Working in Varying Lighting

> The Working in Low and Bright Light guide outlines how to manage device screen brightness and optimize camera settings for nighttime patrols. Its primary purpose is to ensure field officers can operate their handheld units comfortably without eye strain and capture clear violation photos regardless of ambient lighting conditions. This article is intended for OPSCOM administrators and field enforcement personnel using the Enforce application.

Setup and Configuration

Managing light settings is performed directly on the mobile device operating system and native camera application. It does not require any backend adjustments within the OPSCOM administrative portal.

Admin Side: No specific configuration is required within the administrative portal.

User Side: Enforcement officers must familiarize themselves with their speci fic device's quick settings shade and native camera application preferences to make on-the-fly adjustments during their shift.

Using this Feature

Field personnel can quickly adjust their screen brightness for viewing comfort and modify camera settings to ensure optimal photo evidence collection in

low-light environments.

Adjusting Screen Brightness

1. Swipe down from the top edge of the device screen to reveal the quick settings menu.
2. Drag the brightness slider left to manually dim the screen for low-light conditions, or right to increase brightness for daylight visibility.
3. Tap the **Auto** checkbox (or equivalent auto-brightness toggle) to allow the device to dynamically adjust the screen brightness based on available ambient light.

Taking Photos at Night

To capture the highest quality photo evidence when working with the camera flash in low-light situations, adjust the native camera settings:

1. Open your device's native camera settings menu.
2. Select **Matrix** for the metering option (rather than a centered reading).
3. Set the flash option to **Always On**.
4. Enable the **Low Light Detection** option if your device supports it.

> **Brightness Overrides** Depending on the manufacturer, some Android handheld units feature a specialized brightness override within the camera settings. Enabling this can significantly improve image processing, yielding much better evidentiary photos during night patrols.

Best Practices and Considerations

- **Utilize auto-brightness: Enable auto-brightness to preserve battery life.** Manually leaving the screen at maximum brightness during a full shift will rapidly drain the device battery. Allowing the system to manage brightness automatically ensures optimal visibility while conserving power.
- **Test your camera configurations: Always take a few test photos in your patrol environment after modifying camera settings.** Because native camera applications vary heavily between different tablet manufacturers, taking test shots ensures your matrix metering and flash settings are producing clear, legible license plate captures before you begin issuing active violations.

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