

DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC COORDINATOR
COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

NOTICE
16.2

August 12, 2016

TO: All Commanding Officers

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

SUBJECT: ELECTRICALLY MOTORIZED BOARDS AND ELECTRIC BICYCLES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Notice is to provide training regarding the investigation and documentation of two new classes of vehicles, electrically motorized boards (EMB) and electric bicycles.

BACKGROUND

The California State Legislature recently passed legislation that creates or amends the California Vehicle Code Section (VC) regarding EMB and electric bicycles. These changes clarify the criteria and provide how each is to be classified.

Section 313.5 VC: Was created and defines an EMB or "hoverboard" as a motor vehicle that has an electric propulsion system, produces less than 1,000 watts and has a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour (MPH).

Section 312.5 VC: Separates electric bicycles into the following three categories:

- **Class 1:** An electric bicycle that provides electric assistance only when the rider is pedaling, but ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches 20 MPH.
- **Class 2:** An electric bicycle that may run solely off of the electric motor, but ceases to provide power when the electric bicycle reaches 20 MPH.
- **Class 3:** An electric bicycle provides electric assistance only when the rider is pedaling, but ceases to provide assistance when the electric bicycle reaches 28 MPH and must be equipped with a speedometer.

Note: A person riding a Class 3 electric bicycle must be aged 16 or older, and wear a bicycle helmet, per Section 21213 VC. Electric bicycles do not require a driver's license or endorsement.

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Electric Bicycles

When investigating traffic collisions involving an electric bicycle, the CHP Form 555 **shall** be completed as follows:

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- Party Section: Select "Other."

Note: A rider of an electric bicycle cannot be classified as a "Bicyclist" due to the electric assist.

- Vehicle Type: Use Code 91.

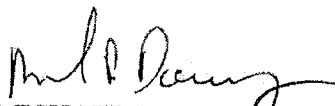
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- Motor Vehicle Involved With Section: Use Code "J."

Officers may treat an electric bicycle as a regular bicycle for coding purposes when completing the remainder of the traffic collision report.

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

APPROVED:


MICHAEL P. DOWNING, Deputy Chief
Department Traffic Coordinator
Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau


SEAN W. MALINOWSKI, Commander
Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief of Police

DISTRIBUTION "B"