



COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

“Policing Excellence through Community Partnerships”

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Subject: <i>Use and Operation of Police Department Vehicles</i>		
Amends/Supersedes: <i>Section 01, Chapter 04, Use and Operation of Police Vehicles, 2008</i>	Chief of Police: <i>[Signature]</i>	
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1.0 DIRECTIVE

All employees of the Columbia Police Department will operate department vehicles in a safe and prudent manner in accordance with all state and local laws and ordinances.

2.0 USE OF RESTRAINING DEVICES

S.C. Code § 56-5-6520 requires every occupant of a motor vehicle wear a fastened safety belt, when the vehicle is being operated on public streets and highways. Any department vehicle with a defective safety restraint system will not be operated until corrective action has been taken.

S.C. Code § 56-5-6410 requires every driver of a motor vehicle provide an appropriate child passenger restraint system when transporting a child five years of age or younger upon the public streets and highways. Child safety seats are available to employees transporting children in department vehicles.

3.0 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

Vehicles belonging to the Columbia Police Department are to be used only for official duties. The use of City vehicles for private business is strictly prohibited. Employees shall not transport passengers for other than authorized reasons.

4.0 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Operators of all Police Department vehicles are prohibited from the use of any electronic communications equipment while the vehicle is in motion. This includes, but may not be limited to: Mobile Data Computers (MDC), lap top computers, cell phones (City issued and/or privately owned). **This is not intended to prohibit the use of Police radios or in-car video recording system.**

5.0 ASSIGNED VEHICLES

Vehicles are assigned by the Chief of Police based upon the needs of the Department and the safety of the public. No vehicle is assigned as an employee benefit and any car may be reassigned to other Department Personnel for any reason by the Chief of Police. Vehicles will be assigned to personnel on call twenty-four (24) hours a day for emergency readiness. Personnel that are assigned vehicles must be prepared to respond to emergencies at all hours of the day. Vehicles are assigned by the Chief of Police based upon the needs of the Department and the safety of the public.

Department personnel assigned vehicles are responsible for the proper care and maintenance of the vehicles. Any accidents or damage to assigned vehicles will be reported immediately through the chain of command to the Chief of Police.

6.0 USE OF SPECIALIZED VEHICULAR EQUIPMENT

The proper use of emergency equipment is essential to the safety of the officer and other motorists when unusual conditions exist or during traffic law enforcement.

6.1 Blue Lights, Siren, and Headlights

The blue lights, siren and headlights in the flashing mode will be used to signal other users of the traffic way that emergency conditions exist and the right of way should be relinquished to the patrol vehicle. The blue lights, siren, and headlights will be used in all situations that require an officer to take unusual liberties in his driving and to expedite his free movement in order to reach his destination quickly.

The blue lights, siren and headlights in the flashing mode will be utilized in the following circumstances:

1. When stopping traffic violators
2. During emergency responses
3. During motor vehicle pursuits

The blue lights, headlights in the flashing mode and/or hazardous warning lights will be utilized when assisting motorist stopped or parked in hazardous locations.

The hazardous warning lights will be utilized when the patrol vehicle is stopped or parked in hazardous locations.

6.2 Spotlight and Takedown Lights

The spotlight and takedown lights should be used as a protection for the officer when hazardous conditions exist.

The spotlight and takedown lights are extremely useful during a night traffic stop. The spotlight and takedown lights will illuminate the interior of the vehicle and violators are kept within view and at a distinct disadvantage when looking back toward the police vehicle and officer.

The spotlight and takedown lights will not be used to signal violators to stop due to the possibility of temporary blindness to the violators and other drivers due to the glare created by these lights.

6.3 Public Address System

The public address system is particularly useful during traffic stops in that the desired actions of the violator, such as instructions to move to the right curb, may be made from the vehicle thus minimizing the traffic hazard to the officer and allowing the officer to maintain a safe distance.

The public address system is valuable in directing persons when unusual conditions exist, such as the traffic artery being temporarily obstructed, alerting pedestrians to hazardous conditions or elements and communicating with other persons concerned with relieving the emergency conditions.

