

## Policy 109 Operation of Police Vehicles

Effective Date: June, 31<sup>st</sup>, 2000  
2022

Revised Date: April 29<sup>th</sup>,

### Section 1 Purpose

To establish guidelines for the operation of Wayzata Police Vehicles.

### Section 2 Compliance with State Laws

Wayzata Police Department vehicles shall be operated in conformance with State statutes governing the use of motor vehicles unless a specific exception to this requirement exists.

### Section 3 Exceptions to State Laws

#### 109.3.1 *Authorized Emergency Vehicle Exception*

Vehicles are considered emergency vehicles only while operating red lights and sirens.

State statute exempts emergency vehicles from complying with laws regarding:

- A. Stop signs
- B. Stop signals
- C. One-way roads
- D. Speed limits
- E. Parking at emergency scenes

This policy does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of other motorists and pedestrians.

#### 109.3.2 **Lighting Exception**

Minnesota Statute 169.541 exempts peace officers from lighting as required by statutes 169.48 through 169.65 when the officer reasonably believes that operating the vehicle without lights is necessary to investigate a criminal violation. However, the P.O.S.T Board prohibits peace officers from operating without lights under the following circumstances:

- A. On interstate highways
- B. At speeds greater than what is reasonable and prudent under existing weather, road and traffic conditions.
- C. When a peace officer is an active participant in

pursuing a motor vehicle operated in violation of  
State Statute 609.487

D. faster than the posted speed limit