

# GENERAL ORDER



Title	<b>Snow Emergency</b>		
Series / Number	<b>GO-OPS-803.02</b>		
Effective Date	<b>October 17, 2003</b>	Distribution	<b>B</b>
Replaces / Rescinds	<b>General Order 803.02 (Snow Emergency)</b>		

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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## I. BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), in conjunction with the Department of Public Works (DPW), has established guidelines for traffic control and mobilization during severe inclement weather. MPD has established policies and procedures to be utilized during severe inclement weather and/or snow emergencies and snow chain installation.

## II. POLICY

The policy of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) is to work closely with DPW and other government agencies, during severe and inclement weather and snow emergencies, to maintain traffic control and flow, remove stalled or abandoned vehicles and to ensure that all streets marked as Snow Emergency Routes remain clear. (CALEA 61.3.2-d)

## III. REGULATIONS

### A. Severe Inclement Weather

Whenever snow, sleet or freezing rain is creating a condition that makes the operation of Department vehicles difficult, and in the estimation of the Field Commander or EAC that road conditions are hazardous, the following procedures shall be adhered to when the District Watch Commander observes, or is notified of deteriorating weather (snow, sleet, or ice) conditions that cause adverse driving conditions, he/she shall monitor and advise the Synchronized Operations Command Center (SOCC).

### B. The SOCC shall keep the Field Commander and/or EAC advised of the status of road conditions and the possibility of snow chain installation.

1. The Field Commander and/or EAC shall make the decision to install snow chains. **No unit shall initiate snow chain installation until approval of the Field Commander and/or EAC.**

2. Once a decision is made to install snow chains, the SOCC shall page the following members to initiate snow chain installation procedures:
  - a. Command Staff
  - b. District Watch Commanders
  - c. SOD Watch Commander
  - d. OSD Watch Commander
  - e. Deputy Director, Corporate Support Group
  - f. Director, Business Services
  - g. Fleet Manager, Fleet Management Branch

C. Snow Emergency

1. Whenever snow, sleet or freezing rain is creating a condition making it necessary to prohibit the parking of motor vehicles on Snow Emergency Routes, or whenever a severe weather forecast is issued by the United States Weather Bureau, the Director, DPW, is authorized to declare a parking ban on Snow Emergency Routes.
2. Whenever the Director, DPW, announces that parking is prohibited on Snow Emergency Routes, members should refer to DCMR Title 18, Section 2219, entitled, "Severe Weather Traffic Controls: Snow Emergency Routes," and Section 2417, entitled, "Snow Emergency Parking Regulations," for procedures pertaining to snow emergencies.

D. Snow Emergency Plan

When the Director, DPW, orders the activation of the Snow Emergency Plan, members of the Department shall coordinate with DPW in clearing stalled vehicles from those streets designated as Snow Emergency Routes.

E. Snow Emergency Routes

1. All streets designated as Snow Emergency Routes, (see Attachment A) shall be indicated by special signs posted in both directions, on each block or at intervals not to exceed one thousand feet (1,000').
2. Members who are assigned to Snow Emergency Routes shall: (CALEA 61.4.3 b & c)
  - a. Be equipped with portable radios and operate on the City Wide One radio frequency;

- b. Ensure that traffic flows continuously;
- c. Ticket and request a tow crane for vehicles that obstruct passage on Snow Emergency Routes;
- d. Ensure that all streets marked as Snow Emergency Routes remain clear while the plan is in effect; and
- e. Sign each PD Form 197 (Authorization for Towing Service), and include a notation of the location where the vehicle was towed.

#### IV. PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES (CALEA 61.3.2-d)

##### A. Snow Chains Installation

1. District Vehicle Maintenance Officers (VMO) and/or Fleet Management Branch personnel shall handle the installation of all chains.
2. VMO's shall report to their respective units and await direction from the SOCC to begin chain installation.
3. District/Watch Commanders shall:
  - a. Ensure the appropriate level of staffing to install chains on Department vehicles. Units having staffing or operation issues at their designated site shall contact the Fleet Services Branch Manager at 576-5551 for assistance.
  - b. Assign a supervisor to coordinate and control the installation of chains according to the established unit plan.
  - c. Provide the SOCC with hourly updates as to the status of snow chain installations, to include the number and types of vehicles that have snow chains installed.
  - d. Maintain a record of which vehicles have the chains installed.
4. Snow chains shall be installed for the listed units at the following locations:
  - a. 1D and Harbor Patrol units shall have chains installed on their vehicles at 1D station located at 415 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SW
  - b. 2D units shall have chains installed on their vehicles at 2D station located at 3220 Idaho Avenue, NW
  - c. 3D and SOD Headquarters units shall have chains installed at 3D station located at 1620 V Street, NW

