

# City of O'Fallon Citizen's Speed Monitoring Program

## **OVERVIEW**

Excessive speed on residential streets is a common concern from citizens in many City's across the Country and the City of O'Fallon is no different. The City of O'Fallon Police Department has normally addressed these concerns through the use of selective enforcement with mobile police units. Studies have shown that relief using these methods is temporary and violators soon return to speeding soon after the enforcement period ends.

In an effort to help reduce speeds and accidents in residential neighborhoods, the O'Fallon Police Department and the O'Fallon Traffic Department are teaming up with residents to enlist the assistance of the men and women of the City in encouraging voluntary compliance with the speed laws of the City of O'Fallon. Residents will be allowed the use of the City's Stalker Handheld radar unit to monitor and record vehicles speeds on residential streets. No tickets or arrests are made as a result of this program. The goal of the program is to educate drivers and encourage them to obey the speed limits throughout the city.

## **ORGANIZATION**

The City's Traffic Division will administer the program with assistance from the Police Department. The Traffic Technician will be charged with coordinating the program and keeping track of who has the radar unit and for how long.

## **EQUIPMENT**

Citizens will be provided with one Stalker handheld radar unit as they become available. They will also be issued a battery charger for the unit. The citizen will be responsible for this unit until it is returned to the Traffic Technician. It will be the responsibility of the citizen to insure it is returned within the giving timeframe and that the Traffic Technician verifies the condition of the unit.

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

Interested parties are instructed to contact the Traffic Division of the City of O'Fallon. The Traffic Technician or his designee will arrange a date and time to provide interested citizens with the radar unit, accessories, and instructions. The citizen will be required to sign for the equipment. The equipment will be checked out for a period of two weeks. The checkout time may vary at the discretion of the Traffic Technician. The citizen will be instructed on the proper use and care of the equipment.

The citizen must be a legal resident of the City of O'Fallon and posses a valid drive license in order to obtain the radar unit.

The radar unit is to be used in residential areas only. Use of the radar from a vehicle is

prohibited. Persons operating the radar unit are not to stand in the street. The operators of the unit will not contact, signal, motion to, or in any way distract motorists.

Abuse of the unit and conduct determined to be detrimental to the program will not be tolerated. Citizens **are not** to contact or in any way harass drivers during the course of the program. The police department will investigate any complaints regarding this program. The Traffic Technician or designee may terminate the use of the unit by an individual or group at any time.

If you are approached by a motorist or violator, please explain the program and should they have any further questions, please direct them to the staff members at the bottom of this sheet.

If a violator becomes angry or irate, the police should be called immediately.

Motorists that register fifteen miles an hour or more over the posted speed limit should be noted on the provided log sheets. The log sheets include location, time, license plate, speed, vehicle type and driver description.

Citizens are encouraged to work in pairs with one shooting radar while the other records the pertinent information on the provided log sheet.

Upon completion of the monitoring period the radar unit, accessories, and completed log sheets will be returned to the Traffic Technician. The Traffic Technician will verify the condition of the unit in the presence of the resident.

A registration check will be made of all entries on the log. The registered owner will be contacted by the O'Fallon Police Department either in person or via a courtesy letter as a reminder of the speed limit and requesting voluntary compliance with the speed laws.

The Traffic Technician will keep a record of the use of the unit. Should the unit become damaged, lost, stolen or otherwise not returned to the City in the same condition for which it was issued the resident/citizen who check out the unit will become responsible for any and all costs associated with repairs/replacement.

Questions or comments should be directed to Sergeant Michael Plum (636-379-5636) of the O'Fallon Police Department or Jerry Stringer or Jim Feldman (636-379-5602) of the City's Traffic Division.