

Cobb County Police Department

Policy 5.16

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

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The words “he, his, him,” which may appear in this policy, are used generically for clarity and ease of reading. These terms are not meant to imply gender and relate to all employees of the Department.	

The purpose of this policy is to establish the traffic enforcement guidelines of the Cobb County Police Department.

I. POLICY

The responsibility for the enforcement of traffic laws rests with all uniformed personnel of the Department. All sworn officers, while on duty and in uniform, shall take appropriate enforcement actions for violations of traffic laws they observe.

II. THE GOAL OF TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

The goal of traffic enforcement is the reduction of fatalities, personal injuries, and property damage as a result of traffic crashes. To this end, the Department will compile and review traffic crash and enforcement data in order to direct selective enforcement efforts to those areas or conditions that contribute to traffic crashes. The areas of enforcement, education, engineering, and emergency medical assistance are the primary disciplines of influence.

The reduction of the number and severity of traffic crashes will be the sole motivation of the Department’s traffic enforcement efforts. The generation of revenue or imposition of quota systems will not be a determining factor.

III. SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP) UNIT

The Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Unit is the Department’s traffic enforcement component and is primarily responsible for enforcement of traffic laws that cause motor vehicle and pedestrian-involved traffic crashes. The work shifts for STEP officers are as assigned by the unit commander/supervisors. These flexible hours provide for coverage during times of high traffic volume or crashes. Hours and days off are subject to immediate change at the discretion of the commander/supervisor in order to facilitate manpower requirements as needed. In addition to enforcement of traffic laws, the STEP Unit shall be responsible for:

- Compilation and review of traffic crash data
- Compilation and review of traffic enforcement activities data
- Comparison of traffic crash data and enforcement activities data
- Documented annual review of selective traffic enforcement activities

- Traffic Safety Education
- Responding to complaints regarding traffic issues
- Calibration and maintenance of speed measuring devices and preliminary breath testing devices (Alco-sensors)

IV. PRECINCT/WATCH RESPONSIBILITIES

Each watch will, whenever practical or possible, assign an officer(s) to traffic enforcement duties and direct its selective traffic enforcement efforts to areas that are:

- Determined to be high areas of traffic crashes or law violations.
- The subject of citizen complaints regarding violations of traffic laws.

V. ENFORCEMENT ALTERNATIVES

Officers are to use individual discretion, based on professional judgment, when deciding which form of enforcement action will be taken. Action will be appropriate for each violation of the law, with the basic premise that enforcement should be an educational experience, rather than immediate punishment, for the violator. This action will be accomplished in a fair, impartial, courteous, and businesslike manner. Four action options are at the discretion of the officer:

- A. Verbal Warning: A verbal warning is appropriate when the violator commits a very minor violation that results in little or no potential danger to the public.
- B. Written Warning: A written warning is a proper alternative in response when a violator commits a minor traffic violation, but the officer feels that court or other judicial action is not warranted. A written warning will be issued on the Uniform Traffic Citation form with the word “Warning” written through the court date section.
- C. Written Citation: Traffic citations should be issued to violators who jeopardize the safe and efficient flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. A written citation will be on the Georgia Uniform Traffic Citation form.
- D. Physical Arrest: The physical arrest of a driver for a traffic offense shall be made in accordance with Policy 5.11 “Arrest Procedures.”

VI. TRAFFIC PATROL

A. Visible Traffic Patrol

1. Area – moving or stationary observation in an area that includes a number of streets or sections of highway.
2. Line – moving or stationary observation on a specific street or highway between two points.

3. Directed – area or line patrol that is specifically directed by supervisory personnel and is based on unfavorable traffic crash or enforcement data.

B. Stationary Observation

1. Covert – concealed or barely visible enforcement (when operating speed detection devices, vehicles will not be concealed (OCGA 40-14-7)).
2. Overt – traffic enforcement vehicles will be positioned in such a manner near the roadway intersection, that they are clearly seen by persons using ordinary powers of observation.

C. Unmarked Vehicles

Unmarked vehicles will not normally be used in traffic enforcement. However, should an officer driving an unmarked vehicle see a violation that he feels needs to be addressed, he may take action.

