

## **19.00.050 SPECIALIZED VEHICLES (CALEA 41.1.3)**

All Department vehicles shall be used in compliance with City and Department rules and regulations, standard operating procedures for specialty units, specific rules as implemented by the Department's Section Commanders, and/or bargaining unit contract.

### **Unmarked Vehicles**

The Department utilizes unmarked vehicles for special enforcement details such as DUI enforcement. Use of unmarked vehicles for police operations is at the discretion of the Chief of Police or designee.

Unmarked vehicles used for enforcement purposes, such as DUI enforcement or other types of special enforcement operations where it is likely that the officer will respond to emergency calls or conduct traffic stops, will be equipped with emergency lights and siren mounted inconspicuously on the vehicle. Use of unmarked enforcement vehicles must be authorized by an on-duty supervisor or above.

Decisions regarding the safe operation of unmarked vehicles are the sole responsibility of the operator. The operator must possess a current and valid WA State driver's license and attend an EVOC course. Operators of unmarked enforcement vehicles, shall comply with all appropriate State traffic laws and policy, procedure, rules and regulations of the Department.

The Fleet Maintenance Manager and the Traffic Division Supervisors shall be responsible for ensuring that the vehicle is adequately maintained for its stated purposes/uses. Refer to Vehicle Inspection sheet for equipment contained in vehicle.

### **Motorcycles**

The primary function of the officers assigned to ride a police motorcycle is traffic enforcement and safety. The use of these motorcycles, and the conditions they will be utilized are as follows:

- ❖ The Department Motorcycle Enforcement vehicles will be utilized in situations requiring the enforcement of state and local traffic regulations. The vehicle can also be used during special events for traffic/parking enforcement, traffic/crowd control or other traffic motor section business.
- ❖ Motorcycles will be used for traffic enforcement, traffic education and safety, special events and for special traffic control functions as assigned by the Traffic Section Commander or a Traffic Supervisor.

Decisions regarding the safe operation of the vehicle, including during inclement weather, are the sole responsibility of the operator. The operator must possess a current and valid WA State driver's license with an unlimited motorcycle endorsement, attend and successfully complete the Bellevue Police Department Motorcycle Operation/E.V.O.C. training. This vehicle is allowed to participate in vehicle pursuits to a limited extent per department policy.

The Fleet Maintenance Manager and the Traffic Division Supervisors shall be responsible for ensuring that the vehicle is adequately maintained. The police motorcycle is equipped by Fleet Maintenance. Fleet maintains a list of equipment installed on the motorcycle.

Additional information regarding motorcycle enforcement operations and procedures may be found in the Motor Officers Manual.

### **Bicycles**

Bicycles will be provided by the Department and equipped with front and rear lights, and other accessories deemed necessary. The bicycles will be marked with the word "Police." A list of approved accessories will be maintained by the Patrol Major or designee.

All officers authorized to use a Police Bicycle will successfully complete a Department approved training course.

Each officer authorized and assigned to use a Police Bicycle will be responsible for the condition and maintenance of their assigned bicycle including any approved accessories.

Supervisory approval is required to operate any department bicycle. Police Bicycles will only be used to assist with traffic control when a Patrol car is unavailable.

### **Mobile Command Center**

The Department operates a regional asset Command Center vehicle. BPD use of the vehicle for mobile command post operations or other suitable purpose may be authorized by any BPD command personnel. Requests for use by other regional agencies will be coordinated through the BPD SWAT commander. The SWAT Commander shall be responsible for ensuring that the vehicle is properly stored and ready for deployment. The City of Bellevue Fleet Maintenance Manager shall be responsible for routine mechanical maintenance and repair of the vehicle. Operators of the mobile command vehicle will complete basic familiarization training prior to operating the vehicle. A list of equipment stored in and on the vehicle shall be kept with the vehicle.

### **Special Weapons and Tactical (SWAT) Team Vehicles (SWAT SUV and SWAT F-350 Pick-up Truck)**

These vehicles are maintained in partnership by the Fleet Maintenance Manager and the Bellevue Police SWAT Team Commander. Their primary purpose is to support the Department's SWAT Team during training and call outs.

Any SWAT Team member can authorize the use of SWAT vehicles for any legitimate police department or SWAT related business. If this person is not in a leadership position on the team, a SWAT Team Leader or patrol supervisor must be notified of the usage. Any Command rank officer of the police department may authorize usage of these vehicles. Operators of the SWAT Team SUV or F-350 must have received basic EVOC training.

The overall care and maintenance of these vehicles will be overseen by the Fleet Maintenance Manager and SWAT Team Commander to ensure operational readiness at all times.

No specialized equipment is kept in or on the vehicles other than two standard utility ladders. Specialized equipment is loaded before missions and training exercises and removed when the mission is complete.

