

DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC COORDINATOR
COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

NOTICE
16.2

December 12, 2014

TO: All Concerned Commanding Officers

FROM: Department Traffic Coordinator, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES BY DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

In recent years, the market has seen a proliferation of electric motorcycle manufacturers which have developed electric motorcycles for law enforcement applications. In the past two years, the Department has conducted field evaluations of electric motorcycles manufactured by Brammo, Inc., and Zero Motorcycles, Inc. The results of the field evaluations revealed that electric motorcycles offered unique features and advantages that are applicable in law enforcement operations. Although they are electric-powered, they are defined as motorcycles under California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 400, and possess all of the inherent dangers and liability associated with the operation of a traditional, gasoline-powered motorcycle.


Therefore, effective immediately, Department personnel are authorized to operate a two-wheel gasoline-powered or electric-powered motorcycle, as defined in CVC Section 400, in field operations or traffic enforcement, only if the employee meets each of the following criteria:

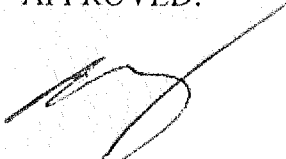
- Successful completion of the California Peace Officer Standards and Training 80-hour Basic Motorcycle Riding School;
- Currently assigned to a bureau traffic division or the Specialized Enforcement Section, Emergency Operations Division, as a two-wheel (motorcycle) traffic enforcement officer or supervisor; and,
- Successful completion of a Department electric motorcycle transition course.

This criteria has been developed to ensure that only qualified and highly trained Department personnel are authorized to operate a Department motorcycle, due to its inherent dangers, in order to minimize the Department's exposure to civil liability and prevent unnecessary injuries to both Department employees and the public.

If there any questions regarding this Notice, please contact the Specialized Enforcement Section, Emergency Operations Division, at (213) 486-0690.

APPROVED:


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