

Operation of Motorcycles

506.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and criteria for the use of department motorcycles and to establish the duties and responsibilities for motorcycle operators.

506.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Plymouth Township Police Department to utilize motorcycles to augment the traffic function by providing an expedient response to accidents, disabled vehicles, and other incidents which may require the mobility and other unique capabilities of motorcycles.

506.3 AUTHORIZED USE AND OPERATION

- (a) Motorcycles shall be used only in the performance of official departmental duties.
- (b) Motorcycles shall be operated in accordance with the provisions of the Vehicle Code and department policies and regulations.
 - a. Officers of Plymouth Township Police Department will at all times wear a certified safety motor cycle helmet when operating a police department motorcycle.
- (c) Motorcycles shall only be operated by members certified in their use by the department.
 - a. Only members assigned by the Chief of Police may operate a department motorcycle.
 - b. Members assigned to a motorcycle shall not permit anyone to operate their assigned motorcycle.
- (d) Motorcycles shall be used to perform traffic duties and shall be responsible for the investigation and reporting of traffic incidents, accidents, traffic control and motorists assists.
- (e) Motorcycles shall not be operated during periods of inclement weather, extreme cold temperatures or, when in the opinion of the motorcycle operator, unfavorable road conditions make the operation of a motorcycle unsafe. For the purpose of this regulation, inclement weather or unfavorable road conditions shall include: snow covered highways or shoulders; icy pavements; driving rain, fog, snow, or other atmospheric conditions which restrict visibility to less than 1000 feet.
- (f) Department motorcycles shall be stored undercover in an enclosed, locked area.
- (g) Motorcycle operators shall be afforded a reasonable amount of time during the course of their shift to perform any cleaning and maintenance which may be required for their motorcycle.
- (h) Motorcycle operators shall adhere to all policies regarding the safe operation of vehicles and pursuits.