

POLICY 29. SAFETY BELTS

A. Safety belt procedure

1. Deputies shall ensure all occupants of the vehicle are using the safety belt/shoulder harness before moving a motor vehicle.
2. When arriving at an emergency call, deputies may remove the restraint device just prior to stopping for quick exit and to prevent becoming entangled in the restraint device.
3. Deputies may remove the safety restraint device just prior to coming to a stop on a vehicle/traffic stop. Caution should be exercised to ensure the violator is in fact going to stop before disengaging the safety restraint device.
4. When transporting a violently combative prisoner, deputies are not required to place a safety restraint device on the prisoner, if its placement on the prisoner poses a threat to the safety of the deputy and/or prisoner.
5. Deputies will adjust the safety restraint device so that it is comfortable yet provide maximum protection in the event of an accident. Deputies will inspect the serviceability of the safety restraint devices in their vehicles at the start of each shift.

Reference: Department P&P Section 5.5 - Safety Belts