



Las Cruces Police Department
GENERAL ORDERS
FIELD OPERATIONS VOLUME 2
GO-272 POLICE MOTORCYCLE OPERATOR TRAINING
Revised 5/13/2005

272 POLICE MOTORCYCLE OPERATOR TRAINING

Mandatory training should be done monthly, and qualifications will be conducted semi-annually for all motorcycle officers. Officers who fail to attend training without prior supervisory approval may not be allowed to operate their motorcycles. Officers who fail to meet the minimum standards for Police Motorcycle Operator Training may be relieved from duty as a motorcycle operator. Sergeants may schedule any officers for training upon observing deficiencies.

A. Police Motorcycle Operator Training – General Considerations

The motorcycle officer performs his or her mission with fundamentally different equipment than that of the patrol officer, and therefore requires specialized training. Since the motorcycle officer's mission is unique, it requires distinctive physical and dynamic characteristics including vehicle usage patterns specific to the mission, and which demands consideration in selection and training of motorcycle officers.

The attitude and degree of skill required of the police officer are strong factors in the efficient and safe operation of a police motorcycle. The Department recognizes that a motorcycle used in law enforcement is not operated in the same manner as a recreational motorcycle. The Department emphasizes a high degree of professionalism and requires an initial training and periodic retraining for experienced motorcycle officers.

B. Training for New Police Motorcycle Operators

New officers assigned to the Traffic Unit who are required to operate a motorcycle will attend and successfully complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Motorcycle Rider Course and the Police Motorcycle Operator Course. The officer must receive a "Class W" motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license from the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division prior to being released to duty as a Police Motorcycle Operator.