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| MESA POLICE Department Policy Manual | <h1>Command Vehicle</h1> | DPM 1.8.45 Effective 07/03/2012 |
| Approved by: Chief of Police | Chapter: Vehicles & Facilities | Page: 1 of 3 |

1. PURPOSE

This policy provides Mesa Police Department (MPD) members guidelines for the operation of the command vehicle.

2. AUTHORIZED USE

- A. The command vehicle is used in furtherance of the City of Mesa's (COM) public safety goals.
- B. The command vehicle may be used for emergency operations, special events, training, and other operations as authorized by the Chief of Police or designee.
- C. The command vehicle will be assigned to the Officer of Operations Assistant Chief or designee.

3. GENERAL OPERATION

- A. The command vehicle will be operated in strict compliance with all traffic laws.
- B. Due to the specialized nature of the command vehicle and the equipment assigned to it, only an authorized command vehicle operator will deploy the command vehicle.
- C. Throughout any deployment an authorized operator will remain with the vehicle and oversee equipment usage.
- D. In the event of long-term deployments, a shift-change schedule for operators will be developed as needed.
- E. Operators deploying the command vehicle will enter the following information into the command vehicle deployment book:
 1. Document the date and time of deployment.
 2. Type of activity.
 3. Case number if applicable.
 4. Date and time returned to quarters.
 5. Conduct a visual inspection of the vehicle prior to using it. The inspection is designed to note any damage to the vehicle and to ensure the vehicle appears to be in proper working condition.
 6. Note damage to the vehicle or assigned equipment in the command vehicle deployment book and bring it to the immediate attention of the Homeland Security Sergeant.
 7. Note any needed supplies in the command vehicle deployment book.
- F. The command vehicle is not a designated emergency vehicle. Do not become involved in police pursuits or operate Code-3.

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- G. Ensure that the vehicle is fueled and ready for operation when the vehicle is returned to Metro Division.

4. DEPLOYING/SECURING COMMAND VEHICLE

- A. The command vehicle will only be deployed/secured by a command vehicle operator who has successfully completed all training related to command vehicle operations.
- B. Set-up and take-down of the command vehicle will be accomplished through the use of an established checklist with specific attention given to the following areas:
1. An authorized command vehicle operator will be assigned to the vehicle throughout its deployment.
 2. The operator is responsible for ensuring the vehicle is located a safe distance from the emergency scene.
 3. The operator is responsible for ensuring there are no overhead obstructions or power lines that would interfere with telescopic mast operations or would create a hazard if it were raised during an operation.
 4. The masts are not to be raised within 50 feet of any electrical wires.
 5. Before moving the vehicle from a deployment scene, ensure all equipment is secured, masts are lowered and stowed in transport position, and slide-outs are closed and locked.
 6. A safety officer shall be used whenever backing the command vehicle. The safety officer will be a position outside of the vehicle to direct the driver and point out any obstacles.
 7. No prisoners will be brought inside the command vehicle.

5. AUTHORITY TO DEPLOY

- A. Obtain authorization to deploy the command vehicle from a sworn supervisor.
1. Communications maintains a list of authorized operators for the command van and will contact an on-duty operator when the vehicle is requested.
 2. If no on-duty operator is available, an on-duty Lieutenant must authorize callout of an off-duty operator.

6. AUTHORIZED COMMAND VEHICLE OPERATOR

- A. To drive the command vehicle, a member must:
1. Have authorization from the Officer of Operations Assistant Chief or designee.
 2. Have a valid Arizona driver's license.

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3. Complete authorized training prior to operating the command vehicle.
4. Conduct refresher training on an annual basis.

7. MAINTENANCE

- A. The command vehicle operator is responsible for the condition of the command vehicle during the vehicle's deployment.
- B. The Office of Operations Assistant Chief will assign the routine care and maintenance as well as stocking of required supplies related to the command vehicle to a Department member.