## DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC COORDINATOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

## $\frac{NOTICE}{16.2}$

July 2, 2010

TO: All Traffic Division Commanding Officers

FROM: Department Traffic Coordinator, Special Operations Bureau

SUBJECT: UNLICENSED DRIVERS INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

As a result of the suggestions received from the four geographic traffic divisions to streamline traffic collision investigations, it was revealed that the policies and procedures for handling traffic collisions involving unlicensed drivers should be amended. Currently, the Department dispatches officers to the scene of traffic collisions where there are no injuries but one or both of the involved parties do not have a valid driver's license. The responding officers are then required to complete a traffic collision report. In the report, the officers are required to request additional filing for Section 12500(a) "Unlicensed Driver" of the California Vehicle Code. Consequently, the concerned traffic detectives are then required to prepare a case package and present the case to the Office of the City Attorney for filing.

The Department will continue to dispatch officers to the scene of traffic collisions where there are no injuries but one or both of the involved parties do not have a valid driver's license. However, effective immediately, officers assigned to geographic traffic divisions will have the option, based on the totality of the circumstances, not to complete a traffic collision report as was previously required. Instead, in cases where officers have verified the identity of the unlicensed driver, they may elect to cite the driver for Section 12500(a) "Unlicensed Driver" of the California Vehicle Code, on a Personal Service Citation. The officers shall then ensure that an exchange of information between the involved parties is conducted.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact Traffic Coordination Section at Emergency Operations Division, at (213) 486-0690.

APPROVED:

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RICHARD A. ROUPOLI, Deputy Chief Department Traffic Coordinator Special Operations Bureau

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