

## **410 PERSONAL RESTRAINT DEVICES IN DEPARTMENT VEHICLES**

### **PURPOSE:**

This policy has been developed to provide maximum protection for all department personnel, while riding in or on department vehicles. It is also to clarify the need for compliance with all applicable federal and state regulations.

### **SCOPE:**

This policy is applicable to all personnel.

### **AUTOMATIC RESTRAINING DEVICES:**

All mechanical restraining devices shall be utilized at all times a vehicle so equipped is in motion. These devices shall not be rendered inoperative or improperly used at anytime.

### **SEAT BELT AND SHOULDER HARNESS EQUIPMENT:**

All personnel shall utilize seat belts and shoulder harnesses (if available) when they are riding in or on a vehicle so equipped.

### **SEATING:**

No personnel shall ride fire apparatus at any time in the standing position. Each firefighter shall be sure that he chooses a position on the apparatus that is equipped with both a seat and appropriate restraining device. Exceptions to this policy shall be made for the following special circumstances:

1. When apparatus is moving at slow speed while participating in a parade.
2. When it is necessary during fire suppression effort and approved by an officer.

In all cases, the driver must be aware that the manpower is in the standing position and personnel riding the apparatus must be advised to re-seat themselves prior to the vehicle resuming normal speed.