



California State University, Los Angeles
Department of Public Safety

NUMBER: IV-46

APPROVED: _____

Joseph Curreri, Chief of Police

EFFECTIVE: December 1, 2012

Reviewed/Revised: December 1, 2012

SUBJECT: Police Motorcycle Operations

I. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this order is to provide effective and efficient procedures to operate police motorcycle patrols that are used to aid in ensuring the safe and expeditious flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic in and around the campus of California State University, Los Angeles. The overall goal of this program is traffic enforcement in the areas on and surrounding state property as well as supplementing patrol operations.

II. POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the California State University, Los Angeles Police Department to enforce all vehicular and pedestrian traffic laws on the roadways in and around state property. The department shall utilize police motorcycles as the primary enforcement vehicle in order to accomplish this task.

III. DEFINITIONS.

- A. Collision: A collision is defined as an unintended event that produces damage or injury, where the word "injury" includes "fatal injury". Although the words "accident" and "collision" are synonymous, the word "collision" should be used to describe the event.
- B. Patrol: The deployment of police officers to repress and prevent criminal activities, investigate offenders, and furnish day-to-day law enforcement services to the community.
- C. Pursuit: A peace officer in an authorized emergency vehicle, as defined by the California Vehicle Code, attempting to apprehend a known or suspected violator of the law who is the driver or occupant of the pursued vehicle and who is avoiding apprehension and/or ignoring the police officer's attempt to stop him/her. This includes failure to yield.

- D. Problem Oriented Police Traffic Enforcement: The assignment of personnel to traffic enforcement activities at times and locations where hazardous or congested conditions exist. Such assignments are usually due to traffic volume, accidents, frequency of traffic violations, and emergency service needs.
- E. Traffic Enforcement: Law enforcement as it applies to statutes, ordinances, and legally authorized regulations relating to the use of streets and highways and ownership/operation of motor vehicles and other road vehicles.
- F. Traffic Violation: Violation of any statutes, ordinance or code, and legally authorized regulations relating to the use of streets and highways or the operation and ownership of motor vehicles and other on-highway vehicles.

IV. PROCEDURE.

- A. Statement of the operational objectives of the Motorcycle Program.
 - 1. It is the primary objective of the Motorcycle Unit (Motor Unit) to utilize motorcycle officers to enforce traffic in and around the California State University, Los Angeles campus and surrounding area. In support of the primary objective, this Department will utilize motorcycle officers, when officers are trained and available, to:
 - a. Reduce the opportunity for traffic collisions;
 - b. Enforce traffic laws and regulations; and to
 - c. Patrol roadways and parking lots, or those areas with a high volume of traffic.
 - 2. The secondary function of the Motorcycle Unit is to support the patrol function in the response to emergencies in areas hard to reach by patrol vehicles, and traditional patrol duties.
- B. Instructions, conditions, and limitations of usage.
 - 1. The officers assigned to the Motor Unit use the motorcycle as a means of transportation in the performance of their duties and are assigned to a standard, or modified patrol shift. Their primary task is enforcement of state laws, in particular traffic enforcement.
 - 2. Motor officers will also be used to provide selective enforcement which may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Driving Under the Influence Task Force;
 - b. Office of Traffic Safety Targeted programs;
 - c. Traffic control and/or enforcement during the first week of the quarters;
 - d. Traffic control and/or enforcement during commencement week;
 - e. Traffic enforcement in and around the California State University, Los Angeles;

- f. Dignitary motorcade escorts;
 - g. Community Relation and Crime Prevention education as it relates to traffic safety (i.e. child safety restraint education to the Child Care Center);
 - h. Other directed patrol issues as they relate to traffic safety or enforcement;
 - i. Response to calls for service; and
 - j. Crime suppression.
3. The radio designation for motorcycle officers shall be "M" (Motor) followed by a numerical designation.
 - a. A numerical designation shall be assigned in order of rank or seniority (i.e., the corporal or senior officer assigned to the motor unit shall be designated as Motor 1).
 - b. In the event of equal rank, radio designations shall be determined by time in the unit.
 4. The primary responsibility of motor officers is traffic enforcement. If an arrest should become necessary, such as the refusal to sign a citation, a DUI, a felony or other exceptional circumstance, the arrestee will be transported in a marked patrol unit to the station for the booking process.
 - a. After a marked patrol unit transports the arrestee to the station, the motor officer shall complete the booking process and transport the arrestee in a marked patrol unit to the appropriate jail facility.
 5. While at the Cal State University Los Angeles Police Department, motor units will be parked in designated police parking only. While in the field, motor units are permitted to park in non-designated parking areas, however they shall not block sidewalks, doorways, inner campus roadways or park in red curb zones unless exigent circumstances exist.
 6. If while on duty, the weather should become such as to render it unsafe to operate a police motorcycle, the officer shall seek approval by the Watch Commander to park the motorcycle, check out an available marked patrol vehicle and resume patrol duties.

