

 Kinston Police Department	<u>POLICY: Vehicle Escorts</u>						<u>POLICY #:</u> 400-7
	<u>NCLEA Standards:</u>						
	<u>CALEA Standards: 61.3.3</u>						
	<u>NCLM Standards:</u>						Effective Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised	Revision Dates:	01/01/21	09/01/22	04/10/25			07-01-2019
Approval: Chief of Police							

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for vehicle escorts conducted by the department.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Vehicle Escort: A police escort, also known as a law enforcement escort, is a feature offered by most law enforcement agencies to assist in transporting VIPs or other important individuals.
- B. Funeral Escort: Two or more vehicles accompanying the remains of a deceased person, or traveling to the church, chapel, or other location at which the funeral services are to be held, in which the lead vehicle is either a State or local law enforcement vehicle, other vehicle designated by a law enforcement officer or the funeral director, or the lead vehicle displays a flashing amber or purple light, sign, pennant, flag, or other insignia furnished by a funeral home indicating a funeral procession.

III. POLICY (CALEA 61.3.3)

- A. Officers shall not initiate an *emergency vehicle* escort without first receiving clearance from the on-duty Shift Supervisor. Kinston Police Department personnel shall not provide escorts for emergency vehicles under normal circumstances. Exceptions may include: the emergency equipment on an emergency vehicle is malfunctioning; the driver of an emergency vehicle is not familiar with the area and requests assistance to the destination.
- B. Requests for *non-emergency escorts* should be made in advance and directed to the Major of the Operations Division for consideration on a case-by-case basis. Types of non-emergency escorts provided by the Kinston Police Department include: parades; oversized loads or equipment; and special events. When a request for a non-emergency escort is approved, the Major of the Operations Division or a designated supervisor shall plan and oversee the escort. The Major of the Operations Division or the designee shall assign personnel as necessary to provide the escort and provide any other traffic control functions necessary to complete the escort. Factors to be considered when planning and conducting an escort include: type of escort; route to be taken; speed and length of escort; and expected traffic conditions.

C. Kinston Police Department vehicles shall not be used to provide emergency escorts for civilian vehicles. If practical, the patient or victim should be transferred to the Lenoir County Emergency Medical Service (EMS) unit. The driver of the civilian vehicle should be directed to precede at normal speed in compliance with all traffic regulations.

D. Funeral Escorts

1. Kinston Police Department personnel shall not provide funeral escorts unless authorized by the Chief of Police or designee. If the Chief of Police or designee authorizes a funeral escort to be conducted, officers and/or sentinels shall complete the following:

- a. Officers and/or sentinels leading funeral escorts shall follow all traffic laws including traffic signals, direction of travel, and speed limits. When approaching and/or stopped at an intersection where the officer and/or sentinels leading funeral escort has a red light, the officer and/or sentinels shall turn off the activated warning lights unless the intersection is being controlled by other Law Enforcement Officers or Firefighter.