

General Order

Houston Police Department



ISSUE DATE:

April 15, 2020

NO.

500-16

REFERENCE: Supersedes all prior conflicting Circulars and Directives, and General Order 500-16, dated October 4, 2010

SUBJECT: REFERRAL OF DRIVERS FOR REEXAMINATION BY LICENSING AUTHORITY

POLICY

To enhance transportation safety, classified employees shall submit a *Law Enforcement Medical Evaluation Request* form when appropriate.

This General Order applies to classified employees only.

PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

Any classified employee who comes into contact with the operator of a motor vehicle who has a medical or psychological condition that could prevent safe operation of a motor vehicle shall complete a *Law Enforcement Medical Evaluation Request* form. This form is available from the Vehicular Crimes Division (VCD). A person with such a condition may have their Texas driver license revoked by the Texas Department of Public Safety upon a hearing of the Medical Advisory Board of the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Pursuant to the Texas Transportation Code, the following persons may have their Texas driver license revoked:

- a. Anyone who is a chemically dependent person who is likely to cause serious harm to himself or others.
- b. Anyone who is a chemically dependent person who will, if not treated, continue to suffer abnormal mental, emotional, or physical distress, or to deteriorate in ability to function independently.
- c. Anyone who has been determined by a judgment of a court to be totally incapacitated or incapacitated to act as the operator of a motor vehicle.

Examples of motor vehicle operators who may have an unsafe medical or psychological condition include, but are not limited to, habitual abusers of alcohol or narcotics, epileptics, blind persons, and those who have been adjudged mentally incompetent and have not been restored to competency by a judicial decree or released from a hospital for the mentally incompetent.

Classified employees shall not confiscate the Texas driver license of any such suspected driver solely because the driver may be subject to revocation for medical reasons. Only the licensing authority may revoke a license after investigation and review of the information supplied.

The completed *Law Enforcement Medical Evaluation Request* form shall be reviewed by an on-duty VCD supervisor. VCD personnel will forward the form to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Art Acevedo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Art Acevedo
Chief of Police