VII. TRAFFIC STOP PROCEDURES

A. Stopping and Approaching Traffic Violators

It is recognized that varying conditions such as roadway construction, volume of traffic, and the urgency of making vehicle stops may require an officer to adjust to particular conditions. However, the following procedures should be followed whenever possible:

1. Once a decision has been made to stop a motorist, the officer should select an area that provides reasonable safety – avoiding curves, hills, heavily trafficked and poorly lit areas, and roads without shoulders. Whenever possible, the officer should also avoid the use of private drives, business locations, and areas where a large volume of spectators are likely to gather.
2. When a location has been selected, the officer shall notify the Communications Center of the stop; providing unit location, vehicle tag number (and state, if applicable), and description of the vehicle. Additional information may be given as necessary e.g. – number of occupants).
3. At the desired location, the officer should activate the emergency lights and, if necessary, the siren. If practical, the officer should be in close proximity to the vehicle before activating the vehicle's emergency equipment. This may reduce the violator's temptation to attempt to elude the officer.
 - a. On multilane roads, the officer may facilitate movement to the right shoulder by gradually changing lanes behind the violator until the right side of the roadway is reached.

- b. Should the violator stop abruptly in the wrong lane or location, the officer should instruct him to move by using the appropriate hand signals or by activating the public-address system.
4. Once properly stopped, the officer should position the police vehicle about one car length behind the violator's vehicle and at a slight angle, with the front of the police vehicle approximately two feet to the traffic side of the violator's vehicle.
5. When exiting the patrol vehicle, the officer should be alert to suspicious movements or actions by the occupants(s) of the vehicle. (At night, the spotlight may be used to illuminate the vehicle's interior once stopped.)
6. Approaching from the driver's side, the officer should be observant of the passenger compartment, and stop at a point to the rear of the trailing edge of the left front door in order to communicate with the driver.
 - a. Where circumstances dictate, particularly where traffic is close enough to create a potential problem, the officer may choose to approach the violator's vehicle from the right side and stop at the trailing edge of the right front door.
 - b. When the violator's vehicle has occupants in the rear seat, the officer should approach to a point near the leading edge of the left front door, being particularly observant of occupant movements and choosing a path that will not allow the occupants to throw the door open against the officer.
 - c. In two-officer police vehicles, the passenger officer should be responsible for radio communications, note taking, and relaying messages to the Communications Center. He will also act as an observer and cover for his fellow officer.
7. In the event an officer needs to stop oversize or overweight vehicles, the following additional procedures should be followed:
 - a. The location selected for the stop should provide enough room for the vehicle, sufficient stability to support the vehicle's weight, and sufficient time and distance to allow the operator to stop.
 - b. Approach the cab from the rear, using the operator's outside mirror to observe the operator and activity in the cab.
 - c. Never climb onto the vehicle to make contact with the operator. Maintain a position to the rear of the operator's door and ask him to exit the vehicle, if necessary.

8. An officer may take reasonable action to protect himself during a traffic stop. As such, the officer may ask the driver or passenger(s) to step out of the vehicle. In doing so, the officers should consider external factors such as weather, crowds, etc.

B. Violator Contact

Traffic enforcement is a daily task performed by officers, but for the violator it can be an emotional experience. Officers should be aware of these conditions and strive to make each contact educational, leaving the violator with the impression that the officer has performed a necessary task in a professional and friendly manner. This awareness should also assist officers in taking appropriate enforcement action in an attempt to favorably alter the violator's future driving behavior.

1. A violator should be informed of the reason for the stop as soon as possible.
2. The officer should be flexible and maintain a professional demeanor throughout the contact period.

C. Issuing a Citation

1. When issuing citations, or conversing with the violator, the officer and other parties should be positioned with safety as the primary factor, and within view of the police vehicle's on-board video camera. The officer should position paperwork and related materials in a manner that allows him to maintain visual vantage over actions of the violator and other occupants.
2. Cobb County has established a Traffic Violations Bureau (TVB) to handle payable violations for minor driving offenses that occur in unincorporated Cobb County. The Traffic Violations Bureau Bond Order sets out these payable violations and applicable fines. Normally, a TVB offense shall be released upon a copy of the citation. However:
 - a. If such officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that the person will not obey such citation and agreement to appear, the officer may require such person to surrender his driver's license in accordance with 40-13-53.
 - b. When a TVB offense is charged in conjunction with other crimes for which a custodial arrest can be made, the TVB offense becomes a misdemeanor and can be charged in the same manner as the other offenses.

