



## Parking Enforcement

### .01 Policy

Discretion and safety are factors in all policing, and particularly in the matter of issuance of parking citations. While Police Officers are expected to aggressively enforce parking violations, they are also expected to be aware of certain conditions which affect citizens who reside in the Town, which places parking at a premium.

### .02 Terms

### .03 Governing Legislation and Reference

Governing Legislation:

Maryland Transportation Article, §21-1003(d).

Bladensburg Code, Chapter 112, Vehicles & Traffic.

Forms:

Parking Violation Notice (Form 684).

Void Notice (Form 685).

Warning Notice (Form 686).

Reference:

General Order 319, Impounds and Vehicles.

### .04 Procedure

#### A. Enforcement

##### **Police Officer Responsibility**

Priority violations involve those violations that concern the safety of the public, or are determined to be a priority by their impact upon the quality of life in the community. The following list will be considered priority violations that require continuous enforcement by officers:

- Park left wheels to curb;
- Park more than 12" from curb;
- Park blocking driveway;
- Park on private property;
- Park on sidewalk;
- Stand or park Less than 15-feet From hydrant;

- Stand or park Less Than 20-feet of a crosswalk at an intersection;
- Stand or park less Than 30-feet from stop or yield sign;
- Stand or park less Than 20-feet From driveway entrance to any fire station;
- Commercial vehicle residential zone;
- Reserved for Handicapped;
- Display of Illegal/ Altered Tags;
- Display of Expired Tags; or,
- No Tags Displayed.

Bladensburg Code lists numerous parking violations that are not classified by this procedure as priority in nature. This does not preclude personnel from taking action when these violations are encountered. For this reason personnel are required to familiarize themselves with the Town Code that pertains to parking violations.

##### **Handicapped Parking Enforcement:**

Enforcement of laws that protect the rights of persons with disabilities to full access to public and private property is essential. The Transportation Article and the Town Code provide for handicapped parking and the issuance of handicapped plates, placards or stickers in addition to the placing of handicapped parking signs at private residences. There are similar laws in every state and the District of Columbia. There will be a zero tolerance policy for violations of this section. Officers will issue parking citations only; no warnings. Before issuing a citation to a vehicle that appears to be in violation, officers shall:

- Determine if the vehicle has proper registration plates; and,
- Carefully inspect the front and rear windows and the front and rear dashboards to determine if handicapped permits are in those locations.

Some states have small handicapped stickers that are affixed to a regular

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registration plate. Officers observing out of state plates are required to visually check the registration plate for such stickers.

Parking, Standing, or Stopping in front of a curb ramp that is designated for use by individuals with disabilities is a violation of Maryland Transportation Article, Section 21-1003(d).

### B. Citations

Officers are accountable for Violation Notice books issued to them and shall not lend, borrow, or share them. Violation Notices will only be destroyed as provided for in this directive.

When issuing a Violation Notice, the defendant's copy will be placed in a prominent location on the subject vehicle. Completing the owner's information section before placing the Violation Notice on the Vehicle is not necessary.

Before submitting the Violation Notice to his or her supervisor, the officer shall complete the owner's information section on the remaining copies only for vehicles:

- That are unregistered;
- with out-of-state registration;
- With expired Maryland registration; or,

- With Maryland dealer or transporter registration.

The officer will retain his or her copy, and submit the remaining original and copy to his or her supervisor for review by the end of the tour of duty.

The supervisor shall review the Violation Notice to ensure that it has been completed correctly. Copies shall be forward to Records for processing.

### Voiding Parking Violation Notices

The procedure will only be used when notices are issued in error. It is the only voiding procedure.

The issuing officer shall complete a void notice and attach it to the Violation Notice. The officer shall then forward both notices through the chain of command to the Chief of Police.

### Owner Information Not Available

When a Violation Notice is issued that required owner information but such information is not available, an MVA printout will be attached to the copies and forwarded to Records. No further explanation is required. Void Notices will not be needed in these cases.

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HISTORY: Adopted October 1, 2013

This General Order supersedes all other orders and memoranda in conflict therewith.

Authority:



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