



# Property And Evidence Follow-up Review

Mesa Police Department



## OBJECTIVES

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The objective of this follow-up review was to determine whether the Mesa Police Department’s Evidence Section effectively implemented the action plan based on the recommendation from the March 2023 Property and Evidence audit report.

## BACKGROUND

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On March 13, 2023, we issued a report on our audit of the Mesa Police Department's Evidence Section. The objective of the audit was to determine whether effective controls are in place to ensure that property and evidence are properly documented, secure and available when needed; and ensure compliance with applicable policies, statutes, and other requirements or recommended practices. The audit report included one recommendation to improve controls to ensure that property and evidence items are disposed of in a timely manner. The department agreed with the recommendation and developed an action plan to implement the recommended change.

## CONCLUSION

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The recommendation has been partially implemented and is summarized in the following table:

Recommendation	Status
<p><b>1-1:</b> The Evidence Section should revise its existing policies and procedures to address the timely disposal of property and evidence, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Defining specific time periods and/or quantity thresholds to initiate the disposal process, including the removal of items that have been authorized for disposal but have not yet been removed from their current storage locations and items that have been placed in a separate prep location but are still waiting for verification and final processing.</li> <li>○ Establishing a transport/drug burn schedule that is conducive to the number of items authorized for destruction. *</li> </ul> <p><i>*As of March 5, 2024, the Evidence Section no longer has a backlog of drugs and illegal firearms waiting to be transported to an off-site destruction facility to be destroyed. However, the Evidence Section still has not received formal approval of its updated policies and procedures and to help ensure that they continue to address the timely disposal of property and evidence.</i></p> <p>No additional follow-up review is planned at this time.</p>	<p><i>Partially Implemented</i></p>



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