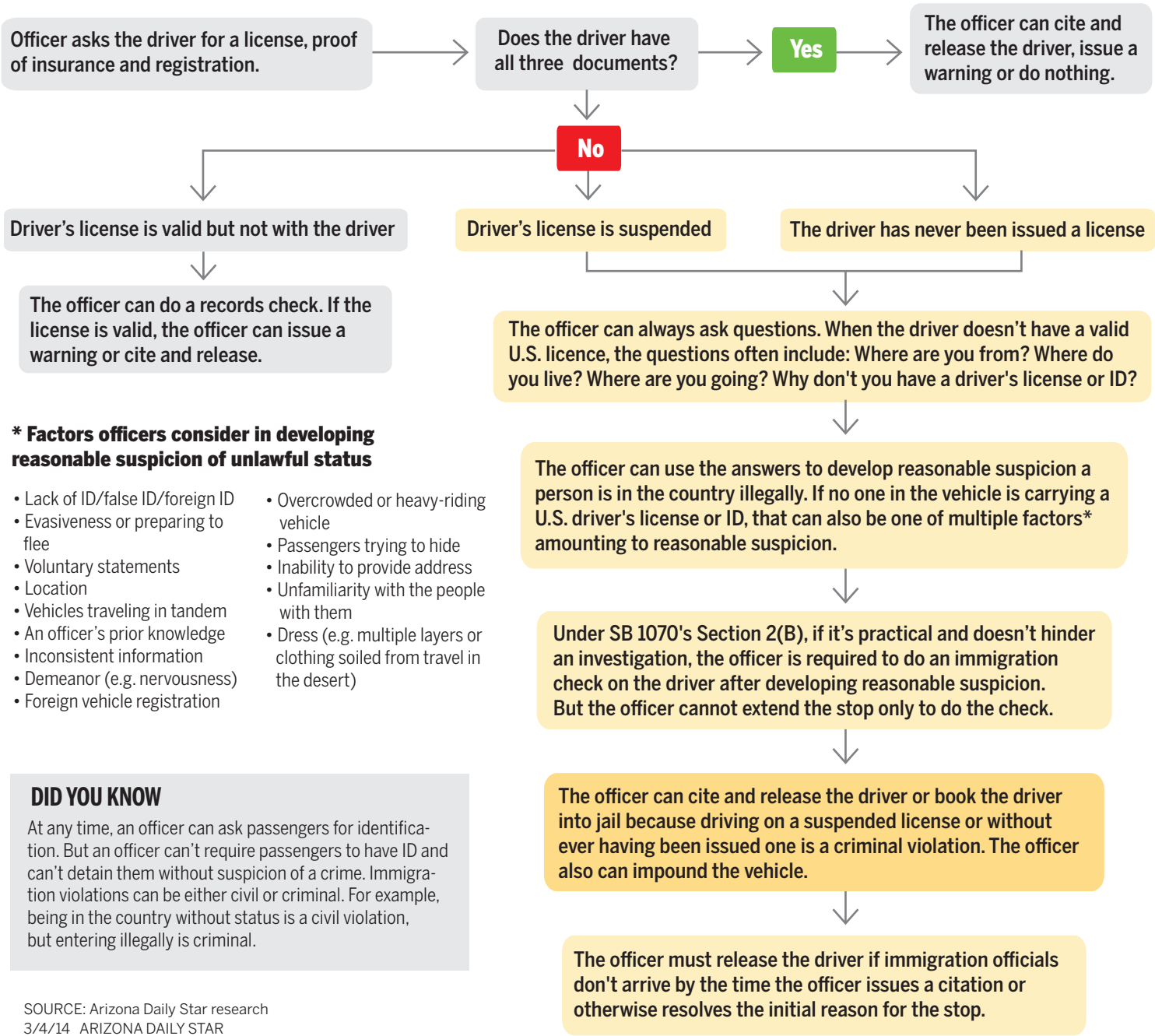


How a traffic stop can lead to an immigration check

An officer cannot pull over a vehicle based on race or suspected immigration status and must have a reason under state law to do a stop. Common traffic stops leading to immigration checks are for violations such as speeding, broken taillights or cracked windshields.



* Factors officers consider in developing reasonable suspicion of unlawful status

- Lack of ID/false ID/foreign ID
- Evasiveness or preparing to flee
- Voluntary statements
- Location
- Vehicles traveling in tandem
- An officer's prior knowledge
- Inconsistent information
- Demeanor (e.g. nervousness)
- Foreign vehicle registration
- Overcrowded or heavy-riding vehicle
- Passengers trying to hide
- Inability to provide address
- Unfamiliarity with the people with them
- Dress (e.g. multiple layers or clothing soiled from travel in the desert)

DID YOU KNOW
 At any time, an officer can ask passengers for identification. But an officer can't require passengers to have ID and can't detain them without suspicion of a crime. Immigration violations can be either civil or criminal. For example, being in the country without status is a civil violation, but entering illegally is criminal.