

 <p style="text-align: center;">YALE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDERS <i>Serving with Integrity, Trust, Commitment and Courage Since 1894</i></p>	ORDER TYPE: NEED TO REFER	
	404 USE OF DEPARTMENT VEHICLES	
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 05 MAR 2019	REVIEW DATE: ANNUAL

PURPOSE

The purpose of this General Order is to establish standards for the proper use and operation of department vehicles.

POLICY

The policy of the Department is to ensure that all members are properly equipped and capable of responding to law enforcement responsibilities and to ensure that department vehicles are properly maintained and operated in a legal manner.

REGULATIONS

- Department vehicles may be assigned to members during their tour of duty.
- Uniformed members will generally be issued marked vehicles but may be assigned unmarked vehicles at the discretion of their supervisor.
- Members assigned department vehicles:
 - Must have a current Connecticut operator's license with the proper endorsements.
 - Are responsible for the reasonable security, cleanliness and maintenance of their assigned vehicles.
 - Are responsible to operate the vehicle safely and legally
 - Are responsible for determining that their patrol vehicle is properly equipped at the beginning their shift.
 - Are responsible for inspecting vehicles to see that the vehicle is undamaged and ready for service prior to being driven. Special attention should be given to tires, brakes, lights, and emergency equipment.
 - Are responsible to immediately report any vehicle damage or inoperative or faulty equipment to a supervisor.
 - Are responsible to ensure their vehicle is adequately fueled before ending their shift to enable immediate response to law enforcement responsibilities by the succeeding shift.

VEHICLE OPERATION

Members operating police vehicles will:

- Operate their vehicles with safely and in compliance with all traffic laws on routine patrol and in compliance with Sec. 14-283a C.G.S.1 in emergency situations.
- Follow the policies outlined in General Order 402 (Pursuit-Emergency Vehicle Operation).
- Use all occupant restraint devices while operating department owned, leased or rental vehicles, and all personal vehicles used on department business except when exempted by law under Sec. 14-100a (C.G.S.)2.
- Require all passengers to use the vehicle's occupant restraint devices.
- Not operate a department vehicle in which the driver's safety belt is inoperable.
- Not transport anyone in a seating position in which the safety belt is inoperable.
- Not modify, remove, deactivate or otherwise tamper with the vehicle's safety belts or occupant restraint systems.

- Immediately report Inoperable restraint systems to a supervisor. Prompt action will be taken to replace or repair the system. While stopping a vehicle for a violation, members may remove the safety belt prior to the stop to enable the member to quickly exit their vehicle if necessary.
- Park patrol vehicles in such a manner that they are in a position to exit quickly and easily in an emergency situation.
- Not carry or transport gasoline or other flammable liquids or hazardous materials in the trunks of department vehicles.
- Under normal conditions, secure unattended police vehicles by turning the engine off, removing the key and locking the doors.

ACCIDENTS

When a department vehicle is involved in a traffic accident, the involved member will (unless disabled as a result of the accident):

- Render necessary aid to the injured,
- Remove any hazard to life or property and
- Immediately notify a supervisor

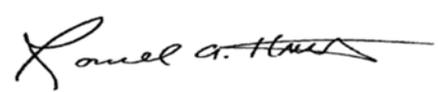
The supervisor will:

- Respond to the scene,
- Insure that injured parties are treated and that the scene is safe and secure.
- Conduct an appropriate investigation and prepare a PR-1 accident investigation form.
- In serious cases, use the services of the NHPD Bureau of Identification to process and document the scene.
- Submit a report of the investigation to the Assistant Chief of Operations (and a copy to the Fleet Manager) no later than the end of the shift on which the accident occurred. If the investigation is incomplete, the supervisor will submit that part of the investigation which is complete.

Accidents occurring outside the City of New Haven will be investigated by the police agency having jurisdiction in that area. The member involved in the accident must notify a supervisor of the accident, as soon as possible.

The Assistant Chief of Operations will review all accident investigations and will forward findings and recommendations to the Chief of Police, when necessary.

PER ORDER OF



RONNELL A. HIGGINS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CHIEF OF POLICE

THIS GENERAL ORDER SUPERSEDES GENERAL ORDER 404 USE OF DEPARTMENT VEHICLES, ISSUED ON 7/29/2002.

Sec. 14-283. Rights of emergency vehicles. Obstruction of. (a) "Emergency vehicle", as used in this section, means any ambulance or emergency medical service organization vehicle responding to an emergency call, any vehicle used by a fire department or by any officer of a fire department while on the way to a fire or while responding to an emergency call but not while returning from a fire or emergency call, or any state or local police vehicle operated by a police officer or inspector of the Department of Motor Vehicles answering an emergency call or in the pursuit of fleeing law violators. (b) The operator of any emergency vehicle may (1) park or stand such vehicle, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter, (2) proceed past any red light or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down or stopping to the extent necessary for the safe operation of such vehicle, (3) exceed the posted speed limits or other speed limits imposed by or pursuant to section 14-218a or 14-219 as long as he does not endanger life or property by so doing, and (4) disregard statutes, ordinances or regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specific directions. (c) The exemptions herein granted shall apply only when an emergency vehicle is making use of an audible warning signal device, including but not limited to a siren, whistle or bell which meets the requirements of subsection (f) of section 14-80, and visible flashing or revolving lights which meet the requirements of sections 14-96p and 14-96q, and to any state or local police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible warning signal device only. (d) The provisions of this section shall not relieve the operator of an emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property.

Sec. 14-100a. Seat safety belts. Child restraint systems. (a) No new passenger motor vehicle may be sold or registered in this state unless equipped with at least two sets of seat safety belts for the front and rear seats of the motor vehicle, which belts comply with the requirements of subsection (b) of this section. The anchorage unit at the attachment point shall be of such construction, design and strength as to support a loop load strength of not less than four thousand pounds for each belt. (b) No seat safety belt may be sold for use in connection with the operation of a motor vehicle on any highway of this state unless it is so constructed and installed as to have a loop strength through the complete attachment of not less than four thousand pounds, and the buckle or closing device shall be of such construction and design that after it has received the aforesaid loop belt load it can be released with one hand with a pull of less than forty-five pounds. (c) (1) The operator of and any front seat passenger in a private passenger motor vehicle, as defined in subsection (e) of section 38a-363, fire fighting apparatus or a vanpool vehicle equipped with seat safety belts complying with the provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Section 571.209, as amended from time to time, shall wear such seat safety belt while the vehicle is being operated on the highways of this state, except that a child under the age of four years shall be restrained as provided in subsection (d) of this section. Each operator of such vehicle shall secure or cause to be secured in a seat safety belt any passenger four years of age or older and under sixteen years of age. (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply to any person whose physical disability or impairment would prevent restraint in such safety belt, provided such person obtains a written statement from a licensed physician containing reasons for such person's inability to wear such safety belt and including information concerning the nature and extent of such condition. Such person shall carry the statement on his person or in the motor vehicle at all times when it is being operated. (3) As used in this subsection, "private passenger motor vehicle" does not mean an authorized emergency vehicle, other than fire fighting apparatus, responding to an emergency call or a motor vehicle operated (A) by a rural letter carrier of the United States postal service while performing his official duties, or (B) by a person engaged in the delivery of newspapers.