

## CHAPTER 299D

## DIVISION OF HIGHWAY PATROL

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**299D.01 DIVISION OF HIGHWAY PATROL.** Subdivision 1. A division in the department of public safety to be known as the division of highway patrol is hereby created, under the supervision and control of the chief supervisor, who shall be appointed by the commissioner and serve at his pleasure in the unclassified service of the state civil service.

Subd. 2. The chief supervisor, with the approval of the commissioner, may appoint a chief assistant supervisor who shall serve at his pleasure in the unclassified service. The salary of the chief supervisor and the salary of the chief assistant supervisor is fixed by the commissioner of public safety except when such salaries are otherwise expressly provided for by law. The chief assistant supervisor may perform and exercise every power, duty, and responsibility imposed by law upon the chief supervisor when authorized so to do by the commissioner of public safety. If the chief assistant supervisor is removed from his position for other than cause as defined in section 299D.03, he shall be reinstated to the position that he held in the patrol prior to being promoted to the position of chief assistant supervisor and shall otherwise be subject to the provisions of subdivision 12 of said section.

Subd. 3. Subject to the provisions of this section and to other applicable laws the commissioner of public safety shall organize the division, employ such persons for the Minnesota highway patrol including assistant supervisors and sergeants in the manner and in the number otherwise authorized by law and such other employees and agents as he may deem necessary to discharge the functions of the division, define the duties of such employees and agents and to delegate to them such of his powers, duties and responsibilities, which are not specifically fixed by law, subject to his control and under such conditions as he may prescribe. Appointments to exercise delegated power shall be by written order filed with the secretary of state. Except for the chief supervisor, the chief assistant supervisor and highway patrol officers of the Minnesota highway patrol, the other employees and agents listed in this section are in the classified service of the state civil service.

Subd. 4. Before entering upon the duties of his office the chief supervisor of the Minnesota highway patrol shall take and subscribe an oath and give his bond to the state of Minnesota, to be approved by the commissioner of public safety and filed with the secretary of state, in the sum of \$10,000 conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties.

Subd. 5. Upon the effective date of this act, the individual occupying the position of chief supervisor shall retain such position for a period of at least 12 months, or until removed for cause.

Subd. 6. Subject to the other provisions of Laws 1969, Chapter 1129, the powers and duties now vested in or imposed upon the commissioner of highways with reference to the Minnesota highway patrol are transferred to, vested in, and imposed upon the commissioner of public safety. The powers and duties of the commissioner of highways with reference thereto are hereby abolished.

Subd. 7. The legislature by Laws 1969, Chapter 1129, Article I, is transferring the Minnesota highway patrol to the department of public safety and in so doing is not enlarging or increasing the statutory duties of the personnel thereof, and no part of Laws 1969, Chapter 1129 shall be construed as in any way indicating an increase or change in such powers and duties of that organization.

Subd. 8. The commissioner of highways shall furnish the Minnesota highway patrol such quarters as may be necessary for the performance of the duties imposed upon it by law and as the governor shall direct.

[1969 c 1129 art 1 s 4, 12]

**299D.02 TRANSFER OF POWERS.** Subdivision 1. All the powers and duties of the commissioner of highways with reference to the state highway patrol and the nationwide police communication system not heretofore provided for and enumerated in Minnesota Statutes 1967, Sections 161.48 and 161.49, are hereby transferred to and imposed upon the commissioner of public safety. In conjunction with the transfer persons in the classified service of the state who shall be transferred pursuant to section 15.015, subdivision 5, there shall be transferred to the department of public safety the personnel who are presently serving as radio dispatchers for the highway patrol. Such classified employees serving as highway patrol radio dispatchers shall continue to be paid from the trunk highway fund.

Subd. 2. All powers, duties and responsibilities now assigned to and vested in the commissioner of highways in Minnesota Statutes 1967, Chapter 352B, are hereby transferred to and vested in the commissioner of public safety.

[1969 c 1129 art 1 s 13]

**299D.03 HIGHWAY PATROL.** Subdivision 1. **Members.** The commissioner is hereby authorized to employ and designate a chief supervisor, a chief assistant supervisor, and such assistant supervisors, sergeants and officers as are provided by law, who shall comprise the Minnesota highway patrol. The members of the Minnesota highway patrol shall have the power and authority:

(1) As peace officers to enforce the provisions of the law relating to the protection of and use of trunk highways.

(2) At all times to direct all traffic on trunk highways in conformance with law, and in the event of a fire or other emergency, or to expedite traffic or to insure safety, to direct traffic on other roads as conditions may require notwithstanding the provisions of law.

(3) To serve warrants and legal documents anywhere in the state.

