

IDAHO STATE POLICE PROCEDURE

07.13 PATROL VEHICLE OPERATIONS

I. GENERAL

- A. Idaho State Police (ISP) Troopers drive at or below the speed limit while on patrol and when traveling from one point in the state to another. Operation of the patrol vehicle is appropriate for weather, roadway, and traffic conditions at all times.

II. NON-EMERGENCY RESPONSES

- A. Responses to calls for service and requests for assistance in non-emergency situations are executed at or below the speed limit and with regard to existing roadway and traffic conditions.

III. EMERGENCY RESPONSES

- A. [Idaho Code § 49-623](#) permits Troopers responding to an emergency to:
 - 1. proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign after slowing down as necessary for safe operations;
 - 2. exceed the maximum posted speed limits so long as there is no endangerment of life or property;
 - 3. disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified areas; and
 - 4. park or stand without regard to the parking or standing provision of the law.
- B. Idaho Code does not relieve Troopers of the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons nor does it protect them from the consequences of their actions.
- C. Troopers must activate their emergency lights and sirens when responding to an emergency in the manner described above. For extended emergency responses, Troopers may deactivate the siren until circumstances again warrant audio warning.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN RESIDENTIAL OR BUSINESS AREAS ARE TYPICALLY MORE HAZARDOUS TO THE PUBLIC AND THE OFFICER. MORE POTENTIAL DANGER IS INVOLVED AND A HEIGHTENED LEVEL OF CAUTION IS REQUIRED.

IV. TRANSPORTATION OF MEDICAL EMERGENCY MATERIALS

- A. Troopers may transport medical emergency materials such as blood, tissue or medicine with a supervisor's approval.
- B. The supervisor determines the emergency nature of the request and may direct the Trooper to take appropriate action.

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V. ESCORTS

- A. ISP Troopers do not ordinarily provide emergency “lead car” escorts in medical situations.
- B. The Trooper should determine the best course of action:
 - 1. summon an ambulance;
 - 2. transport the party in the patrol vehicle; or
 - 3. allow the transporting party to continue and advise the driver to obey traffic laws.
- C. Escorts may be authorized by the District Patrol shift supervisor to ensure personal safety of individuals or groups.

VI. PARKING

- A. Troopers subject to immediate response call-out must back their patrol vehicles into parking spaces unless doing so interferes with normal traffic flow or is prohibited by local business.
- B. Troopers not subject to immediate response may use conventional methods of parking.

VII. KEYS

- A. When on patrol, all Troopers carry at least two sets of keys to their patrol vehicle:
 - 1. the sets must be on separate key rings; and
 - 2. one set must always be kept on the Trooper’s person.

VIII. ANTI-THEFT DEVICE

- A. When patrol vehicles are equipped with an anti-theft device, this device:
 - 1. is activated at all times when prisoners are in custody and present in the vehicle;
 - 2. is not activated when taken in for maintenance;
 - 3. may be activated during other times at the Trooper’s discretion.

IX. CHILD SAFETY LOCKS

- A. When patrol vehicles used to transport prisoners are equipped with child safety locks, these locks are always activated except when the vehicle is taken in for maintenance.

X. OPERATION OF FORD 5.0 GT MUSTANG

- A. Troopers assigned to a Ford Mustang must have passed the Idaho State Police Ford Mustang EVOC training course prior to being assigned to a Mustang.

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- B. Troopers assigned to a Mustang may only operate the vehicle in Normal, Sport, or Ice mode. The use of Track or Drag mode may not be used under any circumstance other than an on ISP authorized training track.
- C. During law-enforcement activities the Ford Mustang should primarily stay on paved roads.
- D. Inclement weather.
 - 1. Mustangs should not be driven when roads are slick with snow or ice or when there is a high likelihood they will become slick.
 - 2. If the roads become slick while patrolling, the Ford Mustang will not be used for law enforcement activities until dry road conditions return.
 - 3. In the event the Trooper finds his or herself in slick conditions, extra caution should be taken when driving on wet or slick roads.
 - 4. When the Trooper is driving another patrol vehicle because of inclement weather, the Mustang should be parked at the District Office in a secure parking lot area for long term parking.
- E. The Ford Mustang should not be used to jump-start other vehicles. A portable jump box should be used instead.
- F. Due to limited ground clearance, crossing through the median of a controlled access center median, or any other center median is prohibited, unless it is a designated cross over.
- G. ISP personnel who have not passed the ISP Ford Mustang EVOC training course may operate a Ford Mustang for non-law enforcement purposes only. Such events include but are not limited to transportation to and from maintenance facilities, public relations events, and other non-law enforcement activities.
 - 1. In these circumstances, the Mustang may only be used in “normal mode”.
 - 2. Non-trained commissioned personnel may not engage in normal patrol functions except when an extenuating, emergency circumstance exists.