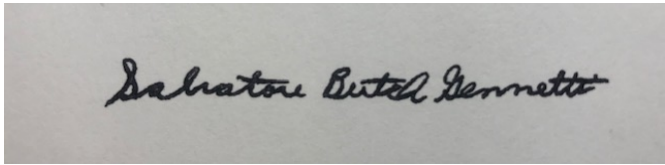



<h1>MALDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT</h1> <h2>MOTOR CYCLE POLICY</h2>		
<p>Massachusetts police accreditation standards referenced: 33.6.1; 41.1.3; 41.2.2</p>		<p>GENERAL ORDER GEN 2023-005 POLICY NUMBER: TRA-003</p>
<p><u>Effective Date:</u> 01/12/2023 Total Pages: 3</p>	<p><i>ISSUING AUTHORITY</i></p> <hr/> <p>Police Commissioner</p>  <p><i>Salvatore "Butch" Gennetti</i></p>	

I. BACKGROUND:

In an effort to further enhance our abilities to provide the best community service available, it shall be the policy of the Malden Police Department to utilize motorcycles in community services and traffic assignments when available. Only trained personnel shall be allowed to operate the motorcycles at the sole discretion of the Chief of Police and/or his/her designee. [33.6.1](#); [41.1.3](#)

II. Restrictions:

A. No departmental personnel shall operate, move, or otherwise tamper with department motorcycles unless duly licensed to operate a motorcycle in the state of Massachusetts; trained and authorized to do so. This training and assignment will be at the sole discretion of the Chief of Police and/or his/her designee. [33.6.1](#); [41.1.3](#)

B. Trained motorcycle officers shall not allow untrained officers to operate departmental motorcycles. Possession of a motorcycle endorsement does not constitute proper departmental training or authorization. [41.1.3](#)

C. Motor officers shall not use the motorcycle to transport any stranded motorist, prisoner, or other person in need of transportation. [41.2.2 \(C\)](#); [41.1.3](#)

D. Under no circumstances should a motor cycle be involved in a motor vehicle pursuit. [41.1.3](#); [41.2.2\(C\)](#)

III. Care and Maintenance:

A. Prior to and following patrol, each motorcycle officer shall be responsible to inspect his assigned motorcycle for cleanliness and proper mechanical function. Any damage discovered, or malfunction shall be immediately reported to a traffic supervisor. The supervisor will then note any damage and forward a memo to Chief or his/her designee's office who shall ensure that it is inspected by a qualified mechanic to determine if it is safely operable. If the

motorcycle needs repair, a request for service will be placed. Under no circumstance will any officer attempt to fix or otherwise repair the motorcycle. **41.1.3**

- B.** It shall be the responsibility of each motorcycle officer to keep the motorcycle clean. **41.1.3**
- C.** It shall be the responsibility of each motorcycle officer to keep the motorcycle fueled. Particular care must be taken to avoid spilling gasoline on the painted finish of the motorcycle.
- D.** Department motorcycles will be stored in the police garage.

IV. REQUIRED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT:

- A.** Motor officers shall wear protective equipment when operating departmental motorcycles. This equipment shall include helmet, safety glasses, leather gloves, and leather boots. Either raincoats or reflective cross straps may be worn at the discretion of the motor officer. When more than one motorcycle is assigned during the same duty tour all officers shall wear the same uniform.
- B.** All emergency lights and siren are attached to the motorcycle with switches located on the handlebars.

V. OPERATION:

- A.** Motorcycle officers will be assigned as a special detail, or as a traffic enforcement unit at the discretion of the Chief or his/her designee.
- B.** Motorcycle officers assigned to parades, funeral escorts, or any approved special detail will be assigned at the discretion of the Chief of Police and/or his/her designee.
- C.** Motorcycle officers sent to an approved training facility authorized by the Chief of Police and/or his/her designee are the only authorized officers to operate the department motorcycle. **41.1.3**
- D.** Headlights shall be illuminated at all times during operation. This will assist in providing the motorcycle more visibility, providing greater protection against unsafe lane changes and right of way violators. Low beam headlights shall be utilized when running with emergency lighting equipment activated.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:

- A.** If a motorcycle needs to be towed for any reason, the department's authorized towing company will be called. Towing of motorcycles in any other manner is prohibited.
- B.** Should a motorcycle officer become aware of any health condition that may adversely affect their coordination or balance, they shall bring this information to the attention of their immediate supervisor for alternative assignments/duties. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the motorcycle officer to keep their supervisor apprised of their fitness for duty in this capacity.
- C.** During inclement weather (storms, rain, sleet, hail, lightning, high winds, etc.) it shall be mandatory to discontinue motorcycle patrol and return the motorcycle to storage. Officers are required to discontinue patrol due to adverse weather conditions shall be assigned to a patrol car or another assignment at the discretion of their immediate supervisor. **41.1.3**
- D.** Motorcycle patrols during light rain or scattered showers will be at the discretion of the motor officer along with the Traffic Unit supervisor.
- E.** Whenever feasible, motorcycle officers should have assistance prior to affecting a high-risk stop. Motorcycle officers are at an immediate disadvantage lacking the protective qualities inherent in a four-wheel patrol vehicle.

F. Officers with a valid motorcycle endorsement will be allowed to operate the motorcycle for training purposes prior to the departmental certification course. This section only pertains to those officers selected to attend a police motorcycle certification course and does not authorize officers to conduct normal patrol or traffic assignments until the certification course is complete.