



Traffic Safety Bulletin

We Serve and Protect

FEBRUARY 1991

LeRoy Martin, Superintendent of Police

BEFORE, I COULDN'T EVEN SPELL "EMERGENCY", NOW I AM ONE !



"R/O was responding to an emergency assignment". This is a familiar opening sentence for many Department Vehicle Accident/Damage reports. It is usually followed by another familiar phrase "with all emergency equipment activated". The driver of this vehicle while responding to an emergency, was driving left of center when a vehicle traveling in the same direction turned left into the squad car. This accident involved 5 vehicles and 2 injuries (including the officer).

Unfortunately, the mere sound of a siren or sight of a flashing mars light contain no magic that will enable you to get to your destination safely and quickly. The siren and lights are tools used to identify you as an emergency vehicle, **they do not give you the right of way, they request it.** (continued)