### **Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team Armored Vehicle**

The Fleet Maintenance Manager and the Bellevue Police SWAT Team commander shall be responsible for ensuring that the armored vehicle is adequately maintained for its stated purposes/uses and ready for deployment at all times. The Bellevue Police Department SWAT Team armored vehicle may be utilized in situations requiring the use of an armored vehicle for the primary purpose of rescuing and/or protecting officers and/or citizens during high-risk or critical type incidents. Its deployment is limited to roadways and passageways that are accessible by normal vehicular traffic.

The armored vehicle can also be utilized as an equipment transport/storage vehicle, when appropriate. Examples of approved usage include: using the vehicle as stationary or mobile protection for officers while rescuing downed persons or while conducting a hostage rescue mission; using the vehicle to deploy and protect personnel at a location during a warrant service mission; using the vehicle to transport personnel or equipment in furtherance of police department business; using the vehicle to transport SWAT personnel or equipment to a training location.

Any SWAT Team member can use the armored vehicle for any legitimate police department or SWAT-related business. If the SWAT Team member is not in a leadership position on the team, an on-duty patrol supervisor must be notified of the usage. A minimum of two SWAT Team members must be present for the vehicle to be utilized on any mission involving rescuing downed persons, hostage rescue or any other high risk or critical type incident. This requirement can be waived and the armored vehicle deployed with the permission of the on-duty supervisor, but only if the exigency of the incident warrants the immediate deployment of the vehicle to protect officers or citizens. The supervisor must weigh the risk of deployment versus the response time of two SWAT team members when making this decision. The patrol officer assigned to operate the armored vehicle must have completed the armored vehicle familiarization course listed below.

Decisions regarding the safety of the operation of the vehicle are primarily the responsibility of the vehicle operator. However, due to the high-risk nature involving the use of the armored vehicle, ALL other SWAT Team members present will also be held responsible for safe operation of the vehicle and its appropriate usage. The vehicle operator and the other SWAT Team members present must possess a current and valid WA State driver's license to operate the vehicle. They must also have attended the one-hour Armored Vehicle Familiarization Course and the four-hour Tactical Use of the Armored Vehicle Course developed by the BPD SWAT Team.

The armored vehicle will not be used in vehicular pursuits.

There may be specialized weapons and/or equipment stored in this vehicle. Refer to the Lenco Bearcat equipment inventory list for equipment contained in vehicle. These items shall be inventoried each quarter by the Team Leader, or by his/her designee in accordance with BPD Policy, Section 20.00.060 Specialized Equipment (CALEA 17.5.3 & 46.1.8)

### **Bomb Squad Vehicles and Disposal Trailer**

The Fleet Maintenance Manager and members of the Bomb Squad shall be responsible for ensuring that the bomb squad vehicles and disposal trailer are adequately maintained for their stated purposes/uses and ready for deployment at all times.

The bomb squad vehicles and disposal trailer may be utilized in situations requiring the use of a special vehicle to transport bomb detection/analysis/disarming equipment to a scene for bomb technician use, or to remove potentially explosive devices from a scene for disposal. The vehicle and trailer are limited to roadways and passageways that are accessible by normal vehicular traffic.

- ❖ The bomb squad vehicles can also be utilized for equipment storage/transport. The following equipment is routinely stored in the bomb squad vehicle and inventoried monthly in association with training or deployment:
  - Bomb Suits, Diagnostic Equipment, Hand Tools, Disruptors, Hook and Line Kit (Refer to Bomb Truck Equipment List)
- ❖ Examples of approved uses of these vehicles include but are not limited to:
- ❖ Transport personnel/equipment to calls for service
- ❖ Transport personnel/equipment to training sites
- ❖ Any bomb squad team member may use the vehicles for any legitimate police department or bomb squad-related business. If responding to a call outside the City, the technician will ensure that a Patrol supervisor is notified. A minimum of two bomb technicians are required on any mission involving an actual or suspected device.
- ❖ Decisions regarding the safety of the operation of the vehicles are primarily the responsibility of the vehicle operator. However, due to the high-risk nature involving the use of these vehicles, all other

squad members present will also be held responsible for safe operation of the vehicles and their appropriate usage. Vehicle operators must possess a valid WA State driver's license and participate in a vehicle and vehicle equipment familiarization course developed by bomb squad members.

- ❖ The bomb squad vehicle will not be used in vehicular pursuits.

## **K9 Police Vehicles**

The officers assigned to operate one of the 4 police K9 vehicles are assigned as K9 Officers, K9 Training Master, or K9 Supervisor. The Fleet Maintenance Manager and the K9 Supervisor shall be responsible for ensuring that K9 vehicles are adequately maintained for their stated purposes/uses. Bellevue Police K9 vehicles are marked police vehicles that are retrofitted specifically to transport police dogs. K9 vehicles may be used for patrol duties such as: response to emergency calls, traffic enforcement, or any other patrol function as outlined in the K9 Unit Manual.

