



CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Department Policy Manual

TITLE: Use of Push Bumpers
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PURPOSE

The purpose of the special bumpers is to allow the police employee to clear the roadway of an immediate traffic hazard caused by a vehicular accident or stalled vehicle.

Police employees are expected to exercise good judgement to prevent damages due to pushing and for determining the necessity of pushing a vehicle. Improper use of the push bumpers could cause damage to the squad or the citizen's vehicle.

PROCEDURE

Push bumpers shall be used only under the following conditions:

- Vehicular accident where the vehicle is blocking the road, thereby creating a hazard.
- Stalled vehicle on the roadway that presents an immediate hazard to other traffic

PRECAUTIONS

- Make sure the vehicle is out of gear and emergency brake is off.
- Vehicles will not be pushed any longer distance than is absolutely necessary to remove the existing hazard.
- Pushing will be done only when there is a driver behind the wheel and in control of the vehicle being pushed.
- Pushing of any vehicle shall be done only when it is possible to push the vehicle from either the front or back and where the bumpers meet satisfactorily.

PROHIBITED ACTIONS

- Angle pushing
- Pushing stalled vehicles to get them started
- Removal of snowbirds
- Trucks, vans, overturned vehicles should not be pushed or moved
- No vehicle shall be pushed around a corner or into a driveway

Each time a department employee uses a push bumper, an entry will be made into that employee's shift activity log, either by computer or through the dispatched, that push bumpers were used. The employee is also responsible for inspecting the department vehicle and the vehicle assisted for damage after each push bumper use. Any damage is to be reported to the Shift Commander immediately and a report shall be filed.