- d. 4D units shall have chains installed on their vehicles at 4D sub-station at 750 Park Road, NW
  - e. 5D, ERT, K-9, all wagons and two cranes shall have chains installed on their vehicles at Fleet Management Branch located at 2175 West Virginia Avenue, NE
  - f. 6D units shall have chains installed on their vehicles at 6D station located at 100 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, NE
  - g. 7D units shall have chains installed on their vehicles at 7D station at 2355 Alabama Avenue, SE
  - h. Headquarter and support units shall have chains installed on their vehicles at vendor A-Northwest Auto at 311 K Street, NW.
5. Snow chains shall not be removed until directed by the Field Commander or EAC.
- B. The SOCC shall begin the snow emergency operation as soon as possible after notification of a snow emergency in the District of Columbia and remain active until relieved by the Executive Assistant Chief of Police.
1. During the snow emergency period all activities shall be coordinated through the SOCC. The SOCC shall have representatives from, or be in direct contact with other law enforcement agencies, D.C. Department of Public Works, and the Office of Emergency Preparedness.
  2. The Commander, Special Operations Division (SOD) shall:
    - a. Serve as SOCC operations officer;
    - b. Coordinate the assignment of tow cranes with DPW;
    - c. Ensure that tow cranes are provided by DPW and assigned to the districts;
    - d. Provide to DPW the names and specific locations of the individual members of the districts who shall be assigned to the tow cranes;
    - e. Advise each district Watch Commander of the number of tow cranes they shall be receiving and of any special instructions;
    - f. Maintain a running resume of all activities associated with the emergency.

- g. Prepare a summary after-action report to the Chief of Police and provide copies to all the District Commanders concerning the Department's operation during the emergency. This report shall also have the complete running resume of the activities attached.
3. The District Watch Commanders shall report the following to the SOCC: (CALEA 61.4.3-c)
  - a. The number of available on duty personnel;
  - b. The number of vehicles available for service. This shall include all vehicles (Department and private, with operators available with four wheel drive); and
  - c. The names of the individual members who shall be assigned to the tow cranes provided by DPW.
  - d. Obtain all PD Form197s and the tow crane log sheets from each of the tow cranes every two hours;
  - e. Fax the tow crane log sheets to the SOCC at two-hour intervals;
  - f. Ensure that all PD Form197s are filed, in a separate folder, and sorted by contractor name (including DPW); and
  - g. Hand deliver all PD Form197s and the original tow crane log sheets to the SOCC at the conclusion of the emergency.
  - h. Coordinate the assignment of members to critical intersections to ensure an even flow of traffic; and
4. Once the Snow Emergency is operational in the SOCC, the district Watch Commanders shall personally provide situation reports to the SOCC according to the following schedule:
  - a. Districts 1, 3, and 5 (ROC Central) hourly on the half hour.
  - b. Districts 2 and 4 (ROC North) and districts 6 and 7 (ROC East), hourly on the hour.
  - c. Situations which are unusual or which require immediate attention shall be reported to the SOCC without delay. Hourly reports shall include:
    - (1) Damage to Department equipment;
    - (2) Injuries to civilians on public space; and

- (3) Major traffic accidents that can be attributed to the snow emergency.
5. When the emergency is lifted, the SOD Commander shall advise the Executive Assistant Chief of Police who shall decide the proper time to terminate the snow emergency.

C. Snow Emergency Plan

When a snow emergency is in effect, or is about to be declared by the Director, DPW, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. The Field Commander shall ensure that the following personnel are notified:
  - a. The Chief of Police;
  - b. Executive Assistant Chief of Police;
  - c. All Senior Executive Directors;
  - d. All Assistant Chiefs;
  - e. Commander, Special Operations Division;
  - f. District Commanders;
  - g. Director, Fleet Maintenance Branch;
  - h. District Watch Commanders
2. The Field Commander shall consult with the Executive Assistant Chief of Police concerning the need to hold over existing field personnel and the possibility of calling in additional personnel. The final decision concerning this issue shall be the responsibility of the Executive Assistance Chief of Police and/or the Chief of Police.
3. District Commanders shall:
  - a. Prepare and forward an after-action report, within two working days, to the SOD Commander outlining:
    - (1) The number of personnel worked, to include regular, compensatory and overtime hours;
    - (2) Injuries to personnel with specific names and copies of the PD Form 42; and

