ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	APPROVED BY: David R. Hines COLONEL DAVID R. HINES SHERIFF

SUBJECT: TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT	SERIES: 62
	NUMBER: 1
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/1/1996
	REVISION DATE: 3/24/2015

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS: CALEA: 1.1.4, 61.1.2, 61.1.3, 61.1.4, 61.1.5, 61.1.6, 61.1.7, 61.1.8, 61.1.9, 61.1.11, 61.1.12, 82.2.4; VLEPSC: ADM.02.04, OPR.02.02, OPR.07.01, OPR.07.02, OPR.07.03, OPR.07.10.

POLICY

Objectives of traffic law enforcement are to reduce traffic crashes and injuries, and to facilitate the safe and expeditious flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic through voluntary compliance with traffic regulations. The Hanover County Sheriff's Office seeks to achieve this objective through a combination of education and enforcement.

The Sheriff's Office seeks to educate the public regarding traffic regulations through programs aimed at exposing specific problems, and by publishing traffic crash and injury statistics.

Enforcement action will be taken upon detection of an illegal and potentially hazardous act, without regard for such factors as attitude, intent, or excuse. Enforcement action may consist of a warning, summons, or arrest.

Traffic enforcement is one of the many tasks performed by officers, but for violators it is frequently an emotionally traumatic experience. In many cases, this is the only contact that a person has with law enforcement. Officers should strive to make each contact educational and to leave the violators with the impression that the officer has performed a necessary task in a professional manner.

The Sheriff's Office conducts statistical and visual surveys to determine by location, time and day of week which violations are causing crashes. Based upon the information obtained, personnel are deployed to take enforcement action. In addition, when complaints are received regarding a specific traffic problem in a particular area, personnel are assigned to investigate and take appropriate enforcement action.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this administrative order is to prescribe procedures for traffic law enforcement, preventive patrol, proactive enforcement, and relationships with motorists, pedestrians, and the courts.

18. Seat Belt and Child Safety Enforcement

Every year hundreds of citizens within the Commonwealth are fatally injured in traffic crashes. Many of these deaths could be avoided with the use of seat belts and approved child safety seats. In an effort to reduce the number of injuries and/or fatalities, educational programs and uniform enforcement methods concerning occupant protection devices within the county should be applied by all officers.

A. Enforcement

1) Officers observing the violation of a primary offense should make every effort to identify the proper use of occupant safety devices as prescribed by 46.2-1094 and 46.2-1095 before initiating the traffic stop. Enforcement action may consist of a warning or summons as listed in paragraph 1.

2) The Commander of Uniform Operations will approve an annual Traffic Safety Initiative, which will include directed patrols and checkpoints aimed at seat belt enforcement in conjunction with the office's participation in the statewide "Click It or Ticket" Campaign.

B. Educational Programs

1) The Captain of Patrol Operations is responsible for coordinating child safety seat inspections throughout the county with the appropriate Shift Commander, during the calendar year. These inspections will be offered as a free educational service to the public.

2) In addition to publicized events, citizens may request assistance with a child safety seat inspection or installation by scheduling an appointment with a certified officer.

3) Whether conducted at a public event or on an individual basis, the certified officer conducting the inspection or installation will complete a Virginia Department of Health Safety Seat Checklist. The checklist will be completed for each child seat installation or inspection and forwarded to the designated Patrol Shift Commander.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	APPROVED BY: David R. Hines COLONEL DAVID R. HINES SHERIFF

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF POLICE VEHICLES	SERIES: 41
	NUMBER: 2
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/1/1996
	REVISION DATE: 9/30/2014

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS: CALEA: 41.2.1, 41.3.1, 41.3.3; VLEPSC: OPR.01.01, OPR.01.02, OPR.01.03, OPR.01.04, OPR.01.06.

POLICY

All Hanover County Sheriff's Office personnel who operate police vehicles will comply with safe driving procedures outlined herein with particular attention paid to procedures for responding to calls for police service or engaging in pursuits. Emergency warning devices shall be used to a minimum, but consistent with both legal requirements and the safe performance of the police function and the safety of the public and Sheriff's Office personnel.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures governing the operation of police vehicles, with special attention to emergency situations and pursuits.

11. Occupant safety restraining devices (seat belts) shall be worn by all occupants during vehicle operation. However, VA Code 46.2-1094(2) outlines exceptions for law enforcement. Exceptions to this may include:

A. While transporting persons in custody or traveling in circumstances which render the wearing of such safety belt system impractical.

B. On approach to any scene of an incident or service call where the officer believes a rapid departure from the vehicle may be required, the officer may

release the seat belt. Seatbelts will be worn at any time the vehicle is being operated under emergency conditions.

C. When the wearing of safety belt restraint is prohibited due to medical or physical impairment. Written waiver from a medical doctor must be on file with the Sheriff's Office.

D. Agency personnel driving motor vehicles to enforce laws governing motor vehicle parking.