



# TOWN OF MACEDON POLICE DEPARTMENT

<b>General Order:</b> 515	<b>Effective Date:</b> April 20, 2019
<b>Subject:</b> Roadblocks/Checkpoints	
<b>Reference Standards:</b> 43.4, 43.5, 47.3	
<b>Rescinds:</b>	
Page 1 of 3	<b>Attachments:</b> None

## I. TYPES OF ROADBLOCKS

- A. Crime Scene Perimeters- established to locate and apprehend a suspect fleeing from the scene of a crime.
- B. Pursuit Blockades- established for the purpose of eliminating avenues of escape for suspects who are being pursued by police officers in the performance of their official duties.
- C. Traffic Control Points - established to limit access to or egress from a crime scene, accident, or situation involving the need to limit or reroute traffic.
- D. Traffic Check Points- established to check for vehicle equipment defects, expired inspection certification stickers, seatbelt violations, driver's license and registration validity, vehicle loads, etc..
- E. Sobriety Checkpoints- established to check vehicles for intoxicated operators as well as for other visible violations.

## II. AUTHORIZATION

- A. CRIME SCENE PERIMETERS may be established by a Sergeant or the first responding/investigating officer may authorize such perimeter.
- B. PURSUIT BLOCKADES must be authorized by a Sergeant
- C. TRAFFIC CONTROL POINTS may be authorized by a Sergeant or the first responding officer.
- D. TRAFFIC CHECK POINTS must be authorized by a Sergeant

E. SOBRIETY CHECK POINTS must be authorized by the Chief of Police. The sobriety Checkpoint must be properly supervised by a Sergeant, planned, and staffed as outlined in this General Order.

F. In addition to the specific authorization, all roadblocks must conform to this order.

### **III. ESTABLISHING / CANCELING ROADBLOCKS & CHECKPOINTS**

A. Criteria to be used in planning a roadblock, although not all inclusive, are the following:

1. Site Selection:

- a. Sites must be approved by the Chief of Police prior to commencing the Sobriety Checkpoint or roadblock.
- b. The site must be in an area that will minimize the risk to the public and / or the police.
- c. The Sergeant will ensure that all guidelines established by this order are in effect and are communicated to the officers manning the Sobriety Checkpoint or roadblock.
- d. In the case of a Sobriety Checkpoint the Sergeant in charge of the detail will include a brief, written directive which will outline the site(s) selection and the system of vehicle selection (example: every car, every other car.)

2. The site selection for Roadblocks or Sobriety Checkpoints will take into consideration the time of day, type of roadway, weather conditions, volume of traffic, the specific purpose of the detail, the number of personnel available, the amount of safety equipment available, and the availability of adequate supervision.

B. Warnings will be set out to alert traffic whenever a Checkpoint or Roadblock is established. Warnings may consist of the following:

1. Flares and/or other warning lights
2. Traffic cones
3. Marked police vehicle with flashing lights engaged.
4. Checkpoint warning signs.
5. Uniform Officers directing traffic.

NOTE: Officers manning a checkpoint will wear full uniforms and a high visibility raincoat and/or glow vest.

Warnings will be set out to alert traffic of the Roadblock or Checkpoint and to direct traffic to the site area in a safe manner.

C. Any traffic Checkpoint that is conducted must be conducted in a uniform and non-discriminatory manner with reference to which vehicles will be selected.

1. A pattern as to which vehicles are to be checked must be established prior to the commencement of a Sobriety Checkpoint. Every vehicle or a system of every second, third, or fourth (etc.) vehicle will be utilized in choosing those vehicles to be directed to the Checkpoint site. Officers do NOT have discretion as to any other method of

selecting vehicles other than those outlined prior to commencement of a Checkpoint.

2. In the event a violation is observed or an officer has probable cause to stop a vehicle that falls outside the established pattern, appropriate action can be taken.
  3. In the event that traffic becomes unduly congested or a manpower shortage has occurred due to the work load, traffic will be directed to continue and not be diverted to the checkpoint area. When, in the estimate of the on-site Sergeant, traffic congestion or manpower availability has eased so that the checkpoint may safely be resumed, vehicles will again be diverted to the checkpoint area pursuant to the original plan.
- D. Roadblocks consisting of vehicles or other types of physical barriers will not be erected as a means of terminating a pursuit except in the most extraordinary situations involving a serious felony offense and only when authorized by a Sergeant.
- E. Authorized and established roadblocks will be immediately canceled at the direction of a command officer when it is determined that the roadblock conflicts with the best interests of the public or the department.

By order of the Chief of Police



John P Colella (Apr 22, 2019)

John P. Colella  
Chief of Police

Dated this 20th day of April, 2019