



**RECOMMENDATION SUBMISSION FORM**

**CPC Area Command: Southwest**

	<b>A: Reviewing and assessing the propriety and effectiveness of law enforcement priorities and related community policing strategies, materials &amp; training.</b>
	<b>B: Reviewing and assessing concerns or recommendations about specific APD policing tactics &amp; initiatives.</b>
	<b>C: Providing information to the community and conveying feedback from the community</b>
	<b>D: Advising the Chief on recruiting a diverse work force</b>
	<b>E: Advising the Chief on ways to collect and publicly disseminate data and information including information about APD compliance with the CASA in a transparent and public friendly format.</b>

**DATE SUBMITTED:** July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Seven (7) business days after submission

**RECEIPT DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_ Twenty (20) business days after submission<sup>1</sup>

**APD RESPONSE DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_ Sixty (60) business days after submission

**RATIONALE:**

Research on non-injury traffic collisions is scarce. Most statistics on traffic collisions address collisions that have injuries or are fatal. Police officers spend an inordinate amount of time responding to non-injury traffic collisions. In the spirit of community policing, the Southwest Citizen Police Council (CPC) is calling on the public to “work with” the Albuquerque Police Department (APD) in reducing the number of calls to non-injury traffic collisions.

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<sup>1</sup> Revised April 2017

It is the recommendation of the Southwest Citizens Police Council that the current policy remain intact, with the exception of “**section F**” [in bold] added, which stipulates that officers will not respond to traffic collisions where no injuries are involved.

Printed “Motorist Information Exchange Cards” could be made available through a number of outlets:

- All APD substations
- All Motor Vehicle Division locations
- Libraries
- Albuquerque Police Department Website for Download

Duplicating services is not prudent as it wastes valuable resources. Since there is a shortage of police officers, managing time officers spend on a call and cutting costs is not only the fiscally responsible action to take, it moves the police department in staying transparent. Time spend filling out a traffic collision report takes officers away from other duties. Citizens involved in a minor traffic collision, where no injuries are involved will aid Albuquerque Police Department in utilizing officers time more efficiently and assist the department in remaining transparent.

## **2-49 TRAFFIC AND ROADWAY SERVICES**

### **2-49-1 Policy**

Department policy is to ensure that appropriate action is taken in a safe and timely manner in all cases where the department is asked to provide general or emergency assistance to motorists.

### **2-49-2 Rules**

#### **A. General Assistance to Motorists**

1. Officers and PSA will reasonably attempt to provide assistance to motorists in need of mechanical assistance, i.e., provide jumper cables (if available) etc. Officers will not attempt to push-start vehicles.
2. Officers and PSA will summon the on-call wrecker at the request of the motorist, after explaining that the motorist is responsible for all towing charges.
3. Unless necessary to retrieve a child or an animal locked inside a vehicle, officers will not attempt to unlock vehicles using "slim Jim" or other unlocking devices. Officers may summon a locksmith (at the motorist's request) or call a third party when extra keys are available.

#### B. Stranded Motorists

1. When requested by a stranded motorist, officers and PSA may transport the motorist to the nearest service station for fuel. When workload conditions permit, and when no undue delay is anticipated, the motorist may be returned to the vehicle.
2. Motorist requesting assistance regarding shelter services will be referred to the appropriate agency

#### C. Hazardous Highway/Roadway Conditions

1. Appropriate action to be taken upon noticing or being advised of traffic Hazard:
  - a. The officer or police service aide will contact the appropriate city department.
  - b. If warning lights are necessary, the officer or PSA will contact the appropriate agency/company to put warning barricades/lights in place.
  - c. If barricades or warning lights are necessary, the officer or PSA shall remain at the scene to alert drivers and provide traffic direction

when necessary, until the condition has been corrected and/or the warning lights or barricades have been placed at the scene.

- i. Non-uniformed officers in unmarked vehicles will call for a uniformed officer or a PSA with a marked vehicle.
- d. Vehicles found parked or abandoned on or near the roadway will be handled as outlined in SOP 2-48.
- e. Animals and/or livestock on a roadway
  - i. Officers will engage emergency lights and use any mean available, i.e., siren, horn, P.A. system, to ensure the animal vacates the roadway.
  - ii. If this cannot be accomplished, officers will call, or have Communications call animal control, and/or the New Mexico Livestock Bureau (841-40000) if applicable and advise them of the situation.
  - iii. IF the animal/livestock are injured or deceased, animal control will be called.
  - iv. Officers will not leave the scene until safe passage on the roadway is secured.

## 2. Roadway/Roadside vehicle hazard

- a. When a vehicle is stalled on the roadway, officers and PSA will:
  - i. Position their vehicle to provide safety for the motorist.
  - ii. Engage emergency red/amber lights and hazardous lights
  - iii. Ensure removal of the vehicle from the roadway as soon as possible.

## D. Closure of the Interstate Highways

1. The on-scene supervisor will notify communications whenever an interstate highway is closed advising the location of the closure, the reason for the closure, and the expected length of the closure, if possible. Communications will notify the State Police in Santa Fe.

#### E. Traffic Direction and Control

1. Circumstances may arise where officers are required to provide traffic control and direct traffic to ensure safe and efficient movement of vehicles. These duties may be performed by either sworn officers or Police Service Aides.
2. During events that require the manual use of traffic control devices (Traffic box), only officers that have been trained and issued keys by Traffic Engineers will be assigned to work the control box.

All officers conducting traffic direction and control shall wear their safety reflective vest/jacket at all times.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### **F. Traffic Collisions**

- 1. Motorists involved in a non-injury traffic collision shall exchange information for insurance purposes.**
- 2. Only Traffic collisions where injuries are reported will police officers respond.**

## Motorist information Exchange Card

Drivers Name \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License Number \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_

Policy/Group Number \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Year/Color of Vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

License Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Witness 1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Witness 2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_