

Hit and Run collisions where no one is able to identify the suspect driver will still be assigned to the Traffic Investigations Unit. However the investigators will only contact the victim to explain that absence any new information, leading to the positive identity of the suspect, their case will be closed. Collision reports, which do not contain a statement from the officer as to whether a witness can identify the suspect, will be returned to the officer for clarification.

Hit and Run Impound - **Before a vehicle is impounded for suspicion of HIT AND RUN, there must be sufficient information to identify the driver at the time of the investigation; (i.e. eye witness, other drivers etc.)**

**NOTE:** If there is sufficient information, then the vehicle may be impounded; a VEHICLE REPORT must be completed with a "HOLD" placed on the vehicle for the TRAFFIC INVESTIGATORS.

- [ **Impounding the vehicle** – As a general rule, Hit and Run suspect vehicles are not to be impounded.
- [ If matching damage or other evidence can substantiate the evidence linking a vehicle to a Hit and Run accident, the vehicle is not to be impounded.
- [ Accident reports alone are not sufficient to hold suspect vehicle in impound.
- [ If witnesses and/or other drivers cannot identify driver of the HIT and Run vehicle involved.

**NOTE:** These considerations do not apply to **FELONY INVESTIGATIONS**

**Impairment due to alcohol or drugs** - In general, it is the responsibility of the responding officer to fully investigate **DUI collisions**, in accordance with the Procedure outlined in this checklist, unless relieved by an appropriate supervisor.

The responding officer is also responsible and accountable for follow-up investigation, in accordance with the procedures outlined in this manual.

**Hazardous materials** – Collisions involving hazardous materials will require:

- (1) Immediate notification of Everett Fire Departments HAZ-MAT team.
- (2) Possible activation of the departments Unusual Occurrences Procedures.

## 26.01 OFFICER RESPONSE

Officers will respond to collisions meeting any one of the following conditions:

- A) Death or Injury – Whenever a collision results in death, or there is reasonable cause to believe that the injuries sustained are likely to cause death, or injuries are of such magnitude that permanent damage is apparent, the Traffic Investigators will investigate the incident.
- B) Hit and Run – Public and Private Property
- C) Impairment of an operator due to alcohol or drugs
- D) Damage to vehicles or property **(in excess of \$750.00)**

*Updated +  
uploaded  
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### WAC 446-85-010

No agency filings affecting this section since 2003

### Accident-reporting threshold.

Beginning January 1, 2000, the accident-reporting threshold for property damage accidents shall be seven hundred dollars.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [46.52.030](#), [00-10-092](#), § [446-85-010](#), filed 5/2/00, effective 5/3/00.]