

121. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: TRAFFIC SAFETY OFFICER



RICHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY

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Authority: Chief Jay Henthorne

NOTE: This policy is for internal use only and does not enlarge an employee's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this policy, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this Department, and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the duties and expectations of the Traffic Safety Officer and establish the selection process for appointing officers to this special assignment.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of this Department to attempt to reduce the number of motor vehicle crashes in the City through targeted traffic enforcement and educational programs. Targeted enforcement of those traffic violations found to cause accidents will be conducted by the traffic safety officer in areas with high crash rates.

III. PROCEDURE

ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICERS

To be eligible for an assignment, an officer must:

- Have completed 1 year of service with the Richfield Police Department.
- Meet satisfactory performance standards established for their regular duty assignment.

1) Selection Process

- Eligible officer(s) need to submit a "Professional Development Assignment Request Form" to their immediate supervisor detailing their interest, qualifications and the assignment's applicability to their career goals and objectives.
- Immediate supervisor(s) must submit a recommendation/non-recommendation letter for the officer regarding the assignment.
- The Police Chief has the unilateral right to make, change, create or eliminate assignments.
- The Police Chief has sole discretion on determination of appointment including length of appointment and/or reappointment of the officer.

2) Assignment Duration

Officers assigned as the Traffic Safety Officer are not subject to a specific time period; however, the following factors will be considered throughout the duration of the assignment:

- Officer's performance/evaluations
- The needs of the Department
- The Police Chief's discretion.

DUTIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

The Traffic Safety Officer will be expected to perform traffic enforcement at a significantly high level.

The Traffic Safety Officer will work a flexible schedule to allow for targeted traffic enforcement during both morning and afternoon rush hours, DUI enforcement during the prime times for enforcement, and to accommodate requests for public presentations. The officer will schedule presentations as part of the officer's normal shift.

The officer's work schedule will be prepared in consultation with the traffic sergeant and forwarded to the Patrol Section Lieutenant. The Traffic Safety Officer's schedule must be posted 20 days in advance.

In addition, the general duties of the Traffic Safety Officer include:

- 1) Performing targeted traffic enforcement in areas of high crash rates, high traffic volume, and high visibility. Enforcement will be targeted towards violations that are hazardous and known to cause crashes.
- 2) Resolving traffic violation complaints received from citizens or other officers.
- 3) Investigating hit-and-run accidents when the originally assigned officer is unable to adequately pursue leads.
- 4) Giving presentations on traffic safety to driver education classes and community organizations.
- 5) Responding to emergency calls when necessary or when in proximity to the call location.
- 6) Performing patrol duties when needed due to sick calls on a patrol team.
- 7) Performing patrol duties due to the volume of calls for service being received while the officer is working.
- 8) Performing other duties as assigned.

The traffic safety officer will report to the traffic sergeant for primary assignments. When on patrol the traffic safety officer will be under the direction of the duty supervisor.

By Order Of:



Chief of Police