


FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT  GENERAL ORDER	SUBJECT: SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES		NUMBER: 508
	EFFECTIVE DATE: April 21, 2023	REVIEW: April, 2026	
RESPONSIBLE ENTITY: CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY			<input type="checkbox"/> New Directive <input type="checkbox"/> Replaces: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised: 01-01-19
ACCREDITATION STANDARDS	CALEA: 41.1.3	VLEPSC: OPR. 01.08	

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines and procedures for all employees in the use of special purpose vehicles.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) that all special purpose vehicles be used by employees in accordance with their training. Special purpose vehicles (SPV) shall be inspected and remain in a state of operational readiness. Any division, bureau, or station commander that utilizes any SPV shall designate a representative that is responsible for the care, condition, and maintenance of the vehicle. Any noted deficiency in the vehicle shall be promptly reported to a supervisor or the designated representative immediately. Any equipment that is necessary to a SPV's operations shall be documented in a list that is either kept in, or on, the SPV.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Special Purpose Vehicle: Vehicles kept and maintained by the Department that are used specifically to address unique terrain, storage requirements, and operational needs. These include, but are not limited to, motorcycles, helicopters, boats, command platform vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, off-road trail bikes, and dive trucks. For purposes of this General Order, these vehicles do not include trailers used to store equipment (traffic cones, Yodok barriers, etc.).

IV. GENERAL PROCEDURES

- A. All SPVs shall be assigned an inventory number by the Resource Management Bureau (RMB). Markings and equipment for each SPV shall conform to both Department policy and all applicable laws, and may bear the

Department's name, reflective striping, and lights and sirens where appropriate.

- B. **Training and Licensing:** Department SPV operators shall attend and successfully complete any required specialized training for these vehicles prior to operating them in the performance of their duties, whether this training is sponsored by the Department or by the manufacturer of the SPV. The Department will maintain a list of any outside training that is required, and the employee must ensure that the training is completed prior to operation of the SPV. No employee shall operate an SPV unless they have satisfied and currently maintain any additional licensing requirements by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles beyond that of a basic operator's license.

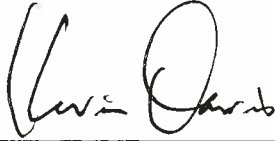
- C. **SPV Rosters:** Bureaus and/or divisions that utilize SPVs shall maintain an active roster of employees authorized to operate these vehicles and ensure that operators meet any requisite continuing training requirements. Commanders shall ensure that any employee who is transferred within their purview and expected to operate a SPV shall attain proper certification prior to operating an SPV in the performance of their duties.

- D. **Inspections:** Operators of SPVs shall inspect the vehicle prior to use. Inspections shall include, but not be limited to, inspection of lights, sirens, and radios as applicable. Any observed vehicle deficiency shall be relayed to a supervisor and/or Station Logistics Technician immediately, and the SPV shall not be used. Supervisors shall notify either the Duty Officer or Police Liaison Commander of any SPVs that will be placed out-of-service for an extended period of time for maintenance reasons. Divisions and bureaus equipped with SPVs shall maintain a schedule to ensure that all portable and/or specialty equipment on a SPV is inspected on a regular basis. The inspection schedule should be in proportion to the amount of use the vehicle and equipment incurs, but no less than two (2) times per year to ensure SPVs are capable of rapid deployment as necessary. All equipment inspections shall be formally documented and maintained by the division or bureau. Deficiencies shall be brought to the immediate attention of the appropriate supervisor, and operators are responsible for re-stocking or replacing equipment and supplies following deployment.

- E. **Internal Standard Operating Procedures:** Divisions and bureaus equipped with SPVs may develop internal specific operating procedures in accordance with existing Department General Orders and procedures, to include FCPD [General Order 502](#), Normal Vehicle Operations. Any Department entity that purchases a SPV unilaterally shall notify RMB of the purchase for recorded keeping and inventory purposes.

General Order 508 becomes effective on the above date and rescinds all previous rules and regulations pertaining to the subjects.

ISSUED BY:



Chief of Police

APPROVED BY:



County Executive