




Clayton County Police Department PROCEDURES

Subject TRAFFIC SAFETY ROAD CHECKS		Procedure # D43	
	Effective 06/06/2019	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended (See below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rescinds	Total Pages 5

I. POLICY

- A. The Clayton County Police Department will conduct periodic traffic safety Road Checks as a means to ensure the safety of Clayton County residents. Only supervisors are authorized to initiate Road Checks. The supervisor will have a programmatic reason for setting up the Road Check. Road Checks will only be implemented to ensure roadway safety. The Road Checks will be conducted in compliance with applicable state and federal law. Furthermore, Road Checks will be conducted in a manner that will be of minimal inconvenience to the motorists affected.
- B. Traffic safety Road Checks provide the Department with a means to protect the citizens of Clayton County and to monitor and check driver's licenses, driver condition, insurance, vehicle registrations, vehicle equipment, and various other requirements of the Georgia State Motor Vehicle and Traffic Code. The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the Department with guidelines when they establish Road Checks.

II. TYPES OF ROAD CHECKS

The Clayton County Police Department will utilize the following types of Road Checks:

- A. License, Insurance and Seat Belt Requirement Road Checks

These Road Checks are deployed as a general procedure to monitor the motoring public's compliance with motor vehicle laws pertaining to driver's licenses, insurance, seat belt safety, vehicle registration, driver condition, vehicle equipment, and various other vehicle violations.

B. DUI Road Checks

These Road Checks are deployed to act as a general deterrent to prevent motorists from operating their vehicles while DUI, and to detect and apprehend drivers who are DUI. Though the primary purpose of a DUI Road Check is DUI deterrence and apprehension, officers at these locations will also enforce the provisions noted in Section A above.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Supervisor Approval

1. Only a Sergeant or above can authorize and supervise a Road Check. The purpose of the Road Check is to ensure roadway safety. To implement a Road Check, the supervisor will ensure that all the appropriate requirements are met, to include:
 - a. Ensure that there is adequate manpower to safely and efficiently conduct the Road Check and that screening officers have the necessary training and experience to qualify them to make an initial determination of which motorist should be given field tests for intoxication.
 - b. Designate a specific location where the Road Check will be conducted.
 - c. The supervisor shall ensure that the location is in an area where the motorists will have good visibility of the Road Check (approximately 500 feet in both directions).
 - d. The supervisor shall ensure that the Road Check is conducted at a location that provides sufficient room to conduct roadside investigations without affecting the safe flow of traffic on the roadway.
 - e. The supervisor must ensure that all vehicles are stopped rather than random stops.
 - f. The supervisor must ensure that the delay to motorists must be minimal.
2. The supervisor's primary function is to supervise the Road Check.

3. The supervisor will only assist with the screening process if all officers are committed, and if a physical arrest is to be made assign a patrol officer.
4. The supervisor can issue citations if he/she can adequately supervise the Road Check.

B. Personnel

1. The traffic volume will in most cases determine the number of personnel needed for the traffic safety check. At a minimum:
 - a. Officers will be needed to screen motorists in the roadway. Only officers with the appropriate training and experience will be deployed as screeners.
 - b. Officers will be needed to conduct follow-up investigations of motorists whom the screeners have developed articulable suspicion or probable cause to detain.
 - c. If possible, at least one additional officer whose responsibility is to initiate a traffic stop of a motorist who violates state law while in the vicinity of the Road Check and/or refuses to stop at the Road Check.

C. Suspension of the Traffic Safety Road Check

Safety is the primary consideration in conducting a Road Check. Conditions at the Road Check may change. The flow of traffic may increase, the officers at the location may become involved in multiple investigations, inclement weather may arrive, or an exigent circumstance might develop at the location. Supervisors may suspend a Road Check as necessary to minimize inconvenience to the public or when other circumstances indicate a need to do so.

D. Equipment

1. At a minimum, officers will, during daylight hours:
 - a. Have a marked patrol vehicle with emergency equipment activated at the Road Check location.
 - b. Wear a traffic safety vest, and/or any other equipment necessary for the safe direction and control of traffic.
 - c. Deploy reflective traffic cones, if available, indicating the stopping point for motorists.

2. Road Checks require more equipment at night than during daylight. During the hours of darkness the following equipment will be utilized, in addition to the items above:
 - a. Officers will utilize flashlights.
 - b. Officers may deploy flares, if available.
 - c. Activate alley lights and spotlights as necessary to illuminate the safety check location.

IV. JOINT ROAD CHECKS

Supervisors are encouraged to coordinate Road Checks with adjacent precincts and law enforcement agencies.

V. ROAD CHECK LOG & DOCUMENTATION

- A. All sworn supervisors shall complete a *Road Check Log* for each Road Check implemented. All applicable data fields shall be completed.

See *Appendix A* of this procedure to view the *Road Check Log* authorized by the Chief of Police for use by supervisors when documenting Road Checks.

1. All mandatory data fields must be completed. They initially appear in the color orange. Once the mandatory data fields are completed, they will change to the color white.
2. Certain data fields contain grey text (instructions). Once those data fields are used, the grey text is automatically omitted.
3. Supervisors will advise radio of the location where the traffic safety road check is occurring (6104). The supervisor will then request a case number in reference to the traffic safety road check.

- B. *Road Check Log* Submission Procedures

Upon completion, but before the end of their tour of duty or the work day the Road Check was conducted, supervisors shall submit the *Road Check Log* for filing using the following web address:

<http://ccpd2.claytoncountyga.gov/?subtopic=records>

All submitted *Road Check Logs* shall be submitted to and maintained by Records. They will be accessible and searchable by the case number obtained from the supervisor while on the traffic safety road check.

C. In addition to the field reporting procedures outlined in standard operating procedure *D9: Field Reporting*, all officers who participated in a Road Check are required to include the following information in all reports and citations generated as a result of the Road Check:

1. Name & rank of the on-scene Road Check supervisor
2. Corresponding traffic safety road check case number
3. Primary purpose for road check

The narratives of all reports shall begin with this information. The remarks section on all citations shall include this information.

VI. CANCELLATIONS

A. This procedure amends and supersedes the following standard operating procedure:

D43: Traffic Safety Road Checks, dated May 2, 2014.