
Purpose

This policy recognizes that Bemidji Police Officers will sometimes be involved with an accident while operating a patrol vehicle.

Policy

It shall be the policy of the Bemidji Police Department that all employees will report any accident involving department vehicle immediately to their supervisor and to have the accident investigated by another law enforcement agency.

Procedure

- I. In an employee of the Bemidji Police Department becomes involved in an accident involving a department vehicle they must:
 - a. Immediately assess the welfare of all people involved and provide care as needed.
 - b. Notify a supervisor or OIC of the incident as soon as practicable.
 - i. If a supervisor is not available, the police administration should be notified per that policy.
 - c. Document the scene with photographs.
 - d. Request an outside agency for investigation of the accident.
 - e. Complete an incident report regarding details of the case, in addition to the state accident report.
- II. If the accident does not involve any privately owned vehicles and the damage is minor, an outside agency is not required for the investigation. However, the immediate need to notify a supervisor and complete a report remains.
- III. In the event the department vehicle is inoperable as a result of the accident, it shall be towed by a tow operator to a secure facility.
 - i. In the case where a death or suspected criminal charge is involved, the investigating agency may order the vehicle towed elsewhere.

Reference or Revision Date(s):

A. REFERENCE:

B. REVISION DATE(S):