

Departmental Directive

TITLE: POLICE VEHICLES

POLICY:

It is the policy of this Department to provide vehicles as needed for the orderly and expedient accomplishment of police functions.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Use of Police Vehicles (Two and Four-Wheeled)
 - A. Vehicle Assignment
 1. Section Watch Commanders, or their designee, shall assign vehicles for use during assigned work periods.
 - a. Officers will use only those vehicles assigned to them unless circumstances prohibit it.
 - b. Exceptions shall be cleared by the on-duty supervisor and logged accordingly.
 - B. Taking Police Vehicles Overnight
 1. The Chief of Police, Division Commander or Watch Commander may give permission to take a vehicle overnight when:
 - a. The vehicle is needed for an early departure on an official trip.
 - b. The vehicle has been utilized to attend to official business at night, including emergency standby duty, and it is not practical or convenient to return the vehicle to the police facility until the following day.
 - c. Any other reason deemed necessary.
 - C. Marked police vehicles being used by non-sworn officers shall display either "Out of Service" or "Community Service Officer" covers on the light bar.

II. Police Motorcycles

A. Motorcycle Use

1. Police motorcycles shall not be used for any purpose other than police business.
2. When riding, the officer shall be dressed in a complete uniform, including authorized safety equipment.
3. Only the assigned officer shall operate his/her assigned motorcycle unless a Police Lieutenant has given prior approval.

B. Qualification for Use

1. All personnel shall possess a valid California Drivers License with the proper motorcycle endorsement and complete a P.O.S.T. approved 80-hour motorcycle training course prior to operating the motorcycle.
 - a. The Traffic Supervisor may allow a potential candidate to ride with an experienced Traffic Officer for the purpose of training prior to attending the motorcycle academy. The candidate must have a valid California Drivers License with the proper motorcycle endorsement prior to riding the motorcycle.

C. Maintenance

1. Maintenance of the Traffic Section equipment shall be the responsibility of the Traffic Supervisor.
 - a. It is the officer's responsibility to see that his or her motorcycle receives scheduled service and preventative maintenance.
 - b. All modifications and attachments to the police motorcycle shall require written approval of the Operations Division Commander.
 - c. Each officer is expected to properly maintain his or her motorcycle, keeping it clean and in proper operating condition.

Howard Skerry

HOWARD SKERRY
Chief of Police