

SPECIAL ORDER



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title
D.C. Streetcars
Number
SO-16-04
Effective Date
February 26, 2016
Related to: General Order 303.01 (Traffic Enforcement)
Rescinds: TT-08-020-14 (D.C. Streetcar System), Effective Date August 6, 2014

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I. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this special order is to outline:

- A. The procedures for members handling incidents, offenses, and traffic crashes involving streetcars; and
- B. The procedures for members managing and working reimbursable details for streetcars.

II. DEFINITIONS

When used in this directive, the following terms shall have the meanings designated:

1. Reimbursable detail – detail of a member to various assignments for which the organizer/vendor holding the event reimburses the Department as billed.
2. Streetcar – vehicle powered by an overhead electrical source that runs along embedded tracks in the roadway. The streetcar carries passengers to and from designated stops.
3. Streetcar platform – location where the streetcar stops to allow passengers to board and depart the car.
4. Streetcar reimbursable detail coordinator – lieutenant assigned to the Traffic Safety and Specialized Enforcement Branch, Special Operations Division, Homeland Security Bureau.
5. D.C. Streetcar service area – area in which the D.C. Streetcar operates.

6. Vehicle – includes any appliance moved over a highway on wheels or traction tread, including street cars, draft animals, and beasts of burden.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Reporting Incidents, Offenses and Traffic Crashes Involving D.C. Streetcars

1. Members responding to calls for service and crashes involving streetcars shall contact the streetcar operator or supervisor on the scene upon their arrival to ensure there are no electrical or other hazards present.
2. When preparing field reports (e.g., Arrest Reports, Incident Reports) involving streetcars, members shall include the statement "D.C. Streetcar involved" at the beginning of their narrative.
3. Members shall select one of the following fields in the records management system (RMS), "Incident Statistics" section, if an offense has been committed in a designated streetcar location:
 - a. "Offense Occurred Inside Streetcar"
 - b. "Offense Occurred on Street Car Track"
 - c. "Offense Occurred on Streetcar Platform."
4. Traffic Crashes Involving D.C. Streetcars
 - a. Members shall notify the Major Crash Section of all Streetcar crashes that involve serious personal injury where the person may die and/or where there has been a fatality.
 - b. For all other crashes, members shall prepare a Traffic Crash Report in RMS.
5. Members may issue Notices of Infraction (NOIs) and may charge streetcar operators with offenses as described in Attachment A.

NOTE: Under the D.C. Official Code, a streetcar meets the definition of a "vehicle," but not a "motor vehicle." Accordingly, streetcar operators are eligible for NOIs that apply to "vehicles" and may be charged with offenses that can be applied to "vehicles."

B. Streetcar Reimbursable Details

1. Scheduling Streetcar Reimbursable Details
 - a. Streetcar reimbursable details shall be staffed by a minimum of

two sworn members.

NOTE: In accordance with this order, members working streetcar reimbursable details shall patrol as single-officer (i.e., "10-99") unit. Members shall operate in a manner to maximize coverage of the streetcar service area.

- b. The Streetcar Reimbursable Detail Coordinator shall:
 - (1) Submit a teletype request through the Homeland Security Bureau (HSB) to announce the availability of assignments.
 - (2) Select members for streetcar reimbursable details on a first come, first serve basis.
- c. In accordance with GO-HSC-806.01 (Reimbursable Details, Police Escorts, and Special Events):
 - (1) Members shall only be excused from assigned details for exigent circumstances (e.g., sick or emergency leave).
 - (2) Absent exigent circumstances members shall remain responsible for their assigned details unless a replacement can be identified by the Streetcar Reimbursable Detail Coordinator.
 - (3) Members who are unable to work a detail shall contact the Streetcar Reimbursable Detail Coordinator as soon as possible, but in no case later than forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the detail start time.
 - (4) The Streetcar Reimbursable Detail Coordinator shall obtain incident summary (IS) numbers for members who fail to report to a streetcar reimbursable detail, absent exigent circumstances.

