
Police Motorcycle Operations

509.1 MOTORCYCLE PATROL

The following shall be the policy of this department concerning the operation of motorcycles by officers assigned to the Traffic Bureau:

- (a) The officer shall remain in their assigned area during their tour of duty except as follows:
 - 1. While attempting to stop a traffic violator entering another area.
 - 2. During an arrest and booking process.
 - 3. In response to a dispatched call.
 - 4. In response to an emergency call.
 - 5. Completing reports at the station after having been cleared to do so.
 - 6. When handling miscellaneous details, such as court appearances, equipment maintenance, etc.
 - 7. When participating in targeted enforcement efforts.
 - 8. When authorized by a supervisor.
- (b) No more than two motorcycles should conduct enforcement at the same location unless directed to do so by the on-duty supervisor. While at an intersection, the officers shall take care in parking their motorcycles so as not to interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic, nor give the appearance of "hiding" from motorists.
- (c) When away from the police facility and on duty, officers shall park legally except when police business demands otherwise.
- (d) No officer shall be permitted to ride a police motorcycle off duty except as follows:
 - 1. While enroute to or from the police facility for duty.
 - 2. While enroute to or from court where the subpoena arises out of a police activity.
 - 3. While enroute to or from a place of repair or service.
 - 4. When assigned by an on-duty supervisor.
 - 5. While enroute to an authorized special event that necessitates the use of a motorcycle.

Only the assigned officer shall be permitted to operate a department motorcycle, unless express authorization has been obtained from the on-duty supervisor.

509.2 MOTORCYCLE OPERATION - SAFETY EQUIPMENT

At all times during the operation of a motorcycle, the officer shall wear a complete class B motorcycle officer uniform which shall include:

- 1. Department approved motorcycle helmet

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2. Leather gloves
3. Eye protection
4. Department approved motorcycle pants
5. Department approved motorcycle boots
6. Class B uniform shirt
7. Department approved soft body armor
8. Full duty belt

A traffic supervisor can modify this attire based on department needs, such as training events,

509.3 STORAGE OF MOTORCYCLES

Officers assigned to motorcycle duty shall be permitted to take their assigned vehicles home as long as they have an enclosed garage or storage room that has a door capable of being locked. This storage facility shall be on the premises of the officer's residence.

509.4 GENERAL PATROL OFFICER DUTIES

Generally, motorcycle enforcement officers are not to be used in the performance of routine patrol calls and should be used for other than traffic related duties as indicated below:

- (a) In case of a criminal offense committed in the officer's presence.
- (b) In the case of a request or response to an officer in need of assistance or backup.
- (c) In the case of an "in progress" call in the area where a backup officer is needed.
- (d) In the case of a riot or major disturbance where all available personnel must be committed.
- (e) In the case of major crowd or traffic control problems such as may be created by a plane crash or similar major field incident.
- (f) In the case of a reported traffic accident and no civilian traffic investigator is available to handle the call.
- (g) When the volume of service calls exceed patrol resources and the on duty field supervisor requests motorcycle officer's assistance in handling the overflow of calls.

509.5 PRISONER TRANSPORT

If the arrest is made by a traffic officer operating a police motorcycle, an officer in a marked vehicle will be detailed to transport the arrestee. The officer making the arrest will write the arrest report.

509.6 PATROL OVERTIME

A motorcycle officer who volunteers, or is drafted to work an overtime patrol shift, will be required to don a patrol uniform and operate in a patrol car, unless a field supervisor directs otherwise.

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509.7 SPECIAL EVENTS OVERTIME - MOTORCYCLES

If an officer signs up to work special event overtime, he/she shall be assigned to a patrol unit in standard uniform. The only exception will be with the approval of an on duty supervisor and where the operation of a motorcycle would be beneficial to the event (traffic control).