

School Bus Camera Monitoring Violation System

Index Code: 1901.2

CALEA 61.1.4

Effective Date: 3/1/2021

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this directive is to establish basic guidelines and procedures for the processing and disposition of traffic citations issued by the automated system maintained by a school bus camera vendor for vehicles operated by an occupant who violates MD Transportation Article Title 21, Subtitle 7, specifically TA 21-706. & 21-706.1.

II. Policy:

The policy of the Office of the Sheriff for Queen Anne's County is to partner with the Queen Anne's County Board of Education and a school bus camera vendor to provide personnel properly trained to identify violation approvals and disapprovals for traffic violations involving MD Transportation Article Title 21, Subtitle 7, specifically TA 21-706 & 21-706.1. Only those employees chosen, assigned, and properly trained by a school bus camera vendor will monitor and operate the electronic violation database system maintained by the school bus camera vendor.

III Agency Notification from Bus Patrol:

A predetermined amount of school buses within Queen Anne's County are installed with the school bus red light/arm bar camera systems which are installed, operated, and maintained by a school bus camera vendor. to monitor vehicular traffic whenever school buses are stopped. When violations are deemed to have occurred, they are sent electronically to the program database for verification by assigned Office of the Sheriff for Queen Anne's County personnel. The assigned personnel will log into the camera vendor database daily to monitor the system and either approve or disapprove a violation or alleged violation based on Maryland Traffic Laws and criteria.

IV. Agency Response to Violations:

If a violation has been determined to be a legitimate violation of Maryland Traffic Law 21-706 & 21-706.1, the assigned personnel will verify electronically and provide confirmation through the school bus camera vendor database. Upon the school bus camera vendor receiving said violations, the school bus camera vendor is responsible for notifying the violator vehicle owner of the appropriate citation documentation for the violation and directions for either paying the fine or contesting the violation.

If an event is deemed to not be a violation of Maryland Traffic Law, the assigned personnel will send electronic confirmation to the school bus camera vendor for further administrative disposition.

V. Agency Employee Responsibilities:

The responsibility for monitoring the school bus red light/stop arm camera program will primarily fall to the Sergeant and/or Corporal assigned to the Sheriff's Resource Unit. These two personnel will be responsible for the day to day system compliance and violation confirmation checks. The school bus camera vendor. handles all citation issuance, schedules all court hearings if a violator owner contests the citation, and provides training, maintenance, and guidance for the dashboard database.

VI. Legal Agreement/Authorization:

The school bus red light/stop arm camera program has been codified by a signed written agreement between the Queen Anne's County Board of Education and the school bus camera vendor.

Additionally, the Queen Anne's County Board of Commissioners passed ordinance 19-09 authorizing the Sheriff of Queen Anne's County to utilize school bus monitoring cameras in consultation with the Board of Education of Queen Anne's County, in accordance with 21-706 & 21-706.1 of the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, to improve school safety and enforce school bus traffic violations.

VII. Attached Documents:

1. Citation Template for Queen Anne's County school bus red light/stop arm violations.
2. Written agreement between the school bus camera vendor., and the Queen Anne's County Board of Education for this program.
3. Queen Anne's County Ordinance # 19-09

V. CALEA References: 61.1.4

VI. Proponent Unit: Support Services

VII. Cancellation: (If applicable)



Sheriff Gary Hoffmann