

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICY TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

January 1, 2003

Policy Number 6.09

POLICE ESCORT

I. POLICY

Officers providing escort with police vehicles shall abide by the laws of the City and County of Honolulu and State of Hawaii and the directives of the Honolulu Police Department.

II. ON-DUTY POLICE ESCORTS

On-duty escorts may be authorized for the following:

- A. Visiting heads of state when security is necessary.

The breaking of intersections during these escorts shall be directed by the Specialized Services Division with the approval of the Chief of Police;
- B. Funeral ceremonies only as specified in Policy, FUNERAL HONORS AND CEREMONIES FOR POLICE PERSONNEL;
- C. Parades or motorcades that are beneficial to the community at large;
- D. The movement of property for national security purposes and the provision of classified escorts for military movements on public roads or highways;
- E. The transport of donated human organs to the Honolulu International Airport.

The Organ Donor Center of Hawaii will contact the lieutenant in charge or a supervisor in the Communications Division who will dispatch a patrol unit to the hospital indicated. The patrol unit shall provide a nonemergency escort for the vehicle transporting the organ to the airport; and

- F. Facilitating the movement of traffic and promoting the public's safety during incidents (e.g., motor vehicle collision, hazardous material response, medical emergency, hostage situation, etc.) in which a police escort could be beneficial.
 - 1. Escorting of unauthorized emergency vehicles (e.g., an individual transporting a woman in labor to a hospital) is an extremely dangerous practice and should be avoided unless absolutely necessary. In medical emergencies, the patient should be transported by ambulance whenever possible.
 - 2. A supervisor (sergeant or higher rank) will be notified and determine whether or not to authorize the escort.
 - 3. The Communications Division will be notified by the escorting officer of the purpose and route taken before such movement.

III. SPECIAL DUTY ESCORTS

- A. Special duty escorts may be provided for the following purposes:
 - 1. The movement of oversized and/or overweight loads only with proper permits from the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu and/or the Highways Division, Department of Transportation, State of Hawaii.

All traffic laws shall be obeyed. Officers assigned to these escorts should not "break" intersections and shall ensure that all conditions on the street usage permit are enforced.

2. Races

Vehicular and pedestrian traffic will be allowed to enter intersections with the red light signal during race conditions only under the direction of a police officer. Street usage permits that specifically state these conditions and police escorts are required in these situations. The attending police officer will use discretionary powers in all such cases.

3. Funerals

Funeral processions shall be limited to a total of six vehicles, excluding the police vehicle(s).

Although the traffic code permits a funeral procession to enter an intersection on a red light signal, the department's policy shall be to obey all traffic signals except under extenuating circumstances.

B. Permits

Officers hired for special duty escorts shall personally inspect the applicable permits before movement is begun.

IV. UNAUTHORIZED ESCORTS

A. Escorts shall not be provided for the following purposes:

1. Promoting commercial products for private enterprise;
2. Weddings;
3. Dignitaries, executives, and/or individuals representing private enterprise agencies;
4. Other events deemed not in the public interest or that are incompatible with the dignity or integrity of the department; and
5. Events using volunteer escorts.

January 1, 2003

Policy Number 6.09
Page 4

- B. The Chief of Police or a designee may waive any of the above prohibitions if he or she determines that an on-duty or special duty escort is needed.

BOISSE P. CORREA
Chief of Police

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board for one week

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