

# JACKSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Policy: 10-2  
Effective: 01-01-09  
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## TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

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**PURPOSE:** To give sworn personnel guidelines when issuing an Arkansas Uniform Law Enforcement Citations and performing traffic stops.

**POLICY:** Traffic law enforcement involves all law enforcement activities or operations which relate to observing, detecting, and preventing traffic law violations and taking appropriate action under the circumstances. Enforcement not only involves arrests and citations, it includes effective warnings to drivers and pedestrians which help prevent them from committing minor violations. Traffic law compliance is promoted through the judicious use of verbal and written warnings in place of traffic arrest. Traffic enforcement can be reactive to observed violations, at collisions, or in response to community concerns, or may be proactive, to effectively prevent traffic violations. Enforcement should be in proportion to traffic collisions with respect to time, place, and type of violation. However, overzealous enforcement without regard for the circumstances surrounding the violation causes disrespect for the law and poor relations between the Department and the community it serves. (7.30)

### DEFINITIONS:

- I. COVERT: Secret; not intended to be known, seen, or found out.
- II. OVERT: Unconcealed; done openly and without any attempt at concealment.
- III. CONSPICUOUS: Easily or clearly visible.

### PROCEDURES:

- I. TYPES OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS (7.30)
  - Enforcement action may consist of a verbal or written warning, citation, or physical arrest.
  - A. Officers will make a physical arrest under the following circumstances:
    - 1. When pertaining to Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or other Intoxicants.
    - 2. Whenever a felony has been committed involving a vehicle.
    - 3. Whenever the driver attempts to elude a law enforcement officer.
    - 4. When the officer has reason to believe that the person will not comply with the summons if issued.
  - B. An Arkansas Uniform Law Enforcement Citation should be issued to a violator who jeopardizes the safe and efficient flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, including hazardous moving violations or unsafe operations and improperly equipped vehicles.
  - C. Officers can use their discretion to issue a written warning as an enforcement alternative in response to minor traffic violations committed in those areas where the potential or incidence of a traffic collision is minimal and in the officers' judgment the use of the written warning will change the violator's behavior.
- II. HANDLING: SPECIAL CATEGORIES OF VIOLATORS
  - A. Non-residents: Officers should consider use of warnings for non-residents simply passing through this jurisdiction, who commits a minor, non-hazardous violation.