

	Houston Independent School District Police Department Directives	450-019
		EFFECTIVE DATE: October 14, 2012
SUBJECT: Routine and Emergency Escorts		REVISED DATE: January 14, 2023

PURPOSE

This directive aims to establish policies for routine and emergency escorts by HISD Police Department personnel. This policy applies to all Houston Independent School District Police Personnel.

TYPES OF ESCORTS

- a) Emergency
- b) Bank
- c) Dignitaries/Public Officials
- d) Funeral
- e) Hazardous Materials
- f) Parade
- g) Oversize/Unusual Escorts

EMERGENCY ESCORTS

Patrol units shall not provide emergency or non-emergency escorts for private vehicles. If a medical condition exists, an ambulance should be requested.

Patrol units shall not escort fully-operational emergency vehicles unless the emergency vehicle has operable lights and sirens and the emergency vehicle is transporting a peace officer injured to a local hospital.

Emergency escorts shall be performed only with the permission of an on-duty supervisor.

Escorting officers shall initially notify the dispatcher of the nature of any escort, the location, and the final destination. The dispatcher shall be kept informed of any situation changes.

REQUESTS FOR NON-EMERGENCY ESCORTS

A written request for processional escorts must be submitted to the Assistant Chief of Police at least twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled escort.

GUIDELINES FOR ESCORTS

All approved escorts must use properly marked department patrol vehicle units.

Each patrol unit will have emergency lights in operation during the processional escort.

Vehicle sirens will be used to alert the public and other motorists that a procession is

proceeding through the area.

The procession will not exceed the speed limit.

The escort duty shall be conducted under the authorization of the on-duty supervisor or officer-in-charge.

The on-duty supervisor or officer-in-charge shall choose a route based on available resources, weather, time of day, traffic flow, road hazards, and requirements of any necessary permits.

The on-duty supervisor or officer-in-charge shall have the authority to refuse to start any escort that presents a hazard to the safety of either officers or the public or for an emergency or other pressing law enforcement necessity. The Patrol Lieutenant will be notified promptly regarding actions taken.

Once a procession has started, it shall not enter an intersection at a red light. Once the procession has entered an intersection on a green light, the entire procession may continue, even if the light has turned red, but only in the direction of the officer controlling the intersection.

Approved By


Pedro Lopez Jr., Chief of Police