C. Authorization for use during vehicle pursuits.

1. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as preempting existing department policy relating to vehicle pursuits (Department Order IV-9, Pursuit Policy).
 - a. A shift supervisor or any member of the command staff may order pursuits terminated if they present a danger to the officer or the public (Department Order IV-9, Pursuit Policy, IV, B, 5-6).
 - b. Given the inherent dangers of pursuits and the additional hazards of motorcycle operations, motor officers shall terminate a pursuit if the risks of

continuation are not justified by the severity of the offense for which the pursuit was engaged.

- c. A motor officer involved in a pursuit shall discontinue the pursuit as soon as a marked patrol vehicle joins the pursuit.
- d. Each officer is charged with the responsibility of using discretion as to the speed at which he/she shall drive, and will proceed at a rate of speed which is conducive with the existing conditions; i.e., weather, traffic and road conditions (Department Order IV-18, Responding to Routine and Emergency Calls).
- e. Officers shall exercise care when approaching an intersection and proceed through an intersection with extreme caution.

D. Qualifications and training for personnel assigned.

1. Motor officers will be selected by the Chief of Police, or his/her designee. Selection will be made based on work performance, motorcycle riding experience, riding proficiency, physical fitness and eligibility.
2. To be considered eligible, officers shall:
 - a. Have successfully completed their new hire probationary period;
 - b. Maintain a current satisfactory rating or above on their performance rating;
 - c. Possess a valid California Class M1 motorcycle driver's license;
 - d. Satisfactorily complete a POST approved Motorcycle Training course;
 - e. Satisfactorily complete a POST approved Basic Accident Investigation course; and
 - f. Satisfactorily complete a POST approved Driving Under the Influence course.
3. Chain of Command.
 - a. Motorcycle officers will report via Police Operations chain of command.
 - b. Motorcycle officers shall report to the on-duty watch commander for the purposes of traffic enforcement details and other assignments.
 - c. The Operations Lieutenant is responsible for the Motor Program. He/she may designate a supervisor (sergeant) to enhance control.
 - d. The Operations Lieutenant or Watch Commander may require a motor officer to perform his/her duties in a patrol vehicle based on operational needs.
4. Training.

- a. Prior to assuming assignment, selected officers shall pass a POST approved Motorcycle Training course.
- b. Other required training may include, but is not limited to:
 - 1) Motorcycle Officer Training Program
 - 2) Preliminary Alcohol Screening training;
 - 3) Drug Influence Recognition;
 - 4) Radar/Laser training; and
 - 5) POST recommended bi-annual in-service training
- c. All training files shall be maintained by the department's training coordinator.

E. Reasons for removal from the program may include, but are not limited to:

1. Physical or mental conditions which would preclude the safe operation of a motorcycle or which may be aggravated by riding a motorcycle.
2. Failure of the officer to maintain an adequate level of field performance as determined by the Chief of Police.
3. A stolen or damaged motorcycle beyond repair due to officer negligence or unreasonable response to a situation.
4. Recklessly endangering themselves or the public on or off duty, as determined by a Command Officer.
5. Failure to adhere to the procedures set forth in this policy.
6. A shift supervisor (sergeant) can submit a request to have an officer removed from the program. The final decision shall rest with the Operations Lieutenant, approved by the Chief of Police.

