

TOWN OF SWANSBORO

POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY--NO. 2
SEAT BELTS

The Swansboro Board of Commissioners realize the importance of seat belt wearing in the saving of lives.

Therefore, to assure the safety of all personnel, safety belts shall be worn by drivers and passengers in all vehicles owned, leased or rented by the departments at all times. This also applies to the operation of privately owned or other vehicles if used on duty.

It is strongly recommended that safety belts be utilized by Department personnel and their families at all times in vehicles while in an off-duty capacity to further reduce the risk of death or injury.

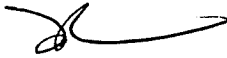
PROCEDURE:

- A. Department personnel shall use the safety belts installed by the vehicle manufacturer properly adjusted and securely fastened when operating or riding in any vehicle so equipped if used while on duty.
- B. Lap belts shall be properly secured in those vehicles equipped with automatic safety belt systems that require the lap portion of the belt be manually secured.
- C. The driver of the vehicle is responsible for insuring compliance by all occupants of the vehicle they are operating. Approved child safety restraints shall be used for all children of age, size, or weight for which such restraints are prescribed by law.
- D. No person shall operate a Departmental vehicle in which any safety belt in the drivers seating position is inoperable. No person shall be transported in a seating position in which the safety restraint is inoperable.
- E. No person shall modify, remove, deactivate or otherwise tamper with the vehicle safety belts except for vehicle maintenance and repair and not without the express authorization of the Chief of Police.
- F. Personnel who discover an inoperable restraint system shall report the defect to the appropriate supervisor. Prompt action will be taken to replace

or repair the system.

- G. Any person(s) under arrest and being transported in Department vehicle(s) are required to be secured in the vehicle by a safety belt in all seating positions for which safety belts are provided by the vehicle manufacturer. Caution: Prisoners that are handcuffed in front have the ability to release the handcuffs using the safety restraints latch plate.

ADOPTED THIS 26TH DAY OF APRIL.



William E. Price
Town Manager