

LIVERMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT

1110 SOUTH LIVERMORE AVENUE
LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA 94550-9534



Traffic Unit Information Bulletin
September 2001

EMERGENCY - 911
Patrol, Fire &
Medical

Animal Control
(925) 371-4848

Business Office
Report Inquiries
Forms
(925) 371-4900

Crime's Office
(925) 371-4710

Crime Prevention
(925) 371-4797

FAX MACHINES
Patrol & Records
(925) 371-4920
Administration &
Investigations
(925) 371-4707

**Homeless Family
Counseling**
(925) 371-4747

Investigations
(925) 371-4700

**Patrol
Operations**
(925) 371-4716

**Patrol Watch
Commander**
(925) 371-4820

Property Returns
(925) 371-4900

TDD
(925) 371-4982

The Livermore Police Department is genuinely focused on reducing head trauma that usually results from motorcycle collisions. In that regard, the Department is taking measures to ensure that motorcyclists are informed and comply with Vehicle Code section 27803 that requires approved motorcycle helmets to be worn by all motorcycle riders.

In order to address this issue, the Department will be taking the following action:

The Traffic Unit will continue to conduct an educational effort to inform the public of the requirement to wear an approved motorcycle helmet. These helmets are clearly marked as approved by the Department of Transportation (DOT). Helmets with labels from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the Snell Memorial Foundation give an added assurance of quality by meeting Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 218. This campaign will include informational articles, letters, pamphlets, personal discussions and group presentations. We will continue to work with local motorcyclists and businesses to ensure compliance.

Absent a clearly obvious violation of the law, (no helmet, **wearing of a bicycle helmet**, helmet with spikes protruding or similar extremes) officers shall not initiate a primary enforcement stop for this violation.

If during an enforcement stop of any other Vehicle Code violation the motorcyclist conveys knowledge of the law and a subsequent disregard for that law, a citation is justified. This would include previous documented warnings or the wearing of a helmet that is clearly marked as a novelty item only.

If the motorcyclist is unaware of the legal requirements for helmets, the officer shall explain the violation and then issue a written warning to the rider with the notation that the information was provided. This warning shall be entered into our Records Management System for later reference. Officers shall not seize any helmet or purported helmet as evidence to prove that a particular helmet worn by the violator does not meet the standards outlined above.

For additional questions please contact the Livermore Police Department Traffic Unit at 925-371-4850.