

# St. Joseph, Missouri Police Department



DIRECTIVE TYPE: SPECIAL ORDER		INDEX NUMBER: SO1401
SUBJECT: POLICE ARMORED VEHICLE		
EFFECTIVE DATE 4/02/14		AMENDS/RESCINDS:
REVISIONS:		DISTRIBUTION: B, C

## 1.0 **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures relating to the operation, control, and care of the police armored vehicle.

## 2.0 **GENERAL POLICIES:**

It is the policy of the St. Joseph Police Department to properly equip and maintain the armored vehicle and ensure that only authorized and qualified personnel operate the vehicle.

## 3.0 **OPERATION**

- 3.1 **Non-Emergency Driving:** the vehicle shall be operated in accordance with all laws and department policies set out for normal police vehicle operation. This includes but is not limited to: posted signs, signals, speed regulations, lane usage and direction of travel. The vehicle will not be operated at speeds above 55 MPH.
- 3.2 **Emergency Driving:** the vehicle shall be operated in a safe and prudent manner, as described in GO0014, Section III. B. 2. b. The operator will be required to stop at all stops signs and stop lights. At no time will the vehicle be operated at speeds above 55 MPH and it shall not be driven at speeds over 5 MPH above the posted speed limit.

## 4.0 **VEHICLE USAGE:**

- 4.1 The armored vehicle will be primarily used by SRT in situations that pose a significant threat to officers, and for barricaded incidents, high risk warrant service or active shooter situations where immediate need to protect life occurs.
- 4.2 Authorization for usage: authorization for usage shall be through the Chief of Police or his designee. It shall only be utilized when the design of the vehicle would increase safety to officers or citizens in a life threatening situation.

4.3 Only those trained in the operation of the armored vehicle will be allowed to operate it.

**5.0 VEHICLE EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE:**

5.1 When not in use, the vehicle shall be stored inside to maintain the integrity of the vehicle especially the windows, as exposure to extended periods of sun and heat will cause delamination, rendering them unusable. The vehicle shall be equipped with a police radio and emergency lights and an audible siren.

5.2 Routine maintenance will be performed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended service schedule.

5.3 Any other repairs or maintenance that is not part of the manufacturer's recommended service schedule shall be documented on a vehicle maintenance order.

5.4 Weekly inspections will be performed by the SRT Commander's designee to include the following:

5.4.1 Tires and wheels--check for wear and proper inflation.

5.4.2 Fluid levels--check oil, brake fluid, and fuel; inspect areas for signs of leaks.

5.4.3 Brakes--check front and rear brakes for proper operation.

5.4.4 Electrical components--check all lights, siren and air horn for proper operation.

5.4.5 Miscellaneous--check for loose nuts and bolts; check special police equipment, i.e. police radio, etc. for secure mounting and operation.

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Chris Connally      Chief of Police

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Date