

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Policy Changes under the Comprehensive Crash Prevention Program

SEAT BELTS - All employees, citizens or arrestees occupying department vehicles will comply with NRS 484.641/484D.495 and wear seat belts while the vehicle is in motion. The only exemption to this rule is when the vehicle is traveling less than 15 miles per hour and the driver or passenger(s) is expecting to exit the vehicle and take immediate police action once the vehicle has stopped. The use of seat belt extenders is prohibited. Seat belts will be used when transporting children of any age in vehicles. The use of a D.O.T. approved child safety seat will be utilized in accordance with NRS 484.474/484B.157.

USE OF CELLULAR PHONE DEVICE – Texting, e-mailing, or use of a cellular phone device without a hands-free mechanism while driving is prohibited while a vehicle is in motion. This does not include use of the MDT for police business purposes.

1. Cellular device use while operating a Department vehicle (on or off-duty) shall be limited to the “hands free” option (i.e. earpiece, speaker phone or Bluetooth). Earpiece and Bluetooth devices will be black, silver, or brown in color. If the cellular device is not equipped with a “hands free” option, the employee will pull over to a location where they can safely use the cellular device.
2. The use of a cellular device earpiece should never be allowed to interfere with effectively monitoring the radio or being attentive to the sounds of traffic or citizens. Conversations should be brief and will not interfere with the safe operation of the vehicle.
3. While engaged in a priority response or vehicle pursuit, Department employees are prohibited from using cellular devices in any capacity.
4. Text messaging or e-mailing while driving is prohibited. This includes reading messages and checking messages at stop signals.
5. Personal communications on cellular telephones while engaged in enforcement activity should be conducted out of the view of the public when feasible, unless exigent circumstances exist.
6. On-duty personnel shall not wear a cellular telephone earpiece at any time if a radio earpiece is worn.

Employees using cellular devices while operating a Department vehicle shall use good judgment and discretion, constantly keeping in mind officer and public safety.

INTERSECTIONS - During both Code 2 and Code 3 operations, officers shall come to a stop before entering an intersection against the traffic control device (red light, flashing red light, stop sign, etc.), as well as before entering any blind intersection, or any intersection where hazards are present and other drivers cannot see oncoming lanes of traffic. If needed, the officer may cross the intersection in stages, treating each lane as a separate intersection. If entering an intersection with right of way, officers will slow and ensure that the intersection is clear before proceeding. If the vehicle is equipped with an Opticom light cycler, the officer will not assume the traffic signal has cycled and will ensure each lane of traffic has stopped before proceeding through the intersection.

EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS COURSE (EVOC):

EVOC is mandatory as follows:

- Recruits - Academy EVOC;
- POs - EVOC in each of the first three years of service;
- POs with more than three years of service - Annual web-based EVOC and, for uniformed first-responding officers, biennial EVOC recertification;
- FTOs with more than three years of service/Sergeants/Lieutenants - Annual web-based Supervisor EVOC and biennial EVOC recertification (non-uniformed sergeants and lieutenants are exempt from the biennial recertification);
- COs, Civilian Employees, PSRs, Cadets - Initial certification.

Officers in the FTEP program will be required to complete a successful check ride and a Code 3 check ride prior to graduation from FTEP.

Each sergeant will conduct an initial check ride and document the outcome of the check ride on all newly assigned officers who will be operating department vehicles, with an exception for new FTEP graduates, within the first week of assignment. The results of the check ride will be documented in the officer's UMLV training record.

Each sergeant will conduct a check ride and document the outcome of the check ride on all officers returning from an on-duty, at-fault collision. The results of the check ride will be documented in the officer's UMLV training record.

Each sergeant will conduct annual web-based emergency vehicle operations refresher training for all assigned officers who operate department vehicles, per the UMLV lesson plan created by the Training Section/EVOC.

FAILURE TO ATTEND OR CERTIFY DURING EVOC

Commissioned employees who fail to participate or certify in mandatory EVOC will be assigned duties that do not require the operation of an agency vehicle until they are properly certified. Regarding officers who are scheduled for recertification and fail to attend without proper notification, the EVOC section will immediately notify, in writing, the officer's chain of command that the employee has either failed to attend or certify.

Upon notification, the bureau/area commander will ensure that the officer immediately calls to reschedule and that the officer's agency driving privileges are suspended until the employee has successfully completed EVOC. Additionally, a Statement of Complaint will be filed against the officer, after the second missed attendance without proper notification, regarding the employee's inability to meet the essential requirements of a police officer. Employees, who are on light duty status or who have an active worker's compensation case and are not allowed to attend EVOC, per

their physician, are exempt from qualifying requirements until released back to full duty. Once released, employees will be required to recertify prior to operating a department vehicle.