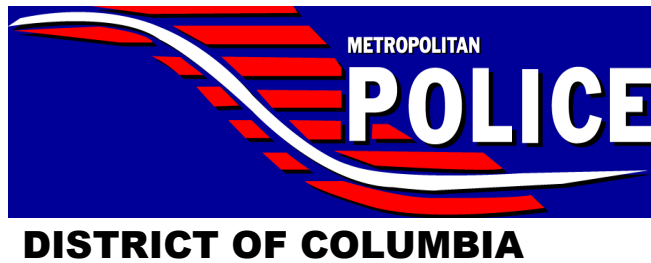


# CIRCULAR



Title	<b>Strengthening Traffic Enforcement, Education, and Responsibility (STEER) Act of 2024</b>
Number	<b>CIR-24-08</b>
Effective Date	<b>October 1, 2024</b>
Expiration Date	<b>October 1, 2026</b>
Related Orders:	<a href="#">GO-SPT-303.01 (Traffic Enforcement)</a>

The purpose of this circular is to inform members of the “[Strengthening Traffic Enforcement, Education, and Responsibility \(STEER\) Act of 2024](#),” which was enacted to address dangerous driving behavior and reduce speeding and reckless driving in the District of Columbia.

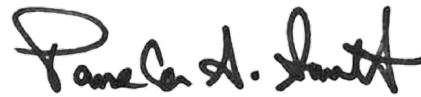
Members shall be aware of the following relevant changes made by the Act that become effective on October 1:

## AMENDS RECKLESS DRIVING AND AGGRAVATED RECKLESS DRIVING

<b>Need to Know</b>	Changes the definition to specify that driving 20 miles per hour (mph) in excess of the speed limit qualifies as reckless driving.									
<b>Offense</b>	<p>Reduces the penalty for a second conviction.</p> <p><b>Reckless Driving</b> If a person drives a motor vehicle on any highway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>20 mph over the speed limit;</b> or</li> <li>• <b>In any other manner that displays conscious disregard of the risk of causing property damage or bodily injury to any person. A person shall be guilty of reckless driving if the person drives a vehicle upon a highway carelessly and heedlessly in willful or wanton disregard for the rights or safety of others, or without due caution and circumspection and at a speed or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger a person or property.</b></li> </ul>									
<b>Penalty</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Old Penalty</th> <th>Updated Penalty</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1<sup>st</sup> conviction: 90 days; \$500; or both</td> <td>1<sup>st</sup> conviction: 90 days; \$500; or both</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2<sup>nd</sup> conviction (within a 2-year period): 180 days; \$1,000; or both</td> <td>2<sup>nd</sup> conviction: <b>90 days; \$500;</b> or both</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3<sup>rd</sup> or more convictions (within a 2-year period): 1 year; \$2,500; or both</td> <td>3<sup>rd</sup> or more convictions (within a 2-year period): 1 year; \$2,500; or both</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Old Penalty	Updated Penalty	1 <sup>st</sup> conviction: 90 days; \$500; or both	1 <sup>st</sup> conviction: 90 days; \$500; or both	2 <sup>nd</sup> conviction (within a 2-year period): 180 days; \$1,000; or both	2 <sup>nd</sup> conviction: <b>90 days; \$500;</b> or both	3 <sup>rd</sup> or more convictions (within a 2-year period): 1 year; \$2,500; or both	3 <sup>rd</sup> or more convictions (within a 2-year period): 1 year; \$2,500; or both	
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<b>Need to Know</b>	<p><b>Aggravated Reckless Driving</b> Establishes that a driver can be charged with aggravated reckless driving if they are driving 20 mph or more over the speed limit if other conditions apply.</p> <p>Increases the penalty for three or more convictions within a 2-year period.</p>									
<b>Offense</b>	<p>If a person drives a motor vehicle on any highway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 mph or more over speed limit; or</li> <li>• <b><u>20 mph or more over speed limit, and:</u></b></li> </ul> <p>(A) Causes bodily <del>harm or permanent disability or disfigurement</del> <b><u>injury</u></b> to any other person;</p> <p>(B) <b><u>Collides with another motor vehicle;</u></b> or</p> <p>(C) Causes <del>in excess of</del> \$1,000 or more in property damage</p>									
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<b>Reference</b>	<a href="#">DC Official Code § 50-2201.04</a>									

While this circular will expire on October 1, 2026, changes made to the DC Official Code as described in this circular will be permanent until such time as they are amended.



Pamela A. Smith  
Chief of Police