

OPD - 21.7

DEPARTMENTAL GENERAL ORDER

OLIVETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Index as:

Pace

Radar/ Laser Units

SPEED LIMIT ENFORCEMENT

I. PURPOSE:

A. It is the purpose of this General Order to establish different means and techniques for officers to enforce the speed limits.

B. Officers may use any of the following enforcement techniques to counter speeding violations within the City of Olivette.

II. PACE:

The officer shall maintain a constant speed with the violator, neither gaining nor losing distance between the police vehicle and the violator's vehicle. The distance traveled should be adequate enough to obtain an accurate measurement.

III. RADAR/LASER:

A. The officer may use Department owned speed-measuring devices in either moving or stationary modes as is applicable to the specific unit in use.

1. The Department currently has the following speed measuring devices in service:

- a. Stalker brand, XLR LIDAR, handheld laser unit,
- b. Stalker brand handheld radar unit,
- c. Stalker brand, Dual antennae moving/stationary radar units mounted in patrol vehicles,
- d. Monitor Systems Prodigy 23L Pacesetter radar trailer,
- f. Radarsign TC-400 radar speed sign.

OPD - 21.7

B. Only those officers who have received instruction from radar instructors trained to the standards of the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, either during recruit training, in-service or at off-site programs, may operate the laser or radar equipment for which they have been trained.

C. Radar units will be tested for accuracy before and after use with the tuning fork(s) assigned to the specific radar unit, as well as with any internal calibration performed by the unit itself. The tuning forks are assigned to each unit by manufacturer.

D. Radar operators will use their discretion when deploying the systems. Factors affecting an officer's decision to use a Radar/Lidar system include, but are not limited to:

1. The systems are line of sight instruments and are affected by weather, terrain and traffic conditions.
2. Heavy rain, snow and fog will diminish the capability of the units.
3. Large curves in the road or hills will diminish the capability of the units.
4. A large volume of traffic can make it difficult to distinguish between which vehicle is speeding when utilizing a radar unit. A laser system eliminates this issue.

E. Radar units will be calibrated annually by an authorized service provider.

F. If the radar unit (or tuning fork) is not calibrated properly, or malfunctions in any way, a memorandum will be written by the officer and forwarded to the shift commander. The radar unit will be inspected and arranged for its shipment to a factory authorized service center for repairs.

G. The records on the calibration and maintenance of all radar/laser units as well as the tuning forks assigned to each unit will be maintained in the records room.

This General Order supersedes all prior directives and orders inconsistent therewith.

BY ORDER OF:

Signature on File

Beth M. Andreski

Chief of Police

Effective Date: 1/11/2010

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