TVB offenses are updated periodically and are listed on the Cobb County Government website.

3. Each violator will be assigned a court date (for juveniles, a court date is assigned by Juvenile Court). The issuing officer will inform the violator of any special information in regards to the charge(s) and instruct the violator to call Court Services to obtain information pertaining to:
 - a. Mandatory or optional court appearance; and
 - b. Ability to enter a plea and / or pay the fine by mail or in person.
4. The Court Copy of citations will either be submitted to the Department for processing, or submitted to intake at the jail.

a. If No Arrest is Made

The officer should ask the violator sign the Court Copy(ies), give the violator the Violator's Copy(ies), and submit the Court Copy(ies) to Central Records for processing.

b. If an Arrest is Made

- i. If the arrest is a result of an outstanding warrant, and the officer is making no other charges for which an arrest can be made, the officer should ask the violator sign the Court Copy(ies), give the violator the Violator's Copy, and submit the Court Copy(ies) to Central Records for processing.
- ii. If the arrest is a result of charges the officer is making, and all the charges can be written on citations, the officer should write "jail" or "in custody" on the signature block of the Court Copy(ies), give the violator the Violator's Copy(ies), and submit the Court Copy(ies) to the jail intake for processing; regardless of whether an outstanding warrant exists. Copies of the citation(s) should not be sent to Central Records.

D. Making High-Risk Vehicle Stops on a Known or Suspected Felon

All high-risk traffic stops will be performed according to the training received by the officer, in addition to the following guidelines. Officers should remember that every stop will be different and may require modification of the stop and extrication procedures. Always act and react in accordance with the training received in practical exercises including proper exit, handcuffing, and search procedures.

1. When a vehicle driven by a known or suspected felon is located, the officer will notify the Communications Center immediately. The officer will inform communications of the location, license plate information, a thorough description of the suspect vehicle, and a description of the occupants.

2. The officer will keep the suspect vehicle in view and request sufficient assistance in making the stop. The officer will keep support units informed of the location and direction of travel to facilitate their approach with minimal use of emergency equipment.
3. An officer should not individually initiate high-risk vehicle stops unless back-up units will not be available in an appropriate amount of time, or the urgency of the situation demands immediate action.

VIII. SPECIAL PROCESSING PROCEDURES

A. Non-Residents

1. If a violator's state of residence is a member of the Non-Resident Violator Compact, the officer may release the person on a copy of the citation and will advise the violator that if the citation is not paid, or if he does not appear in court on the date indicated, the Georgia Department of Public Safety will notify the violator's home state Department of Public Safety, and the driver's license will be suspended until the fine is paid.
2. If a violator's state of residence is not a member of the Non-Resident Violator Compact (Alaska, California, Michigan, Montana, Oregon, Wisconsin), the violator may be required to post a bond (see Policy 5.11 "Arrest Procedures" for more information).

B. Juvenile Offenders

1. If a citation for violating a traffic law or ordinance is written on a driver who is 16 years old or younger, whether with or without a valid driver's license, it should be directed to the Cobb County Juvenile Court. No court date should be given, either verbally or written, because the Juvenile Court will handle any notifications concerning the appearance of the juvenile. The Remarks section of the citation should be clearly marked "JUVENILE."
2. A Juvenile Complaint form and incident report will be completed when charging a juvenile with the following violations:
 - Homicide by vehicle
 - Manslaughter
 - Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
 - Failure to stop and render aid
 - False affidavit relating to ownership of vehicle
 - Commission of a felony in which a motor vehicle is used
 - Racing on the highway or street
 - Fleeing or attempting to elude an officer
 - Fraudulent or fictitious use of a license

- Hit-and-run, duty of driver to stop at or return to scene of accident
- Laying drags
- Display of another person's license
- Aggressive driving
- Reckless driving
- Excessive Speed – 24 mph and over
- Any traffic offense committed by an unlicensed driver 15 and younger
- Other offenses that can be charged by citation (underage possession/consumption, misdemeanor marijuana, etc.)

Citations should not be issued for the above offenses.

3. Juveniles taken into custody for Driving Under the Influence should be read the appropriate Georgia Implied Consent Law for the purpose of the chemical test(s). The chemical test results/refusal should be noted on the Juvenile Complaint form.

