

# THURMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

<b>GENERAL ORDER</b>	<i>Date Issued:</i> June 19, 2006	<i>Effective Date:</i> June 19, 2006	<i>Order No</i> Chapter 35.6
<i>Authority: Chief of Police</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Gregory L. Eyer</p>		<i>Manual Page No:</i>	
<i>Subject: <b>COMMUNITY ASSISTED RADAR ENFORCEMENT (C.A.R.E.)</b></i>		<i>Replaces Page No:</i>	
<i>Accreditation Standard:</i> Chapter 61	<i>Distribution:</i> <b>ALL</b>	<i>Amended:</i>	<i>Number of Pages:</i> 3
<i>Related Documents:</i> Maryland Motor Vehicle Code		<i>Rescinds:</i>	

This Directive is for internal use only, and other than as contraindicated here this Directive does not create or enlarge this Department's, governmental entity's, any of this Department's officers, and/or any other entities' civil, criminal, and/or other accountability in any way. This Directive is not to be construed as the creation of a standard of safety or care in any sense, with respect to any complaint, demand for settlement, or any other form of grievance, litigation, and/or other action. Deviations from this Directive, if substantiated, can only form the basis for intra-Departmental administrative action(s) (including discipline and/or termination).

## I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this order is to increase the citizen's awareness regarding traffic safety and education and to reduce speed violations on residential streets.

## II. POLICY:

It is the policy of the Thurmont Police Department to address complaints made by citizens concerning speeding vehicles on residential streets. It establishes the Community Assisted Radar Enforcement (C.A.R.E.) Program. The CARE Program is designed to give community members a responsible role in keeping their neighborhood streets safe by monitoring and recording the speeds of vehicles. It will contribute to the education of motorists as to the dangers of committing traffic law violations. Also, the resources of the Thurmont Police Department can be directed as needed to support the CARE program.

## III. PROCEDURE:

- A. Police personnel who receive complaints from residents concerning vehicles speeding on neighborhood streets shall forward to the Thurmont Police Department Traffic Officer.
- B. The Traffic Officer shall contact the resident(s) who is concerned about the vehicles speeding on the neighborhood streets and explain the CARE Program.
- C. Any community member interested in participating in the CARE Program shall fill out an application located at the Thurmont Police Department.
- D. After approval, the interested community members are briefed on the requirements expected of them, such as, proper data collection, use of the radar equipment and the proper behavior of the participants while conducting data collection. A radar unit is loaned out to the community

members, free of charge, for a one-week period.

- E. Community members schedule data collection during various days and times they believe speeding to be occurring. The community member is responsible for operating the radar unit and recording the required vehicle information. Preferably two people do this in order to obtain accurate information.
- F. Once all data collection is complete, the radar equipment will be returned to the Thurmont Police Department along with all completed forms.
- G. The Thurmont Police Department may take the license numbers of the speeding vehicles and access data from the Motor Vehicle Administration (M.V.A.) network. This will be cross-checked with the description of the vehicle documented by the community member.
- H. Educational letters from the Thurmont Police Department may be sent to the registered owners of the vehicles that were in violation of the traffic laws.
- I. The Thurmont Police Department may also use the collected information to direct special enforcement by the Thurmont Police Officers on those residential streets.
- J. Nothing in this general order shall preclude or prevent the Thurmont Police Department from assigning sworn personnel to assist in additional enforcement efforts. The CARE program is a supplement to all traffic enforcement efforts made by the Thurmont Police Department.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Appendix 35.6A:	CARE Application
Appendix 35.6B:	CARE radar unit usage agreement
Appendix 35.6C:	CARE return of radar equipment
Appendix 35.6D:	CARE survey data sheet
Appendix 35.6E:	CARE courtesy letter to motorist
Appendix 35.6F:	CARE thank you letter to citizen

**DOCUMENT DATES:**

*Amended Date:*

*Review Date:*

*Review Date:*

*Review Date:*

*Rescinds:*

*Order Written by: Sergeant Shawn R. Tyler*

*Order Edited and Approved by: Chief of Police*

*CALEA Standards Included in this Order  
CHAPTER 61*