

209.00 - BARRICADES, HIGHWAY CLOSURES, AND ROADBLOCKS

209.01 Barricades and Temporary Traffic Control Devices

- (1) Barricades or other traffic Control devices may be used to control or assist in controlling temporary traffic problems caused by malfunctioning traffic control devices, adverse road and/or weather conditions, accidents, crime scenes, and other hazardous or emergency situations not requiring continuous police presence.
- (2) Requests for temporary traffic control devices will be made to the police dispatcher who will then notify the Street Maintenance Division of the request. Street Maintenance services are available on a twenty-four (24) hour basis, and will order the barricades or other temporary traffic control devices. Street Maintenance will also be responsible for their removal.
- (3) If the hazard requiring the barricade is a serious one, officers should wait for the arrival of Street Maintenance personnel and assist in the placing of the barricades.
- (4) Arrangements for barricades and other movable traffic control devices for special events will be made through the Special Events Unit of the Special Operations Division. The Special Events Unit and the contract barricade supplier will be responsible for the placement and removal of the devices.

209.02 Interstate and Major Highway Closures

- (1) Upon determining the need to close a highway, officers will:
 - a. Estimate the time and extent of the closure.
 - b. Notify the dispatcher of the closure and request any additional assistance that might be needed.
- (2) Upon receiving information of a closure, the Communications Bureau will:
 - a. Announce the closure over the METS line so the State Patrol, other law enforcement agencies that might be affected, and the news media will be informed of the problem.
 - b. Contact the State Patrol by telephone to assure they have received the information.
 - c. Notify an on-duty traffic supervisor of the situation.

209.03 Roadblocks and Forced Stops

- (1) FLEEING VEHICLES - The use of police vehicles or other obstacles as roadblocks to stop fleeing vehicles is impractical in an urban setting and rarely a justifiable police tactic because of the risks and hazards involved. Only on the direction of the managing supervisor of a pursuit, as a last resort, and to stop an individual who presents an extreme danger to the public, will a roadblock or other forced stop method be used. See OMS 204.01(2) c.3.c.
- (2) DETOURS - Police vehicles may be used as a temporary aid in directing traffic, blocking roads due to inclement weather or adjacent to crime scenes, serious accidents, chemical spills, fires or other events presenting a danger to the public, and to control vehicular traffic that might impede or disrupt the handling of such operations.
 - a. Officers using vehicles in this manner should not remain in the vehicle when there is a risk to personal safety.
 - b. Barricades should be used in lieu of police vehicles when the closure of the road is for an extended period of time. See OMS 209.01.
- (3) FIXED POSITION CHECKPOINTS - Fixed position checkpoints may be established for vehicle safety checks, equipment and authorization violations such as overweight vehicles or hazardous material movement, the detection of drivers under the influence of alcohol and other similar violations. Checkpoints will be operated under the direction of a supervisor, in accordance with current state law and in a manner that minimizes traffic hazards and inconvenience to the public.