7.0 IN-CAR VIDEO EQUIPMENT

Marked patrol cars may be equipped with Watch Guard DVD or Coban digital video in-car camera systems.

In-car video equipment and all data, images, video and metadata captured, recorded, or otherwise produced by the equipment is the sole property of the Columbia Police Department.

7.1 Purpose

The primary purpose of in-car video equipment is to collect evidence for use in prosecuting persons who have violated traffic laws and/or committed criminal acts and document other police related events.

In-car videos shall also be utilized or reviewed by supervisors, Internal Affairs, Command Staff and video system administrators for routine and/or investigative purposes.

7.2 Policy

Police personnel shall only use installed in-car video equipment. The use of personal video/audio recorders while on duty is prohibited.

In-car video equipment shall only be used for law enforcement purposes. In-car video equipment will be used with reasonable care to ensure proper functioning. Intentional misuse or abuse of the devices can result in disciplinary action. All employees are prohibited from altering, tampering or destroying in-car video equipment and/or recordings.

Under no circumstances will any member of the Department make a personal copy of any recorded event without prior written permission of the Chief of Police.

7.3 Supervisory Review of In-car Videos

Supervisors shall randomly review video recordings of assigned personnel at least monthly to assist in periodic assessment of officer performance and to determine whether in-car video systems are being fully and properly used. Supervisors are required to review random in-car video footage of each officer under their command to ensure that all of the Department's policies and procedures are being followed.

Officers are encouraged to inform their supervisor of any recordings that may be of value for training purposes.

Video data is automatically downloaded from in-car systems, directly to the department's server. DVD copies of that data are available from the Special Projects Division.

7.4 Required Training

Prior to operating in-car video equipment, officers and supervisors assigned to Police Operations and the Traffic Unit will be trained in the functions, use and operation of the equipment.

7.5 Equipment Inspection and Maintenance

In-car video equipment shall be inspected for proper function prior to each shift. After logging in on the in-car camera system, officers should sync the wireless microphone and record a test video utilizing the front and rear in-car cameras.

Equipment damage or malfunctions shall be brought to the attention of the officer's supervisor as soon as possible. Supervisors will initiate the appropriate action* in order to bring officers back into compliance with this policy as soon as possible.

*Coban digital in-car camera systems are maintained by the Information Technology Department. Watch Guard DVD in-car camera systems are maintained by Fleet Services Division. Officers experiencing audio and/or video equipment malfunctions shall "deadline" the vehicle and contact IT to correct the problem.

7.6 Use of In-Car Video Equipment

In-car video equipment automatically begins recording upon activation of the blue lights. In-car recording may also be activated manually by pressing the "record" key on the base unit or on the wireless microphone.

In all cases involving enforcement activities, once the recording has begun, the video shall not be stopped, paused, turned off, or otherwise interfered with at any time until the incident is concluded.

Officers shall attempt to position their vehicle in such a way that the violator or event is within the view of the video camera.

In circumstances when the blue lights are being used for safety purposes only, such as directing traffic or other conditions, officers may elect to stop the equipment from recording.

Interactions with citizens that do not involve the activation of blue lights may be recorded at the officers's discretion.

In circumstances requiring an officer to leave the close proximity of their patrol car, it may be necessary to turn off the wireless microphone to avoid a "chirping" which indicates the microphone is out of range.

7.7 Data Entry, Uploading and review of In-car Video Files

Coban Digital In-car Videos

Videos recorded using Coban in-car video cameras are automatically saved in a digital format and are uploaded automatically when the vehicle is in proximity to a wireless access point. At the conclusion of each Coban in-car video recording, officers will be prompted to select an Event Type and can enter any issued case number, ticket number and suspect information.

After being uploaded, Coban digital in-car videos can be reviewed using the Coban Digital Video Management System (DVMS) software. DVMS can be used to add case number, ticket number and suspect information to the videos and to burn copies of evidentiary videos.

Watch Guard In-Car Videos

Videos recorded using Watch Guard DVD in-car video cameras are automatically burned to a DVD. If a DVD fills to capacity while recording, the system automatically stores the overflow to the hard drive and the overflowed video is added to subsequent DVD. Once the DVD is full, officers will notify their supervisor to request the Watch Guard DVD be replaced.