(4) To serve orders of the commissioner of public safety or his duly authorized agents issued under the provisions of the Drivers License Law, the Safety Responsibility Act, or relating to authorized brake and light testing stations, anywhere in the state and to take possession of any license, permit or certificate ordered to be surrendered.

(5) To inspect official brake and light adjusting stations.

(6) To make appearances anywhere within the state for the purpose of conducting traffic safety educational programs and school bus clinics.

(7) To exercise upon all trunk highways the same powers with respect to the enforcement of laws relating to crimes, as sheriffs, constables and police officers.

(8) To cooperate, under instructions and regulations of the commissioner of public safety, with all sheriffs and other police officers anywhere in the state, provided that said employees shall have no power or authority in connection with strikes or industrial disputes.

(9) To assist and aid any peace officer whose life or safety is in jeopardy.

(10) As peace officers to provide security and protection to the governor, governor elect, either or both houses of the houses of the legislature, and state buildings or property in the manner and to the extent determined to be necessary after consultation with the governor, or his designee. Pursuant to this clause, members of the highway patrol, acting as peace officers have the same powers with respect to the enforcement of laws relating to crimes, as sheriffs, constables and police officers have within their respective jurisdictions. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund sufficient moneys to pay the total cost of providing the services of the patrol personnel assigned to protection duties involving non-highway functions.

(11) To inspect school busses anywhere in the state for the purpose of determining compliance with vehicle equipment, pollution control, and registration requirements.

(12) As peace officers to make arrests for public offenses committed in their presence anywhere within the state. Persons arrested for violations other than traffic violations shall be referred forthwith to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for further investigation or disposition.

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the state may contract for highway patrol members to render services in excess of their regularly scheduled duty hours to a governmental unit pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59, and patrol members rendering such services shall be compensated in such amounts, manner and under such conditions as the agreement provides.

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Employees thus employed and designated shall subscribe an oath and furnish a bond running to the state of Minnesota, said bond to be approved and filed in the office of the secretary of state.

Subd. 1a. **Commissioner.** For the purposes of section 299D.03, the term "commissioner" means the commissioner of public safety.

Subd. 2. **Salaries.** (1) Each such employee other than the chief supervisor, lieutenant colonel, majors, captains, and sergeants hereinafter designated shall be known as patrol officers.

(2) There may be appointed one lieutenant colonel; and such majors, captains, sergeants and officers as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the duties and functions of the highway patrol. Persons in above named positions shall be appointed by law and have such duties as the commissioner may direct and, except for officers, shall be selected from the patrol officers, sergeants, captains, and majors who shall have had at least five years' experience as either patrol officers, sergeants, or supervisors. The total number of supervisors shall not exceed one for each ten patrol officers, but no supervisor shall be demoted in order to obtain this ratio. Vacancies in supervisory positions, however, shall not be filled until the ratio provided for herein is reached.

(3) Commencing November 17, 1971, the salaries for all members of the highway patrol, except for the chief supervisor and those members subject to the provisions of clause (7), shall be as shown in the following table:

TIME IN RANK

	Base	1	2	3	4	5 & 6	7 thru 11	12 Years and Over
	Salary	Year	Years	Years	Years	Years	Years	Over
Officer	\$ 736	766	797	828	861	896	931	969
Sergeant	1008	1008	1008	1049	1049	1090	1090	1090
Captain	1134	1134	1134	1179	1179	1226	1226	1226
Major	1275	1275	1275	1326	1326	1379	1379	1379
Lt. Col.	1434	1434	1434	1491	1491	1550	1550	1550

(4) Beginning with the first payroll period in fiscal year 1972-73, the salaries for all members of the highway patrol, except for the chief supervisor, and those members subject to the provisions of clause (7), shall be as shown in the following table:

TIME IN RANK

	Base	1	2	3	4	5 & 6	7 thru 11	12 Years and Over
	Salary	Year	Years	Years	Years	Years	Years	Over
Officer	\$ 766	797	828	861	896	931	969	1008
Sergeant	1049	1049	1049	1090	1090	1134	1134	1134
Captain	1179	1179	1179	1226	1226	1275	1275	1275
Major	1326	1326	1326	1379	1379	1434	1434	1434
Lt. Col.	1491	1491	1491	1550	1550	1613	1613	1613

The salary figures shown in the table above shall be increased in value by two percent, effective at the beginning of the first payroll period in fiscal year 1972-73, if the classified civil service receives a two percent cost of living increase pursuant to other law.

(5) Upon promotion, the person will be paid at the base salary rate of pay in effect for that rank, and, if initially appointed to the highway patrol on or before the effective date of this act, shall subsequently be eligible for the time in rank increases calculated from the effective date of promotion.

