

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DIVISION ORDER #98-1  
8.1.1

February 19, 1998

TO: All Metropolitan Division Personnel

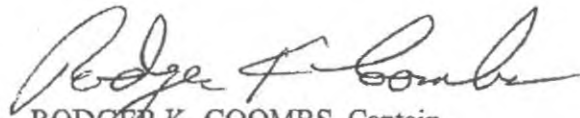
FROM: Commanding Officer, Metropolitan Division

SUBJECT: ALCOHOL RELATED VEHICLE ABUSE

I have directed that all Metro supervisors redouble their efforts to clearly articulate the Department's position on alcohol-related misconduct. Particular attention is being paid to the potential for abuse at Department sponsored events such as training days or formal retirement parties. To further strengthen everyone's understanding of this Commanding Officer's commitment to a zero tolerance for alcohol and vehicular abuse, additional steps are being taken to prevent alcohol-related vehicle occurrences in 1998.

Effective immediately, Metro supervisors are to ensure that officers are complying with home garaging guidelines by conducting random vehicle audits. Stiff discipline will be imposed for abuse of City vehicle privileges that could include loss of the vehicle, suspension without pay, administrative transfer, downgrade or removal from the Department. Such actions will not be limited only to alcohol-related vehicle abuse, but will include other improper or discourteous driving, both on and off duty.

One of the keys to effective leadership in any organization and particularly in Metro, is supervisory and management accountability. Metro supervisors are held accountable for the performance of their subordinates, particularly when they are not being directly supervised. Metro personnel are given an extremely high level of responsibility for their relative rank and peer pressure has traditionally been one of Metro's strongest performance motivators. The very real possibility of serious sanctions involving all personnel is being incorporated into regular platoon-level training and education programs to eliminate any doubts as to the consequences of a thoughtless act.

  
RODGER K. COOMBS, Captain  
Commanding Officer  
Metropolitan Division