

Title: GFPD 2 - Policy on the use of Vehicle Check Points

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| Document Owner: Joseph Boisclair (Chief of Police) | Date Created: 11/12/2015 |
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I. Purpose:

The purpose of this procedure is to establish guidelines for the proper use of vehicle checkpoints by the members of this agency.

II. Method:

A. Checkpoints are utilized as follows.

1. Checkpoints will be utilized only when preplanned by a supervisor and shall be used for the primary purpose of detecting driver's license, inspections, vehicle registrations and intoxication violations.

2. All checkpoints shall be used in compliance with section IV.

III. Authorization Responsibility:

A. Checkpoints will be established only with the authorization of a supervisor who shall insure that the procedural guidelines of this policy are followed.

IV. Procedures:

A. Checkpoints:

1. Site Selection - Must be an area which will minimize any risk to the public and/or police. Checkpoint sites should be moved periodically to prevent evasion. Checkpoints should be well lighted.

2. Staffing - Minimum of three uniformed officers and marked vehicles are required.

3. Adequate Warning - Includes the use of marked police vehicles, checkpoint warning signs, flares and/or traffic cones will be set out alerting traffic to the checkpoint area in a safe manner. **All members will wear reflective vests.** A police vehicle shall proceed through the area to evaluate the conditions prior to proceeding with the actual checkpoint.

4. Selection of Vehicles - Shall be done by the use of a non-discriminatory system so that every vehicle shall be checked or directed to the checkpoint area, unless modified by the onsite supervisor. An example would be; every third or tenth vehicle. The standard used will be noted in the original blotter entry by the checkpoint supervisor.

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5. Initial Interview - To minimize the inconvenience to the public and maximize the number of drivers checked, a brief and courteous statement should be used to explain the nature of the checkpoint. When handouts are available, and approved by the Chief of Police, they may be given to drivers. Members are not to distribute materials not approved by the Chief of Police or his designee.

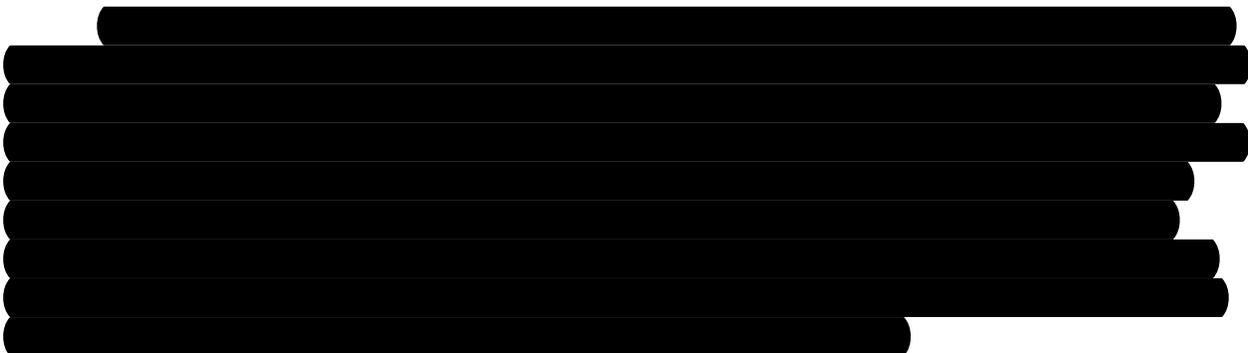
In order to comply with legal requirements, the initial interview must be brief and specific. Therefore, interviewing members shall be instructed to limit their conversation. Members may use the following if deemed appropriate.

- a) Politely greet the motorist and explain the purpose of the checkpoint.
- b) Ask if the operator has consumed any alcohol:
- c) Thank the motorist for his or her cooperation.

This does not preclude any further conversation that is initiated by the operator, however, members should politely instruct the motorist to move along when this causes traffic congestion.

Vehicles will be pulled over for further inquiry only in cases where reasonable suspicion is developed that a driver is impaired or intoxicated, or where the driver has committed a violation of law. Even when there is an indication that a driver has consumed alcohol, absent reasonable suspicion of impairment, the driver must be allowed to continue.

Once a vehicle is pulled over for further inquiry, normal enforcement procedures are to be followed. Investigation of possible intoxication should be completed with consideration toward appearance, mannerism, speech and other indicators of intoxication. Standardized psychomotor tests should be conducted whenever feasible. The investigation should be thorough enough to sufficiently establish probable cause.



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7. Relieving traffic congestion - If traffic becomes congested, the supervisor should stop activity for the affected direction of travel and instruct the members to wave traffic through. Any such action will be considered a change in the system of stops and will be recorded by the supervisor.

8. A checkpoint may be set up at intersections within the City. These checkpoints may be manned by a minimum of three officers. Members must remember that officer safety and citizen safety is a primary importance. When the area is not well lighted, members may utilize the spot lights on their respective vehicles to lighten the area. Reflective vests must be worn at all times while on the checkpoint.

Authority:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Boisclair". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph Boisclair
Chief of Police