Chapter 5 - Traffic Operations
Traffic Function and Responsibility

500.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
The ultimate goal of traffic law enforcement is to reduce traffic collisions as well as ease of traffic flow. This may be achieved through the application of such techniques as geographic/temporal assignment of personnel and equipment and the establishment of preventive patrols to deal with specific categories of unlawful driving behavior. Traffic enforcement techniques are based on accident data, enforcement activity records, traffic volume, and traffic conditions. This department provides enforcement efforts toward violations, not only in proportion to the frequency of their occurrence in accident situations, but also in terms of traffic-related needs.

500.2 TRAFFIC OFFICER DEPLOYMENT
Several factors are considered in the development of deployment schedules for officers of the San Francisco Community College Police Department. Information provided by the California Statewide Integrated Traffic Reporting System (SWITRS) is a valuable resource for traffic accident occurrences and therefore officer deployment. Some of the factors for analysis include:

• Location
• Time
• Day
• Violation factors

All officers assigned to patrol or traffic enforcement functions will emphasize enforcement of accident causing violations during high accident hours and at locations of occurrence. All officers will take directed enforcement action on request, and random enforcement action when appropriate against violators as a matter of routine. All officers shall maintain high visibility while working general enforcement, especially at high accident locations.

Other factors to be considered for deployment are citizen requests, construction zones or special events.

500.3 ENFORCEMENT
Enforcement actions are commensurate with applicable laws and take into account the degree and severity of the violation committed. This department does not establish ticket quotas and the number of arrests or citations issued by any officer shall not be used as the sole criterion for evaluating officer overall performance (Vehicle Code § 41603). The visibility and quality of an officer’s work effort will be commensurate with the philosophy of this policy. Several methods are effective in the reduction of collisions:
Traffic Function and Responsibility

500.3.1 WARNINGS
Warnings or other non-punitive enforcement actions should be considered in each situation and substituted for arrests or citations when circumstances warrant, especially in the case of inadvertent violations.

500.3.2 CITATIONS
Citations may be issued when an officer believes it is appropriate. It is essential that officers fully explain the rights and requirements imposed on motorists upon issuance of a citation for a traffic violation. Officers should provide the following information at a minimum:

(a) Explanation of the violation or charge
(b) Court appearance procedure including the optional or mandatory appearance by the motorist
(c) Notice of whether the motorist can enter a plea and pay the fine by mail or at the court

500.3.3 PHYSICAL ARREST
Physical arrest can be made on a number of criminal traffic offenses outlined in the Vehicle Code or Penal Code. These physical arrest cases usually deal with, but are not limited to:

(a) Vehicular manslaughter
(b) Felony and misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs
(c) Felony or misdemeanor hit-and-run
(d) Refusal to sign notice to appear
(e) Any other misdemeanor at the discretion of the officer, such as reckless driving with extenuating circumstances

500.4 SUSPENDED OR REVOKED DRIVERS LICENSES
If an officer contacts a traffic violator for driving on a suspended or revoked license, the officer may issue a traffic citation pursuant to Vehicle Code § 14601.

If a computer check of a traffic violator’s license status reveals a suspended or revoked driver license and the traffic violator still has his or her license in possession, the license shall be seized by the officer. The officer shall verbally advise the traffic violator of the suspension or revocation and issue the citation. The officer will be responsible for filling out the Verbal Notice form (DMV form DL-310) and causing that form and license to be forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

500.5 HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS
The Department has provided American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Class II high-visibility vests to increase the visibility of department members who may be exposed to hazards presented by passing traffic, maneuvering or operating vehicles, machinery and equipment (23 CFR 655.601; 8 CCR 1598).
Traffic Function and Responsibility

Although intended primarily for use while performing traffic related assignments, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time increased visibility would improve the safety or efficiency of the member.

500.5.1 REQUIRED USE (HIGH VISABILITY VESTS)
Except when working in a potentially adversarial or confrontational role, such as during vehicle stops, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time it is anticipated that an employee will be exposed to the hazards of approaching traffic or construction and recovery equipment. Examples of when high-visibility vests should be worn include traffic control duties, accident investigations, lane closures and while at disaster scenes, or anytime high visibility is desirable. When emergency conditions preclude the immediate donning of the vest, officers should retrieve and wear the vest as soon as conditions reasonably permit. Use of the vests shall also be mandatory when directed by a supervisor.

500.5.2 CARE AND STORAGE OF HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS
High-visibility vests shall be maintained in the trunk of each patrol and other appropriate locations. Each vest should be stored inside the re-sealable plastic bag provided to protect and maintain the vest in a serviceable condition. Before going into service each employee shall ensure a serviceable high-visibility vest is properly stored.

