

**SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORDER**

DATE/TIME: OCTOBER 23, 2024 1805 HOURS

NUMBER: OR 24-39

SUBJECT: SEQUENTIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC LINE-UPS

SCOPE: ALL SWORN MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE AFFECTED: 4.02

The Department is standardizing the sequential process to ensure that investigative units do not create photographic line-ups that are unduly suggestive and are in accordance with [California Penal Code 859.7](#).

Currently, Department Procedure 4.02, Section VII (SEQUENTIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC LINE-UP), Sub-Section H, states:

Only one suspect shall be included in any identification procedure. The suspect photograph selected should, if practical, resemble his or her appearance at the time of the offense and should not unduly stand out. Filler photographs shall generally fit the eyewitnesses' description of the suspect.

Effective immediately, sworn personnel will additionally adhere to the following:

No unduly suggestive edits shall be made to the suspect or filler photographs.
Appropriate edits include:

1. Shading or brightening the image.
2. Standardizing background colors across images (i.e. blue DMV photo or grey mugshot photo).
3. Standardizing photo sizes on the line-up pages.
4. Cropping images to frame the subjects in a consistent manner.

Additional requirements include:

Photographic Line-Ups should be created by case investigators, or another investigator, except in rare instances in which they do not possess the technical expertise to make appropriate edits (e.g., background color changes).

1. In those instances, investigators should first seek assistance within their unit with someone possessing the necessary skills (i.e. office staff, other investigators, etc.).
2. If no resources are available within the unit, then investigators should reach out to Crime Analysis for assistance.

Please read at squad conferences and give a copy to all personnel.