

POLICE DEPARTMENT HANOVER PARK, ILLINOIS



DIRECTIVE: 366-T

REFERENCE STANDARDS: 61.1.6d

SUBJECT: Roadside Safety Checks

POLICY: It is the policy of the Hanover Park Police Department to promote the safety for those using the public highways and provide a deterrent for those who violate statutes contained in the Illinois Vehicle Code.

Roadside Safety Checks will be used to identify persons: who are operating motor vehicles with defective equipment; who are driving without a valid drivers license, a valid registration, or proof of insurance; or who are driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this order is to establish policy and procedures to be followed by patrol personnel when conducting Roadside Safety Checks.

I. PROCEDURE

- A. The Illinois Vehicle Code shall be enforced in conjunction with the authority granted by statute and current case law.
- B. Any procedure used by members of the Hanover Park Police Department in Roadside Safety Checks shall follow these considerations and priorities:
 - 1. Enhancement of officer and motorist safety.
 - 2. Avoidance of undue inconvenience to the public.
 - 3. The deterrent effect created by the Roadside Safety Check.

II. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

- A. The Traffic Division commander and the Chief of Police shall approve a written operation plan containing:

POLICE OPERATIONS MANUAL

Dir.#: 366-T

Issued: 11/02/2006

Eff: 11/02/2006

Rev:

VILLAGE OF HANOVER PARK

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1. Identity of the officer in charge.
 2. The location of the check, which should be a high violation and/or incident area.
 3. The time and date of the specific check.
 4. The officers assigned, including support personnel.
 5. The sequence of vehicles to be stopped. Officer discretion may not be used to adjust the plan, with the exception of the officer in charge, who must make written record of any change and the reason for the change.
 6. Diagram of Roadside Safety checkpoint.
 7. Press release (Roadside Safety checkpoint to be publicized prior to initiation).
 8. Copy of appropriate letters to affected residents, businesses and motorists.
 9. A briefing of all personnel involved in the checkpoint must be conducted by the officer in charge prior to establishing the checkpoint.
- B. The location to be used must fulfill the following minimum requirements:
1. Selected for its visibility to oncoming motorists.
 2. Ample room for police and subject vehicles.
 3. Secondary screening area.
 4. Freedom from driveways, alleys and intersecting streets.
 5. Well drained all weather roadway and parking
 6. Freedom from obvious hazards on/in the street.
 7. Adequate advance warning signs and sufficient lighting to insure motorist and officer safety.
 8. Reduced opportunity for avoiding the check site.
 9. The detail supervisor, personnel and equipment must be in place prior to the first vehicle being checked.
- C. At the scene of the Roadside Safety Check, traffic will be directed by using proper procedures. Roadside Safety Checks shall only be conducted when sufficient manpower is available to reasonably insure:

1. Officer and motorist safety.
 2. Efficient operation of the detail.
 3. Uniformed officers and marked vehicles are in sufficient quantity and visible to show the presence of lawful authority.
- D. A field supervisor shall be present on the scene to guide the operation. Should it be necessary for the supervisor to leave, an acting supervisor will be appointed.
- E. Next to alertness, the most important personal quality required of the officer at the Roadside Safety Check is courteousness. Public approval and acceptance depends on this aspect.

III. EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- A. The following equipment may be utilized:
1. Marked police vehicles.
 2. Flashlights with extra batteries.
 3. Traffic safety vests.
 4. Parking and Local Ordinance citations, traffic citations, traffic envelopes, I-Bonds.
 5. Camera(s), film, extra disks, film log.
 6. Necessary signs, barricades, cones and flares.
 7. Evidence packaging materials, evidence tape and evidence/property sheets.
 8. Counters.
 9. Various reports, logs and forms as needed.
 10. Personal Breath Testers (PBT).
 11. Video car and tapes/disks.

IV. CHECK PROCEDURE

- A. The check procedure should be thorough, however, it should cause only minimum delay to the motorist.

- B. A driver's license that appears valid on its face should be considered as valid. A driver's license check via LEADS should not be made unless there is a violation, or the officer has grounds to believe otherwise.
- C. If a violation exists, the officer should direct the motorist to the secondary screening area where appropriate citations will be written. If the officers suspects the motorist to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, a second officer will move the motorist's vehicle. The supervisor will not allow traffic to accumulate, as traffic congestion defeats the purpose of the operation, and therefore, will not interfere with commuter rush hour traffic.
- D, Any police department that assists the Hanover Park Police Department in a Roadside Safety Check will be expected to abide by the same policy as members of the Hanover Park Police Department.

V. REPORTS

- A. The supervisor in charge of the Roadside Safety Check will complete and submit a written report to the Chief of Police, through the chain of command, within five (5) days after the conclusion of the detail.