

BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
BERLIN, MARYLAND

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF DEPARTMENT VEHICLES		NO: 400 E-1
APPROVED/EFFECTIVE DATE May 12, 2003/Oct 9, 2003	AMENDS	RESCINDS
DISTRIBUTION/DATE Oct 9, 2003	REFERENCES: Ocean City Police Department 2003 General Orders	

- .10 Members, by their actions, should set a positive example for the general public; therefore, except when officers are responding to emergency calls or when involved in vehicular pursuits, all personnel will observe and adhere to all traffic laws set forth in the Maryland Vehicle Law and the Code of the Town of Berlin, Maryland.
- .20 To assure the safety of all personnel, safety belts shall be worn by drivers and passengers, at all times, in vehicles so equipped that are owned, leased, or rented by the Town of Berlin. This also applies to the operation of privately owned or other vehicles, if used on duty.
- .30 The driver of the vehicle is responsible for ensuring compliance of occupant restraint laws by all occupants of the vehicle he/she is operating.
- .40 No person shall modify, remove, deactivate, or otherwise tamper with the vehicle safety belts, except for vehicle maintenance or repair, and not without the express authorization of the Chief of Police.
- .50 Personnel who discover an inoperable restraint system shall report the defect to the appropriate supervisor. Prompt action will be taken to replace or repair the system.
- .60 Any person(s) under arrest and being transported in a departmental vehicle is required to be secured in the vehicle by a safety belt in all seating positions for which safety belts are provided by the vehicle manufacturer. Prisoners transported in seating positions, not equipped with seat belts, are exempt from this Order.

- .70 When arriving at an emergency call, or making a vehicle traffic stop, the operator may remove the safety restraint prior to stopping for a quick exit. Caution should be exercised to ensure that during the traffic stop the violator is, in fact, going to stop. This prevents becoming involved in a pursuit without the use of a safety belt.