

	POLICY & PROCEDURE	SERIES # 1503	PAGE 1 OF 2
	SUBJECT		EFFECTIVE DATE
	OPERATION AND CARE OF CANINE VEHICLES		5/30/98
OVERSIGHT Operations			
DISTRIBUTION ALL MANUALS	AMENDS/SUPERSEDES/CANCELS P&P # 1503 dated 1/5/77		

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the operation and care of canine (K-9) vehicles.

II. POLICY:

It is the policy of the Hampton Police Division to maintain the K-9 vehicles and operate them in a safe manner.

III. PROCEDURE:

A. Maintenance of K-9 Vehicle

1. It shall be the responsibility of each officer operating his vehicle to ensure that the vehicle is cleaned at the end of his tour of duty.
2. The K-9 Trainer will ensure that the vehicles are taken to the central garage whenever preventive maintenance is scheduled. A regular schedule will be provided by the central garage for this service.

B. Operation

1. Unless otherwise approved by the Shift Commander, K-9 vehicles will be operated only by officers assigned to the K-9 Corps (See [P&P 1105](#) for qualifications). These officers will be solely responsible for care and condition of these vehicles. Any officer abusing the vehicles or failing to report damage will face disciplinary action.
2. If the operator of a K-9 vehicle initiates a pursuit, the pursuit will be abandoned when a patrol vehicle is in position to assume the pursuit.
3. K-9 Officers will have the following items, at a minimum with them when operating the K-9 vehicle on duty:
 - a. Water bucket
 - b. Traffic leash
 - c. Six foot leash
 - d. Leather collar

APPROVED:
CHIEF OF POLICE



- e. Choke chain
 - f. Medical muzzle
 - g. Tracking harness
 - h. First Aid kit
 - i. Rewards for narcotic location
4. K-9 vehicles will be equipped with a cage and platform in order to safely transport a K-9.
 5. Any additional non-issued equipment must be approved by the Training Unit Commander.
 6. The K-9 vehicle is used to transport the K-9 in a manner that protects the K-9, the officer, and the public.

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