(6) Any time in rank increases in salary provided for in the tables in clauses (3) and (4), shall be effective for the payroll period nearest the employee's anniversary date of employment.

(7) Patrol officers appointed on or after the effective date of this act, shall be paid the base salary assigned to the rank of patrol officer. In lieu of time in rank increases, 20 percent of such officers shall be eligible for achievement awards contemplated by Minnesota Statutes, Section 43.122, Subdivision 1.

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(8) No time in rank increases shall be granted after June 30, 1973.

[1929 c 355 s 1; 1931 c 44 s 1; 1935 c 304 s 1; 1937 c 30 s 1; 1939 c 400 s 1; 1941 c 175 s 1; 1943 c 623 s 1; 1945 c 422 s 1; 1945 c 516 s 1; 1947 c 562 s 1; 1951 c 554 s 1, 2; 1955 c 593 s 1; 1955 c 667 s 1; 1957 c 824 s 1, 3; 1957 c 838 s 1; 1959 c 419 s 1; 1961 c 448 s 1, 2; 1963 c 884 s 8 subd. 1, 2; 1965 c 863 s 8 subdivisions 1, 3; 1967 c 419 s 1, 2; 1969 c 399 s 1; 1969 c 580 s 1; 1969 c 865 s 1; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 5-7; 1971 c 25 s 102; 1971 c 435 s 1; 1971 c 540 s 1; Ex1971 c 32 s 29] (2554) *Applicable to subdivisions 1, 1a, and 2 only.*

**Subd. 3. Air patrol; salary adjustment.** The commissioner of public safety may increase the salary of any member of the Minnesota highway patrol in an amount not to exceed \$125 per month during the period in which such member of the patrol is assigned air patrol duty. The commissioner of public safety may appoint, from among the members of the patrol assigned to air patrol duty, a chief pilot who shall receive \$50 per month in addition to the air patrol duty salary differential permitted by this subdivision, during the period of his assignment as chief pilot.

**Subd. 4. Appropriation.** There is appropriated out of the trunk highway fund a sum of money sufficient to carry out the provisions of subdivision 3.

**Subd. 5. Fines and forfeited bail money.** All fines and forfeited bail money, from traffic and motor vehicle law violations, collected from persons apprehended or arrested by such employees, shall be paid by the justice of the peace, or such other person or officer collecting such fines, forfeited bail money or installments thereof, on or before the tenth day after the last day of the month in which such moneys were collected, to the county treasurer of the county where the violation occurred. Three-eighths of such receipts shall be credited to the general revenue fund of the county. The other five-eighths of such receipts shall be transmitted by that officer to the state treasurer and shall be credited to a separate account. All costs of participation in a nation-wide police communication system chargeable to the state of Minnesota shall next be paid from such account. Thereafter commencing July 1, 1967, the sum of \$30,000 shall be credited on the first day of each month from such account to the Minnesota highway safety account, which sum shall be disbursed only as provided for in sections 219.40 and 219.401. Thereafter on the first day of each calendar month the money remaining in such account, not needed for the purposes specified in this subdivision, shall be credited to that part of the trunk highway fund which is set apart for maintenance purposes, and so much of the maintenance fund as shall be necessary for the salaries and maintenance of such employees is hereby appropriated for that purpose.

**Subd. 6. Training programs.** The commissioner of public safety may provide training programs for the purpose of obtaining qualified personnel for the highway patrol. Persons accepted by the commissioner of public safety for training under such training program shall be designated highway patrol trainees and shall receive a salary not to exceed 70 percent of the basic salary for patrol officers as such is set forth in subdivision 2, per month during the period of such training; and there is hereby appropriated out of the trunk highway fund a sufficient sum of money to carry out the provisions of this subdivision. Nothing contained in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent the commissioner of public safety from providing in-service training programs for highway patrol officers. The commissioner of highways shall furnish the commissioner of public safety with lands and buildings necessary in providing in-service training programs at no cost to the division of highway patrol.

**Subd. 7. Discharge of patrolman.** Every person employed and designated as a state highway patrolman under and pursuant to the provisions of this section, after six months of continuous employment, shall continue in service and hold his position without demotion, until suspended, demoted, or discharged in the manner hereinafter provided for one or more of the causes specified herein.

**Subd. 8. Causes for discharge.** Causes for suspension, demotion, or discharge shall be:

- (1) Conviction of any criminal offense in any court of competent jurisdiction subsequent to the commencement of such employment;
- (2) Neglect of duty or wilful violation or disobedience of orders or rules;
- (3) Inefficiency in performing duties;
- (4) Immoral conduct or conduct injurious to the public welfare, or conduct unbecoming an officer; or

(5) Incapacity or partial incapacity affecting his normal ability to perform his official duties.