Once removed from the vehicle, Watch Guard in-car videos can be reviewed using the Watch Guard DVD Manager software. The DVD software can be used to burn copies of evidentiary videos. Supervisors will be responsible for placing used DVDs removed from the vehicles into the secure 60 day storage area.

7.8 Watch Guard DVD Access, Identification and Storage areas

Region supervisors and supervisory members of the Traffic Unit will be issued keys to the in-car video equipment and are authorized to change or remove DVDs. Region and Traffic Unit supervisors will be authorized to access the used DVD storage area.

Watch Guard DVDs shall be permanently labeled with the name of the Region and numbered sequentially prior to being placed in service.

The Traffic Unit will label used Watch Guard DVDs with the officer's name and the beginning and ending usage dates.

Each Region and the Traffic Unit shall utilize the "In-Car Video Log" to track the car, exchange dates, and current location of recorded Watch Guard DVDs.

Watch Guard DVDs will be stored in a secure storage location for a period of no less than 60 days. After 60 days, the DVD/videotapes may be removed from storage and prepared for reuse.

Watch Guard DVD's removed from the secure storage area for review or as part of an investigation will be indicated on the In-Car Video Log.

7.9 Copying of In-Car Videos

Officers are responsible for burning in-car videos of an evidentiary nature to disk and submitted to the Evidence Unit to be preserved as prescribed by law. Video disks that are to be placed into the Evidence/Property Room will not be stored in a vehicle for an extended period of time.

7.10 In-car Video Retention

All in-car videos will be maintained for a period of no less than 60 days. Videos identified as DUI will be kept permanently.

Video recordings of any arrests or violations of offenses listed in the S.C. Preservation of Evidence Act, S.C. Code 17-28-320, the Expungement Statute of S.C. Code 17-1-40, or any other statute, regulation, or case law will follow retention requirements outlined therein.

In-car video/audio files will be expunged as required by S.C. Code 17-1-40

7.11 Freedom of Information Act Requests

DVDs that are recorded and maintained by the Department are subject to Freedom of Information Act requests. All Freedom of Information Act requests received by the Department shall immediately be forwarded to the City Attorney's Office for response.

Copies of DVDs in response to Freedom of Information Act requests will not be made, in part or in their entirety, without the express written approval of the City Attorney's Office.

After receiving approval from the City Attorney's Office, only the specific events contained within Freedom of Information Act request shall be copied.

8.0 MARKED POLICE VEHICLES

Marked police vehicles shall be conspicuously marked as a "Police" vehicle with reflective lettering/stripping. Department officers are authorized to operate marked police vehicles for routine patrol, responding to calls for service, traffic control, and traffic enforcement.

Marked police vehicles equipped with a protective screen separating the front and rear seats may be used to transport prisoners. Child safety locks on the rear doors must be engaged during prisoner transport.

Marked Supervisor or Special Use police vehicles not equipped with a protective screen shall not be used to transport prisoners.

Marked police vehicles may be assigned or deployed at the discretion of the unit/squad supervisor.

8.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

8.2 Required Equipment

Each vehicle used in routine patrol will be equipped with the following:

- Blue lights
- Siren
- Mobile radio transceiver
- Traffic Cones
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Biohazard Trunk Box

Officers are required to inventory the contents of their assigned vehicle prior to beginning their tour of duty. Any supplies that have been depleted will be reported to a supervisor and replenished as soon as possible.

The Commander of the Region, section, or unit assigned marked police vehicles will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of the vehicle(s).

8.3 Pursuit Directive/Emergency Response

Officers completing annual Emergency Vehicle Operation training are authorized to utilize marked police vehicles for emergency responses and motor vehicle pursuits.

9.0 PRISONER TRANSPORT VEHICLE

Prisoner transport vehicles will be assigned to the Special Services Bureau. Prisoner transport vehicles shall be conspicuously marked as a "Police" vehicle with reflective lettering/stripping. Department officers are authorized to operate prisoner transport vehicles for routine patrol, responding to calls for service, and transporting prisoners.

