

**RULES  
OF  
THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY  
HIGHWAY PATROL DIVISION**

**CHAPTER 1340-03-04  
MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT OF RULES OF THE ROAD**

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**1340-03-04-.01 PURPOSE.**

- (1) To provide local agencies with information about the enforcement of rules of the road on interstate highways by law enforcement agencies of municipalities with a population of 10,000 persons or less and to establish terms for the manner and method of enforcement of rules of the road on interstate highways by law enforcement agencies of municipalities with a population of 10,000 persons or less.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.02 DEFINITIONS.**

- (1) Commissioner means the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Safety.
- (2) Department means the Tennessee Department of Safety.
- (3) Interstate highways mean the Dwight D. Eisenhower national system of interstate and defense highways.
- (4) Municipality means a city or town properly incorporated as a municipal corporation with a population of 10,000 or less according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census.
- (5) Municipal law enforcement agency means the police department of a municipality with a population of 10,000 or less according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census.
- (6) Chief law enforcement officer means the chief, director, or the highest-ranking officer known by any other title of a municipal law enforcement agency in a municipality with a population of 10,000 or less according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendment filed December 17, 2013; effective May 31, 2014. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.03 LOCAL AUTHORIZATION.**

- (1) A municipal law enforcement agency shall not enforce rules of the road on interstate highways unless the legislative body of the municipality authorizes such enforcement. An ordinance or resolution authorizing enforcement of rules of the road, if approved, shall be submitted to the Commissioner. Once an ordinance or resolution is received by the Commissioner, the ordinance or resolution shall be maintained on file by the Department and shall satisfy the requirement of this section unless and until a subsequent resolution or ordinance repealing such authorization is submitted to the Commissioner.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.04 LISTING OF HIGHWAYS.**

- (1) The chief law enforcement officer of each municipality properly authorized by the local legislative body to enforce rules of the road on interstate highways shall file with the Commissioner a listing of interstate highways within the municipality's law enforcement jurisdiction.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.05 ANNUAL ENFORCEMENT NOTICE.**

- (1) The chief law enforcement officer of each municipality properly authorized by the local legislative body to enforce rules of the road on interstate highways shall file with the Commissioner notification of a municipal law enforcement agency's intent to enforce rules of the road on interstate highways.
- (2) A law enforcement agency intending to enforce the rules of the road on the interstate highways shall file its written notice on the form developed by the Department.
  - (a) Between November 1 and December 31 of a calendar year for authorization for the next calendar year;
  - (b) Between January 1 and October 31 of a calendar year for authorization between the date of approval by the Commissioner and December 31 of that same calendar year;
  - (c) Between November 1 and December 31 of a calendar year for authorization for the remainder of the same calendar year, only if the notification is accompanied by a letter, on agency letterhead, stating the notification is for the remainder of the calendar year.
    1. The law enforcement agency will need to file a separate notification for the next calendar year in accordance with subparagraph (2)(a).
- (3) In no event shall a notification for a law enforcement agency's authority to enforce the rules of the road on the interstate highways be valid prior to the date of approval by the Commissioner.
- (4) In no event shall a notification for a law enforcement agency's authority to enforce the rules of the road on the interstate highways be valid for any period of time beyond the calendar year for which it is authorized.
- (5) The notification by a law enforcement agency shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

(Rule 1340-03-04-.05, continued)

- (a) A statement indicating the anticipated frequency of enforcement activities expressed as the anticipated number of hours per week in which the municipal law enforcement agency will have one or more officers engaged in enforcement of the rules of the road on interstate highways.
- (b) A statement indicating whether enforcement efforts will include active patrols or other methods of enforcement.
- (c) A statement that all officers engaged in the enforcement of the rules of the road have read, understand, and will follow the General Orders listed herein and any addendums or referenced manuals thereto issued by the Tennessee Highway Patrol to ensure their safety, the safety of the public, and to ensure uniform enforcement procedures and standards:

G.O. # 405 – Traffic Direction and Control  
G.O. # 411 – Pursuit Regulations  
G.O. # 415 – Motorcycle Care and Operations (THP Only)  
G.O. # 430 – Traffic Crash Investigation  
G.O. # 500 – Use of Force  
G.O. # 501 – Enforcement Policy and Professional Conduct  
G.O. # 505 – Stop and Approach Procedures  
G.O. # 506 – Profiling  
G.O. # 513 – Vehicle Inventory and Searches  
G.O. # 520 – Citations  
G.O. # 555 – Speed Measurement Devices  
G.O. # 712-1 – Cameras (In-Car)

- (d) A statement indicating the law enforcement agency and all of its officers have read and understand the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Memorandum of Understanding for Quick and Safe Clearance when operating on the interstate.
- (e) A statement indicating the law enforcement agency has submitted a Geographic Information System map that clearly shows the area of operations within the limits of the municipality. To include any entry and/or exit ramps on the interstate to which the law enforcement agency intends to utilize.
- (f) Any statement and forms submitted to the State of Tennessee for approval must be current, official forms produced and accepted by the Tennessee Highway Patrol. No self-supplied or previous versions of forms will be accepted or approved.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Repeal and new rule filed August 21, 2008; effective December 29, 2008. Amendment filed December 17, 2013; effective May 31, 2014. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

#### **1340-03-04-.06 CRASH INVESTIGATION.**

- (1) Each municipal law enforcement agency enforcing rules of the road on interstate highways shall have authority to assist motorists and investigate crashes on such highways to the fullest extent that resources permit.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.07 EGRESS AND INGRESS.**