IX. UNIFORM ENFORCEMENT POLICIES FOR TRAFFIC LAW VIOLATIONS

Appropriate uniform enforcement action is important if motorists are to enjoy safe driving in Cobb County. Good judgment by the police officer, in consideration of the circumstances and conditions at the time of the violation, will ensure appropriate action and gain the public's confidence in traffic enforcement.

A. DUI Countermeasures Program

Drivers impaired by alcohol and/or drugs represent a serious threat to the lives and safety of persons using the streets of this County. Consequently, a comprehensive, coordinated, and on-going countermeasures program involving education, enforcement, adjudication, treatment, and public support is essential if a program is to have long term success in combating the DUI problem.

1. The Department maintains the DUI Task Force consisting of officers who are subject matter experts on the detection and evaluation of suspected DUI drivers. The DUI Task Force is assigned to those areas and times where there is a high incidence of DUI driving and/or DUI related traffic crashes. Though the Department maintains the DUI Task Force, the responsibility for the detection and apprehension of DUI drivers is a responsibility of all officers of the Department.
2. Enforcement is one of the key elements in the DUI Countermeasures program. If the Department does not detect and apprehend impaired drivers, the rest of the program cannot function.
3. Patrol officers must be alert for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment in all contacts with motorists. After conducting an initial examination at the

scene of the traffic contact, and upon determining that probable cause to arrest is present, the officer should affect a physical arrest of the subject.

4. All officers will be familiar with impaired driver detection cues and field sobriety testing. If any officer recognizes a need for additional training in either area, the officer should seek advanced training. Officers may also seek advanced training as a Drug Recognition Expert.
5. The DUI Enforcement Program uses various combinations of the following countermeasures: selective assignment of personnel to, and surveillance of, locations where significant violations/crashes have occurred; analysis of DUI related traffic crashes; selective safety checks for deterrence purposes; and enforcement of DUI laws.
6. If a driver refuses the state administered test(s), and probable cause is present, officers may obtain a search warrant for breath and/or blood and/or urine as approved by a supervisor. Officers may collect breath and/or urine samples. However, should the search warrant be for a blood sample, either the hospital or the contracted forensic service may be used. If the contracted forensic service is used:
 - a. The officer and forensic service will agree upon a location to meet.
 - b. The officer will provide the forensic service with a test kit. The forensic service will draw the blood, seal the kit and hand it to the officer.
 - c. The officer will then mail the kit per normal procedure.

If the subject refuses to submit to any test requested by the search warrant, he will not be forced to submit; an obstruction warrant may be obtained.

This policy is not meant to limit the use of the forensic service to blood draws via search warrant. When approved by a supervisor, this service may be used in other situations when a blood test is requested in accordance with applicable law (e.g. – hospital staff refuses to participate in a legally requested blood sample, extended wait for hospital services, etc.).

B. Driving Under the Influence (DUI) of Alcohol/Drugs

Driving under the influence has been interpreted by various courts to mean that there is a presumption of impairment when a motorist's ability to operate a moving motor vehicle is reduced or impaired by the consumption of alcoholic beverages or other drugs. The mere fact that a driver has the odor of alcoholic beverage on his breath is not sufficient cause for arrest. The violation occurs when the driver's ability is impaired. The procedures below will be followed by all personnel in DUI cases:

1. If an officer has cause to believe the driver's ability to be impaired, the

officer has the right to request the driver to step from the vehicle to observe the driver's balance, appearance and to have the driver perform field sobriety tests.

2. After the officer has administered field sobriety tests and determined that the driver is under the influence, the officer should at this time the driver under arrest for DUI. Once the driver is placed under arrest for DUI, he becomes subject to testing procedures under the Implied Consent Law.
3. It is now imperative that the officer read the suspect the Implied Consent Warning in its entirety and without unnecessary delay. It must be read understandably and clearly and exactly as it is printed on the card currently issued by the Department of Public Safety.
4. As soon as possible, the suspect should be transported to a location where the requested state test(s) can be administered. All Department-owned instruments used to administer state breath tests will be located in an area(s) that makes it easy to monitor the actions of the suspect while completing the test and associated paperwork.
5. Once the driver has been read the Implied Consent Warning and given the state administered test(s), he may at any time, before being turned over to the jail for confinement, make a request for an additional test by someone of his own choosing. Any additional tests and analysis costs are at the expense of the driver (should the driver request an additional breath test, one will be provided to him at no charge on an instrument used for the state test). If a test is requested that requires transportation to the nearest or reasonably requested hospital, the officer is required to oblige.
6. The arresting officer shall take the driver's license of the driver and forward it to the state with the appropriate paperwork.
7. When a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) determines that impairment is due to marijuana only, and no other custodial offenses are present, the driver will be released on a copy of the citation and allowed to find an alternate means of transportation.