Prisoner transport vehicles may be assigned or deployed at the discretion of the unit/squad supervisor.

9.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

Operators should keep in mind the higher center of gravity, higher clearance requirements, and the limited visibility to the rear of the vehicle.

9.2 Equipment

The Prisoner Transport Vehicle will be equipped with the following:

- Blue lights
- Siren
- Mobile radio transceiver
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid Kit

Officers are required to inventory the contents of their assigned vehicle at the beginning of the tour of duty. Any supplies that have been depleted will be reported to a supervisor and replenished as soon as possible.

The Commander of the Region assigned prisoner transport vehicles will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of the vehicle(s).

9.3 Emergency Vehicle Response/Pursuits

Under no circumstances will prisoner transport vehicles be utilized for an emergency response when transporting prisoners.

Officers completing annual Emergency Vehicle Operation training shall be authorized to utilize prisoner transport vehicles for an emergency response **only** if exigent circumstances exist.

Prisoner transport vehicles are prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

10.0 UNMARKED POLICE VEHICLES

Investigators, administrative, and staff personnel are authorized to operate unmarked police vehicles in the performance of their daily duties. Unmarked police vehicles may be utilized in situations that require a less conspicuous vehicle than a marked patrol vehicle. Unmarked police vehicles equipped with blue lights may be utilized for traffic control if necessary.

Unmarked police vehicles may be assigned or deployed at the discretion of the unit/squad supervisor.

10.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

10.2 Equipment

All unmarked police vehicles will be equipped with a fire extinguisher and a first-aid kit. Unmarked police

vehicles may be equipped with blue lights and a siren.

Officers are required to inventory the contents of their assigned vehicle prior to beginning their tour of duty. Any supplies that have been depleted will be reported to a supervisor and replenished as soon as possible.

The Commander of the Region, section, or unit assigned unmarked police vehicles will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of the vehicle(s).

10.3 Emergency Vehicle Response

Unmarked police vehicles equipped with 360 degree emergency lighting and a siren may be utilized for an emergency response only if there is an articulable reason for doing so.

11.0 UTILITY VEHICLES

Department trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles, excluding those assigned to Canine Unit and Crime Scene Unit are to be classified as utility vehicles. Utility vehicles may be marked or unmarked and shall be utilized throughout the Department as authorized by the Chief of Police. Marked utility vehicles equipped with blue lights may be utilized for traffic control if necessary.

Utility vehicles may be assigned or deployed at the discretion of the unit/squad supervisor.

11.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

Operators should keep in mind the higher center of gravity and higher clearance requirements associated with utility vehicles.

11.2 Equipment

All utility vehicles will be equipped with a fire extinguisher and a first-aid kit. Marked utility vehicles may be equipped with a radio transceiver, blue lights, and a siren.

Officers are required to inventory the contents of their assigned vehicle prior to beginning their tour of duty. Any supplies that have been depleted will be reported to a supervisor and replenished as soon as possible.

The Commander of the Region, section, or unit assigned utility vehicles will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of the vehicle(s).

11.3 Emergency Vehicle Response/Pursuits

Officers completing annual Emergency Vehicle Operation training shall be authorized to utilize marked utility vehicles equipped with blue lights and a siren for an emergency response.

Non-pursuit rated utility vehicles are prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

12.0 CANINE UNIT VEHICLES

Canine Unit vehicles include marked patrol vehicles and marked sport utility vehicles. Unit vehicles shall be conspicuously marked as a "Police" vehicle with reflective lettering/stripping and clearly marked as a canine vehicle. Canine Unit vehicles shall be used in conjunction with marked patrol vehicles to provide routine patrol, responding

to calls for service, traffic control, and traffic enforcement.

Operation of Canine Unit vehicles shall be restricted to officers assigned to that unit and may be assigned at the discretion of the unit supervisor.

12.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

Canine Unit officers operating sport utility vehicles should keep in mind the higher center of gravity and higher clearance requirements associated with these vehicles.

Canine unit officers are required to successfully complete training on the care, control and handling of their assigned animal.

