

DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER 00-2

OFFICE of the CHIEF OF POLICE
REPLACES/AMENDS: None

DATE: January 6, 2000

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS/SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT

I. PURPOSE.

To establish a method whereby the periodic analysis of traffic-related data and personal observations guide and influence the deployment of uniformed personnel to selected traffic enforcement activities. The summary objective of such detailed activity will be to minimize the number of vehicle accidents and the injuries attendant thereto.

II. DEFINITIONS.

Selective Enforcement - Traffic enforcement activities in which agency resources are committed to a particular location. Relevant factors shall include, but not be limited to: citizen complaints, calls for service, collision data, frequency and types of violations, and traffic volume.

III. GENERAL.

The supervisor of the Administrative Division, Investigations and Support Bureau, shall be responsible to provide a statistical analysis in regard to vehicle accidents and traffic enforcement activities to uniformed platoon commanders on a monthly basis. The platoon commanders, in turn, will then be responsible to review the data and direct that selective enforcement activities be undertaken.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS.

The annual statistical analysis of traffic-related data will address those variables which are feasible and practical to attain (e.g. location, time, weather, violation factors contributing to vehicle accidents, traffic flow (volume) studies prepared by the Clayton Public Works and St. Louis County Highway Departments, and the type, frequency, and location of moving violations). When possible, actual figures will be used in the analysis; however, should this be impractical, the Administrative Division may elect to employ statistical sampling to provide the necessary information to Field Operations Commanders.

Monthly statistical data provided to platoon commanders assigned to the Field Operations Bureau shall encompass computerized data generated by the Administrative Division and will cover vehicle accidents and traffic enforcement efforts only. Other sources of information, such as personal observations and citizen complaints may also be factored in to the analysis at the appropriate time.

The analytical review of both vehicle accident and summons data shall be directed to identifying those street intersections with the highest accident rates, and individual streets or roadways where violations of current traffic law appear to be a continuing problem.

A. Requests for Traffic Data Analysis

Requests for traffic related data may be initiated by any number of sources, both internally and externally. Such requests shall be forwarded to the supervisor of the Administrative Division who will fulfill all legitimate requests in the most timely manner possible, while concurrently adhering to prevailing legal requirements. Once requested statistical and analytical data has been assembled, the information will then be directed to the originating source.

B. Distribution of Analysis Data

Statistical data in regard to traffic collisions and moving violations will be distributed to the Commander of the Field Operations Bureau and subordinate commanders on a monthly basis or upon request. A more detailed analysis will be provided on an annual basis to support selective traffic enforcement evaluation efforts.

V. SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT.

The Police Department shall conduct selective traffic enforcement activities in accordance to the following:

A. Implementation of Selective Enforcement

Officers will be assigned to selective traffic enforcement details according to need, as identified through personal observation during routine patrol activities, statistical analysis of traffic/collision data, and citizen complaints. Traffic enforcement details shall be assigned by each individual officer's supervisor or commander and may vary according to location, time of day, and duration as circumstances require.

Enforcement tactics may include surveillance on selected intersections or streets, radar usage, and/or the deployment of the SMART speed monitor.

Selective enforcement activities will serve to compliment individual officer's observations and traffic enforcement actions during routine patrol and not serve as a replacement for same.

Should a problem be identified which does not fall within the purview of the department's authority or ability to rectify, the appropriate agency shall be contacted.

B. Evaluation of Selective Enforcement Program

Selective traffic enforcement details and the effectiveness of same will be reviewed by the Field Operations Bureau Command Staff on an annual basis. The evaluation will consist of a comparative review of statistical data provided by the Administrative Division, the results of which shall determine the frequency and potential locations of future deployments.

BY ORDER OF:

RICHARD T. MORRIS
Chief of Police

RTM:dld

CALEA Reference: 61.1.1