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<b>Effective Date: July 1997</b>	<b>Revision Date: January 2012</b>
<b>Amends/Supercedes: 1400.40/ July 2007</b>	<b>Approved by: Chief Kevin Higdon</b>
<b>Meets Accreditation Standard:</b>	<b>21.3</b>

## **Section 1300.40 Bike Patrol**

The Chief of Police may authorize the establishment of a bike patrol unit to be operated for the purpose of patrolling areas that are not conducive to other patrol vehicles and for use during events such as parades or civic events.

Bicycle officers shall have all of the duties and responsibilities normally assigned to officers on patrol, except for calls where a response on a bicycle is unsafe, impractical or as directed by the on duty commanding officer.

Bicycle officers shall perform patrol duties year round except in certain conditions. Bicycle officers shall be mindful of certain conditions that could compromise their health (e.g. extremely cold or extremely hot and humid conditions). Bicycle officers shall not be deployed when weather and/or environmental conditions pose an undue hazard to the officers' health and safety. Such conditions include, but are not limited to:

- Thunderstorms and active lightning in the area
- Severe weather warnings
- Snow, sleet and/or ice covered streets and sidewalks.

### **Training**

Any employee assigned to the Bike Patrol shall be properly trained by any organization recognized or recommend by the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council.

### **Equipment**

Any bike equipment used must be approved by the Chief of Police and be in compliance with the training authority.

### **Uniforms**

Officers assigned to the bike patrol unit will wear uniforms that are specially designed for comfort and utility while performing duties on a bicycle. All uniforms must be approved by the Chief of Police.

### **Operations**

Bicycle officers shall comply with all applicable laws regarding traffic operations. Officers shall perform their duties with due regard for the safety of people and property. Officers shall ride in a safe manner that is consistent with their training.

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Departmental bicycles shall only be operated by certified departmental personnel who have completed the approved training.

Officers shall utilize bicycle and uniform equipment (e.g. headlight, tail light, helmet, gloves, etc.) in addition to hand signals to promote safety and visibility. The lighting system shall be used after dusk when the rider is in any place open to vehicular or pedestrian traffic except in situations that require a tactical response.

Bicycle officers shall not initiate motor vehicle traffic stops or pursuits and shall not be used to block traffic.

Bicycles will not be used to carry passengers.

When a bicycle officer makes an arrest while on patrol, he/she may request assistance from a patrol officer to transport the subject to Louisville Metro Department of Corrections. The arresting officer is responsible for completing the arrest citation and/or any applicable paperwork.

### **Equipment**

Officers shall wear the following equipment at all times when riding departmental bicycles:

- Departmentally approved safety helmet.
- Departmentally approved cycling gloves.
- Departmentally approved eye protection.
- Departmentally approved radio.

Safety helmets shall be replaced according to the manufacturer's recommendations, after impact or after 5 (five) years, whichever comes first.

Safety helmets shall be provided and replaced by the Shively Police Department.

Department Bicycles shall be equipped with the following:

- White headlight and red taillight and reflectors (for riding at night or in other dim conditions for visibility).
- Equipment pouch/saddlebag (including relevant arrest/citation forms).

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## **Maintenance**

Officers shall inspect bicycles and equipment before each use and report any problems to their immediate supervisor. The following is a list of items to be inspected:

- Bicycle and personal safety equipment (headlight, taillight, reflectors, helmet, gloves, etc. )
- Bicycle chain and gears/sprockets
- Handle bar alignment and seat height
- Wheels and spokes
- Tire condition and inflation
- Brakes

Bicycles shall be kept clean and in good appearance. Officers shall not expose the bicycle to unreasonable hazards or abuse, except in situations that pose a threat to the safety of any person.

Repairs that are beyond the capability of the officer shall be completed by an approved vendor.

Bicycles are considered departmental vehicles and any damage must be reported.

## **Storage**

Bicycles shall be secured whenever the operator is away from them, unless circumstances prevent the officer from doing so (e.g. crime in progress, assistance, etc.) Bicycles shall be secured with a departmentally approved locking device. Bicycles shall be kept in a secured area when not in use.