

# SHERIFF OF GARFIELD COUNTY

## LOU VALLARIO

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### GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE POLICY / PROCEDURE PATROL

#### **SUBJECT: EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION**

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 01, 2024

#### **POLICY:**

The Garfield County Sheriff's Office will perform eyewitness identifications in accordance with the prescribed requirements of law, based on Senate Bill 15-048 and by utilizing the CDAC Model Policy. The procedures, protocols and forms for a proper eyewitness identification are available on the GCSO Intranet site under the "Patrol" section.

#### **PURPOSE:**

As a result of SB15-048, all Colorado law enforcement agencies were required to enact a policy and procedure regarding the "best practices" methods for an eyewitness identification, effective July 01, 2016. Eyewitness identification is an important investigative tool for identifying individuals suspected of committing crimes. The purpose of this policy is to set forth eyewitness identification protocols that will result in strong, reliable evidence while observing relevant constitutional and statutory protections. The safeguards incorporated into these protocols are intended to prevent the possibility of law enforcement personnel inadvertently or intentionally suggesting a positive identification to an eyewitness.

#### **METHOD:**

Members of the GCSO who are performing an eyewitness identification, either by photo array, live lineups or show-ups/field identifications, shall reference and comply with the GCSO Eyewitness Procedure/Protocol and all necessary forms as detailed in those documents located in the GCSO Intranet Patrol section.