

POLICY #3400

OAK PARK HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY MANUAL

RE: LIGHTING EXEMPTION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES

Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.541

Effective Date: 12-21-2010

Revision Dates:

Policy # 6-613 replacing all previous 6-613 to 6-613.6

POLICY

It is the policy of the Oak Park Heights Police Department to provide a uniform guideline for all department personnel to use when operating a department vehicle with emergency lighting or without headlights, taillights or marine navigational lighting, while functioning as a peace officer.

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

- a. Vehicle: A motor vehicle or watercraft owned, leased or otherwise the property of the State of Minnesota or a political subdivision.
- b. Lights: refers to headlights, taillights and marine navigational lighting as Referenced in MN Statutes, Sections 84.87, 84.928, 169.48 to 169.65 and 86B.511.

PROCEDURE

A peace officer may not operate a vehicle without lights except in sub F:

- a. On an interstate highway
- b. At speeds greater than what is reasonable and prudent under existing weather, road and traffic conditions
- c. Faster than the posted speed limit
- d. In situations where the peace officer is an active participant in the pursuit of a motor vehicle in violation of MN Statutes, Section 609.487
- e. Contrary to the elements of MN Statutes, Section 169.541

- f. The officer must reasonably believe the operation of a motor vehicle without lights is necessary under the circumstances to investigate a criminal violation or suspected criminal violation of law or ordinance.
- g. Contrary to a directive or order by a superior officer.