- (1) Each municipal law enforcement agency enforcing rules of the road on interstate highways shall utilize established and clearly marked points of egress and ingress and may use restricted emergency vehicle turnarounds to change direction on divided highways. A municipal law enforcement agency enforcing the rules of the road on interstate highways shall not drive across a median to change direction on a divided highway unless responding to a crash or other incident in which injury or death of motorists, bystanders, or law enforcement personnel is suspected to have occurred, has occurred, or seems likely to occur.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.08 CLEARLY IDENTIFIED VEHICLES.**

- (1) Each municipal law enforcement agency enforcing rules of the road on interstate highways shall utilize only clearly marked law enforcement vehicles and shall not utilize unmarked law enforcement vehicles. Clearly marked law enforcement vehicles shall display the law enforcement agency's patch, badge, seal or other official agency logo.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Repeal and new rule filed December 17, 2013; effective May 31, 2014. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.09 CERTIFIED SPEED DETECTION EQUIPMENT.**

- (1) Each municipal law enforcement agency enforcing rules of the road on interstate highways, to the extent that speed detection equipment is used, shall utilize speed detection equipment tested and certified in accordance with the standards set forth by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). The requirements of the Tennessee Department of Safety General Order number 555 must be adhered to in checking, maintaining, and testing such devices. A certified radar technician must also recertify this equipment annually pursuant to the manufacturer's recommendations. The operator of such equipment must also be certified and recertified annually on the use and operation of the speed detection equipment pursuant to the certification requirements of General Order number 555.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Repeal and new rule filed December 17, 2013; effective May 31, 2014. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.10 CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICERS.**

- (1) Each municipal law enforcement agency enforcing rules of the road on interstate highways shall permit only "full-time police officers" as defined in T.C.A. § 38-8-101(3), who have met the qualifications for police officer per T.C.A. § 38-6-106. Officers are not permitted to wear plain clothes while working the interstate highways under this authorization. All officers shall carry their official agency's identification card containing, at a minimum, a photograph of the employee, name, rank/title, and date of issuance.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Repeal and new rule filed December 17, 2013; effective May 31, 2014. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.11 GENERAL PURSUIT POLICY.**

- (1) Each municipal law enforcement agency enforcing rules of the road on interstate highways shall be familiar with and abide by the Department's general pursuit policy (G.O. # 411 – Pursuit Regulations) or, in the alternative, a municipal law enforcement agency may abide by a local pursuit policy that is at least as restrictive as the Department's general pursuit policy. Any local law enforcement agency utilizing its own pursuit policy shall be responsible for determining if the local pursuit policy is at least as restrictive as the Department's general pursuit policy.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.12 ASSISTANCE.**

- (1) In the case of any response, incident, or enforcement activity on interstate highways involving the State Highway Patrol or any other state law enforcement personnel, a municipal law enforcement agency shall assist or support the State Highway Patrol or any other state law enforcement personnel only to the extent requested by the State Highway Patrol or any other state law enforcement agency. The municipal law enforcement agency shall assume a supporting role, unless otherwise requested, regardless of whether the initial response, incident, or enforcement activity was initiated by the municipal law enforcement agency, or by the State Highway Patrol or any other state law enforcement agency.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 6, 2004; effective April 29, 2005. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.13 COMPLIANCE OVERSIGHT.**

The Department of Safety reserves the right to visit and/or inspect any municipality authorized to enforce the rules of the road on the interstate highways to ensure that the municipality is complying with these rules and all General Orders listed in 1340-03-04-.05(5)(c).

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 21, 2008; effective December 29, 2008. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.

**1340-03-04-.14 SUSPENSION OF AUTHORIZATION.**

- (1) Upon determining that a municipality is enforcing the rules of the road on the interstate highways without proper authority or is not complying with these rules and all General Orders listed in 1340-03-04-.05(5)(c), the Commissioner (or the Commissioner's designee) may refuse to issue or may suspend for up to three (3) years the authorization for the municipality to enforce the rules of the road on the interstate highways.
- (2) Such suspension shall be made in writing and sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the chief law enforcement officer and the mayor of the municipality no less than thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the suspension of authority. Furthermore, an electronic mail notice will be sent to the municipality's chief law enforcement officer and mayor, notifying the effective date of the suspension of authority.
- (3) The municipal law enforcement agency shall have twenty (20) days from receipt of the suspension notification to provide proof to the Department that the municipal law enforcement agency was compliant with these rules and all General Orders listed in 1340-03-04-.05(5)(c). Timely submission of proof to the Department shall stay the suspension until the Department has made a determination whether or not to rescind the suspension.

(Rule 1340-03-04-.14, continued)

- (4) If the proof submitted under paragraph (3) is acceptable to the Department, the Commissioner (or the Commissioner's designee) shall inform the chief law enforcement officer and mayor in writing and sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, that the suspension is being rescinded.
- (5) If the proof submitted under paragraph (3) is not acceptable to the Department, the Commissioner (or the Commissioner's designee) shall inform the chief law enforcement officer and mayor in writing and send by certified mail, return receipt requested, that the suspension will be reinstituted. Furthermore, an electronic mail notice will be sent to the municipality's chief law enforcement officer and mayor, notifying the suspension will be reinstituted.
- (6) At the conclusion of the suspension served by a municipal law enforcement agency, such agency must re-file for authorization pursuant to 1340-03-04-.05 herein prior to enforcing the rules of the road on the interstate highways.

**Authority:** T.C.A. §§ 4-3-2009, 4-7-112, and 55-10-308. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 21, 2008; effective December 29, 2008. Repeal and new rule filed December 17, 2013; effective May 31, 2014. Amendments filed May 6, 2024; effective August 4, 2024.