Decisions regarding the safe operation of the K9 vehicle are the sole responsibility of the operator. The operator must possess a current and valid WA State driver's license and have successfully completed the EVOC training required by the WSCJTC Basic Academy, or Equivalency Academy and any in-service EVOC training provided by the Bellevue Police Department. K9 vehicles are allowed to participate in vehicular pursuits to a limited extent as outlined in the K9 Unit Manual and per department policy.

The rear passenger compartment of K9 vehicles will be specially constructed to safely transport police dogs. Vehicles should also have equipment to control and maintain dogs in the field, such as: water, drinking bowls, K9 first aid kit, tracking harness and leashes. Refer to K9 vehicle inspection sheet for equipment contained in vehicle.

## **Investigations/Evidence Processing Vehicle**

To reduce the number of Department vehicles responding to and from major investigations and to have the processing materials/equipment available in one vehicle, the Department's Investigations vehicle is available to personnel who are assigned to process crime and accident scenes. This will assist in processing scenes in an expeditious and efficient manner. This vehicle is not for emergency driving and is not authorized to make vehicle stops or engage in vehicle pursuits.

The Investigations vehicle is assigned to the Investigations Division, but can be utilized by either the Traffic Unit or the Patrol Division if needed for a scene they are assigned to investigate and process.

The supervisor, or assigned investigator who has oversight of the scene investigation, will decide if it is needed and coordinate access to the vehicle with the Investigations Sergeant if investigators outside the Investigations Division are utilizing it.

Any officer driving the vehicle must possess a valid WA operator's license and have completed a basic EVOC driving course from the CJTC Law Enforcement Academy or in-service training.

An Investigations Supervisor will designate an employee who will be responsible for the upkeep, maintenance, and restocking of necessary supplies. After the vehicle is used, investigators who were utilizing it will determine if additional stock is needed to replenish what was used and coordinate with the designated detective responsible for the vehicle to ensure items are replaced.

A list of equipment and scene processing supplies that will be maintained in the vehicle can be found affixed to the overhead storage bin. Refer to Vehicle Equipment Index for equipment contained in vehicle.

## **Parking Enforcement Vehicles**

The Department's Parking Enforcement vehicles should be utilized in situations requiring the enforcement of parking regulations and abandoned vehicle complaints. The vehicle can also be used during special events for traffic/parking enforcement, traffic control and deploying personnel as needed, or other traffic division business.

The Traffic Section Commander or Traffic Supervisor may authorize any commissioned Bellevue Police Officer or Police Support Officer use of the vehicle for parking enforcement or other department related business.

Decisions regarding the safe operation of the vehicle are the sole responsibility of the operator. The operator must possess a current and valid WA State driver's license and attend the safe vehicle-handling course. This vehicle is not to be used in a patrol capacity. Volunteers assigned to limited parking enforcement may also use a parking enforcement vehicle with proper training.

The Fleet Maintenance Manager and the Traffic Division Supervisors shall be responsible for ensuring that the vehicle is adequately maintained. Refer to Vehicle Inspection sheet for equipment contained in vehicle.

### **T3 Motion**

The T3 Motion Law Enforcement vehicle is a clean energy transportation system appropriate for community policing, specialized patrol, and urban enforcement. The T3 is equipped with front and rear lights, a siren and is marked with the words "Bellevue Police". The T3 contains no added equipment.

The T3 Motion is assigned to the Downtown Policing Unit for use in patrol areas where officers need to respond quickly, but pedestrian traffic and the layout of the area would impede larger vehicles. Officers using the T3 shall have successfully completed approved training on use and maintenance of the T3 prior to using the vehicle. The Downtown Policing Unit Corporal, or their designee, shall be responsible for the condition and maintenance of the vehicle, as well as training officers on T3 operation. Officers authorized to use the T3 shall be issued an approved safety helmet, which is required to be worn during the operation of the T3.

At the beginning of each shift officers assigned to T3 patrol shall ensure the T3 is in good working order and all lighting (headlight, taillight, brake light, emergency lights) and siren are functioning properly. If any deficiencies are discovered, the officer shall immediately place the vehicle out of service and notify the Downtown Unit supervisor. Officers shall also ensure the T3 is equipped with the necessary forms and equipment for their specific assignment.

The Downtown Policing Unit Sergeant may authorize officers from outside the Downtown Policing Unit to utilize the vehicle provided the following criteria are met:

- a) A demonstrated and articulated need for the vehicle outside the Downtown area or for use in special events.
- b) The officer operating the T3 has received approved T3 training.
- c) The officer is wearing an approved safety helmet during operation of the T3.

The T3 shall not be operated in inclement weather as this could be damaging to the T3 electronics.