

DALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

	<i>Effective Date</i> February 24, 2004	<i>Number</i> GO88-4.14
<i>Subject</i> Investigations of Motor Vehicle Collisions		
<i>Reference</i> 		<i>Revised</i> December 20, 2016 December 18, 2018
<i>Distribution</i> All Personnel	<i>Re-evaluation Date</i> December 20, 2018 December 2020	<i>No. Pages</i> 9

I. **Policy**

It is the policy of the Dalton Police Department to respond to, investigate, and report all motor vehicle collisions that occur within the city limits.

II. **Responsibilities**

- A. Motor vehicle collision investigations are the primary responsibility of the officer assigned to the district in which it occurs. If unavailable, then the first officer on the scene shall be responsible for the investigating and completing of required reports.
- B. The Shift Supervisor shall respond to all collisions that involve fatalities, serious injuries that may result in death, and other collisions upon request, to assist in coordinating the completion of required tasks.
- C. When collisions involve fatalities and / or serious injuries that may result in death, the on-call Traffic Enforcement Unit (TEU) Investigator shall be notified by the Shift Supervisor. The Traffic Enforcement Unit Investigator shall be responsible for investigating collisions involving fatalities and / or serious injuries that may result in death.
- D. The Dalton Fire Department shall be notified and respond to the scene of motor vehicle collisions in which fire or a threat of fire is present or occupants are trapped in vehicles.

III. **Procedures for First Officer**

- A. Respond to the collision scene in a safe manner so as to not endanger oneself or the public.
- B. Position the patrol vehicle in a manner that safely protects oneself and the crash scene.
- C. In cases of reduced visibility or darkness, the officer shall wear a reflective traffic vest.

RESTRICTED LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA
The data contained in this manual is confidential for internal department use only, and will not be divulged outside the department without the written approval of the Chief of Police.

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	<i>Effective Date</i> February 24, 2004	<i>Number</i> GO04-7.14
<i>Subject</i> School Liaison		
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I. **Policy**

It is the policy of this department to conduct investigations, and carry out police-related business on school property in conformance with the authority and responsibility of school officials to protect children in their charge and manage the school environment.

II. **Discussion**

Responding to calls for service, or conducting investigations on school property, requires understanding the authority and responsibility of school administrators, and the related limitations and requirements placed on law enforcement officers by law.

School administrators work under the authority of the school board, which derives its authority from the state legislature, and promulgates board rules that determine how children will be educated in most facets of the education process. Policies and procedures concerning *curriculum; dates and hours school will be attended; attendance requirements; holidays; and security and law enforcement support for school property and school sponsored events* are examples. Carrying out these policies and procedures shapes the management responsibilities entrusted to the superintendent of schools and principal of each campus.

School officials are charged with *en loco parentis rights and responsibilities*, meaning that school staff members stand *in the place of the parent* while students are at school and school functions. When considered in the context of an issue or question, school officials will usually ask themselves, "*What would a reasonable parent do in this situation?*"

Sworn law enforcement Officers responding to calls for service on school property, or a school sponsored activity, do not have *en loco parentis* rights or responsibilities. Likewise, sworn law enforcement Officers assigned to conduct school campus programs or carry out the duties of a School Resource Officer do not have *en loco parentis* rights or responsibilities. Non-sworn guards or security officers working for a school district may have *en loco parentis* rights and responsibilities, unless otherwise stated by the school board.

Absent a specific direction or request from law enforcement officials, school officials may elect to do the following, because of *en loco parentis rights and responsibilities*.

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