



Tulsa Police Department

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Policy # 110C

Effective Date 12/04/2007

Policy Name Traffic Collision Response Restrictions

Approved Date 09/19/2007

Approved by *Wendell Franklin, Chief of Police*

Previous Date 08/15/2003

PURPOSE OF CHANGE:

To update the policy format.

POLICY:

Weather conditions periodically cause large numbers of traffic collisions to occur within a relatively short period of time. Responding to all collisions during such periods depletes the number of available officers to a level insufficient for appropriate response to emergencies. Therefore, when weather conditions cause excessive calls for traffic collision investigations, Traffic Collision Response Restrictions shall be implemented.

SUMMARY: Procedures for implementing Traffic Collision Response Restrictions.

APPLIES TO: All police personnel

DEFINITIONS: None

PROCEDURES:

1. During periods of inclement weather, a Public Safety Communications (PSC) supervisor will notify a uniform division commander, shift commander, or the Staff Duty Officer if an excessive number of traffic collisions have been reported causing the number of available officers to drop to insufficient levels for appropriate response to emergencies.
2. When notified by PSC personnel, division commanders, or shift commanders will evaluate the situation, and if appropriate, advise PSC personnel to implement Traffic Collision Response Restrictions.
3. When inclement weather has already created driving conditions so hazardous that Traffic Collision Response Restrictions will soon be necessary, the Staff Duty Officer, a division commander, a shift commander, or designee may implement the restrictions in preparation for an anticipated depletion of available officers. They will monitor conditions and cancel Traffic Collision Response Restrictions when the conditions warrant.
4. If a citizen calls to have a traffic collision investigated during Traffic Collision Response Restrictions, call takers will determine whether one or more of the following conditions exists. If so, assign an officer to investigate the collision.
 - a. Fatality or injury.
 - b. Drunk driver.
 - c. Hit and run.
 - d. City owned vehicle.
5. If the conditions do not exist, inform the caller that an officer will not be assigned. Inform the caller that the drivers must exchange information as outlined in Procedure 7, and that if anyone refuses to provide required

information to call back and an officer will be assigned to assist with the exchange. The mere lack of insurance or a driver's license is not a refusal and an officer will not be assigned.

6. Officers who discover or are assigned a collision investigation during Traffic Collision Response Restrictions will, upon arrival, determine if one or more of the conditions from Procedure 4 are present.
7. If any of the conditions that are stated in Procedure 4 are present, investigate the collision using normal procedures. If conditions that are stated in Procedure 4 are not present, inform the drivers that, pursuant to state law, an officer will not investigate the collision. Inform the drivers that they must exchange the following information:
 - a. Name, address, and phone numbers of all drivers.
 - b. Driver license information.
 - c. The tag year, state, and number of each vehicle involved.
 - d. Insurance verification information.
 - e. The year, make, and model of each vehicle involved.
 - f. The name, address, and phone number of the registered owner of each vehicle involved.
8. Inform all drivers that they must complete an Operator's Traffic Collision Report Form and turn it in to the police department within ten days.

REGULATIONS:

1. Unless authorized by a supervisor, officers shall not take coffee or meal breaks (10-45 or 10-46) while Traffic Collision Response Restrictions are in effect.

REFERENCES:

CALEA 61.2.1, 61.2.2