

STOCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

SCHOOL BUS COLLISIONS
SUBJECT

DATE: March 1, 2005

NO: T-4

FROM: CHIEF ERIC JONES

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

INDEX: School Bus Collisions
Bus Collisions
Collisions Involving School Buses

I. POLICY

The California Highway Patrol shall investigate all collisions involving school buses within the city limits, unless the bus has no passengers.

II. LAW

Officers shall become familiar with Section 545 of the California Vehicle Code, which designates the California Highway Patrol as the investigating agency for all school bus collisions. If the school bus does not have passengers, it is no longer considered a school bus collision by the above standards. In this case, it will be investigated by members of the Stockton Police Department.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. When the California Highway Patrol is unable to respond immediately, the Stockton Police Department will assist the injured, assure the needed ambulances are enroute, and provide traffic control until the Highway Patrol can arrive.
- B. If the California Highway Patrol advises they have no one available to investigate, Traffic Section personnel will be used first, when available, and then Field Services personnel.
- C. If the Stockton Police Department does investigate, the following must be done:
 - 1. Immediately notify supervisor
 - 2. Take photographs
 - 3. Note the total number of passengers
 - 4. List names of passengers/injured parties on the proper form ensuring it is complete with D.O.B., address, zip code etc.
 - 5. The California Highway Patrol will then do a subsequent investigation.