

**MANITOBA CITIZENS ON PATROL PROGRAM
POLICY & PROCEDURE #10 - VEHICLE PATROLLING ALONE**

**MB COPP PROVINCIAL
BOARD**

Policies and Procedures

Subject: Vehicle Patrolling Alone
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Having at least two patrollers in the same vehicle can be difficult for many communities in part due to patrolling time incompatibility when there are a small number of members in a group. When not practical to patrol with a buddy, guidelines to help keep you safe should be observed. MB COPP volunteers are highly valued and their safety is of the utmost importance. Groups are encouraged to follow this policy to fit the needs of their group; however, it is not mandatory.

- Rural COPP groups - notify police or designated person, when a patrol is commencing.
- Winnipeg COPP groups – notify coordinator or designated person, when a patrol is commencing.
- It is recommended to patrol in pairs whenever possible.
- Avoid entering areas which could pose an exit risk. Do not put yourself in any conflict or situation that could cause harm.
- Use common sense, your safety comes first.
- Stop and park the vehicle to write down information.
- Keep your doors locked at all times.
- Keep your windows up while driving to prevent a moving object from striking you.
- If you are followed, drive to a well-lit area and call police. Do not go to your home.
- Use an effective communication device such as a two-way radio or cellular phone – preferably with Bluetooth (hands-free), to maintain regular contact with a buddy or designated person (other patrolled / EXMP dispatch) by phone, text message or any other reliable method of communication whenever possible, so they know your current location and where you are patrolling.
- Notify police or designated person after completion of your patrol.