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## **Purpose**

This policy recognizes that the Bemidji Police Department will receive requests from citizens demanding an arrest of another citizen. This policy provides a procedure for handling citizen arrests and investigation.

## **Policy**

It shall be the policy of the Bemidji Police Department to respond to and investigate all citizen arrest requests per Minnesota State Statute 629.37.

## **Procedure**

The following procedures shall be followed when a citizen arrest request has been received:

1. The responding officer will investigate the report and determine if the arrest meets statutory requirements of MN State Statute 629.37.
2. The responding officer will complete the Bemidji Police Department's Citizen Arrest Form.
3. Officers should identify, document and collect any pertinent evidence.
4. Officers should make every effort to obtain recorded statements from the complainant, witnesses and suspect without delay.
5. A citation in lieu of arrest should be considered for typically cite and release offenses.
6. Officers may consider a complaint request review by the prosecuting attorney's office in lieu of an arrest.
7. Officers should not direct the complainant to contact the prosecuting attorney's office directly to request a complaint.

## **Reference or Revision Date(s):**

### **A. REFERENCE:**

1. MN State Statute 629.37
2. MN State Statute 629.39

### **B. REVISION DATE(S):**