



ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE GENERAL ORDER SEAT BELT USAGE



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To: All Deputy Sheriffs & Office Personnel
 From: Sheriff Carl E. DuBois
 Subject: General Order # 05-139- Seat Belt Usage

PURPOSE: The purpose of this General Order is to assure maximum operator and passenger safety, thus minimizing the possibility of death or injury as a result of a motor vehicle accident. This policy will apply to those personnel operating or riding in Sheriff's Office vehicles.

I. REQUIREMENTS.

A. To assure the safety of all personnel, safety belts shall be worn by drivers and passengers in all vehicles owned or maintained by the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Seat belts shall be worn at all times that the vehicle is in operation.

II. PROCEDURE.

- A. Sheriff's Office personnel shall use the safety belts installed by the manufacturer, and they shall be worn properly and securely fastened when operating or riding in any vehicle so equipped if used while on duty.
- B. The driver of the vehicle is responsible for insuring compliance by all occupants of the vehicle they are operating. Approved child safety restraints shall be used for all children of age, size, or weight for which such restraints are prescribed by law.
- C. No person shall operate a Sheriff's Office vehicle in which any safety belt in the driver's seating position is inoperable.
- D. No person shall modify, remove, deactivate or otherwise tamper with the vehicle safety belts except those personnel whose responsibility it is to repair and maintain said vehicles. Personnel who discover an inoperable restraint system shall report the defect to the appropriate supervisor. Prompt action will be taken to replace or repair the system.

- E. Person(s) under arrest and being transported in Department vehicle(s) may, depending on the circumstances, be secured in the vehicle by a safety belt in seating positions for which safety belts are provided by the vehicle manufacturer.

REFERENCE:
ACCREDITATION STANDARD 42.3