

	Houston Independent School District Police Department Directives	DIRECTIVE: 430-010
		EFFECTIVE DATE: March 14, 2013
	SUBJECT: Vehicle Equipment	REVISED DATE: January 27, 2022

PURPOSE

This directive aims to describe the requirements for patrol vehicle equipment of the Houston Independent School District Police Department. This directive applies to all Houston Independent School District Police department personnel.

DEFINITIONS

Child Passenger Safety Seat: An infant or child passenger restraint system that meets federal standards for crash-tested restraint systems set by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Occupant Safety Restraining Device: A lap belt and any shoulder straps included as original equipment or added to a vehicle.

PATROL VEHICLES: Vehicles used as patrol vehicles will be conspicuously marked and equipped with, at minimum, emergency lights and a siren, in accordance with local and state laws.

UNMARKED VEHICLES: Unmarked vehicles may be equipped with emergency lights and a siren in accordance with local and state laws. All unmarked vehicles are required by state law to have regular exempt license tags. These tags are identical to tags issued on personal vehicles. The tags and the required windshield stickers are provided pursuant to state law. The primary purpose of unmarked vehicles will be assisting departmental activities. Criminal transports processing of defendants shall be made by patrol vehicles with safety barriers.

REQUIRED VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

The Fleet Coordinator will ensure that each marked patrol vehicle is equipped with all required emergency equipment listed in the Vehicle Inspection Sheet. The following is a list of equipment:

- a) Overhead Lights;
- b) Siren;
- c) Mobile Data Terminal;
- d) Two-Way Radio;
- e) Spare Tire;
- f) Tire Jack;
- g) Fire Extinguisher;
- h) Headlights;
- i) Horn;
- j) Dome Light;
- k) Flares;
- l) Crime Scene Tape; and
- m) First Aid Kit.

The operators of vehicles will ensure that adequate consumable supplies are on hand in each vehicle. HISD Police Officers must notify the fleet manager regarding replenishing supplies. Line supervisors will periodically check each vehicle to ensure that all equipment is working correctly and necessary consumable supplies are available.

MODIFICATION OF VEHICLES/EQUIPMENT

The modification of vehicles and equipment is not permitted without the express permission of the Chief of Police or designee.

OCCUPANT SAFETY RESTRAINING DEVICES

According to the manufacturer's instructions, any vehicle occupant younger than four years or less than 36 inches in height shall be secured in a child passenger safety seat.

Approved By 
Pedro Lopez Jr., Chief of Police