



IR10

EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATION

IR10

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POLICY

1. The Delta Police Department shall ensure that members complete emergency vehicle operation training, as required by B.C. *Provincial Policing Standards* (BCPPS), and only members who have done so may exercise the exemptions applicable to driving emergency vehicles granted under the *Motor Vehicle Act* (MVA) and *Emergency Vehicle Driving Regulation* (EVDR).
2. Members are required to explain their reasoning and provide justification for their driving decisions and actions in exercising exemptions for emergency vehicle driving granted under MVA s. 122 and EVDR.
3. A member responding to an incident and operating an emergency vehicle must consider all of the circumstances and the nature of the emergency in deciding whether and how to drive when responding.

REASON FOR POLICY

4. To provide direction and limitations on the operation of Department vehicles as emergency vehicles.
5. To ensure compliance with the MVA, EVDR, and BCPPS.



RELATED POLICIES

IR11 – Police Vehicle Pursuit

PROCEDURES

Privileges & Responsibilities

6. Members may exercise the following privileges under MVA s. 122, while operating a police vehicle, if they reasonably believe that the risk of harm to persons in doing so is less than the risk of harm in not doing so:
 - a) exceed the speed limit;
 - b) proceed past a red traffic control signal or stop sign without stopping;
 - c) disregard rules and traffic control devices governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions; and
 - d) stop or stand.
7. Members operating a police vehicle as above are still required to:
 - a) use extreme caution and slow to a reasonably safe speed when approaching and entering an intersection;
 - b) come to a complete stop prior to passing a red traffic control signal or stop sign, and proceed only if other vehicles approaching the intersection have stopped or are at a sufficiently safe distance that the member may proceed without risk of collision; and
 - c) only exceed the speed limit so far as they can safely control the vehicle.
8. The first member(s) to arrive at the scene shall assess the situation and notify Dispatch and other attending members if exercising the privileges under MVA s. 122 is still required.

Use of Emergency Lights & Sirens

9. Members exercising the privileges under MVA s. 122 must activate their vehicle's emergency lights and sirens, unless the member:



- a) is engaging in a stop or stand, in which case only lights must be activated;
 - b) reasonably believes the risk of harm to persons in activating either the lights or sirens outweighs the risks in not operating them; or
 - c) reasonably believes the vehicle can be safely operated without doing so.
10. Members may activate their vehicle's emergency lights at any time to identify their vehicle:
- a) if stopped, in order to minimize traffic hazards; or
 - b) to a person who the member observes or suspects to be in violation of the MVA.
11. Members shall avoid using alternating flashing headlights while stationary.

*Revised Dates:
16 March 2012
26 April 2018
16 July 2020