



GENERAL ORDER

Emergency Lighting/Auditory Identifier

Purpose and Scope

This order provides guidelines and responsibilities regarding the activation of emergency lighting/auditory identifier that may be used for identification purposes during an event or activity in which specific situations dictate the need to identify the Probation vehicle as a law enforcement vehicle.

Affected Personnel

All sworn employees authorized to activate Emergency Vehicle Lights/Auditory Identifier

Authority

Vehicle Code §§ 165(b), 25252, 25252.5, 25258(b), 25259(a), 25259(c)

Effective Date

August 21, 2020

I. Guidelines for Use of Emergency Lights/Auditory Identifier

- A. Officers may activate the vehicle's emergency lights and/or auditory identifier only when necessary for officer safety or to identify the probation vehicle as a law enforcement vehicle to other law enforcement agencies, subjects and the community while engaged in probation related activities (e.g., subject contacts, perimeter, traffic control, etc.).
- B. Officers shall, at all times, drive defensively and with due consideration for the safety of persons and property.
- C. Officers shall be familiar with and adhere to Vehicle Code (VC) section 21056, which states exemption from certain provisions of the code "does not relieve the driver of a vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway."
- D. Officers shall not have exemption under VC section 21055, unless the officer has completed required training.
- E. Officers shall observe the basic speed law at all times. VC section 22350 states, "no person shall drive a vehicle upon a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable or prudent having due regard for the weather, visibility, the traffic on,

and the surface and width, of the highway, and in no event at a speed which endangers the safety of persons or property.”

- F. Officers shall not use emergency lights and/or auditory identification to initiate a vehicle stop or assist in high speed vehicle pursuits.

II. Training

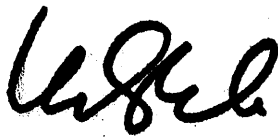
- A. Officers shall complete a four (4) hour classroom training course regarding the operation of emergency vehicles that is certified by the Standards and Training for Corrections Division of the Board of State and Community Corrections before operating an emergency vehicle with a blue warning light.
- B. Probation’s Training Unit will provide the four (4) hour training.

Attachments

N/A

Amends/Replaces Previous Procedure

Sacramento County Probation Department Policy and Procedure: Vehicles – Emergency Lighting, August 2008.

Authorized By  **Date** 8/2/2020
Lee Seale, Chief Probation Officer