A supply of high-visibility vests will be maintained in the equipment room for replacement of damaged or unserviceable vests. The Training Sergeant should be promptly notified whenever the supply of vests in the equipment room needs replenishing.
Traffic Collision Reporting

501.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
The San Francisco Community College Police Department prepares traffic collision reports in compliance with the California Highway Patrol Collision Investigation Manual (CIM) and as a public service makes traffic collision reports available to the community with some exceptions.

501.2 RESPONSIBILITY
The training sergeant will be responsible for distribution of the Collision Investigation Manual. The training sergeant will receive all changes in the state manual and ensure conformity with this policy.

501.3 TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORTING
All traffic collision reports taken by members of this department shall be forwarded to the supervisor for approval and data entry into the Records Management System.

501.4 REPORTING SITUATIONS

501.4.1 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS INVOLVING COMMUNITY COLLEGE VEHICLES
Traffic collision investigation reports shall be taken when a Community College-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision upon a roadway or highway wherein any damage or injury results. A general information report may be taken in lieu of a traffic collision report (CHP 555 form) at the direction of a supervisor when the collision occurs on private property or does not involve another vehicle. Whenever there is damage to a Community College vehicle, a Vehicle Damage Report shall be completed and forwarded to the appropriate Lieutenant.

Photographs of the collision scene and vehicle damage shall be taken at the discretion of the traffic investigator or any supervisor.

501.4.2 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES
When an employee of this department, either on-duty or off-duty, is involved in a traffic collision within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Community College Police Department resulting in a serious injury or fatality, the supervisor or the Watch Commander, may notify the California Highway Patrol for assistance.

The term serious injury is defined as any injury that may result in a fatality.

501.4.3 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGE EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIALS
The Lieutenant or on-duty Watch Commander/supervisor may request assistance from the California Highway Patrol for the investigation of any traffic collision involving any Community College official or employee where a serious injury or fatality has occurred.
Traffic Collision Reporting

501.4.4 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY
In compliance with the Collision Investigation Manual, traffic collision reports shall not be taken for traffic collisions occurring on private property unless there is a death or injury to any person involved, a hit-and-run violation, or Vehicle Code violation. An Incident Report may be taken at the discretion of any supervisor.

501.4.5 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON ROADWAYS OR HIGHWAYS
Traffic collision reports shall be taken when they occur on a roadway or highway within the jurisdiction of this department under any of the following circumstances:
(a) When there is a death or injury to any persons involved in the collision
(b) When there is an identifiable violation of the Vehicle Code
(c) When a report is requested by any involved driver

501.5 NOTIFICATION OF TRAFFIC BUREAU SUPERVISION
In the event of a serious injury or death related traffic collision, the Watch Commander shall notify the Lieutenant to relate the circumstances of the traffic collision. In the absence of a Lieutenant, the Watch Commander or any supervisor may request an SFPD accident investigator to investigate the accident.
Vehicle Towing and Release

502.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy provides the procedures for towing a vehicle by or at the direction of the San Francisco Community College Police Department. Nothing in this policy shall require the Department to tow a vehicle.

502.2 STORAGE AND IMPOUNDS
When circumstances permit, for example when towing a vehicle for parking or registration violations, the handling employee should, prior to having the vehicle towed, make a good faith effort to notify the owner of the vehicle that it is subject to removal. This may be accomplished by personal contact, telephone or by leaving a notice attached to the vehicle at least 24 hours prior to removal. If a vehicle presents a hazard, such as being abandoned on the roadway, it may be towed immediately.

The responsibilities of those employees towing, storing or impounding a vehicle are listed below.

502.2.1 VEHICLE STORAGE REPORT
Department members requesting towing, storage or impound of a vehicle shall complete CHP Form 180 and accurately record the mileage and a description of property within the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 22850). A copy of the storage report should to be given to the tow truck operator and the original shall be submitted to the SFPD Records Bureau as soon as practicable after the vehicle is stored.

502.2.2 REMOVAL FROM TRAFFIC COLLISION SCENES
When a vehicle has been involved in a traffic collision and must be removed from the scene, the officer shall have the driver select a towing company, if possible, and shall relay the request for the specified towing company to the dispatcher. When there is no preferred company requested, a company will be selected from the rotational list of towing companies in Dispatch.

If the owner is incapacitated, or for any reason it is necessary for the Department to assume responsibility for a vehicle involved in a collision, the officer shall request the dispatcher to call the official towing garage for the Community College of San Francisco City College. The officer will then store the vehicle using a CHP Form 180.

