



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

State Highway Patrol

Roy Cooper, Governor
Eddie M. Buffaloe, Jr., Secretary

Freddy L. Johnson, Jr.
Commander

January 13, 2022

Director William Ray
North Carolina Emergency Management
1636 Gold Star Drive
Raleigh, NC 27606

Dear Director Ray:

As the winter season approaches us, the significant impact of ice and snow on our highways and interstates often results in some motorists abandoning their vehicles. The North Carolina State Highway Patrol, in cooperation with Division of Emergency Management, will continue to utilize the previously implemented universal practice of marking abandoned vehicles left on or along our highways during severe weather.

In order to execute the continuation of this statewide practice, we are asking all of our emergency service partners who encounter an abandoned vehicle during severe weather, (in addition to their current policies and procedures) to affix an approximately three (3) foot piece of crime or fire scene tape to the exterior door mirror on the side of the vehicle closest to the roadway. The tape will serve as a standard practice by all emergency service agencies to indicate that the vehicle has been checked for occupants and eliminate the duplication of search efforts for stranded motorists.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Should you require further information, please feel free to contact my office. Major J. D. Dodson or Major K. D. Bell, Field Operations Section at (984) 349-6804. or by email at eoc@ncshp.org

Sincerely,

Freddy L. Johnson, Jr.
Commander

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