



*Maryland-National Capital Park Police
Prince George's County Division*



DIVISION DIRECTIVE

TITLE DRIVER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (DIP)		PROCEDURE NUMBER PG418.1	
SECTION Operational Procedures	DISTRIBUTION A	ISSUE DATE 03/22/19	REVIEW DATE 05/01/21
REPLACES New Directive			
RELATED DIRECTIVES PG418.0	REFERENCES CALEA 41	AUTHORITY <i>S.R. Johnson</i> Chief Stanley R. Johnson	

I. PURPOSE

This directive establishes policy and procedural guidelines pertaining to experienced police officers (EPOs) hired by this Division, officers involved in numerous preventable vehicle accidents, and officers who have received six or more automated moving violations within a two year period.

II. POLICY

When operating a police vehicle, the safety of the public and the officer are foremost. Officers shall bear in mind that the use of emergency vehicle equipment only requests the right-of-way; it does not guarantee it. Officers must adhere to all state and local traffic laws when not responding to an emergency situation.

Each officer shall be individually responsible for the safety of the public he/she serves. These provisions shall not relieve the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property, nor shall these provisions protect the operator from the consequences of reckless disregard for the safety of others.

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III. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Police Vehicle**: Any vehicle owned or leased by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission **and** is registered with the State of Maryland as an emergency vehicle **and** is equipped with a siren **and** revolving or flashing red and/or blue overhead emergency lights and/or dash light and/or visor light and/or red or blue grill lights.
- B. **Preventable Vehicle Accident**: Any accident in which the driver failed to exercise every reasonable precaution to prevent the accident.
- C. **Automated Moving Violation**: Speed camera violations or red-light camera violations.
- D. **Remedial Driving Program**: A program, designed by a Master EVOC Instructor and provided for officers who are experiencing difficulties with everyday driving techniques. The program is designed to reinforce the techniques taught to the officer as a recruit in the academy.

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. Officers involved in a preventable vehicle accident will be required to attend the Park Police Remedial Driving Program at a departmentally approved driving course. The remedial driving course is designed to simulate normal driving expectations. Officers will be introduced to the course by a Park Police Master EVOC Instructor. The officer will be given detailed instructions on how to complete the course and will be given two “familiarization runs” before beginning qualification.
- B. Officers will be given nine qualification runs. Officers must successfully complete 4 out of the nine runs with no violations (cone strikes, bumps or touches) within the allotted time frame.
- C. Officers who fail to successfully complete the remedial driving course will be given a second attempt the next available day.
- D. Officers who are involved in 3 or more preventable vehicle accidents within a two year period will be required to complete 4-hour EVOC recertification with a Park Police Master EVOC Instructor and final approval from the Park Police Division Chief. EVOC Recertification consists of the following five courses, given to all academy recruits. Officers must successfully complete 4 out of 9 qualification runs with no violations (cone strikes, bumps or touches).

EVOC Recertification

- Y-Turn U-Turn – timed
- Emergency Turn Around – timed

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OF POLICE VEHICLES
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- Controlled Lane Change – timed
 - Skills – timed
 - Evasive – minimum speed required
- E. Failure to successfully complete the required remedial driving course or the required EVOG recertification may result in the removal of the officer from the vehicle take-home program at the discretion of the Park Police Division Chief.
- F. Officers who are assigned to a new type of vehicle (pick-up truck, sport utility vehicle, etc.) will be required to attend EVOG familiarization training with that vehicle at the next available date.
- G. Experienced police officers (EPOs) hired by this agency will be required to attend EVOG familiarization training with their issued departmental vehicle. Whenever possible, this training will take place prior to entering into the field training program.
- H. Officers receiving six or more automated moving violations within a two year period will be required to attend the remedial driving program. Additionally, the officer may be removed from the vehicle take-home program for a period not to exceed six months.

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