2. Members Working Streetcar Reimbursable Details

- a. In accordance with GO-HSC-806.01 (Reimbursable Details, Police Escorts, and Special Events), no member shall work a streetcar reimbursable detail without having an approved TACIS code prior to the event.
- b. Members who work a streetcar reimbursable detail shall:
 - (1) Be a sworn member the rank of sergeant or below.

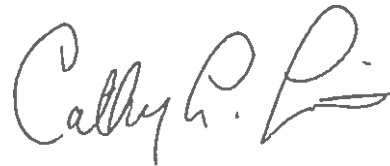
- (2) Successfully complete the requisite "MPD D.C. Streetcar Introduction" training module prior to participating in streetcar reimbursable details.

NOTE: The training module is available online by accessing the "Learning Management" link on the MPD Intranet home page.

- (3) Be in a full-duty status.
 - (4) Be attired in the uniform of the day with their required equipment (e.g. Sam Browne belt, soft body armor, MPD authorized hat, visibility vest and whistle).
 - (5) Not be an uncertified probationary member.
- c. Members shall sign in at the Streetcar Control Center located at 2500 Benning Road, N.E., and obtain a streetcar radio upon arriving at a detail. At the conclusion of the detail, the member shall return the streetcar radio to the Streetcar Control Center prior to checking off.
 - d. Members shall go in service with the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) Fifth District Dispatcher, make notifications to the CIC, and the Watch Commanders of the First and Fifth Districts that they are in-service.
 - e. Members shall patrol as a single-officer (i.e., "10-99") unit and operate in a manner to maximize coverage of the streetcar service area.
 - f. Members shall maintain high visibility and, to the greatest extent practical, divide their time between patrolling the streetcar platforms, inside the cars and along the streetcar routes.
 - g. Members are reminded to:
 - (1) Be diligent regarding suspicious activity in and around streetcars with an emphasis on suspects carrying weapons and explosives in accordance with GO-HSC-802.06 (Suspicious Activity Reporting Program).
 - (2) Take appropriate action in reference to bomb threats in accordance with GO-HSC-805.04 (Bomb Threats and Explosive Devices).

V. CROSS REFERENCES

- A. GO-SPT-401.03 (Traffic Crash Reports)
- B. GO-SPT-404.02 (Processing Reimbursable Details)
- C. GO-HSC-802.06 (Suspicious Activity Reporting Program)
- D. GO-HSC-805.04 (Bomb Threats and Explosive Devices)
- E. GO-HSC-806.01 (Reimbursable Details, Police Escorts, and Special Events)



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CLL:PAB:MOC

Offenses Applicable to Streetcar Operators

D.C. Official Code § 50-2201.04 (Speeding and Reckless Driving)

D.C. Official Code § 50-2201.28 (Right of Way Crosswalks)

D.C. Official Code § 50- 2203.01 (Negligent Homicide)

D.C. Official Code § 50- 2203.02 (Negligent Homicide Included in Manslaughter where Death Due to Operation of Vehicle)

D.C. Official Code § 50-2206.11 (Driving Under the Influence (DUI) of Alcohol or a Drug)

D.C. Official Code § 50- 2206.14 (Operating While Impaired)

Civil Infractions Applicable to Streetcar Operators

18 DCMR §§2105.1 and 2105.2 (Traffic Control Signal Violations)

18 DCMR § 2210.2 (Emergency Vehicles and Apparatus)

18 DCMR § 2200.1 (Speeding)

18 DCMR §§2208.11 and 2208.12 (Failure to Yield Right of Way to Pedestrian at Crosswalk)

18 DCMR §2216 (Railroad Crossing Violations)

18 DCMR §2221 (Miscellaneous Moving Violations)

18 DCMR §§2000.4 and 2103 (Failure to Obey Instructions of an Official Traffic Control Device)