Disabled Vehicles

520.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
Vehicle Code § 20018 provides that all law enforcement agencies having responsibility for traffic enforcement may develop and adopt a written policy to provide assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles within their primary jurisdiction.

520.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY
When an on-duty officer observes a disabled vehicle on the roadway, the officer should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If that officer is assigned to a call of higher priority, the dispatcher should be advised of the location of the disabled vehicle and the need for assistance. The dispatcher should then assign another available officer to respond for assistance as soon as practical.

520.3 EXTENT OF ASSISTANCE
In most cases, a disabled motorist will require assistance. After arrangements for assistance are made, continued involvement by department personnel will be contingent on the time of day, the location, the availability of departmental resources, and the vulnerability of the disabled motorist.

520.3.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS
Department personnel shall not make mechanical repairs to a disabled vehicle.

520.3.2 LOCK OUT OR VEHICLE BATTERY JUMP
When and where possible University Police employees will assist motorists who have locked themselves out of their vehicle or who may have a dead battery. This assistance is based on available equipment, personnel with the technical ability to provide the assistance, calls for service, type of vehicle needing assistance, and other related issues.

520.4 PUBLIC ACCESS TO THIS POLICY
This written policy is available upon request.