- (3) Any damage to Department equipment. Specific descriptions of the equipment shall be listed and copies of all PD Form 43s shall be attached.
  - b. Prepare a staffing report for all on duty personnel and a projection of all scheduled personnel for the next two tours of duty; and
5. The Commander, Special Operations Division (SOD) or his/her designee shall respond to the Synchronized Operations Command Center to assume control. The Commander shall not make any commitments that would create a financial obligation on the Department without consulting the Chief Financial Officer.
6. The Director, Fleet Maintenance Branch (FMB), shall mobilize the Fleet Maintenance Branch personnel in sufficient numbers to meet the needs of the Department. The status of the tow cranes and any snowplows available shall be reported to the Synchronized Operations Command Center (SOCC). Once deployed, the tow cranes and any available snowplows shall be under the control of the SOCC. All assignments for these vehicles shall originate from the SOCC.
7. The Chief Financial Officer, shall be available to the Commander, SOD to provide the necessary support and guidance related to the financial and contracting aspects of the emergency.
8. The Watch Commander, Communications Division, shall:
  - a. Assign a dispatcher and an assistant to the SOCC.
  - b. Ensure that all snow emergency dispatching and related Computer Assisted Dispatching (CAD) functions shall be performed from the SOCC.
  - c. Ensure that dispatchers notify teletype of the make, body style, tag number, district, color, and the location where the vehicle is being moved;

// SIGNED //  
Charles H. Ramsey  
Chief of Police

Attachment

CHR:NMJ:MAR:uk

**Segments of Snow Emergency Routes  
Where MPD Is Responsible for Ticketing and Towing**

**First District**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
9 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW & SW	Southwest Freeway	Constitution Avenue
11 <sup>th</sup> Street, SE	M Street	11 <sup>th</sup> Street Bridge
14 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	14 <sup>th</sup> Street Bridge	Independence Ave.
Independence Ave., SE	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	14 <sup>th</sup> Street
M Street, SE	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	12 <sup>th</sup> Street
Massachusetts Ave., NE	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	4 <sup>th</sup> Street
New York Ave., NW	North Capitol Street	7 <sup>th</sup> Street
North Carolina Ave., NE	East Capitol Street	C Street
Pennsylvania Ave., SE	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	Sousa Bridge
H Street, NE	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street	7 <sup>th</sup> Street

**Second District**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
27 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	Virginia Avenue	K Street
34 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	Massachusetts Avenue	Reno Road
41 <sup>st</sup> Street, NW	Reno Road	Western Avenue
Arizona Avenue, NW	Canal Road	Loughboro Road
Canal Road, NW	Chain Bridge Road	M Street
Cathedral Avenue, NW	Rock Creek Park	Connecticut Avenue
Chain Bridge	Chain Bridge Road	Virginia Line
Connecticut Avenue, NW	Western Avenue	Florida Avenue
Dalecarlia Parkway, NW	Massachusetts Avenue	Loughboro Road
E Street Expressway	20 <sup>th</sup> Street	Potomac River Fwy
Foxhall Road, NW	Loughboro Road	Canal Road
1-66 & Roosevelt Bridge	Whitehurst Freeway/Ramps	D.C. Line
Key Bridge	M St./Whitehurst Fwy	Virginia Line
Loughboro Road, NW	MacArthur Boulevard	Foxhall Road
M Street, NW	Canal Road	Pennsylvania Ave.
Massachusetts Ave., NW	Western Avenue	23 <sup>rd</sup> Street
Military Road, NW	Western Avenue	Beach Drive
Nebraska Avenue, NW	Foxhall Road	Military Road
Pennsylvania Ave., NW	M Street	25 <sup>th</sup> Street
Reno Road, NW	41 <sup>st</sup> Street	34 <sup>th</sup> Street
Western Avenue, NW	Connecticut Avenue	Massachusetts Ave.
Whitehurst Fwy/Ramps	K Street	Key Bridge/M Street
Wisconsin Avenue, NW	Western Avenue	Massachusetts Ave.



**Third District**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
7 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	Massachusetts Avenue	Florida Avenue
9 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	Mt Vernon Place	Florida Avenue
13 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	Massachusetts Avenue	Harvard Street
16 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	N. Side of Scott Circle	Harvard Street
Georgia Avenue, NW	Florida Avenue	Harvard Street

**Fourth District**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
13 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	Harvard Street	Piney Branch Road
16 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW	Harvard Street	D.C. Line
Blair Road, NW	Eastern Avenue	North Capitol Street
Clermont Drive, NW	Hawaii Avenue, NE	Harewood Road NE
*Columbia Road, NW (N/S)	Michigan Avenue, NW	16 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW
Georgia Avenue, NW	Harvard Street	Eastern Avenue
**Harvard St./Hobart Pl., NW	5 <sup>th</sup> Street	16 <sup>th</sup> Street (S/S)
Hawaii Avenue, NE	North Capitol Street	Clermont Drive
**Irving St., NE & NW (S/S)	Michigan Avenue, NE	16 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW
*Kenyon St./Pl., NW (N/S)	Irving Street	14 <sup>th</sup> Street
Michigan Avenue, NE	Brookland Avenue	Columbia Road
Missouri Avenue, NW	16 <sup>th</sup> Street	North Capitol Street
New Hampshire Avenue, NW	Missouri Avenue	D.C. Line
North Capitol Street	Blair Road, NW	Hawaii Avenue, NE
North Capitol Street	Harewood Road	Michigan Avenue
*Park Road, NW (N/S)	14 <sup>th</sup> Street	16 <sup>th</sup> Street
Piney Branch Road, NW	13 <sup>th</sup> Street	Eastern Avenue
Riggs Road, NE	Missouri Avenue, NW	Eastern Avenue,NE
South Dakota Avenue, NE	Riggs Road	Eastern Avenue,NE
Military Road, NW	Beach Drive	16 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW

