



# TOWN OF MACEDON POLICE DEPARTMENT

<b>General Order:</b> 545	<b>Effective Date:</b> December 16, 2019
<b>Subject:</b> Response to Routine and Emergency Calls for Service	
<b>Reference Standards:</b> 40.1, 42.1, 43.1	
<b>Rescinds:</b>	
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## I. POLICY

- A. Personnel are to drive defensively at all times.
- B. Personnel responding to calls for service should remember that their first task is to arrive safely.
  - 1. Operators should be aware of and consider the traffic (vehicle and pedestrians), weather, time of day and road conditions.
- C. Personnel operating town owned vehicles should remember to set an example of courteous and safe operation.
  - 1. This is of special importance for personnel operating marked police vehicles.
  - 2. It is imperative that police personnel set a professional example for the motoring public.
- D. The driver of a police vehicle (an authorized emergency vehicle) will not be relieved from the duty to drive with reasonable care and consideration for all persons using the highway.

## II. RESPONSE MODES

- A. Routine Response Mode--Personnel responding to routine calls for service will obey all department regulations and vehicle and traffic laws with the exception of parking requirements.
  - 1. Emergency equipment will not be used in this mode unless directed for safety due to inclement conditions.
- B. Emergency Response Mode--Personnel responding to an emergency call for service will obey

all department regulations and may use the appropriate emergency and other equipment deemed necessary for an immediate response.

### **III. EQUIPMENT**

- A. Marked Police Vehicle Emergency equipment consists of overhead LED light bar, siren, front LED lights, and rear LED lights.
  - 1. Traffic enforcement and plate reader vehicles without overhead light bar will be equipped with all other equipment listed in A. above as well as mirror lights, grill lights, and rear LED lights.
- B. Unmarked Police Vehicle Emergency equipment consist of a windshield or grill LED lights, siren, and rear LED lights.
- C. Other equipment may consist of the vehicle spot light, 4-way hazard lights, the horn, alley lights, and the public address system.

### **IV. EQUIPMENT USE GUIDELINES**

- A. Overhead light bars and accompanying emergency lighting can be used in the emergency response mode as well as at accident scenes, traffic violator stops and any time the officer deems necessary to alert others of a hazardous or potentially hazardous situation.
- B. The siren can be used in the emergency response mode.
  - 1. It does not have to be used continuously.
  - 2. Upon arrival at the destination, the siren is to be turned off.
- C. The malfunction of any of the emergency response equipment, i.e. light bar and/or siren, should be considered cause to cease the emergency response so as to not place the officer or the public in peril.
- D. Spotlights can be used in the emergency response mode and during patrol activity.
- E. In addition to normal illumination it can be used to provide protective illumination for the officer (traffic stops).
- F. 4-way hazard lights (4 way flashers) can be used whenever the officer deems necessary for the safe stopping, standing or parking of the police vehicle.
  - 1. These lights may be used when operating at very low speeds to give warning to other motorists.
  - 2. They should not normally be used during the emergency response mode.

- G. Alley lights and take-down lights (if equipped) can be used to provide lateral illumination during patrol activity or to provide auxiliary lighting when needed.
- H. The public address system can be used by the officer to provide information, issue orders, etc. to a large group. It can be used when it is necessary for the officer to communicate with a person over a long distance (officer safety, dealing with boaters, physical barriers, etc.).
1. It should be used with caution as it may project the wrong image or distort information.
- I. Flares and/or Traffic Cones can be used when the officer deems it necessary that this type of warning device will be effective in warning of dangerous or potentially dangerous situations.
1. Flares and/or Traffic Cones are good to use when closing off traffic lanes or directing traffic--day or night.

## **V. RESPONSE GUIDELINES**

- A. The following sections will serve to guide department personnel in the type of response mode to be used when answering calls for service.
- B. These are guidelines and are not meant to limit or restrict the appropriate response when factors exist that require a different type of response.
- C. CALLS FOR SERVICE THAT INDICATE AN EMERGENCY RESPONSE ARE:

- Alarm - robbery
- Assault in progress/fight
- Bomb threat
- Child abuse
- Crimes in progress
- Disturbance calls with fights
- Disturbance calls with both parties at the scene
- Kidnapping
- Mental--person acting irrationally
- Missing child, elderly person or mentally defective person
- MVA--injuries, check for injuries, major traffic tie-up
- Officer in trouble
- Prowler calls
- Sexual assault
- Suicide attempt
- Suspicious person/car
- Weapon situations--armed persons
- Working fire or when requested by a fire company
- Any situation indicating urgency

## **VI. CALLS FOR SERVICE THAT INDICATE A ROUTINE RESPONSE**

- Added information
- Alarm-Burglary
- Animal complaints
- Disturbance calls--one party at the scene
- DOA
- Found property
- Lockouts--except if an infant or child is trapped
- Lost property
- Miscellaneous accident
- MVA--no injuries, not blocking
- Parking complaints
- Reports of not in progress calls
- Requests for information
- Suspicious/annoying telephone calls
- Special attention requests

By Order of the Chief of Police

*John P Colella*

John P Colella (Dec 16, 2019)

John P. Colella

Chief of Police

Dated this 16th day of December 2019