA POLICE DEPARTMENT

NUMBER: 103-15 PAGES: 1

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 27, 2004

SUBJECT: PROVIDING AN INTERPRETER

1.0 PURPOSE:

Minnesota Statute 611.32 subd. 2 says that a “qualified” interpreter must be provided for a person “handicapped in communication” following the apprehension or arrest of the person for an alleged violation of a criminal law. The arresting officer shall immediately make necessary contacts to obtain a qualified interpreter and shall obtain an interpreter at the earliest possible time at the place of detention. The law officer shall, through the interpreter, explain all charges filed and all procedures relating to the person’s detention and release.

2.0 POLICY:

It shall be the policy of the Winona Police Department to obtain the services of a qualified interpreter whenever there is a question of a person’s ability to understand the law officer, whenever there is an indication that the person does not understand, or whenever there is a request for an interpreter. The interpreter shall be obtained as soon as possible and before any questioning.