

# MEDINA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL ORDER

**ORDER NO:** 2016-009

**SUBJECT:** SAFETY BELTS

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 01-JANUARY 2016

**PURPOSE:** Wearing seat belts reduces an occupant's chance of being seriously injured or killed in an automobile accident and significantly increases the officers' control of his/her vehicle during emergency, pursuit and high speed driving. Additionally, officers of the Medina Police Department are duty bound to set a proper example in driver safety and regard for the law.

- I. **POLICY:** Occupants of Medina Police Vehicles equipped with occupant restraint seat Belts will wear seat belts when the vehicle is in motion.
- II. **PROCEDURE:**
  - A. All occupants of police vehicles will normally wear fastened seat belts whenever the vehicle is in motion.
  - B. Persons under arrest and being transported in police cars will normally wear fastened seat belts whenever the vehicle is in motion.
  - C. There are circumstances in which the use of safety belt restraining systems may hamper efficient conduct of police functions. Supervisors may grant exemption to this policy for specific situations in which they deem efficiency of operation outweighs the safety benefit. Examples of situations in which an exemption may be appropriate are when approaching the scene of a critical emergency and quick exit of the vehicle is essential, or when an officer produces a doctor's excuse that wearing of the seat belt is not advisable for medical reasons.

By Order of:

Chad Kenward  
Chief of Police