

STOCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

ESCORTING SICK OR INJURED PERSONS
SUBJECT

DATE: March 28, 2019

NO: M-4

FROM: CHIEF ERIC JONES

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

INDEX: Escorting Sick/Injured Persons
Providing Escort for Sick/Injured Persons

I. POLICY

Only Sworn personnel of the Stockton Police Department may provide necessary escorts to a hospital for a citizen who is seriously injured or ill and waiting for paramedics would be an impractical. Permission must be obtained from the Watch Commander or a shift supervisor prior to providing an escort.

II. LAW

Every police and traffic officer is hereby expressly prohibited from using a siren or driving at an illegal speed when serving as an escort of any vehicle, except when the escort or conveyance is furnished for the preservation of life or when expediting movements of supplies and personnel for any federal, state, or local governmental agency during a national emergency, or state of war emergency, or state of emergency, or local emergency as defined in Section 8558 of the Government Code (California Vehicle Code 21057).

III. PROCEDURE

- A. Any officer being stopped by a citizen, or receiving a request for any escort will first determine the seriousness of the injury or illness.
1. In situations where the citizen is not seriously injured or ill, the officer will have the citizen continue without an escort or will summon paramedics to the scene.
 2. If the injury or illness is serious and can be considered life threatening, the officer will determine the safest and most practical course of action.
 - a. Call for paramedics.
 - b. Transfer the citizen to the police vehicle for transportation.
 - c. Provide an escort.
 - (1) Generally escorts should be provided by marked patrol vehicles equipped with an emergency light bar.
 - (2) The patrol unit should lead the escorted vehicle at a safe speed and should assure conditions are safe to proceed through intersections.
 - (3) Solo motor officers may provide escorts.
 - (4) Unmarked police vehicles equipped with emergency lights and sirens may also provide escorts, but it is preferred that marked police vehicles provide escorts whenever possible.