

MINNEOTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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EFFECTIVE DATE: **October 8, 2018** *(This order supersedes all previous releases.)*

SUBJECT: VEHICLE OPERATION WITHOUT HEADLIGHTS

1.0 **PURPOSE:**

It is the purpose of this general order to establish policy when an officer of the Minneota Police Department can operate a department vehicle without headlights and to meet the requirements of Minnesota State Statutes dealing with the operation of Police Vehicles without headlights.

2.0 **POLICY:**

It is the policy of this department that no marked or unmarked city owned and/or leased vehicle may be driven after the hours of darkness without headlights except:

- 2.1 In accordance with a legitimate law enforcement purpose; when the officer reasonably believes that operating the vehicle without lights is necessary to investigate criminal or suspected criminal activity.
- 2.2 By a full-time police officer.

3.0 **AN OFFICER MAY NOT OPERATE WITHOUT LIGHTS:**

- 3.1 On inter-state highways
- 3.2 At speeds greater than what is reasonable and prudent under existing weather, road, and traffic conditions.
- 3.3 In situations where the officer is an active participant in pursuing a motor vehicle being operated in violation of Minnesota Statue 609.487 – Fleeing a Peace Officer In a Motor Vehicle.
- 3.4 In personal vehicles, except those under lease to the city.

In all cases due to the inherent dangers involved, officer's conduct must be reasonable and vehicles must be operated with due care and caution.