502.2.3 STORAGE AT ARREST SCENES
Whenever a person in charge or in control of a vehicle is arrested, it is the policy of this department to provide reasonable safekeeping by storing the arrestee’s vehicle subject to the exceptions described below. The vehicle, however, shall be stored whenever it is needed for the furtherance of the investigation or prosecution of the case, or when the community caretaker doctrine would reasonably suggest that the vehicle should be stored (e.g., traffic hazard, high crime area).
Vehicle Towing and Release

The following are examples of situations where consideration should be given to leaving a vehicle at the scene in lieu of storing, provided the vehicle can be lawfully parked and left in a reasonably secured and safe condition:

• Traffic related warrant arrest.
• Situations where the vehicle was not used to further the offense for which the driver was arrested.
• Whenever the licensed owner of the vehicle is present, willing, and able to take control of any vehicle not involved in criminal activity.
• Whenever the vehicle otherwise does not need to be stored and the owner requests that it be left at the scene. In such cases the owner shall be informed that the Department will not be responsible for theft or damages.

502.2.4  IMPOUNDMENT AT SOBRIETY CHECKPOINTS
Whenever a driver is stopped at a sobriety checkpoint and the only violation is that the operator is driving without a valid driver’s license, the officer shall make a reasonable attempt to identify the registered owner of the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 2814.2). The officer shall release the vehicle to the registered owner if the person is a licensed driver, or to another licensed driver authorized by the registered owner, provided the vehicle is claimed prior to the conclusion of the checkpoint operation.

If the vehicle is released at the checkpoint, the officer shall list on his/her copy of the notice to appear the name and driver’s license number of the person to whom the vehicle is released.

When a vehicle cannot be released at the checkpoint, it shall be towed (Vehicle Code § 22651(p)). When a vehicle is removed at the checkpoint, it shall be released during the normal business hours of the storage facility to the registered owner or his/her agent upon presentation of a valid driver’s license and current vehicle registration.

502.2.5  DRIVING A NON-CITY VEHICLE
Vehicles which have been towed by or at the direction of the Department should not be driven by public safety personnel unless it is necessary to move a vehicle a short distance to eliminate a hazard, prevent the obstruction of a fire hydrant or to comply with posted signs.

502.2.6  DISPATCHER’S RESPONSIBILITIES
Upon receiving a request for towing, the dispatcher shall promptly telephone the specified authorized towing service. The officer shall be advised when the request has been made and the towing service has been dispatched.

When there is no preferred company requested, the dispatcher shall call the next firm in rotation from the list of approved towing companies and shall make appropriate entries on that form to ensure the following firm is called on the next request.
Vehicle Towing and Release

502.2.7 SFPD RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITY
Records personnel shall promptly enter pertinent data from the completed storage form (CHP Form 180) into the Stolen Vehicle System and return the form to the Watch Commander for approval (Vehicle Code § 22651.5(b); Vehicle Code § 22851.3(b); Vehicle Code § 22854.5).

Approved storage forms shall be promptly placed into the auto-file so that they are immediately available for release or review should inquiries be made.

Within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays, of the storage of any such vehicle it shall be the responsibility of the SFPD Records Bureau to determine the names and addresses of any individuals having an interest in the vehicle through DMV or CLETS computers. Notice shall be sent to all such individuals by first-class mail (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(d); Vehicle Code § 22852(a); Vehicle Code § 14602.6(a)(2)). The notice shall include the following (Vehicle Code § 22852(b)):

(a) The name, address, and telephone number of this Department.
(b) The location of the place of storage and description of the vehicle, which shall include, if available, the name or make, the manufacturer, the license plate number, and the mileage.
(c) The authority and purpose for the removal of the vehicle.
(d) A statement that, in order to receive their post-storage hearing, the owners, or their agents, shall request the hearing in person, writing, or by telephone within 10 days of the date appearing on the notice.

502.3 TOWING SERVICES
The Community College of San Francisco City College periodically selects a firm to act as the official tow service and awards a contract to that firm. This firm will be used in the following situations:

(a) When it is necessary to safeguard a vehicle due to the inability of the owner or operator to take the required action.
(b) When a vehicle is being held as evidence in connection with an investigation.
(c) When it is otherwise necessary to store a motor vehicle. This would include situations involving the recovery of stolen or abandoned vehicles, and the removal from the streets of vehicles obstructing traffic in violation of state or local regulations.

502.4 VEHICLE INVENTORY
All property in a stored or impounded vehicle shall be inventoried and listed on the vehicle storage form. This includes the trunk and any compartments or containers, even if closed and/or locked. Members conducting inventory searches should be as thorough and accurate as practical in preparing an itemized inventory. These inventory procedures are for the purpose of protecting an owner's property while in public safety custody, to provide for the safety of officers, and to protect the Department against fraudulent claims of lost, stolen, or damaged property.
502.5 SECURITY OF VEHICLES AND PROPERTY

Unless it would cause an unreasonable delay in the completion of a vehicle impound/storage or create an issue of officer safety, officers should make reasonable accommodations to permit a driver/owner to retrieve small items of value or personal need (e.g., cash, jewelry, cell phone, prescriptions) which are not considered evidence or contraband.

