Mt. Lebanon Police Department

Policy Manual

Disabled Vehicles

505.1 POLICY HEADER

Original Effective Date:	Revised Date:	
September 1, 2021	January 4, 2023	
Authorization:		
Stal		
Jason Haberman		
Chief of Police		

505.2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for department members who provide assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles within the primary jurisdiction of the Mt. Lebanon Police Department.

505.3 POLICY

It is the policy of the Mt. Lebanon Police Department to assist motorists with disabled vehicles until those vehicles are safely removed from the roadway. Members should take appropriate action to mitigate potential problems when a vehicle constitutes a traffic hazard or the safety of the motorist is a concern.

505.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

When an on-duty member of this department sees a disabled vehicle on the roadway, the member should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If this is not reasonably possible, the communications operator should be advised of the location of the disabled vehicle and the need for assistance. The communications operator should then assign another department member to respond as soon as practicable.

505.5 ASSISTANCE

In most cases, a disabled motorist will require assistance. After arrangements for assistance are made, continued involvement by department members will be contingent on the time of day, the location, the availability of department resources and the vulnerability of the disabled motorist.

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505.5.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Department members shall not make mechanical repairs to a disabled vehicle. The use of push bumpers, with consent of the owner, to relocate vehicles to a position of safety is not considered a mechanical repair.

505.5.2 RELOCATION OF DISABLED VEHICLES

The relocation of disabled vehicles by members of this department by pushing or pulling a vehicle should only occur when the conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to reduce a hazard presented by the disabled vehicle.

505.5.3 RELOCATION OF MOTORISTS

The relocation of a motorist with a disabled vehicle should only occur with the person's consent and should be suggested when conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to mitigate a potential hazard. The department member may stay with the motorist or transport him/her to a safe area to await pickup.