C. Driving with a Suspended License

The officer should conduct a computer check by the violator's name and date of birth, or driver's license number for the current status of driving privileges.

1. If the violator was issued a license in this state or his state of residence, and the violator's driving privileges have been revoked or suspended with a service and/or surrender date, the officer should cite the violator for not having a driver's license, or driving under the suspension, and the driver should be arrested.

2. If the violator was issued a license in this state or his state of residence, and the violator's driving privileges have been revoked or suspended, but there is no service and/or surrender date, the officer should cite the violator for not having a driver's license or driving under the suspension. The violator should also be served with DPS Form 1150, (Suspension Service) or DPS Form 1030, (Habitual Violator Service), whichever is applicable. The decision to arrest the violator should be based upon applicable law.
3. If the driver is not arrested, the driver shall not be allowed to drive from the location of the traffic stop; other arrangements should be made (e.g. another licensed driver in the vehicle, or someone who can pick the vehicle up).
4. If there is doubt about the suspension status of a license, and verification cannot be gained within a short period of time (approximately 15 minutes), the officer should release the driver. The officer may further investigate the status of the license and take appropriate action at a later time.

D. Moving Violations

Moving violations are defined as those violations that occur while the driver's vehicle is in motion. Generally, moving violations affect the safe use of streets or highways, due to the hazardous movement of vehicles (e.g. speeding, failure to obey a traffic control device, etc.). Moving violations should be enforced by a written warning, citation, or arrest (if appropriate).

E. Non-moving Violations

Non-moving violations are defined as those violations that occur while the vehicle is not in motion (e.g. equipment violations, expired driver's license, parking, etc.). Generally, non-moving traffic infractions may be resolved by a verbal or written warning, or citation.

F. Commercial Vehicles

Enforcement of commercial vehicle laws will be governed by applicable federal and state laws and local ordinances.

G. Multiple Violations

When multiple violations are observed which can be classified separately as having distinctly different elements, they shall be dealt with independently. For example, a motorist stopped for following too closely and subsequently found to be operating without a driver's license, should be issued two separate citations.

1. In situations where two violations are similar to the extent that the elements of one law are included in the other law, only the most serious should be

charged. For example, a motorist who has been charged with reckless driving would not be charged also with speeding or improper driving on the roadway if these offenses occurred concurrently with, and are important factors in, the charge of reckless driving.

2. A warning citation may be issued at the officer's discretion for a non-hazardous (and non-serious) violation in conjunction with another citation for a more serious equipment or hazardous moving violation. For example, a warning for a seat belt violation may be issued when a subject has been stopped and given another citation for speeding.

H. Pedestrian Enforcement

In enforcing traffic laws pertaining to pedestrians, officers will concentrate their efforts on pedestrian violations in those areas where pedestrian-involved traffic crashes have been frequent and severe.

I. Bicycle Enforcement

It is incumbent on the police to enforce laws relating to the safe operation of bicycles. The following procedures are discretion guidelines which result in a more uniform and consistent application of the law:

1. In areas where congestion and the frequency of traffic crash experience involving bicycles has been predominant, laws pertaining to the proper operation of bicycles should be strictly enforced.
2. On arteries with a substantial flow of vehicular traffic, and where hazardous moving violations are observed involving persons operating bicycles, the applicable laws should be enforced.
3. In areas where traffic flow is minimal, visibility is unobstructed, and traffic crash experience low, officers should exercise discretion in the application of laws regarding safe operation of bicycles.

J. Parking Violations

Officers are encouraged to enforce parking violations they discover. Particular emphasis will be placed on enforcing improper parking on properly marked fire lanes and handicapped parking spaces. A Department Parking Citation or, if the driver is present at the time of issuance, a Georgia Uniform Traffic Citation should be issued.

K. Newly Enacted Laws

When new traffic laws are enacted, it is permissible for officers to use their discretion when issuing citations. Generally, the issuance of warning citations for

a period of 30 days after a new traffic law has been enacted is acceptable. However, there may be certain circumstances where issuing a citation with a court return date would be the most appropriate action.

