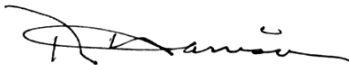


TEXARKANA POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

SUBJECT	Checkpoint Operations		
NUMBER	1107.02	EFFECTIVE DATE	March 18, 2011
Scheduled Review Date	August 30, 2018	ISSUE DATE	March 18, 2011
Date Reviewed	July 12, 2017	REVISION DATE	July 12, 2017
APPROVED BY		ALEAP Standards	7.20

I. Scope and Purpose

- A. The purpose of this policy is to institute specific guidelines that serve to govern the manner in which personnel of the Texarkana Police Department conduct traffic related checkpoints within our jurisdiction.

II. Policy

- A. It shall be the policy of the Texarkana Police Department to develop, publish and implement narrowly established guidelines that define the manner in which officers of this Agency conduct and manage all traffic related checkpoints.
- B. Officers of this Agency shall conduct traffic enforcement checkpoints in a safe and effective manner while ensuring the specific methods utilized during the operation are compliant with established State and Federal Law.
- C. Checkpoints conducted by the Agency are defined as the temporary stopping of motorists for the specific purpose of identifying those who are violating Arkansas traffic law associated with the licensing of drivers, mandated liability insurance coverage, occupant protection and impaired driving.
- D. Officers of the Agency are prohibited from utilizing checkpoints to facilitate deception or as a strategy for the purpose of drug interdiction or any other non-specific purpose.
- E. All members of the Department shall recognize and adhere to the guidelines and procedures set forth within this policy.

III. Procedure

- A. Department supervisors are authorized to develop, establish and implement traffic enforcement checkpoints. In an attempt to ensure the checkpoint operation remains safe and effective, the supervisor implementing the checkpoint shall:
1. Determine that the factors surrounding the relevant traffic volume, environmental conditions, roadway conditions and other factors inherent of the chosen location are favorable for the safe and effective execution of the checkpoint.

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2. Construct the checkpoint in such a manner that places the officers involved in the operation in a position that renders them highly visible to all approaching traffic.
3. Whenever practical, the supervisor in charge of the operation shall ensure approaching motorists are provided an advanced warning that otherwise indicates the presence of the checkpoint.
4. During sobriety checkpoint operations, the supervisor in charge shall ensure a proper safety zone is constructed. The constructed safety zone should be large enough in size to otherwise provide officers involved with the operation a reactionary gap between them and approaching traffic should a disoriented or ill-prepared driver enter into the area of operation in a manner contrary to the safety of the officers.
 - (a) In addition to the BAT mobile, the Agency maintains the necessary equipment to safely establish the area of operation that surrounds a sobriety checkpoint. This equipment is located within the Department's box truck and includes warning signs, orange traffic safety cones, security lighting and a self-contained power generator.
 - (b) In addition, the Agency maintains a secondary power generator and secondary security lighting that further enables the supervisor to construct safety zones in conjunction with a sufficient amount of lighting that enhances an officer's visibility.
5. Supervisors shall ensure adequate warning signs are clearly posted that give warning and announce the presence of a checkpoint.
 - (a) Supervisors are encouraged to place these warning signs at least three-hundred feet (300 ft) away from the constructed safety zone in areas where the signs are easily detected by motorists who are approaching from both directions.
6. Supervisors shall ensure a sufficient number of personnel are assigned to effectively conduct the checkpoint operation.
7. The supervisor responsible for the operation shall conduct a roll call session that serves as a briefing to the assigned officers and further addresses issues surrounding the purpose, procedures and individual assignments for the operation;
 - (a) During the roll call session, the supervisor shall ensure all officers are properly equipped for the assignment. In addition to the uniform designated for the operation, officers shall be equipped with an issued traffic safety vest, body armor and assigned flashlight.
8. The supervisor shall ensure an appropriate riding schedule is forwarded to Central Records & Communications. The riding schedule shall include a list of the officers and accompanied with the respective vehicle assignments and call numbers.
 - (a) The supervisor is responsible to ensure Central Records & Communications is made aware of the operation's location and the designated radio channel those involved in the operation will be utilizing.
9. The supervisor in charge of the operation shall ensure officers are briefed regarding the method by which motorists are chosen for a detention / compliance check. The method by which motorists are chosen for detention shall be random. As a guideline, supervisors should consider implementing the following random criteria used for the selection of motorist detention:
 - (a) The detention of all motorists traveling in the one direction;
 - (b) The detention of all motorists traveling in both directions;
 - (c) The detention of every third (3rd) motorist traveling in the one direction; or

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- (d) The detention of every third (3rd) motorist traveling in both directions.
10. The supervisor should assign an officer with the task of maintaining statistical data that documents the total number of motorists encountered during the operation as well as the number of violations acted upon during the operation.
 11. During the detention of every motorist, the respective officer initiating the detention shall rely upon the existing Agency violator contact guidelines and identify themselves while announcing the purpose of the checkpoint.
 12. All detentions shall be as brief as possible and conversation limited to enforcement activity. Should an officer detect or observe a violation of State law, the officer—at his own discretion—shall take the appropriate enforcement action.
 13. Upon conclusion of the operation, the supervisor shall prepare a Checkpoint Report which shall be forwarded to the Patrol Commander where it will be maintained on file. The Checkpoint Report should contain the following information:
 - (a) The time, date and location of the operation;
 - (b) The total number of vehicles that passed through the checkpoint;
 - (c) The total number of motorists that were detained as well as the average time of each motorist's delay;
 - (d) Predetermined criteria used to select motorist detention;
 - (e) The total number of enforcement actions taken and the types of enforcement action; and
 - (f) Unusual incidents relating to the operation.

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