

**WINONA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NUMBER: 102-07 PAGES: 2**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: July 27, 2004**

---

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATION**

---

**1.0 PURPOSE:**

It is the purpose of this general order to establish policy and procedures for the operation of police vehicles in emergency situations by all officers of the Winona Police Department.

**2.0 POLICY:**

**2.1** It is the general policy of the Winona Police Department to pursue and apprehend all violators or suspected violators of the law with due regard for the protection, health, and safety of the public and officers. These same requisites govern officers of this department when responding to the scene of any emergency situation.

**2.2** The following situations may be considered emergency cases for the operation of a police vehicle in accordance with this general order:

**2.2.1** Officer needs assistance.

**2.2.2** Person calling for help.

**2.2.3** Report of an explosion.

**2.2.4** Report of a shooting or stabbing.

**2.2.5** Any case requiring the immediate and urgent presence of a police officer.

**3.0 OPERATION OF POLICE UNITS AS AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES:**

Every officer, when responding to an emergency call as defined in Section 2.2 of this general order, shall do so expeditiously. Because of the many variables involved, the speed at which the officer operates the police unit must be with full consideration of weather and road conditions, traffic and pedestrian movement, and the relative need for immediate action. It is also incumbent on the officer to comply with the sections of the Minnesota State Statutes governing the operation of an emergency vehicle.

**3.1** 169.03, Subd. 2 “The driver of any authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call, upon approaching a red or stop signal or any stop sign, shall slow down as necessary for safety, but may proceed cautiously

**WINONA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NUMBER: 102-07 PAGES: 2**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: July 27, 2004**

---

**SUBJECT: EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATION**

---

past such red or stop sign or signal after sounding siren and displaying red lights.”

**3.2** 169.03, Subd. 3 “The driver of any authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call, may enter against the run of traffic on any one-way street, or highway where there is authorized division of traffic, to facilitate traveling to the area in which an emergency has been reported...”

**3.3** 169.03, Subd. 5 “No driver of any authorized emergency vehicle shall assume any special privilege under this chapter except when such vehicle is operated in response to any emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law.”

**3.4** 169.17 “The speed limitations set forth in sections 169.14 to 169.17 do not apply to an authorized emergency vehicle responding to an emergency. Drivers of all emergency vehicles shall sound an audible signal by siren and display at least one lighted red light to the front, except that law enforcement vehicles or medical emergency vehicles shall sound an audible signal by siren *or* display at least one lighted red light to the front. This provision does not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of persons using the street, nor does it protect the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the consequences of a reckless disregard of the safety of others.”