

CHAPTER 53

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION WITHOUT INJURY

It is the policy of the Cecil County Sheriff's Office to assist police agencies in Cecil County when needed during their investigation of the following motor vehicle collisions. The Cecil County Sheriff's Office, if first arriving, will administer first aid and thereafter assist with traffic, pedestrian control, scene security and safety of emergency personnel at the collision scene. The types of accidents are:

1. Fatal Collisions
2. Personal injury collisions
3. Hit and run collisions
4. Vehicle collisions involving hazardous materials
5. Property damage accidents where vehicles are damaged as to prevent normal and safe operation
6. Collisions with government owned property
7. Collisions with school buses when the bus is transporting children, students, or teachers for education purposes or in connection with any school activity.

It is the policy of the Cecil County Sheriff's Office to handle Code 89 collisions outside of municipal jurisdictions, which maintain their own police department, as defined below:

A Code 89 collision is defined as a motor vehicle collision where there are no injuries to any person(s) involved in the collision. Damages to the vehicle(s) involved in the collision are such that the vehicle(s) involved are still operable and can be driven in a safe manner.

PROCEDURE

- A. Upon arrival to a motor vehicle collision the Deputy is to immediately inquire as to any injuries to any person(s) involved in the collision. Secondly, determine if the vehicle(s) are operable and can be safely driven away from the scene. If it is determined that there are injuries or that one or all vehicle(s) involved are unable to be operated safely the Deputy will notify communications. The appropriate emergency medical / fire personnel will be dispatched if needed, and the appropriate police agency will be notified to handle the investigation of the collision.

If one or all of the drivers involved in the collision request that a report of the collision be made the Deputy will have the appropriate police agency dispatched to the scene to handle the report.

- B. When responding to the scene of a collision where an investigation is not necessary:
 - 1. The Deputy will check to ensure that all operators of vehicles involved possess valid drivers' license and valid vehicle registration.
 - 2. The Deputy may place appropriate charges as a result of observing or witnessing violations not related to the cause of that particular collision
 - 3. The Deputy will notify owners/custodians of any property damaged as a result of a collision and will provide the owner with information regarding the severity of the damage and any pertinent information regarding the striking vehicle and it's operator.
 - 4. The Deputy will expeditiously ensure that the free flow of traffic is restored before leaving the scene.
 - 5. The Deputy will not determine fault in non-investigated (i.e. Code 89) collisions.

- C. Deputies are to gather driver's license information from the driver of each vehicle involved. License status on each driver is to be checked, as well as the registration and insurance information on each vehicle involved. Deputies are to document this information on CCSO form # SO-198.
 - 1. Form Number SO-198 will be submitted to the Deputy's supervisor for approval and filed in Central Records.
 - 2. An Accident Information Sheet (Form SO-197) will be distributed to all involved owners and drivers so pertinent information can be exchanged.

Sheriff Barry A. Janney, Sr.

Date