

# City of Johns Creek Police Department

<i>Subject:</i> Parking Enforcement	<i>Number:</i> 02-27
<i>Reference:</i>	<i>Amends:</i>
<i>Effective:</i> 09/08	<i>Review Date:</i> Annually
	<i># of</i> 2 <i>Pages:</i>

**PURPOSE:**

Establish guidelines for accountability and control of the Police Department's parking enforcement process.

**POLICY: (02-27)**

Parking enforcement is utilized to encourage motorists not to park in those areas that may interfere with the safety and/or welfare of the community. It is not intended to be used to generate revenue or to penalize motorists, but is intended to encourage motorist to voluntarily comply with state and local ordinances regarding parking. Particular emphasis shall be placed on the enforcement of parking regulations for properly marked fire lanes and handicapped parking spaces.

The enforcement of parking regulations is a responsibility shared by all uniformed officers of the Johns Creek Police Department.

**PROCEDURES:**

**Parking Enforcement (02-27-01)**

Officers should always use discretion when issuing parking citations.

- A. If the officer issues a parking citation, he/she will place the violators copy under the driver's side windshield wiper so that it is completely visible to the public and to the owner/operator upon their return to their vehicle. If the driver is present, a Georgia Uniform Traffic Citation may be issued at the discretion of the officer.
- B. Particular emphasis will be placed on enforcing parking regulations on properly marked fire lanes and handicapped parking spaces. Fire lanes are marked with a yellow or red curb and warning signs. Handicapped spaces are marked with blue paint on pavement with the international wheelchair symbol and a sign prohibiting such parking by non-handicapped vehicles.
- C. When it becomes necessary to tow a vehicle because of a parking violation, the officer will follow procedures set forth in "Vehicle Impound and Inventory", and in accordance with OCGA 40-6-203.1 and OCGA 40-6-206. A parking citation will be issued on all impounded and/or abandoned vehicles where a violation has occurred.
- D. The Johns Creek Police Department will not remove an illegally parked vehicle from private property, unless the vehicle has been involved in a crime. The property owner should be advised of this limitation and advised of his/her recourse.
- E. Parking violations on private property are limited to properly marked handicapped spaces and fire lanes.

**Parking Zone/Handicapped Permits (02-27-02)**

OCGA 40-6-222 provides for the Department of Public Safety to issue temporary and permanent permits for the physically handicapped persons. The temporary handicapped permit shall be predominantly red in color and shall show prominently on its face an expiration date of the handicap permit and shall not be more than 180 days after the date the permit is issued. The permanent handicapped permit shall be predominantly blue in color and shall show prominently on its face an expiration date four years from the date of issue.

OCGA 40-6-24 provides that state and local authorities shall honor visitor's out-of-state handicapped license plates and similar special parking permits on the same basis as handicapped license plates and special parking permits issued within this state.

OCGA 40-6-227 provides that provisions of code sections involving properly signed handicapped parking spaces are applicable to public and private property, and all law enforcement officers of this state and its political subdivisions are expressly authorized to enforce the provisions of this part on private property as well as on public property.

### **Parking Zone/Fire Lanes (02-27-03)**

Section 8-11 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Johns Creek relates to Standard Fire Prevention Code 1994 in reference to fire lane parking. Code Section 602.6.1 states that every building hereafter constructed shall be accessible to fire department apparatus by way of access roadways with all-weather driving surfaces of not less than 20 feet of unobstructed width, with adequate roadway turning radius capable of supporting the imposed loads of fire apparatus and having a minimum vertical clearance of 13 feet 6 inches.

Section 602.6.2 states that the required width of access roadways shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles.

The designation, use and maintenance of fire lanes shall be accomplished as specified by the Code of Ordinances of the City of Johns Creek and the relevant chapters of the Standard Fire Prevention Code. It shall be unlawful for any person to park motor vehicles in, or otherwise obstruct, any fire lane.

### **Parking Zones/General (02-27-04)**

There are specific areas within the City of Johns Creek that have been designated as no parking zones by the Code of Ordinances of the City of Johns Creek. The Department enforces all parking ordinances as set forth in Section 18-22 of the City Ordinances.

OCGA 40-6-202 and OCGA 40-6-203 provide for specific areas where parking is prohibited. The Department will enforce all "no parking" zones as stated in the statutes.

### **Voiding of Parking Citations Prohibited (02-27-05)**

Officers will be issued individual sequential numbered parking citation books and shall be held accountable for each citation in the book.

After a citation has been issued, no officer will void/dismiss that parking citation. If it is determined a parking citation has been issued in error and the owner/operator should not be inconvenienced by attending his/her scheduled court date, the issuing officer shall address a letter or authorized form to the court through his/her chain of command stating their reason(s) why the citation was issued in error. The court will then make the determination to dismiss the citation or adjudicate the hearing.