If a search of a vehicle leaves the vehicle or any property contained therein vulnerable to unauthorized entry, theft or damage, personnel conducting the search shall take such steps as are reasonably necessary to secure and/or preserve the vehicle or property from such hazards.

502.6 RELEASE OF VEHICLE

The Department will maintain a listed, 24-hour telephone number to provide information regarding impoundment of vehicles and the right of the registered owner to request a storage hearing. Releases for towed vehicles will be made available during regular, non-emergency business hours (Vehicle Code § 14602.6).

(a) Vehicles removed pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22850 shall be released after proof of current registration is provided by the owner or the person in control of the vehicle and after all applicable fees are paid (Vehicle Code § 22850.3 and Vehicle Code § 22850.5).

(b) Vehicles removed that require payment of parking fines or proof of valid driver’s license shall only be released upon presentation of proof of compliance, proof of payment, completion of affidavit and payment of applicable fees related to the removal (Vehicle Code § 22651 et seq., Vehicle Code § 22652 et seq., Vehicle Code § 22850.3 and Vehicle Code § 22850.5).

(c) A vehicle removed pursuant to Vehicle Code § 14602.6(a) shall be released to the registered owner or his/her agent with proof of current registration, proof of a valid driver’s license and applicable fees paid prior to the end of the 30-day impoundment period if the vehicle was stolen, if the driver reinstates his/her driver’s license, if the driver acquires a license and proper insurance, or under other circumstances as set forth in Vehicle Code § 14602.6.

Personnel whose duties include releasing towed vehicles should consult the Vehicle Code under which the vehicle was towed or impounded for any specific requirements prior to release.

Employees who suspect that a vehicle was impounded in error should promptly advise a supervisor. Supervisors should approve, when appropriate, the release of the vehicle without requiring the registered owner or his/her agent to request a hearing, as described in the Vehicle Impound Hearings Policy.
Vehicle Impound Hearings

503.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy establishes a procedure for the requirement to provide vehicle storage or impound hearings pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22852.

503.2 STORED OR IMPOUND HEARING
When a vehicle is stored or impounded by any member of the San Francisco Community College Police Department, a hearing will be conducted upon the request of the registered or legal owner of the vehicle or his/her agent (Vehicle Code § 22650(a); Vehicle Code § 22852(a)).

The hearing shall be conducted within 48 hours of the request, excluding weekends and holidays. The hearing officer must be a person other than the person who directed the storage or impound of the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 22852(c)). Hearings are conducted by SFPD using the following procedures.

503.2.1 HEARING PROCEDURES
The vehicle storage hearing is an informal process to evaluate the validity of an order to store or impound a vehicle. The employee who caused the storage or removal of the vehicle does not need to be present for this hearing.

All requests for a hearing on a stored or impounded vehicle shall be submitted in person, in writing or by telephone within 10 days of the date appearing on the notice (Vehicle Code § 22852(b)). The person requesting the hearing may record the hearing at his/her own expense.

The failure of either the registered or legal owner or interested person or his/her agent to request a hearing in a timely manner or to attend a scheduled hearing shall be considered a waiver of and satisfaction of the post-storage hearing requirement (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(e)(2); Vehicle Code § 22852(d)).

Any relevant evidence may be submitted and reviewed by the hearing officer to determine if reasonable grounds have been established for the storage or impound of the vehicle. The initial burden of proof established by a preponderance of the evidence that the storage/impound was based on probable cause rests with the Department.

After consideration of all information, the hearing officer shall determine the validity of the storage or impound of the vehicle in question and then render a decision. The hearing officer shall also consider any mitigating circumstances attendant to the storage that reasonably would warrant the release of the vehicle or a modification or reduction of the period the vehicle is impounded (Vehicle Code §14602.6(b); Vehicle Code § 14602.8(b)).

Aside from those mitigating circumstances enumerated in the Vehicle Code, the registered owner's lack of actual knowledge that the driver to whom the vehicle was loaned was not validly licensed may constitute a mitigating circumstance under Vehicle Code § 14602.6(b) or 14602.8(b), warranting release of the vehicle. This mitigating circumstance exception is not limited to situations
where the owner made a reasonable inquiry as to the licensed status of the driver before lending
the vehicle.

The legislative intent and this department’s policy is to prevent unlicensed driving pursuant to
Vehicle Code §14602.6. If this purpose is not furthered by the continued impoundment of a vehicle,
release is most often appropriate.

(a) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage or impound have been established,
the hearing officer shall advise the inquiring party of the decision and that the inquiring party
may pursue further civil remedies if desired.

1. If mitigating circumstances are found to be relevant, the hearing officer shall make
reasonable adjustments to the impound period, storage or assessment of fees as
warranted.

