

Hamden Police Department General Orders

Policy Number: 020-004

Effective Date: August 01, 2005

Section: Traffic Law Enforcement

Rescinds:

Title: Speed Enforcement

Approved By:

Approval Date:

PURPOSE

To establish a uniform policy and procedure for utilizing the Hamden Police Department's speed measuring devices and procedures in order to provide for effective speed enforcement.

POLICY

Speeding vehicles within the Town of Hamden poses a danger to its citizens. The Department is committed to reduce and apprehend those who violate State Statutes concerning speeding. To this end the following set of procedures has been developed.

Procedures

A. Traffic Radar.

1. The Hamden Police Department will utilize traffic radar/laser equipment approved by the National Bureau of Standards and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
2. The radar/laser will be operated in accordance with Federal Communications rules and regulations
3. Radar/laser will only be operated by members of the department who have been certified as radar/laser operators by a certified instructor. The training records will be maintained by the Training Division.
4. The tuning forks, radar and laser will be maintained by the Traffic Division and will be calibrated semi-annually by an authorized technician. The

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maintenance and calibration records of the equipment will be kept in the Traffic Division.

5. The radar/laser units will be operated in a manner consistent with the operator's training and the unit's instruction manuals, keeping in mind the requirements of C.G.S. Sec. 14-219c.
 - a. The operator will select a site where road conditions provide a minimum possibility of distortion.
 - b. The radar/laser unit will be tested for accuracy.
 - i. At the beginning and end of each use of the radar/laser unit.
 - ii. The unit will be tested utilizing:
 1. The tuning forks assigned to each radar unit.
 2. The unit's calibration.
 3. Laser internal and manual calibration
 - c. The officer will make a visual observation that the suspect vehicle is traveling unreasonably fast prior to determining its speed, using the radar/laser.

B. Enforcement Action.

(Refer to General Order 20-1, Subsection 3 for Types of Enforcement Action)

1. Violations of 1 to 15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit may require no more than a verbal or written warning.
2. In violations in excess of 15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit, an arrest may be appropriate.
3. Where the speed of a vehicle is lower than the posted speed limit, the operator is not relieved of the duty to decrease speed when a special hazard exists with respect to pedestrians, other traffic, weather, or highway conditions, and enforcement action may be taken.

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C. Arrests.

1. 14-218(a) Unreasonable Speed - an infraction complaint will be completed and issued.
2. 14-219(b) Speeding Infraction - an infraction complaint will be completed and issued.
3. 14-219(a) and 14-219(c) Speeding.
 - a. Residents of Connecticut - a motor vehicle summons will be completed and issued.
 - b. \Non Residents:
 - i. No Bail Compact States
 1. A motor vehicle summons will be completed and issued.
 2. A No Bail Compact Schedule will be completed, in duplicate, with the original issued to the operator and the copy attached to the case report.
 - ii. Others:
 1. A motor vehicle summons will be completed and issued.
 2. A cash bond equal to the bond provided by No Bail Compact States will be posted by the operator.