12.2 Equipment

Canine Unit vehicles will be equipped with the following:

- Blue lights
- Siren
- Mobile radio transceiver
- Traffic Cones
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Trunk Box containing Biohazard PPE
- Interior Heat Sensor

Additionally, these units are assigned highly specialized husbandry equipment and animals.

Officers are required to inventory the contents of their assigned vehicle at the beginning of the tour of duty. Any supplies that have been depleted will be reported to a supervisor and replenished as soon as possible.

The Commander of the Special Operations Division will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of Canine Unit vehicles.

12.3 Emergency Vehicle Response/Pursuits

Canine Unit officers completing annual Emergency Vehicle Operation training are authorized to utilize Canine Unit vehicles for emergency responses and motor vehicle pursuits.

Canine Unit Officers driving non-pursuit rated sport utility vehicles are prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

13.0 CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS VEHICLES

Crime scene investigations vehicles will be utilized for responding to crime scenes and collecting physical evidence. Unit vehicles shall be conspicuously marked as a "Police" vehicle with reflective lettering/stripping and clearly marked as a Crime Scene Investigations vehicle.

Operation of crime scene investigations vehicles shall be restricted to officers assigned to that unit. Crime scene investigations vehicles may be assigned at the discretion of the unit supervisor.

13.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

Crime scene investigators operating sport utility vehicles should keep in mind the higher center of gravity,

the higher clearance requirements, and additional weight associated with the equipment contained in these vehicles.

13.2 Equipment

Crime scene investigations vehicles will be equipped with the following:

- Blue lights
- Siren
- Mobile radio transceiver
- Traffic Cones
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Trunk Box containing Biohazard PPE

Additionally, these vehicles will contain sufficient equipment and supplies to perform the following tasks:

- Recovery of latent fingerprints
- Photography
- Sketch of scenes
- Collection and preservation of physical evidence
- Accident investigations

Crime scene investigators are responsible for the replenishment of equipment and supplies. Any supplies that have been depleted will be reported to a supervisor and replenished as soon as possible.

The Commander of the Criminal Investigations Division will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of crime scene investigation vehicles.

13.3 Emergency Vehicle Response/Pursuits

Only officers completing annual Emergency Vehicle Operation training are authorized to utilize crime scene investigation for emergency responses.

Crime scene investigation vehicles are prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

14.0 SPECIAL OPERATIONS VAN / SPECIALIZED TACTICAL VEHICLES

The special operations equipment will be utilized for emergency situations such as hostage/barricade situations or for surveillance and will be deployed at the discretion of the SWAT Commander.

Under no circumstances will the special operations van be used for routine patrol or to conduct traffic stops.

14.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

Operators should keep in mind the higher center of gravity, higher clearance requirements, and the limited visibility to the rear of the vehicle.

14.2 Equipment

The special operations van will be equipped with tactical equipment required for tactical situations as well as being equipped with a fire extinguisher, first-aid kit, and radio transceiver.

It is the responsibility of the SWAT Commander to insure that all supplies are replenished after each deployment of the special operations van. This equipment will be inspected at least quarterly for

operational readiness.

The special operations van is assigned to the SWAT Commander who is responsible for the routine service and maintenance of the vehicle.

14.3 Pursuit Directive/Emergency Response

Under no circumstances will the special operations van be utilized for an emergency response.

The special operations van is prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

14.4 Special Operations/ SWAT Limited Purpose Vehicles

This equipment will be inspected at least quarterly for operational readiness.

Limited purpose vehicles are assigned to the SWAT Commander who is responsible for the routine service and maintenance of the vehicles:

- Mack truck – not tagged and only used on public thoroughfares in exigent circumstances.
- International 7400 MRAP - not tagged and only used on public thoroughfares in exigent circumstances.
- American HUMVEE - not tagged and only used on public thoroughfares in exigent circumstances.
- John Deere Gator - not tagged and only used on public thoroughfares in exigent circumstances.
- Honda ATV - not tagged and only used on public thoroughfares in exigent circumstances.
- Chevrolet negotiator van - not tagged and only used on public thoroughfares in exigent circumstances.

Under no circumstances will limited purpose vehicles be utilized for an emergency response.