(b) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage or impound have not been
established or sufficient mitigating circumstances exist, the vehicle in storage shall be
released immediately. Towing and storage fees will be paid at the Department’s expense
(Vehicle Code § 22852(e)).

(c) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage have not been established
or sufficient mitigating circumstances exist, and the vehicle has been released with
fees having been paid, the receipt for such fees will be forwarded with a letter to the
appropriate Lieutenant. The hearing officer will recommend to the appropriate CCSFPD
administrator that the fees paid by the registered or legal owner of the vehicle in question or
their agent be reimbursed by the Department.
Impaired Driving

504.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy provides guidance to those department members who play a role in the detection and investigation of driving under the influence (DUI).

504.2 POLICY
The San Francisco Community College Police Department is committed to the safety of the roadways and the community and will pursue fair but aggressive enforcement of California’s impaired driving laws.

504.3 INVESTIGATIONS
Officers should not enforce DUI laws to the exclusion of their other duties unless specifically assigned to DUI enforcement. All officers are expected to enforce these laws with due diligence.

504.4 FIELD TESTS
The Lieutenant should identify standardized FSTs and any approved alternate tests for officers to use when investigating violations of DUI laws.

504.5 CHEMICAL TESTS
A person implies consent to a chemical test or tests, and to providing the associated chemical sample, under any of the following (Vehicle Code § 23612):

(a) The person is arrested for driving a vehicle while under the influence, pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23152.
(b) The person is under 21 years of age and is arrested by an officer having reasonable cause to believe that the person’s blood alcohol content is 0.05 or more (Vehicle Code § 23140).
(c) The person is under 21 years of age and detained by an officer having reasonable cause to believe that the person was driving a vehicle while having a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more (Vehicle Code § 23136).
(d) The person was operating a vehicle while under the influence and proximately caused bodily injury to another person (Vehicle Code § 23153).

If a person withdraws this implied consent, or is unable to withdraw consent (e.g., the person is unconscious), the officer should consider implied consent revoked and proceed as though the person has refused to provide a chemical sample.

504.5.1 CHOICE OF TESTS
Officers shall respect a viable choice of chemical test made by an arrestee, as provided for by law (e.g., breath will not be acceptable for suspected narcotics influence).
Impaired Driving

A person arrested for DUI has the choice of whether the test is of his/her blood or breath, and the officer shall advise the person that he/she has that choice. If the person arrested either is incapable, or states that he/she is incapable, of completing the chosen test, the person shall submit to the remaining test.

If the person chooses to submit to a breath test and there is reasonable cause to believe that the person is under the influence of a drug or the combined influence of alcohol and any drug, the officer may also request that the person submit to a blood test. If the person is incapable of completing a blood test, the person shall submit to and complete a urine test (Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(2)(C)).

504.5.2 BREATH SAMPLES
The Lieutenant should ensure that all devices used for the collection and analysis of breath samples are properly serviced and tested, and that a record of such service and testing is properly maintained.

Officers obtaining a breath sample should monitor the device for any sign of malfunction. Any anomalies or equipment failures should be noted in the appropriate report and promptly reported to the Lieutenant.

When the arrested person chooses a breath test, the handling officer shall advise the person that the breath-testing equipment does not retain a sample, and the person may, if desired, provide a blood or urine specimen, which will be retained to facilitate subsequent verification testing (Vehicle Code § 23614).

The officer should also require the person to submit to a blood test if the officer has a clear indication that a blood test will reveal evidence of any drug or the combined influence of an alcoholic beverage and any drug. Evidence of the officer’s belief shall be included in the officer’s report (Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(2)(C)).

504.5.3 BLOOD SAMPLES
Only persons authorized by law to draw blood shall collect blood samples (Vehicle Code § 23158). The blood draw should be witnessed by the assigned officer. No officer, even if properly certified, should perform this task.

Officers should inform an arrestee that if he/she chooses to provide a blood sample, a separate sample can be collected for alternate testing. Unless medical personnel object, two samples should be collected and retained as evidence, so long as only one puncture is required.

The blood sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

If an arrestee cannot submit to a blood draw because he/she has a bleeding disorder or has taken medication that inhibits coagulation, he/she shall not be required to take a blood test. Such inability to take a blood test should not be considered a refusal. However, that arrestee may be required to complete another available and viable test.
504.5.4 URINE SAMPLES
If a urine test will be performed, the arrestee should be promptly transported to the appropriate testing site. The officer shall follow any directions accompanying the urine evidence collection kit.

Urine samples shall be collected and witnessed by an officer or jail staff member of the same sex as the individual giving the sample. The arrestee should be allowed sufficient privacy to maintain his/her dignity, to the extent possible, while still ensuring the accuracy of the sample (Vehicle Code § 23158(i)).

The sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

504.5.5 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS
Officers requesting that a person submit to chemical testing shall provide the person with the mandatory warning pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(1)(D) and Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(4).

504.5.6 PRELIMINARY ALCOHOL SCREENING
Officers may use a preliminary alcohol screening (PAS) test to assist in establishing reasonable cause to believe a person is DUI. The officer shall advise the person that the PAS test is being requested to assist in determining whether the person is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or a combination of the two. Unless the person is under the age of 21, he/she shall be advised that the PAS test is voluntary. The officer shall also advise the person that submitting to a PAS test does not satisfy his/her obligation to submit to a chemical test as otherwise required by law (Vehicle Code § 23612).

504.5.7 PRELIMINARY ALCOHOL SCREENING FOR A PERSON UNDER AGE 21
If an officer lawfully detains a person under 21 years of age who is driving a motor vehicle and the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person has a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more, the officer shall request that the person take a PAS test to determine the presence of alcohol in the person, if a PAS test device is immediately available. If a PAS test device is not immediately available, the officer may request the person to submit to chemical testing of his/her blood, breath or urine, conducted pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23612 (Vehicle Code § 13388).

If the person refuses to take or fails to complete the PAS test or other chemical test, or if the result of either test reveals a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more, the officer shall proceed to serve the person with a notice of order of suspension pursuant to this policy (Vehicle Code § 13388).

504.6 REFUSALS
When an arrestee refuses to provide a viable chemical sample, officers should:

(a) Advise the person of the requirement to provide a sample (Vehicle Code § 23612).

(b) Audio- and/or video-record the admonishment when it is practicable.

(c) Document the refusal in the appropriate report.
Upon refusal to submit to a chemical test as required by law, officers shall personally serve the notice of order of suspension upon the person and take possession of any state-issued license to operate a motor vehicle that is held by that person (Vehicle Code § 23612(e); Vehicle Code § 23612(f)).

504.6.1 BLOOD SAMPLE WITHOUT CONSENT
A blood sample may be obtained from a person who refuses a chemical test when any of the following conditions exist:

(a) A search warrant has been obtained (Penal Code § 1524).
(b) The officer can articulate that exigent circumstances exist. Exigency does not exist solely because of the short time period associated with the natural dissipation of alcohol or controlled or prohibited substances in the person’s bloodstream. Exigency can be established by the existence of special facts such as a lengthy time delay in obtaining a blood sample due to an accident investigation or medical treatment of the person.

504.6.2 FORCED BLOOD SAMPLE
If an arrestee indicates by word or action that he/she will physically resist a blood draw, the officer should request a supervisor to respond.

The responding supervisor should:

(a) Evaluate whether using force to obtain a blood sample is appropriate under the circumstances.
(b) Ensure that all attempts to obtain a blood sample through force cease if the person agrees to, and completes a viable form of testing in a timely manner.
(c) Advise the person of his/her duty to provide a sample (even if this advisement was previously done by another officer) and attempt to persuade the individual to submit to such a sample without physical resistance.
   1. This dialogue should be recorded on audio and/or video if practicable.
(d) Ensure that the blood sample is taken in a medically approved manner.
(e) Ensure the forced blood draw is recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
(f) Monitor and ensure that the type and level of force applied appears reasonable under the circumstances:
   1. Unless otherwise provided in a warrant, force should generally be limited to handcuffing or similar restraint methods.
   2. In misdemeanor cases, if the arrestee becomes violent or more resistant, no additional force will be used and a refusal should be noted in the report.
   3. In felony cases, force which reasonably appears necessary to overcome the resistance to the blood draw may be permitted.
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(g) Ensure the use of force and methods used to accomplish the collection of the blood sample are documented in the related report.

If a supervisor is unavailable, officers are expected to use sound judgment and perform as a responding supervisor, as set forth above.

504.6.3 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS UPON REFUSAL
Upon refusal to submit to a chemical test as required by law, officers shall personally serve the notice of order of suspension upon the arrestee and take possession of any state-issued license to operate a motor vehicle that is held by that individual (Vehicle Code § 23612(e); Vehicle Code § 23612(f)).

504.7 SFPD RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES
The Records Manager will ensure that all case-related records are transmitted according to current records procedures and as required by the prosecuting attorney’s office.

504.8 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
The Records Manager will ensure that all appropriate reports and documents related to administrative license suspensions are reviewed and forwarded to DMV.

Any officer who receives notice of required attendance to an administrative license suspension hearing should promptly notify the prosecuting attorney.

An officer called to testify at an administrative hearing should document the hearing date and DMV file number in a supplemental report. Specific details of the hearing generally should not be included in the report unless errors, additional evidence or witnesses are identified.

