



CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER

TRAFFIC DIRECTION & CONTROL

GENERAL ORDER: 09.04

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CALEA STANDARD: 61.3.2

NCLEA STANDARD: 6.12

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 26, 2026

ACTION: Amends general order dated October 1, 2022.

REVIEW DATE:

09.04.0 **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this general order is to establish policy and procedure to assist officers in their duties pertaining to traffic direction and control.

09.04.1 **POLICY**

It shall be the policy of the Concord Police Department, that while providing traffic direction and control, to maintain or restore the safe and efficient movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The department shall carry out its traffic control responsibilities by providing and managing appropriate officers and resources adequate to deal with reasonable expectations concerning the need for traffic control services.

09.04.2 **DEFINITIONS**

A. MANUAL TRAFFIC DIRECTION AND CONTROL

The actual physical presence of officers who give instructions using uniform signals and gestures to drivers and pedestrians to control traffic flow.

B. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

Any apparatus intended for temporary deployment to assist the safe and efficient movement and control of vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic, to include moveable barricades and portable signs.

C. TRAFFIC DIRECTION AND CONTROL

This includes all functions, procedures, apparatus, markings, etc. designed to promote and ensure the safe and efficient movement of vehicles and pedestrians.

D. UNIFORM HAND SIGNALS

Officers shall use an open hand, palm out sign to indicate "STOP". To start traffic from a stopped position, officers shall point towards the first stopped vehicle. Once the driver's attention is gained, use the other hand to motion the driver to proceed.

09.04.3 **MANUAL TRAFFIC DIRECTION AND CONTROL**

A. Officers at all times shall give due consideration to their own safety while carrying out manual traffic direction and control activities. Officers shall position themselves

so that they can be seen clearly by approaching traffic, usually in the center of an intersection or street.

- B. Officers conducting manual traffic direction and control shall wear the full uniform as directed by department policy. Any officer directing traffic, or in the roadway controlling traffic, shall wear the reflective gear provided by the department (vest or jacket).
- C. Officers shall employ uniform hand signals to enhance driver and pedestrian recognition and response to their direction.
- D. A flashlight may be used to signal traffic to a halt. Flashlight cones may be used at night to improve visibility of the signals to affected motorists. To stop traffic, slowly swing the beam of the light across the path of oncoming traffic so that the beam of the light strikes the pavement. After the driver has stopped, uniform hand signals may be given in the usual manner with the headlights of the vehicle providing illumination.
- E. If it becomes necessary to manipulate the normal light cycle, either due to a light malfunction or traffic issue, notify the Concord Communications Center so the appropriate department shall be notified.
- F. When practicable, officers shall position their vehicle, with emergency lights activated, in such a manner so as to provide a greater warning to on-coming traffic.
- G. Situations that may require numerous points of traffic direction for a temporary period (e.g. power outage) shall be governed by such factors as traffic-volume, absence or malfunction of existing traffic signals, and weather conditions. The on-duty field supervisor shall be responsible for determining the points of traffic control.

09.04.4 **TRAFFIC CONTROL AT COLLISION SCENES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES**

- A. Officers responding to the scene of a traffic collision or an emergency situation shall immediately assess the need for emergency medical assistance.
- B. As soon as practicable, the responding officer shall notify communications of existing conditions and request assistance from other agencies or other officers as needed.
- C. As soon as practicable, an officer shall assume responsibility of traffic direction, shall wear the reflective gear provided by the department and control until relief officers are available, following procedures set forth in this general order.

09.04.5 **TRAFFIC CONTROL FOR ADVERSE ROAD AND WEATHER CONDITIONS**

- A. Upon discovering an adverse road or weather condition, officers shall contact communications and have the appropriate agencies and coworkers notified for the purpose of correcting the condition.

- B. Officers shall provide traffic direction and control services and scene protection in the vicinity of adverse road and weather conditions, as appropriate.
- C. Temporary traffic control devices may be deployed in support of traffic direction and control services with approval of the field supervisor.


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CHIEF OF POLICE