

WINONA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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EFFECTIVE DATE: November 15, 2012

SUBJECT: Operation of Police vehicle without headlights or taillights

1.0 Purpose: To provide a uniform guideline for all department personnel to use when operating a department vehicle without headlights or taillights while functioning as a member of the Winona Police Department.

2.0 Policy

2.1 A peace officer may operate a motor vehicle or watercraft without lights:

2.1.1 If the vehicle or watercraft is owned, leased, or otherwise the property of a political subdivision, and

2.1.2 while in performance of official law enforcement duties, and

2.1.3 if the officer reasonably believes that operating the vehicle without lights is necessary under the circumstances to investigate a criminal violation or suspected criminal violation of state laws, rules, or ordinances.

2.2 A peace officer may not operate a vehicle without lights:

2.2.1 on an interstate highway,

2.2.2 at speeds greater than what is reasonable and prudent under existing weather, road, and traffic conditions,

2.2.3 faster than the posted speed limit,

2.2.4 while in active participant in pursuit of another vehicle.

3.0 Definitions:

3.1 Vehicle: a motor vehicle or watercraft owned, leased, or otherwise the property of the State of Minnesota or a political subdivision.

3.2 Lights: Refers to headlights, taillights, and navigational lighting as reference in Minnesota State Statute 84.87, 84.928, 169.48-169.65, and 86B.511