



Missouri Valley Fire & Rescue Department

223 E. Erie St.

Missouri Valley, IA 51555

Phone 712-642-2945 Emergency 911

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE 325

Chronological History

Effective: January 1, 2010

DRIVING OF APPARATUS

1. This guideline establishes guidelines for driving apparatus belonging to the Missouri Valley Fire Department.
2. Apparatus responding on emergency calls (lights & sirens) shall not exceed the posted speed limit by more than 20 miles per hour.
3. When operating apparatus during emergency traffic, the driver's sole attention shall be on the safe operation of the equipment. Any activity not associated with the operation of the equipment (radio or cell phone communication, map reading, etc.) shall be performed by the officer in charge or his designee, *however certain situations may require the driver to perform radio communications.*
4. Apparatus responding on routine calls shall abide by all traffic laws while en route to the call. (i.e. red lights, speed limit etc.)
5. At no time will any piece of apparatus be backed up or moved in tight areas without the officer of that piece or his/her designated observer in such a position as to be seen by the driver when the piece is in motion. The only deviation from this will be when a piece of apparatus is occupied by a driver only.
6. When emergency equipment is returning from an incident, all traffic laws will be abided by at all times. Head lights will be used at all times.
7. All safety equipment (seatbelts) provided will be worn at all times.
8. **Under no circumstances will a junior or probationary member drive the apparatus.** Members shall drive only when told to do so by the officer in charge. This permission may be granted over the radio, but under no circumstances is to be assumed.

By Authority of:
Fire Chief

Eugene Shaeffer