**Use of Lights and Siren**

**Purpose**
The purpose of this protocol is to provide a medical control authority policy on the appropriate use of lights and siren.

**Procedure**
Michigan Motor Vehicle Code (Sections 257.603 and 257.653). The Michigan Motor Vehicle Code governs the driving of emergency vehicles. All Wayne County Medical Control Authority approved EMS Agencies will abide by the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code.

**Responding to calls:**
EMS units may respond to requests for service with lights and siren where there is or reason to believe there is:
- A threat to life
- A threat to limb
- A threat of personal injury

Where Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMD) and/or a tiered response are/is available, the EMS Agency is encouraged to develop procedures that reduce unnecessary use of lights and siren. The procedures may include, but are not limited, the use of established EMD call screening protocols and evaluation of the scene/patient by First Responder personnel.

**Transporting a patient**
EMS units may transport patients with lights and siren when:
- The patient is determined to be a priority #1 patient.
- The patient is determined to be a priority #2 patient and their condition is unstable.
- During the course of the transport the patient becomes violent.
- The patient is a stable priority #2 or priority #3 when transport is initiated, but the patient’s condition deteriorates en route to the hospital.

Priority #3 patients will not be transported with the use of lights and siren.
Returning from the transport, returning to a service area:

- EMS units may only utilize lights and siren to return to their area if they are responding to an emergency call as described above.
- Lights and siren will not be used to return to an area when the unit is not responding to another emergency call.

**Education**
Transporting Life Support Agencies shall ensure annual training surrounding the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code, safe use of lights and siren, this policy and related agency polices.

**Agency specific policies**
This policy does not preclude individual agencies from developing internal policies on this subject, as long as the policies include the contents of this policy as a minimum.