
Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV)

706.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a system of accountability to ensure off-highway vehicles (OHV's) are used appropriately.

706.2 POLICY

The Barstow Police Department provides off-highway vehicles for department related business. An Off-Highway Enforcement Team shall be maintained and equipped with a Polaris Pro XP 4 Ultimate and the Suzuki XR Motorcycle or additional vehicles as authorized by the Chief of Police.

Members assigned to this unit and utilizing the authorized equipment shall adhere to the provisions of this policy or any other applicable department policies.

706.3 USE OF OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES (OHV'S)

Any use of the off-highway vehicles of any type shall be approved by a supervisor.

Members shall inspect each OHV and complete an OHV inspection form prior to operating any of the off-highway vehicles.

Members of the Off-Highway Enforcement Team shall not perform traffic enforcement functions as a matter of sustained routine patrol to include the participation in any vehicle pursuits. Department members shall exercise due care and caution during the operation of vehicles authorized in this policy. No unnecessary tricks, horseplay, or excessive speeds will be tolerated.

When operating an Off-Highway Enforcement Team vehicle members shall wear all the required safety equipment. This includes a helmet, goggles or sunglasses, gloves, radio, and the authorized uniform shirt, pants, and boots. The Class C uniform is the only uniform authorized for the Off-Highway Enforcement Team special assignment. Alterations to the riding uniform requires express written permission from the Chief of Police.

Members shall clean and inspect each OHV after each use and note any changes to the OHV on the department inspection form.

706.4 SELECTION, TRAINING, AND QUALIFICATIONS

The Off-Highway Vehicle Team is a special duty assignment. Selection to the team will be based on the provisions outlined in BPD Policy 1004.

Members selected and assigned to the Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement Team shall successfully complete the following training before being formally designated as an off-highway enforcement team officer:

- A POST certified off-road vehicle training course.
- Each team member shall also complete an orientation and demonstrate competency operating the OHV to a qualified Department instructor or supervisor.

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- No department member with a documented at fault traffic collision within the past 12-months of assignment will be considered for the Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement Team.

706.5 OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT TEAM SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION

The Barstow Police Department Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement Team shall be supervised by a patrol division sergeant, as assigned by the Chief of Police. The OHV Team shall be coordinated by the patrol division commander.

The assigned sergeant shall be responsible for the direct supervision of the team and shall report to the OHV coordinator. The OHV sergeant is responsible for the following:

- Review and approve all OHV inspection forms.
- Ensure team members complete all required Department training.
- Periodically deploy with the team.
- Procure the needed equipment for team members.
- Ensure all OHV vehicles are serviced on time.