



ANDERSON COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

GO - 225

## GENERAL ORDERS

## TRAFFIC DIRECTION AND CONTROL

### PURPOSE:

The Sheriff's Office limits traffic direction and control activities, primarily concentrating its efforts on school crossings and special events that generate unusually high levels of traffic. Non-sworn crossing guards primarily perform traffic direction at school crossings. Special event traffic control is performed by sworn deputies and non-sworn cadets. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SC DOT) and municipal authorities are responsible for conducting traffic surveys to determine locations for point traffic control.

### REFLECTIVE VESTS:

All sworn and non-sworn personnel who may be engaged in manual traffic direction and control are to be trained in uniform signals and gestures to enhance driver and pedestrian recognition of such signals. All personnel directing traffic are to wear a high-visibility, reflective vest or foul weather gear.

### TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS:

Normally, SC DOT personnel manually operate automatic traffic control signals on public highways to expedite traffic movement. However, school-crossing guards may also manually operate traffic signal devices to facilitate the crossing of school children at public roadways.

### SPECIAL EVENT TRAFFIC:

At all special events where the Sheriff's Office has primary responsibility for on-site traffic control, a contingency plan is to be developed to cover:

1. Coordination with SCHP
2. Entrance and exit of vehicles
3. Parking
4. Spectator control
5. Public transportation
6. Relief for deputies on point traffic control
7. Alternate route(s) for through traffic
8. Emergency vehicle access
9. Temporary traffic controls

### FIRE SCENE TRAFFIC:

The on-scene deputy is to work closely with the ranking fire commander on-scene. Private vehicles, even those of volunteer firemen, are to be directed away from the immediate vicinity of fire trucks. **Vehicles are not to be allowed to drive over fire hoses.** As soon as possible, a traffic control point is to be set up away from the fire to detour non-emergency traffic. Parked vehicles interfering with fire operations may be towed as needed.

### INCLEMENT/ADVERSE WEATHER:

During periods of extremely adverse weather, deputies may have to assist SCHP in directing traffic around road obstructions, such as downed power lines or trees. Whenever a deputy locates a weather related road

hazard/obstruction, he/she is to immediately notify Communications and request the assistance of state, county, or utility work crews. The deputy is to stand by a hazardous obstruction to direct traffic until either a temporary barrier can be erected or the obstruction removed. Serious hazards/obstructions are to be reported by Central Dispatch to the Public Safety Department.

**ESCORTS:**

Traffic assistance may be provided to:

1. Dignitaries
2. Oversized vehicles
3. Hazardous or unusual cargo

**Emergency escort of injured persons to a medical facility is not permitted.** The deputy is to render first aid, and radio for EMS to respond and transport.

**ROADBLOCKS:**

Emergency roadblocks may be authorized by shift supervisors to restrict a fleeing suspect to an area or to stop a fleeing vehicle. Roadblocks must be used with extreme caution because of the hazards involved. *(See also General Order 237-Vehicle Pursuit and General Order 205-Use of Force.)*

**SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS:**

School crossing guards are non-sworn personnel with the authority to direct and control traffic in school crossing zones.

The crossing guard selection criterion is not the same as that for sworn personnel. However, standards are to be used to produce desirable personnel in this highly active position. A written selection criterion is maintained in the Sheriff's Personnel Unit.

School crossing guards wear high-visibility, reflective vests so that motorists and pedestrians can recognize them and respond to their signals. Crossing guards wear civilian clothing. Uniforms are not issued by the Sheriff's Office.

Each school district determines the number and location of school crossing guards. Crossing guards are hired and supervised by the Sheriff's Office; however, each school district assumes all financial responsibility including salary and equipment.

**NOTE:** *At any time a crossing guard is not available to work an assigned location, the Sheriff's Office will make every attempt to provide a uniformed deputy for that location.*

Approved by:  
John S. Skipper, Jr., Sheriff