

Occupational Safety and Health, SOG 225

DRIVERS OF VEHICLES

1. Scope. This standard applies to all members who drive or operate a motorized vehicle owned or used by the department. It was promulgated to:
 - A. Establish minimum standards for members who are allowed to drive or operate a motorized vehicle.
 - B. Establish minimum safety regulations for the operation of a motorized vehicle.
2. General.
 - A. Driver's license:
 - (1) All members of the department shall have a valid driver's license that is appropriate for the types of vehicles that the member is allowed to operate.
 - (2) All members shall furnish proof of their possession of a valid Wisconsin driver's license any time that they are requested by a supervisor to do so.
 - (3) The fire chief shall check the driver's license of each member under his command on an annual basis to determine that each member possesses a valid Wisconsin driver's license.
 - (4) Members shall report any change in the status of their driver's license to the fire chief.
 - (5) Any member who has his license suspended shall notify the fire chief immediately and shall not be allowed to drive or operate a vehicle until his license has been restored. Failure to possess a valid Wisconsin driver's license shall be grounds for suspension.
 - B. For the purposes of this standard, motorized vehicles shall be divided into two categories: Category One and Category Two.
 - (1) Category One vehicles are those vehicles used primarily for fire suppression purposes and that have a gross vehicle weight (gvw) that exceeds 11,000 lbs.

- (2) Category Two vehicles are those vehicles that have a gw of 11,000 lbs. or less and are primarily used for support services.
 - C. No member shall be allowed to drive or operate a Category One vehicle unless he has successfully completed the department's driver training program or is a student driver under the supervision of a qualified driver.
 - D. All vehicles shall be operated in a safe and prudent manner, and all drivers shall comply with all traffic laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the department.
 - E. No driver shall move a vehicle until all persons in it are in an approved riding position and are properly secured.
 - F. Drivers responding to emergencies shall comply with the provisions of SOG 201 - Emergency Response.
 - G. A driver shall not back a vehicle unless his view is clear and unobstructed. Apparatus shall not be backed unless there is at least one spotter to the rear of the apparatus to assist in the operation.
3. Responsibilities.
- A. Drivers shall be directly responsible for the safe and prudent operation of their vehicles in all situations.
 - B. When a driver is under the direct supervision of an officer, the officer shall be responsible for the actions of the driver.
 - C. The fire department safety officer shall monitor the status of all the members of the department to ensure that all those who drive and operate vehicles have had the proper training, possess valid driver's licenses, are insurable, and have had a defensive driving course.
 - D. Drivers shall be responsible for ensuring that all of their vehicle's safety equipment is functioning properly and that their vehicles are safe to drive prior to operating them.

4. Accidents.

- A. The driver of a motor vehicle shall immediately notify his supervisor and the appropriate law enforcement agency if he is involved in an accident. All reports and information concerning the accident shall be forwarded to the fire chief for review, and to the Village Clerk to forward to the appropriate insurance carrier.
- B. Drivers and supervisors shall be familiar with the provisions of the District's Substance Abuse Policy. (See Attachment 2.) Any driver involved in an accident that falls within the scope of the policy shall be tested whenever required.
- C. The supervisor shall notify the fire chief whenever an accident involves an injury, fatality, or major damage to a vehicle, and the fire chief shall notify the Village Clerk.