504.9 TRAINING
The Training Sergeant should ensure that officers participating in the enforcement of DUI laws receive regular training. Training should include, at minimum, current laws on impaired driving, investigative techniques and rules of evidence pertaining to DUI investigations. The Training Sergeant should confer with the prosecuting attorney’s office and update training topics as needed.

504.10 ARREST AND INVESTIGATION

504.10.1 WARRANTLESS ARREST
In addition to the arrest authority granted to officers pursuant to Penal Code § 836, an officer may make a warrantless arrest of a person that the officer has reasonable cause to believe has been driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or any drug, or under the combined influence of the same when (Vehicle Code § 40300.5):

(a) The person is involved in a traffic accident.
(b) The person is observed in or about a vehicle that is obstructing the roadway.
(c) The person will not be apprehended unless immediately arrested.
(d) The person may cause injury to him/herself or damage property unless immediately arrested.

(e) The person may destroy or conceal evidence of a crime unless immediately arrested.

504.10.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES
The officer serving the arrested person with a notice of an order of suspension shall immediately (Vehicle Code § 23612):

(a) Forward a copy of the completed notice of suspension or revocation form and any confiscated driver’s license to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

(b) Forward a sworn report to DMV that contains the required information in Vehicle Code § 13380.

(c) Forward the results to the appropriate forensic laboratory if the person submitted to a blood or urine test.
Traffic Citations

505.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy outlines the responsibility for traffic citations, the procedure for dismissal, correction, and voiding of traffic citations.

505.2 RESPONSIBILITIES
The Lieutenant shall be responsible for the development and design of all Department traffic citations in compliance with state law and the Judicial Council.

The SFPD Records Bureau shall be responsible for the supply and accounting of all traffic citations issued to employees of this department.

505.3 DISMISSAL OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS
Employees of this department do not have the authority to dismiss a citation once it has been issued. Only the court has the authority to dismiss a citation that has been issued (Vehicle Code § 40500(d)). Any request from a recipient to dismiss a citation shall be referred to a supervisor. Upon a review of the circumstances involving the issuance of the traffic citation, the supervisor may request the Patrol Services Lieutenant to recommend dismissal of the traffic citation. If approved, the citation will be forwarded to the appropriate court with a request for dismissal. All recipients of traffic citations whose request for the dismissal of a traffic citation has been denied shall be referred to the appropriate court.

Should an officer determine during a court proceeding that a traffic citation should be dismissed in the interest of justice or where prosecution is deemed inappropriate the officer may request the court to dismiss the citation. Upon dismissal of the traffic citation by the court, the officer shall notify his/her immediate supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the dismissal and shall complete any paperwork as directed or required. The citation dismissal shall then be forwarded to the Patrol Services Lieutenant for review.

505.4 VOIDING TRAFFIC CITATIONS
Voiding a traffic citation may occur when a traffic citation has not been completed or where it is completed, but not issued. All copies of the citation shall be presented to a supervisor to approve the voiding of the citation. The citation and copies shall then be forwarded to SFPD.

505.5 CORRECTION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS
When a traffic citation is issued and in need of correction, the officer issuing the citation shall submit the citation and a letter requesting a specific correction to his/her immediate supervisor. The citation and letter shall then be forwarded to the supervisor. The supervisor shall prepare a letter of correction to the court having jurisdiction and to the recipient of the citation.
505.6 DISPOSITION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS
The court and file copies of all traffic citations issued by members of this department shall be forwarded to the employee’s immediate supervisor for review. The citation copies shall then be filed with the SFPD Records Bureau.

505.7 NOTICE OF PARKING VIOLATION APPEAL PROCEDURE
Disposition of notice of parking violation appeals is conducted pursuant to Vehicle Code § 40215.

505.7.1 APPEAL STAGES
Appeals may be pursued sequentially at three different levels:

(a) Administrative reviews are conducted by the citation review officer who will review written/documentary data. Requests for administrative reviews are available online. These requests are informal written statements outlining why the notice of parking violation should be dismissed. Copies of documentation relating to the notice of parking violation and the request for dismissal must be mailed to the current mailing address of the processing agency.

(b) If the appellant wishes to pursue the matter beyond administrative review, an administrative hearing may be conducted in person or by written application, at the election of the appellant. Independent referees review the existent administrative file, amendments, and/or testimonial material provided by the appellant and may conduct further investigation or follow-up on their own.

(c) If the appellant wishes to pursue the matter beyond an administrative hearing, a Superior Court review may be presented in person by the appellant after an application for review and designated filing fees have been paid to The Superior Court of California.

505.7.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS
Administrative review or appearance before a hearing examiner will not be provided if the mandated time limits are not adhered to by the violator.

(a) Requests for an administrative review must be postmarked within 21 calendar days of issuance of the notice of parking violation, or within 14 calendar days of the mailing of the Notice of Delinquent Parking (Violation Vehicle Code § 40215(a)).

