

Subject: <b>Kinston Police Department</b>	Document #:		Effective Date:	Page:
<b>Vehicle Escorts</b>	<b>400 – 9</b>		<b>07-01-2019</b>	<b>1 of 1</b>
Approval: <b>Chief of Police</b>	Manual: <b>Policy and Procedure</b>			

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for vehicle escorts conducted by the department.

## II. DEFINITIONS

- B. Vehicle Escort: A police escort, also known as a law enforcement escort, is a feature offered by most law enforcement agencies to assist in transporting VIPs or other important individuals.

## III. POLICY

- A. Officers shall not initiate an *emergency vehicle* escort without first receiving clearance from the on-duty Shift Supervisor. Kinston Police Department personnel shall not provide escorts for emergency vehicles under normal circumstances. Exceptions may include: the emergency equipment on an emergency vehicle is malfunctioning; the driver of an emergency vehicle is not familiar with the area and requests assistance to the destination.
- B. Requests for *non-emergency escorts* should be made in advance and directed to the Major of the Patrol Division for consideration on a case-by-case basis. Types of non-emergency escorts provided by the Kinston Police Department include: parades; oversized loads or equipment; and special events. When a request for a non-emergency escort is approved, the Major of the Patrol Division or a designated supervisor shall plan and oversee the escort. The Major of the Patrol Division or the designee shall assign personnel as necessary to provide the escort and provide any other traffic control functions necessary to complete the escort. Factors to be considered when planning and conducting an escort include: type of escort; route to be taken; speed and length of escort; and expected traffic conditions.
- C. Officers and/or sentinels shall lead *funeral escorts* as requested and as calls for service will allow. Officers shall use marked vehicles equipped with warning lights and siren and shall have warning lights activated during the escort. Sentinels shall use a marked vehicle with amber warning lights and shall have warning lights activated during the escort. Officers and/or sentinels leading funeral escorts shall follow all traffic laws including traffic signals, direction of travel, and speed limits.

City Ordinance 21-47 provides procedures to ensure that all requests for funeral escorts are addressed in a proper and expedient manner.

- D. Kinston Police Department vehicles shall not be used to provide emergency escorts for civilian vehicles. If practical, the patient or victim should be transferred to the Lenoir County Emergency Medical Service (EMS) unit. The driver of the civilian vehicle should be directed to precede at normal speed in compliance with all traffic regulations.