

Traffic Function and Responsibility

500.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines pertaining to traffic enforcement.

500.2 POLICY

The traffic enforcement priorities of the department are to reduce traffic collisions, fatalities and injuries, and to facilitate safe roadways for all vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The department seeks to achieve these objectives through the voluntary compliance of motorists and by using a combination of education, enforcement, engineering, and public support. Officers will take appropriate enforcement action in a fair and impartial manner. In an effort to focus on traffic safety, officers will concentrate on moving violations and other traffic issues that are an immediate concern to public safety or create a dangerous condition.

The Roseville Police Department recognizes that non-public safety or traffic enforcement solely based on equipment violations creates disproportionate impacts with communities of color and undermines law enforcement legitimacy. Absent other factors, the Roseville Police Department will not enforce equipment violations, expired registration, or other non-moving violations that do not create a public safety concern or dangerous condition.

To protect the constitutional rights and safeguard the protection of all of our communities, officers will not search a vehicle stopped for a minor traffic offense solely based on consent and absent any other articulable reason or legal justification.

500.3 TRAFFIC OFFICER DEPLOYMENT

All officers assigned to patrol or traffic enforcement functions will emphasize enforcement of collision-causing violations during periods of high-collision incidence and at locations of occurrence. General traffic enforcement is the responsibility of all patrol officers. All officers will take directed enforcement action on request, and random enforcement action when appropriate, against violators as a matter of routine. All officers shall maintain high visibility while working general enforcement, especially at high-collision incidence locations.

Other factors to be considered for deployment are citizen requests, construction zones or special events.

When appropriate, the Roseville Police Department will deploy alternative resources to increase visibility and reduce dangerous driving habits. Such alternative resources may include the use of Speed Boards or signage.

500.4 ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement actions are commensurate with applicable laws and take into account the degree and severity of the violation committed. This department does not establish ticket quotas and the number of citations issued by any officer shall not be used when evaluating officer

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performance (Minn. Stat. § 169.985; Minn. Stat. § 299D.08). The visibility and quality of an officer's work effort will be commensurate with the philosophy of this policy.

500.4.1 WARNINGS

Warnings or other non-punitive enforcement actions should be considered in each situation and substituted for arrests or citations when circumstances warrant.

500.4.2 TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Traffic citations may be issued when an officer believes it is appropriate. It is essential that officers fully explain the rights and requirements imposed on motorists upon issuance of a citation for a traffic violation. Officers should provide the following information at a minimum:

- (a) Explanation of the violation or charge.
- (b) Court appearance procedure, including the optional or mandatory appearance by the motorist.
- (c) Notice of whether the motorist can enter a plea and pay the fine by mail or at the court.
- (d) The court contact information.

500.4.3 PHYSICAL ARREST

Physical arrest can be made on a number of criminal traffic offenses. These physical arrest cases usually deal with, but are not limited to (Minn. Stat. § 169.91):

- (a) Negligent homicide.
- (b) Driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.
- (c) Hit-and-run resulting in serious injury or death.

500.5 HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS

The Department has provided American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Class II high-visibility vests to increase the visibility of department members who may be exposed to hazards presented by passing traffic, maneuvering or operating vehicles, machinery and equipment (23 CFR 655.601; Minn. R. 5205.0030).

Although intended primarily for use while performing traffic-related assignments, the donning of high-visibility vests should be considered at any time increased visibility would improve the safety or efficiency of the officer.

500.5.1 REQUIRED USE

Except when working in a potentially adversarial or confrontational role, such as during vehicle stops, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time it is anticipated that an employee will be exposed to the hazards of approaching traffic or construction and recovery equipment. Examples of when high-visibility vests should be worn include traffic control duties, collision investigations, lane closures and while at disaster scenes, or any time high visibility is desirable. When emergency conditions preclude the immediate donning of the vest, officers should retrieve and wear the vest

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as soon as conditions reasonably permit. Use of the vests shall also be mandatory when directed by a supervisor.

Vests maintained in the investigation units may be used any time a plain clothes officer might benefit from being readily identified as an officer.