



# ACTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

| DEPARTMENT MANUAL; P&P: Traffic   |   |                               |
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| POLICY & PROCEDURE # 5.08   | DATE OF ISSUE:<br>09/04/2019  | EFFECTIVE DATE:<br>09/11/2019 |
| SUBJECT: ESCORTING CIVILIAN VEHICLES                                    | ISSUING AUTHORITY: Chief Richard Burrows  |                               |
| REFERENCE(S): Massachusetts Police Accreditation<br>Commission # 61.3.3 | <input type="checkbox"/> NEW <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDS <input type="checkbox"/> RESCINDS |                               |

## I. POLICY

- A. When an officer comes in contact with a driver using a vehicle for emergency transport of a person who is injured, ill or has other medical needs, she/he may:  
**[61.3.3(b)]**
  1. If the emergency is not time sensitive, they will advise the driver to obey all traffic laws and proceed.
  2. If the emergency is time sensitive they will advise the driver to stop the transport while the officer arranges for emergency transportation.
- B. In extreme cases where it appears to the officer that any delay may result in death to the injured or ill person, the officer may place the victim and driver in the police vehicle and transport him/her according to Department policies. This shall be performed only in instances where there is a confirmed significant time delay of an emergency ambulance or an ambulance is unavailable. The Patrol Shift Supervisor must approve prior to any emergency transport, and the transport would be to the closest emergency medical facility which is Emerson Hospital in Concord, MA.
- C. If the decision to transport an injured or ill person is made, the driver of the private vehicle or a passenger in the vehicle may accompany the police officer in the police vehicle in order to render aid.
- D. Whenever there is an emergency escort or transport outlined in this section, the dispatcher shall notify all towns (Concord) that would be included in the route so that they may assist.
- E. For public safety purposes the Department will perform escorts utilizing enough cruisers/personnel as needed for oversized vehicles, hazardous or unusual cargo carriers. Depending on the resources needed these escorts may require hiring detail officers to perform them. Also, as a courtesy the Department will, whenever possible, perform escorts for funerals, parades, dignitaries, or public officials. Any supervisor may authorize the escorts outlined in this paragraph. All emergency lights

shall be illuminated during these escorts. These escorts are considered low speed events that do not jeopardize public safety. Any high speed escort of the events outlined in this paragraph is prohibited. **[61.3.3(a)]**

## **ESCORTING CIVILIAN VEHICLES INFORMATION**

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**History: Manual I, Section III.**