

MAHANOY CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT
Standard Operating Guidelines
#4806.1 – Blue & Red Lights / Personal Vehicles

Effective: 1/01/06

Revised:

1. The Minimum Staffing Requirements for all apparatus must be met before personal vehicles are utilized to respond to the scene.
See SOG #4806 – Response.
2. All personal vehicles shall be operated in a safe manner at all times, and shall comply with all applicable vehicle laws, codes and ordinances.
3. Personnel traveling to the scene in privately owned vehicles shall comply with all traffic signs and signals at all times, park their vehicle in a safe manner which will not interfere with incoming emergency apparatus or otherwise instructed by fire Officers, Fire Police and or Police Officers. If at any time, a personal vehicle must be re-located, it shall be the responsibility of the owner to ensure the vehicle is moved to a proper, designated area.
4. Personnel should refrain from responding to scenes in personal vehicles as much as possible, especially to areas not conducive or safe to have parked cars (i.e. I-81).
5. The Incident Commander shall have the right to have any personal vehicle prohibited from responding to or remaining on the scene.
6. The Chief shall be informed anytime a Department vehicle or fire fighter's privately owned vehicle is involved in an accident.
7. When informed via radio or other manner a response has been downgraded to non-emergency, all personnel responding in private vehicles shall return to their station.
8. The use of Blue/Red Lights on personal vehicles are permitted to only those authorized by each Company Asst. Chief.
9. Blue & Red lights must be registered with the Mahanoy City Police Department and PA State Police by January 31st, annually. Registration form must be completed and returned to the MCFD Admin. Asst. with the Fire Chief having the final decision to allow the use of a Blue or Red light for all personnel.
10. All Blue & Red lights on personal vehicles shall be at the cost of the member, shall be mounted and wired to PA Vehicle Code standards and shall be used only when authorized by PA Vehicle Code standards.

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11. Jr. Firefighters shall not respond to any incident in their personal vehicle and shall not have the authority to use a Blue or Red light on their personal vehicle.
12. The use of Blue or Red lights and the use of a personal vehicle are a privilege, not a right, afforded by the Mahanoy City Fire Department and the Fire Chief and the Fire Chief shall retain the right to revoke said privileges to any member at any time.
13. Whenever a member authorized to use a Blue or Red light is suspended or membership is terminated for any reason or that member's Blue/Red light and/or personal vehicle usage is suspended or revoked by any Company or Fire Police, written notification must be made to the MCFD Admin. Asst. within twenty-four (24) hours of said change in membership status. Likewise, should the privilege of the use of a Blue or Red Light and/or personal vehicle be suspended or revoked by the Fire Chief, the Company shall receive written notification within twenty-four (24) hours.
14. It shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Fire Chief to insure that all members are trained to this SOG.
15. Any firefighter not adhering to this SOG shall be subject to Borough and Department disciplinary action.

Fire Chief

Author