

## 2-105 Vehicle Lighting Exemption

It is the policy of UMDPD to provide a uniform guideline for all department personnel to use when operating a department vehicle without headlights, taillights or marine navigational lighting while functioning as a peace officer.

For the purpose of this policy the following definitions apply:

**Vehicle:** A motor vehicle or watercraft owned, leased or otherwise the property of the State of Minnesota or a political subdivision.

**Lights:** Headlights, taillights and marine navigational lighting as referenced in MN STAT 84.87, 84.928, 169.48 to 169.65 and 86B.511.

Officers shall not operate a vehicle without lights contrary to Minnesota Statutes 169.541 (“Lighting Exemption for Law Enforcement; Standards”), or under conditions of limited or reduced visibility as defined in Minnesota Statutes 84.87, 84.928, 169.48 to 169.65, and 86B.511:

- on an interstate highway.
- faster than the posted speed limits.
- at speeds greater than what is reasonable and prudent under existing weather, road and traffic conditions.
- in situations where the officer is an active participant in the pursuit of a motor vehicle in violation of Minnesota Statute 609.487.

All officers shall comply with the elements of Minnesota Statute. 169.541, which states in part “and if the officer reasonably believes that operating the vehicle without lights is necessary under the circumstances to investigate a criminal violation or suspected criminal violation of state laws, rules, or orders or local laws, ordinances, or regulations.”