



Traffic Safety Bulletin

We Serve and Protect

NOVEMBER 1986

FRED RICE, Superintendent of Police

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS



During the winter months, this seemingly innocent viaduct has a split personality. By day, the water beneath it forms small unassuming puddles, not nearly enough to stall a passing auto. However, when the sun sets and the moon is full (actually, when the temperature drops below freezing) those harmless puddles of water turn into perilous patches of ice. All of a sudden a trip through the viaduct becomes a carnival ride, as your car slides uncontrollably on the slick surface. All Department members are urged to use caution during the winter driving season and expect the unexpected by driving defensively. Incidentally, this icy viaduct was the cause of a Department vehicle accident. Two officers, who were pursuing a vehicle, lost control as they passed through the viaduct and slid into a light pole. The squad car was totalled and both officers were seriously injured.

SEAT BELTS



SAVE LIVES

TEN ONE

by

Robert D. Jefferies, 024th District

When the flashing blue lights go bowling
Down the alleys and the lanes
And the squad car squealing, wailing
As the tires squeak their pain
When the radio comes rumbling
And the words are on the run
As the syllables come numbling
And the call is yelled ten one
A coppers down and dying
Where the corner meets the street
And the squad is crashed and twisted
In a burning flaming sheet
When the body is flung and shattered
And the battered windshield breaks
His blood and brains are splattered
while his head decapitates
The call that came was tardy
At the end when all was done
For the copper died on impact
With his seat belt still unstrung.

WARNING

Police Officers are reminded that when taking a DUI into custody, the Implied Consent warnings should be given prior to any Miranda warnings. In some cases Miranda warnings have been given first. During the Implied Consent hearings, this may allow the arrestee to use as a defense the fact that under Miranda the arrestee did not realize that he was compelled to submit to testing or face suspension of his driver's license for six months.

ARE YOU AWARE?

A member involved in a department vehicle accident, who alleges that an equipment failure caused the accident will prepare a "To-From" report describing the malfunction. The report will be reviewed and signed by the supervisor assigned to the scene. The report will be submitted to the effected member's District/Unit Commander who will review and forward it to the Motor Maintenance Division.

The supervisor assigned will ensure that the vehicle is towed and notify Motor Maintenance of the alleged equipment failure. The department vehicle should NOT be driven from the scene.

DEAR SAFETY MAN

Can a police officer seize a suspended drivers license from an individual who at the time of the field contact is not driving?

Yes, in fact, that person can be ticketed under Chapter 95½, Section 6-301.1; which states that any person who has "in his possession any cancelled, revoked, suspended, fictitious or fraudulently altered license or permit" is in violation of a Class C misdemeanor.