

	POLICY & PROCEDURE	SERIES # 1507	PAGE 1 OF 2
	SUBJECT		EFFECTIVE DATE
	USE OF SEAT BELTS		08/09/2000
			OVERSIGHT CHIEF'S OFFICE
DISTRIBUTION ALL MANUALS	AMENDS/SUPERSEDES/CANCELS P&P #1507 dated 01/01/86		

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish requirements for all City employees to wear safety belts when operating City vehicles or a privately owned vehicle on official City business in compliance with state law.

II. POLICY:

It is the policy that all Hampton Police Division employees who drive or occupy the front seat of a city vehicle or a privately owned vehicle on official business will wear their seat belt when operating the vehicle.

III. PROCEDURE:

Division employees occupying the front seat of a vehicle will wear the appropriate safety belt system as required in State Code. Exceptions to the Code and this seat belt policy will be limited to the following circumstances:

- A. Any officer actively engaged in transporting prisoners or traveling in circumstances that would render the wearing of a seat belt impractical. A supervisor must be notified as soon as possible.
- B. Any employee who has a physical condition or other bonafide medical reason, determined in writing by a licensed physician and presented to the employee's supervisor, which will make the wearing of the seat belt impractical.
- C. By prior approval from the Chief of Police when circumstances dictate the wearing of a seat belt would be impractical.
- D. All persons being transported while in police custody will be restrained by the seat belt system installed in the police vehicle and will be placed in the vehicle in a manner to prevent positional asphyxia. Should the use of seat belts not be practical because of circumstances such as disability or injury the transporting officer's supervisor will be notified prior to transport.

APPROVED:
CHIEF OF POLICE



- E. Children being transported in Division vehicles will be placed in restraining systems as required by state law. Child safety seats can be accessed from the Wythe and Chesapeake Field Offices to meet the needs of smaller children.