X. REQUESTS FOR RE-EXAMINATION OF DRIVERS

Any officer having reason to believe that a person is not physically or mentally qualified to be a licensed driver in Georgia, should send that person's name, address, and date of birth to the Georgia Department of Public Safety (OCGA 40-5-34(c)). The request for re-examination will be a letter to the Driver's License Advisory Board.

Physical or mental defects must be described in specific detail and the specifics of the incident must be written in such detail that reasonable grounds for the re-examination are conclusively established. The request for re-examination letter must be signed by the initiating officer and the officer's supervisor.

XI. FOREIGN DRIVERS' LICENSES

A non-resident who has in his or her immediate possession a valid driver's license issued to him or her in his or her home state or country are exempt from having to be in possession of a Georgia driver's license; provided, however, that such person would otherwise satisfy all requirements to receive a Georgia driver's license; and provided, further, that in the case of a driver's license issued by the driver's licensing authority of a foreign country, a law enforcement officer may consult such person's passport or visa to verify the validity of such license, if available. (OCGA 40-5-21(a)(2))

- A.** Visitors to Georgia from foreign countries are allowed to drive in Georgia for up to one year if they have a valid driver's license issued by the driver's licensing agency in their home country and they are lawfully admitted to the United States. *Rocha v. State*, 250 Ga. App. 209, 211-212 (2001), *Schofield v. Hertz Corp.*, 201 Ga. App. 830, 832 (1991).
- B.** If during that time, a foreign national becomes a legal resident of Georgia, they must obtain a Georgia driver's license in accordance with OCGA 40-5-20. However, they do not have to surrender their foreign driver's license.
- C.** According to the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United States Department of State, there is no Federal law or regulation that requires foreign visitors to the United States to have their passport on their person at all times. There also is no Georgia law that would require foreign drivers to keep their passport on their person at all times.

XII. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR TRAFFIC CITATIONS

A. Electronic Citations

The Mobile Field Reporting System electronically issues citations to officers as

requested. Each electronic citation is given a unique citation number and contains the issuing officer's name, both of which can not be altered by the requestor. Citations are electronically stored by the computer and can be accounted for as needed. Electronic citations are contained in a secure environment, accessible to only those Department employees who have been granted access.

B. Traffic Citation Books

Blank traffic citation books will be issued to individual officers as needed. Records of the issuance of traffic citation books will be maintained by the unit or precinct on the Department Citation Book Issue form. Officers will be expected to account for all traffic citations issued to them. Copies of all issued citations will be forwarded Central Records so they may be forwarded to the appropriate court, and copies stored in accordance with the Georgia Records Retention Schedule. Any voided, damaged, or otherwise unused traffic citations will be marked with the officer's name and badge number, and all copies forwarded to the Records Section. An incident report will be made on all lost or stolen traffic citations. Traffic citation books will be kept in a secured storage area accessible only to supervisors.

XIII. SPEED MEASURING DEVICES

The Department will use speed detection devices in high or potentially high traffic crash locations when speed is a factor, in areas where speed limit violations are prevalent, and in response to citizen complaints concerning speeding motorists.

A. Equipment Specifications for Speed Measuring Devices

1. RADAR / LASER

RADAR/LASER units used shall be in compliance with DPS rule 570-7-.05.

2. Pacing / Speedometer

The speedometer of each vehicle used for traffic enforcement will be certified annually for accuracy.

B. Operational Procedures

Speed measuring devices shall be operated in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines and the requirements set forth in OCGA 40-14.

C. Proper Care and Upkeep

- 1. Every year each operational RADAR and LASER unit will be professionally calibrated by a factory-authorized technician.**

2. Care and upkeep on a continual basis, including cleanliness of units and reporting needed repairs to units, is the responsibility of patrol officers certified to operate RADAR or LASER.

D. Maintenance and Calibration Records

Records shall be maintained of each RADAR or LASER unit to include:

1. Statement of origin and accuracy;
2. All calibrations performed, including certificates of calibration; and
3. All reported defects or repairs to each unit.

E. Operator Training and Certification

All officers using speed measuring devices must successfully complete an initial basic operator program and receive certification prior to issuing citations. Officers will attend re-certification training as required (OCGA 35-8-12).