



City of Racine Police Department  
**Policy and Procedure**

**Number:1911**

Subject: <b>Assisting Stranded Motorists</b>		
Date Issued: <b>7-10-81</b>	Date Revised: <b>Draft</b>	Revision Number: <b>4</b>

**POLICY**

Members of the Department in an on-duty capacity have an obligation to provide service to those that appear to be stranded on the roadway or on the sides of the roadway. The extent of that service will vary based on a combination of factors to include the needs of the motorist and the occupants of his or her vehicle, call for service volume, and weather conditions. There may be other circumstances that may affect our ability to respond or assist.

**PROCEDURE**

1. Members shall stop and assist a motorist stranded on the roadway regardless of whether or not they received a dispatched call for such assistance.
2. Members already enroute to another call for service shall notify communications as to the location and condition of the stranded motorist, and when possible, notify the motorist that assistance is on the way.
3. The dispatch center will dispatch an available squad to assist the motorist. Such assistance may include but is not limited to:
  - a. Traffic control
  - b. Standing by for tow trucks
  - c. Supplying safe passage for the motorist and his or her vehicle occupants.

Members of the Department may push vehicles out of the roadway as long as the member has considered his or her own health limitations. The member must render assistance in a fashion that will limit the chance of muscle strains or injuries.

Members are not required to physically assist by pushing a vehicle out of the roadway if doing so will jeopardize their own health and safety.

Members shall not utilize patrol cars for the purpose of jump starting or pushing a disabled vehicle.

**RELATED PROCEDURES**

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