**Subd. 9. Charges against patrolmen.** Charges against any state highway patrolman shall be made in writing and signed and sworn to by the person making the same, which written charges shall be filed with the commissioner. Upon the filing of same, if the commissioner shall be of the opinion that such charges constitute a ground for suspension, demotion, or discharge, he shall order a hearing to be had thereon and fix a time for such hearing and may designate a subordinate as his deputy to conduct such hearing. Otherwise he shall dismiss the charges. At least ten days before the time appointed for the hearing, written notice specifying the charges filed and stating the name of the person making the charges, shall be served on the employee personally or by leaving a copy thereof at his usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein. If the commissioner orders a hearing he may suspend such employee pending his decision to be made after such hearing.

**Subd. 10. Hearing on charges, decision, punishment.** The commissioner or his designated subordinate shall have power to compel the attendance of witnesses at any such hearing and to examine them under oath, and to require the production of books, papers, and other evidence at any such hearing, and for that purpose may issue subpoenas and cause the same to be served and executed in any part of the state. The employee accused shall be entitled to be confronted with the witnesses against him and have an opportunity to cross-examine the same and to introduce at such hearing testimony in his own behalf, and to be represented by counsel at such hearing. If the hearing is conducted by a designated subordinate of the commissioner such designated subordinate upon completion of the hearing shall forthwith transmit a transcript of the testimony of the hearing, together with his recommendations, to the commissioner. The commissioner, within 25 days after such hearing, shall render his decision in writing and file the same in his office. If after such hearing he finds that any such charge made against such state employee is true, he may punish the offending party by reprimand, suspension without pay, demotion, or dismissal.

**Subd. 11. Review by certiorari.** Any state highway patrolman who is so suspended, demoted, or dismissed may have such decision or determination of the commissioner reviewed by a writ of certiorari in the district court of the county where such patrolman resides. If such decision or determination of the commissioner shall be finally rejected or modified by the court, the patrolman shall be reinstated in his position, and the commissioner shall pay to the patrolman so suspended out of the funds of the state the salary or wages withheld from him pending the determination of the charges or as may be directed by the court. If upon any such hearing the commissioner shall find the charges made against such patrolman are not true, or dismiss such charges after such hearing, such patrolman shall be reinstated in his position and any salary or wages withheld from him pending the determination or decision of the commissioner upon such charges shall be paid to such patrolman by the commissioner out of state funds.

**Subd. 12. Application of subdivisions 5 to 12.** Subdivisions 5 to 12 shall apply to all persons employed and designated under and pursuant to this section, except the chief supervisor and chief assistant supervisor of the state highway patrol. If the chief supervisor or the chief assistant supervisor is removed for other than cause as defined herein he shall be reinstated to the position that he held in the patrol prior to being promoted to the position of chief supervisor or chief assistant supervisor.

Upon the effective date of this act the individual occupying the position of chief assistant supervisor of the highway patrol shall retain such position for a period of at least 12 months, or until removed for cause.

[1959 c 500 art 2 s 47; 1959 c 603 s 1, 2; Ex 1959 c 54 s 1; 1963 c 458 s 3; 1967 c 62 s 1; 1967 c 86 s 1; 1969 c 758 s 1; 1969 c 865 s 2; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 8-10]

**299D.04 NATIONWIDE POLICE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM.** The commissioner of public safety may enter into the necessary agreements and purchase the necessary equipment for participation in a nationwide police communication system. All costs of participation in such system by the highway patrol chargeable to the state of Minnesota shall be paid from the fund in the state treasury credited with fines and forfeited bail money. There is hereby appropriated from said fund a sufficient amount of money to carry out the provisions of this section.

[1959 c 500 art 2 s 48; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 11]

**299D.05 RADIO REPEATER STATION IN WISCONSIN.** Subdivision 1. **Authority to acquire site.** The commissioner is authorized to acquire by gift or purchase for trunk highway uses and purposes such land in the state of Wisconsin as he may determine necessary for use as a site for and to construct, operate, and maintain thereon a radio repeater station to be used in connection with the Minnesota statewide two-way radio system operated by the Minnesota state highway patrol.

Subd. 2. **Payment of taxes and assessments.** The commissioner may in connection with the maintenance, operation, and use of the radio repeater station as provided herein pay any and all taxes or special assessments, if any, that may be assessed against said property by the state of Wisconsin or its political subdivisions or taxing districts.

Subd. 3. **Cost to be paid out of trunk highway fund.** The cost of the land acquisition, the construction, operation, and maintenance of the radio repeater station provided for herein shall be paid out of the trunk highway fund.

[1959 c 500 art 2 s 49]