The limited purpose vehicles are prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

15.0 MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The mobile communications center is assigned to the Special Events Unit. The mobile communications center shall be conspicuously marked as a “Police” vehicle with reflective lettering/stripping and may be utilized as a command post during emergency situations or during special operations/events. The mobile communications center will be deployed at the discretion of the Chief.

Under no circumstances will the mobile communications center be used for routine patrol or to conduct traffic stops.

15.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class “D” South Carolina Driver’s License.

Operators should keep in mind the extremely high clearance required, the higher center of gravity and the limited visibility to the rear of the vehicle.

15.2 Equipment

The mobile communications center will contain the following:

- Mobile radio transceiver
- Traffic Cones
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Traffic Flashlight
- Incident/Administrative Reports
- City map books/office supplies

It is the responsibility of the Special Events Coordinator to insure that all supplies are replenished after each deployment of the mobile communications center. This equipment will be inspected at least quarterly for operational readiness.

The Special Events Coordinator will be responsible for the routine service, maintenance and operational readiness of the vehicle.

15.3 Pursuit Directive/Emergency Response

Under no circumstances will the mobile communications center be utilized for an emergency response.

The mobile communications center is prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

16.0 MOTORCYCLES

Motorcycles are utilized to patrol congested or normally inaccessible areas of the City as well as traffic control and enforcement enforcement. They may be used during parades and/or special events. Motorcycles shall be conspicuously marked as a "Police" vehicle with reflective lettering/striping. Motorcycles shall not normally be used during extreme weather conditions. Motorcycles will be deployed at the discretion of the unit supervisor.

16.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" and "M" South Carolina Driver's License.

16.2 Equipment

The motorcycles will be equipped with blue lights and a siren.

Operators are required to wear a helmet any time the vehicle is in motion.

The Commander of the unit assigned motorcycles will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of the vehicle(s).

16.3 Pursuit Directive/Emergency Response

Motorcycles may be utilized for an emergency response in exigent situations but are prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

17.0 SPECIAL EVENTS CART

The special events cart will be utilized to monitor City sponsored special events and shall not be used on public roadways that are open to the general flow of traffic. The special events cart shall be conspicuously marked as a "Police" vehicle with reflective lettering/striping and may deployed at the discretion of the Special Events Coordinator.

Under no circumstances will the special events cart be used for routine patrol or to conduct traffic stops.

17.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

17.2 Required Equipment

The cart will be equipped with a fire extinguisher and a First Aid kit.

Operators are required to inventory the contents of the vehicle prior to beginning their assignment. Any supplies that have been depleted will be reported to a supervisor and replenished as soon as possible.

The routine service and maintenance of the vehicle is the responsibility of the Special Events Coordinator.

17.3 Pursuit Directive/Emergency Response

Under no circumstances will the special events cart be utilized for an emergency response.

The special events cart is prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.

18.0 PERSONAL ELECTRIC MOBILITY VEHICLES

Personal electric mobility vehicles will be used to augment foot patrol beats in the Downtown and Vista areas. Personal electric mobility vehicles shall be conspicuously marked as a "Police" vehicle with reflective lettering/stripping. The vehicles will not normally be operated on public roadways that are open to the general flow of traffic.

Personal electric mobility vehicles may be assigned or deployed at the discretion of the unit/squad supervisor.

These vehicles will not normally be operated under conditions of extreme heat, extreme cold or generally inclement weather.

Under no circumstances will motorcycles be used to conduct traffic stops.

18.1 Required Training/Qualifications

Class "D" South Carolina Driver's License.

Officers must successfully complete the familiarization course offered by the Training Unit prior to operating an electric mobility vehicle.

18.2 Required Equipment

The vehicle will be equipped with blue lights, electronic siren, and PA system.

Operators are required to wear a helmet any time the vehicle is in motion.

The Commander of the Region assigned personal electric mobility vehicles will be responsible for routine service and maintenance of the vehicle(s).

18.3 Pursuit Directive/Emergency Response

Under no circumstances will personal electric mobility vehicles be utilized for an emergency response.

Personal electric mobility vehicles are prohibited from participating in motor vehicle pursuits.