



**Maryland-National Capital Park Police  
Prince George’s County Division**



**DIVISION DIRECTIVE**

TITLE <b>DRIVER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (DIP)</b>		PROCEDURE NUMBER <b>PG418.1</b>	
SECTION <b>Operational Procedures</b>	DISTRIBUTION <b>A</b>	EFFECTIVE DATE <b>09/01/19</b>	REVIEW DATE <b>05/01/21</b>
REPLACES <b>PG418.1 “Driver Improvement Program,” issued 03/22/19</b>			
RELATED DIRECTIVES <b>PG418.0</b>	REFERENCES <b>CALEA 41</b>	AUTHORITY  <i>S.R. Johnson</i> <b>Chief Stanley R. Johnson</b>	

**I. PURPOSE**

This directive establishes policy and procedural guidelines pertaining to experienced police officers (EPOs) hired by this Division, officers involved in a preventable vehicle accident, and officers who have received six or more automated moving violations within a two-year period.

**II. POLICY**

When operating a police vehicle, the safety of the public and the officer are foremost. Officers shall bear in mind that the use of emergency vehicle equipment only requests the right-of-way; it does not guarantee it. Officers must adhere to all state and local traffic laws when not responding to an emergency situation.

Each officer shall be individually responsible for the safety of the public he/she serves. These provisions shall not relieve the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property, nor shall these provisions protect the operator from the consequences of reckless disregard for the safety of others.

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#### III. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Police Vehicle**: Any vehicle owned or leased by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission **and** is registered with the State of Maryland as an emergency vehicle **and** is equipped with a siren **and** revolving or flashing red and/or blue overhead emergency lights and/or dash light and/or visor light and/or red or blue grill lights.
- B. **Preventable Vehicle Accident**: Any accident in which the driver failed to exercise every reasonable precaution to prevent the accident.
- C. **Automated Moving Violation**: Speed camera violations or red-light camera violations.
- D. **Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC)** is designed to provide driver training on pursuit driving, vehicle safety, professional police driving, driving techniques, and emergency driving techniques. It is also designed to give the driver a basic understanding of vehicle dynamics.
- E. **Remedial Driving Program**: A program, designed by a Master EVOC Instructor and provided for officers who are experiencing difficulties with everyday driving techniques. The program is designed to reinforce the techniques taught to the officer as a recruit in the academy.

#### IV. PROCEDURES

- A. Officers involved in a preventable vehicle accident will be required to attend the Park Police Remedial Driving Program at a departmentally approved driving course. The remedial driving course is designed to simulate normal driving expectations. Officers will be introduced to the course by a Park Police Master EVOC Instructor. The officer will be given detailed instructions on how to complete the course and will be given two “familiarization runs” before beginning qualification. EVOC Recertification consists of the following five courses, given to all academy recruits. Officers must successfully complete 4 out of 9 qualification runs with no violations (cone strikes, bumps or touches).

##### EVOC Recertification

- Y-Turn U-Turn – timed
- Emergency Turn Around – timed
- Controlled Lane Change – timed
- Skills – timed
- Evasive – minimum speed required

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- B. Officers will be given nine qualification runs. Officers must successfully complete 4 out of the nine runs with no violations (cone strikes, bumps or touches) within the allotted time frame.
- C. Officers who fail to successfully complete the remedial driving course will be given a second attempt the next available day.
- D. Failure to successfully complete the required remedial driving course or the required EVOC recertification may result in the removal of the officer from the vehicle take-home program at the discretion of the Park Police Division Chief.
- E. Officers who are assigned to a new type of vehicle (pick-up truck, sport utility vehicle, etc.) will be required to attend EVOC familiarization training with that vehicle at the next available date.
- F. Experienced police officers (EPOs) hired by this agency will be required to attend EVOC familiarization training with their issued departmental vehicle. Whenever possible, this training will take place prior to entering into the field training program.
- G. Officers receiving six or more automated moving violations within a two-year period will be required to attend the remedial driving program. Additionally, the officer may be removed from the vehicle take-home program for a period not to exceed six months.
- H. The Office of Accountability and Oversight will identify officers who are involved in a preventable vehicle accident and/or has received six or more automated moving violations within a two-year period and notify Support Operations monthly. Support Operations will be responsible for EVOC scheduling.

**End of Document**