

	SECTION:	OPERATIONS	OPR-232
	CHAPTER:	PROGRAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS	
	DIRECTIVE:	BICYCLE PATROL	

232.01 SUMMARY

This directive establishes the procedures for Officers using Department bicycles for Patrol and special events and assignments. Officers patrolling on bicycle increase the level of community service by improving enforcement efforts and providing a high profile presence during special events. Bicycle Officers can quietly but effectively patrol off-road trails, parks, shopping centers, and areas with restricted vehicle access.

232.02 USE OF BICYCLE PATROL

Bicycle Officers emphasize patrol activities for which the bicycle is best suited. These include, but are not limited to:

- Parks and riverfront trails patrol.
- Downtown patrol.
- Surveillance and Undercover Operations.
- Directed Patrol activities (vandalism, burglary theft).
- Special events and public relations activities (JUCO, parades, demonstrations).
- Special enforcement needs, at the discretion of the Shift Supervisor.

CALLS FOR SERVICE – Bicycle Officers respond to and handle all types of calls for service. They may call for assistance from other Patrol units in situations that cannot be handled safely on a bicycle.

PURSUIITS AND PHYSICAL FORCE – Bicycle Officers may pursue pedestrians or other bicyclists provided the risk of pursuit does not outweigh the benefit from the subject’s apprehension. Bicycle Officers only use the physical force necessary to stop escaping subjects, as defined in the “**Use of Force**” (ADM-156) directive.

MOTOR VEHICLE CONTACTS – Bicycle Officers should not try to contact a motor vehicle unless they can safely identify themselves to the driver and can avoid obstructing other traffic.

IN COMBINATION WITH PATROL VEHICLE – Bicycle Officers may park their Patrol vehicle and deploy the bicycle for Patrol purposes with the approval of the Shift Supervisor.

**USE OF BICYCLE PATROL
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CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING – Bicycle Officers may assist with crime prevention and community-oriented policing activities by providing education or assistance aimed at supporting the safe operation of bicycles in the community and reducing the number of crimes associated with bicycles.

232.03 UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

UNIFORM – Bicycle Officers will wear a uniform designed to be easily recognized by the public, consisting of a Department approved shirt or polo-style uniform shirt with an embroidered badge and shoulder patches, black bicycling pants/shorts, white socks, and bicycling footwear approved by the Operations Deputy Chief. Bicycle Officers will keep their uniforms neat and clean.

BICYCLE AND EQUIPMENT – Each Bicycle Officer is assigned a bicycle and accessories depending upon the availability of equipment. The bicycle may be taken home to the Officer's residence, but it must be returned to the Department before the beginning of his/her shift. The Officer may not use the bicycle for personal or recreational purposes. The Officer will keep the equipment clean and in good repair and reports any deficiencies or damage to the Bicycle Patrol Coordinator. The Bicycle Officer is responsible for minor repairs and maintenance (such as fixing a flat tire or tightening a loose bolt). The Officer may not modify the bicycle or related equipment.

SPECIAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT – For their personal safety, Bicycle Officers will wear a Department approved bicycle helmet with the word "Police" clearly visible from both sides, eye protection, and bicycle gloves.

OTHER EQUIPMENT – Bicycle Officers will wear a duty belt, equipped with a firearm, handcuffs, baton, pepper spray, magazine pouch, and portable radio. A police whistle on a neck leash is recommended optional equipment.

232.04 SELECTION AND TRAINING

ELIGIBILITY – Officers who have attained solo patrol status are eligible to apply for bicycle training.

TRAINING – Bicycle Officers will complete a police bicycle training course and attend an annual "refresher" police mountain bicycle course that includes technical skills, and tactical skills. Two tactical firearms training/qualifications per year are also required.