F. Inspection and Maintenance.

1. Motor officers shall inspect their motorcycles daily and record the inspection on a *Motor Inspection Sheet*. Completed forms are filed in the equipment room.
2. Officers are expected to become knowledgeable regarding aspects of motorcycle mechanical operation, cost reduction and safe riding practices. Minor adjustments (e.g., changing light bulbs and parts lubrication), which do not require the expertise or special tools of a motorcycle mechanic shall be performed by the officer assigned to that motorcycle.
3. Department motorcycles shall be scheduled for routine maintenance and repair by an authorized repair center per the manufacturer's recommendations and guidelines. It is the motor officer's duty to report any damage or unusual

conditions to the Watch Commander and report when his/her assigned motorcycle is due for service.

4. No unauthorized equipment or ornamentation is allowed on Department motorcycles.

G. Equipment

1. When operating a police motorcycle, an officer shall wear proper safety equipment and motorcycle uniform. The Department will furnish motorcycle boots, motorcycle trousers and a Department of Transportation approved motorcycle helmet. Additional motorcycle equipment will be the responsibility of the assigned officer.
2. Officers shall maintain all equipment in good working order at all times.
3. A utility uniform may be worn during inclement weather, training and maintenance work only (Department Order I-6, III, B, 10, b).

H. Authorization to Operate

1. Department motorcycles are assigned to a specific motorcycle officer and that officer is the only officer authorized to use that motorcycle for patrol duties unless prior approval is given by a Command Officer.
2. For repair and maintenance purposes, other assigned motorcycle officers are authorized to operate other department motorcycles for the purpose of assisting in delivering or retrieving a motorcycle from repair and maintenance facilities.

V. APPENDICES: Motor Inspection Sheet

CAL STATE L.A. UNIVERSITY POLICE – MOTOR INSPECTION SHEET

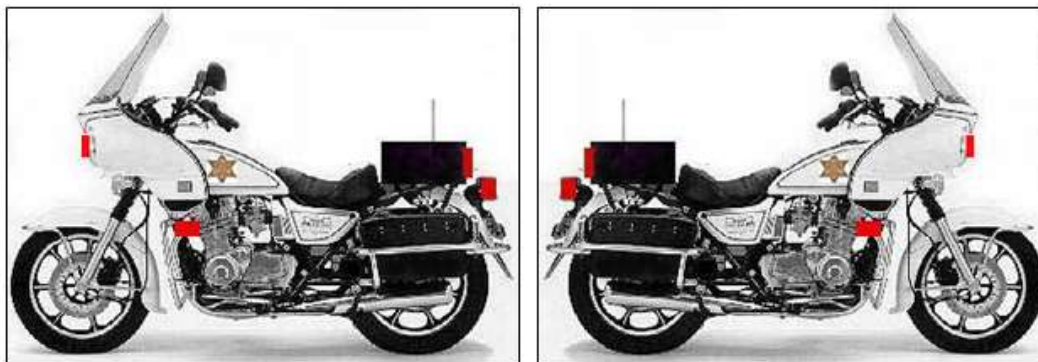
DATE: _____ VEHICLE #: _____
 RIDER: _____ W/C: _____
 FUEL START (CIRCLE): ¼ ½ ¾ Full Tank FUEL END: ¼ ½ ¾ Full Tank
 MILES END: _____ TOTAL MILES: _____
 MILES START: _____ SHIFT: _____

| SUPPLIES / MISC. EQUIPMENT | Y | N | MOTOR EQUIPMENT (Cont.) | Y | N |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Forms (CHP 180, 310 Form, Citations, etc.) | | | Clutch lever / cable | | |
| First Aid Kit | | | Windshield | | |
| Flashlight | | | Brakes | | |
| Secondary Weapons System (M4, MP5) | | | Front Forks / Suspension | | |
| MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATIONAL | | | Tires(not less 3/32") / Wheels | | |
| Headlight / Taillight | | | Transmission/Final Drive | | |
| Stoplight ___ Emergency Lighting ___ | | | Throttle (free travel) | | |
| Front: Rt turn signal ___ Lt turn signal ___ | | | Helmet(All components satisfactory) | | |
| Rear: Rt turn signal ___ Lt turn signal ___ | | | Horn / Siren | | |
| Fluid levels (Oil, Brake, Transmission, etc.) | | | Cracked or loose parts, fenders | | |

REMARKS: _____

UNIT #: _____ RIDER: _____ DATE: _____

MARK DAMAGED AREA(S)



REMARKS: _____

