

	POLICY & PROCEDURE	SERIES # 1141	PAGE 1 OF 2
	SUBJECT PROVIDING POLICE ESCORT SERVICE		EFFECTIVE DATE 1/27/95
			OVERSIGHT Operations
	DISTRIBUTION ALL MANUALS	AMENDS/SUPERSEDES/CANCELS P&P #1141 dated 4/8/86, and Chief's Directive 1141.1 dated 9/21/93	

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for providing law enforcement escort services under scheduled and emergency conditions.

II. POLICY:

The Hampton Police Division recognizes that there are legitimate requests for police escort services to ensure that safe, orderly and efficient movement of traffic or expedite delivery of special items. Requests for these services will be honored to the extent practical, consistent with the need to ensure that the act of escorting itself does not create unacceptable risk to the public.

III. PROCEDURE:

A. Scheduled escorts will require advance planning to include trip routes, establishment of point traffic control locations, escort speed, multi-unit coordination and any other appropriate measures to ensure safe passage.

B. Emergency escort service shall include the following procedures:

1. Emergency vehicles should not be escorted by officers except under special circumstances approved by the supervisor.
2. Emergency escort of private vehicles is to be avoided whenever possible. The preferred alternative is to arrange the transfer of persons from the private vehicle into an appropriate emergency vehicle.
3. If in the opinion of the officer it is impossible or impractical to arrange the transfer of a person from a private vehicle requesting escort, and if a passenger in said vehicle appears to be in an immediate life-threatening situation, the officer may, with specific approval of a supervisor, initiate an escort of the private vehicle.
 - a. Regardless of the extent of threat to that person receiving emergency escort, officers will conduct escorts in such a manner that would not constitute unacceptable risk to the public.

APPROVED:
CHIEF OF POLICE



- b. Officers conducting emergency escort services shall activate the patrol vehicle's emergency equipment; however, they shall not proceed through traffic control devices without first stopping and ensuring that both vehicles can safely proceed.
- C. The Communications Supervisor or Road Supervisor will approve all requests for escorts and will ensure appropriate units are dispatched. Under no circumstances will private escort services be authorized to conduct escorts within Hampton city limits.

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