



DEPARTMENTAL REGULATIONS
CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER 9
EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/2010
REVISION: DATE: 12/2010
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I.D. NUMBER: 448

Chief of Police

SEAT BELT USAGE

A. POLICY STATEMENT

The Concord Police Department is concerned for the safety of City employees and citizens who operate or are passengers in motor vehicles which are used for City or department purposes.

B. GENERAL

The purpose of this General Order is to avoid or negate injury to employees and the public as a result of an on-duty traffic collision.

The Concord Police Department recognizes there are times when an officer will remove his/her seatbelt to expedite their exit from the vehicle when responding to priority calls. This policy does not negate objective reasonableness and recognizes officer discretion as it relates to seatbelt usage and officer safety. This policy's goal is to ensure an officer has only negligible amounts of time in a patrol car when he/she are not restrained by a seatbelt. It is not meant to override an officer's decision to remove their seatbelt to maintain officer safety.

C. POLICY

1. It is the policy of the Concord Police Department that all employees driving or riding in a City vehicle shall wear the vehicle's installed seat belt.
2. This regulation shall also apply to reserve officers, volunteers, and all non-custodial passengers while in any City vehicle.
3. When custodial passengers are transported in City vehicles that are equipped with front and rear seat restraints, the prisoner shall wear the restraint device.
4. Pursuant to Section 27360 of the CVC, when an employee of the Concord Police Department transports a child, the employee shall ensure that the child is secured in the appropriate child passenger restraint system.
5. Vehicles that do not have functional seat belts shall be immediately taken to the Corporation Yard for repair prior to any further utilization.
 - .1 Vehicles with an inoperable driver's side seat belt should be towed to the Corporation Yard.
 - .2 Vehicles with inoperable passenger seat belt(s) should be driven to the Corporation Yard.

D. EXCEPTIONS

1. This regulation does not apply to vehicles not designed for seat belts, such as motorcycles.

2. This regulation shall not apply to Traffic personnel operating the parking enforcement scooters while they are actually engaged in parking enforcement activities, and not in transit.
3. Exceptions may be granted by the appropriate division commander for unusual special circumstances, generally consistent with Section A.