**Fifth District**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
6 <sup>th</sup> Street, NE	Florida Avenue	Penn Street
9 <sup>th</sup> Street, NE	Brentwood Parkway	Brentwood Road
17 <sup>th</sup> Street, NE	Benning Road	Bladensburg Road
Benning Road, NE	Bladensburg Road	Anacostia River

\*(N/S) = North Side  
 \*\*(S/S) = South Side

**Fifth District (Continued)**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Brentwood Parkway, NE	Penn Street	New York Avenue
Brentwood Road, NE	T Street	Rhode Island Ave.
C Street, NE	North Carolina Ave.	East Capitol Street
Michigan Avenue, NE	Brookland Avenue	Eastern Avenue
H Street, NE	8 <sup>th</sup> Street	Benning Road
Independence Avenue, SE	15 <sup>th</sup> Street	19 <sup>th</sup> Street
Mt. Olivet Road, NE	Bladensburg Road	Brentwood Parkway
New York Avenue, NE	Florida Avenue	D.C. Line
North Capitol Street	Michigan Avenue	Rhode Island Ave.
North Carolina Avenue, NE	Constitution Avenue	East Captiol Street
Saratoga Avenue, NE	Brentwood Road	Rhode Island Ave.
South Dakota Avenue, NE	Gallatin Street	New York Avenue
T Street, NE	9 <sup>th</sup> Street	Brentwood Road

**Sixth District**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Anacostia Freeway, SE	Pennsylvania Avenue	East Capitol Street
Benning Road, NE	Anacostia River	Southern Ave., SE
East Capitol Street, SE	Ramp/Independence Ave.	Southern Avenue
Eastern Avenue, NE	Kenilworth Avenue	Minnesota Avenue
Kenilworth Avenue, NE	Eastern Avenue	East Capitol Street
Pennsylvania Avenue, SE	Sousa Bridge	Southern Avenue

**Seventh District**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
13 <sup>th</sup> Street, SE	W Street	Good Hope Road
Alabama Avenue, SE	Branch Avenue	Suitland Road
Anacostia Freeway, SE	11 <sup>th</sup> Street Bridge	Pennsylvania Ave.
Good Hope Road, SE	Martin Luther King Avenue	Alabama Avenue
Howard Road, SE	I-295	South Capitol Street
Martin Luther King Ave., SE	Good Hope Road	South Capitol Street
Naylor Road, SE	Good Hope Road	Southern Avenue
South Capitol Street	Southwest Freeway	Southern Avenue
Southern Avenue, SE	South Capitol Street	Naylor Road
Suitland Parkway, SE	South Capitol Street	Southern Avenue
Suitland Road, SE	Alabama Avenue	Southern Avenue
W Street, SE	Martin Luther King Avenue	13 <sup>th</sup> Street
Branch Avenue, SE	Pennsylvania Avenue	Southern Ave., SE

**Special Operations Division**

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
12 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW & SW 1-395 (Inc. HOV Lanes) Southeast Freeway/Ramps Southwest Freeway/Ramps 1-295	Southwest Fwy/Ramps New York Avenue Pennsylvania Avenue 1-395 D.C. Line (Inc. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street Bridge)	Constitution Ave,NW D. C. Line (Inc. HOV) South Capitol Street South Capitol Street SE Freeway & Ramps
14 <sup>th</sup> Street Bridge 24 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW Bladensburg Road, NE Constitution Avenue, NE Florida Avenue, NE and NW Florida Avenue, NW Rhode Island Ave., NE & NW River Road, NW U Street, NW	Calvert Street Benning Road 1st street H Street, NE 18 <sup>th</sup> & U Streets Eastern Avenue, NE Wisconsin Avenue 9 <sup>th</sup> Street	Virginia Line Connecticut Avenue Eastern Avenue North Carolina Avenue 9 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW 22 <sup>nd</sup> Street Scott Circle, NW D.C. Line 18 <sup>th</sup> St. & Florida Ave.