(b) Requests for administrative hearings must be made no later than 21 calendar days following the notification mailing of the results of the administrative review (Vehicle Code § 40215(b)).

(c) An administrative hearing shall be held within 90 calendar days following the receipt of a request for an administrative hearing, excluding time tolled pursuant to Vehicle Code § 40200 - 40225. The person requesting the hearing may request one continuance, not to exceed 21 calendar days (Vehicle Code § 40215).
Traffic Citations

(d) Registered owners of vehicles may transfer responsibility for the violation via timely affidavit of non-liability when the vehicle has been transferred, rented or under certain other circumstances (Vehicle Code § 40209 and Vehicle Code § 40210).

505.7.3 COSTS

(a) There is no cost for an administrative review.

(b) Appellants must pay the full amount due for the citation, or provide satisfactory proof of their inability to pay, before receiving an administrative hearing.

(c) An appeal through Superior Court requires prior payment of filing costs including applicable court charges and fees. These costs will be reimbursed to the appellant in addition to any previously paid fines if appellant's liability is overruled by the Superior Court.

505.8 JUVENILE CITATIONS

Completion of traffic citation forms for juveniles may vary slightly from the procedure for adults. The juvenile's age, place of residency, and the type of offense should be considered before issuing the juvenile a citation.
Disabled Vehicles

506.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
Vehicle Code § 20018 provides that all law enforcement agencies having responsibility for traffic enforcement may develop and adopt a written policy to provide assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles within their primary jurisdiction.

506.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY
When an on-duty officer observes a disabled vehicle on the roadway, the officer should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If that officer is assigned to a call of higher priority, the dispatcher should be advised of the location of the disabled vehicle and the need for assistance. The dispatcher should then assign another available officer to respond for assistance as soon as practical.

506.3 EXTENT OF ASSISTANCE
In most cases, a disabled motorist will require assistance. After arrangements for assistance are made, continued involvement by department personnel will be contingent on the time of day, the location, the availability of departmental resources, and the vulnerability of the disabled motorist.

506.3.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS
Department personnel shall not make mechanical repairs to a disabled vehicle. The use of push bumpers to relocate vehicles to a position of safety is not considered a mechanical repair.

506.3.2 RELOCATION OF DISABLED VEHICLES
The relocation of disabled vehicles by members of this department by pushing or pulling a vehicle should only occur when the conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to reduce a hazard presented by the disabled vehicle.

506.3.3 RELOCATION OF DISABLED MOTORIST
The relocation of a disabled motorist should only occur with the person’s consent and should be suggested when conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to mitigate a potential hazard. The department member may stay with the disabled motorist or transport him/her to a safe area to await pickup.

506.4 PUBLIC ACCESS TO THIS POLICY
This written policy is available upon request.
72-Hour Parking Violations

507.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy provides procedures for the marking, recording, and storage of vehicles parked in violation of the San Francisco City College Community College Ordinance regulating 72-hour parking violations and abandoned vehicles under the authority of Vehicle Code § 22669.

507.2 MARKING VEHICLES
Vehicles suspected of being in violation of the Community College of San Francisco City College 72-Hour Parking Ordinance shall be marked and noted on the San Francisco Community College Police Department Marked Vehicle Card. No case number is required at this time.

A visible chalk mark should be placed on the left rear tire tread at the fender level unless missing tires or other vehicle conditions prevent marking. Any deviation in markings shall be noted on the Marked Vehicle Card. The investigating employee should make a good faith effort to notify the owner of any vehicle subject to towing prior to having the vehicle removed. This may be accomplished by personal contact, telephone or by leaving notice attached to the vehicle at least 24 hours prior to removal.

If a marked vehicle has been moved or the markings have been removed during a 72-hour investigation period, the vehicle shall be marked again for the 72-hour parking violation and a Marked Vehicle Card completed.

Parking citations for the 72-hour parking ordinance shall not be issued when the vehicle is stored for the 72-hour parking violation.

507.2.1 VEHICLE STORAGE
Any vehicle in violation shall be stored by the authorized towing service and a vehicle storage report shall be completed by the officer authorizing the storage of the vehicle.

The storage report form shall be submitted to the SFPD Records Bureau immediately following the storage of the vehicle. It shall be the responsibility of the SFPD Records Bureau to immediately notify the Stolen Vehicle System (SVS) of the Department of Justice in Sacramento (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(b)). Notification may also be made to the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS)(Vehicle Code § 22854.5).

Within 48 hours of the storage of any such vehicle, excluding weekends and holidays, it shall be the responsibility of the SFPD Records Bureau to determine the names and addresses of any individuals having an interest in the vehicle through DMV or CLETS computers. Notice to all such individuals shall be sent first-class or certified mail pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22851.3(d).