# POLICE REPORT QUICK GUIDE

Your North Carolina Police Report cannot be interpreted or understood without the related form DMV-349 code sheet. This Quick Guide provides all DMV report coding. Simply compare numbered entries on your accident report to the corresponding numbered code boxes in this Guide to understand all findings and conclusions contained in your report.

# **Quick Fault Analysis**

The investigating officer's summary opinion of who caused the accident can be easily located along the right margin on the front page of the Police Report.

The boxes numbered 14, 15 and 16 list mistakes made by the driver and vehicle described on the left side of the report (usually identified as Unit #l.)

The boxes numbered 17, 18 and 19 list mistakes made by the driver and vehicle described on the right side of the report (usually identified as Unit #2.)

Locate the "fault boxes" and compare the Police Officer's entries to the following codes to identify all driver errors:

- 0 No contributing circumstances indicated
- 1 Disregarded yield sign
- 2 Disregarded stop sign
- 3 Disregarded other traffic signs
- 4 Disregarded traffic signals
- 5 Disregarded road markings
- 6 Exceeded authorized speed limit
- 7 Exceeded safe speed for conditions
- 8 Failure to reduce speed
- 9 Improper turn
- 10 Right turn on red
- 11 Crossed centerline/going wrong way
- 12 Improper lane change
- 13 Use of improper lane
- 14 Overcorrected/oversteered

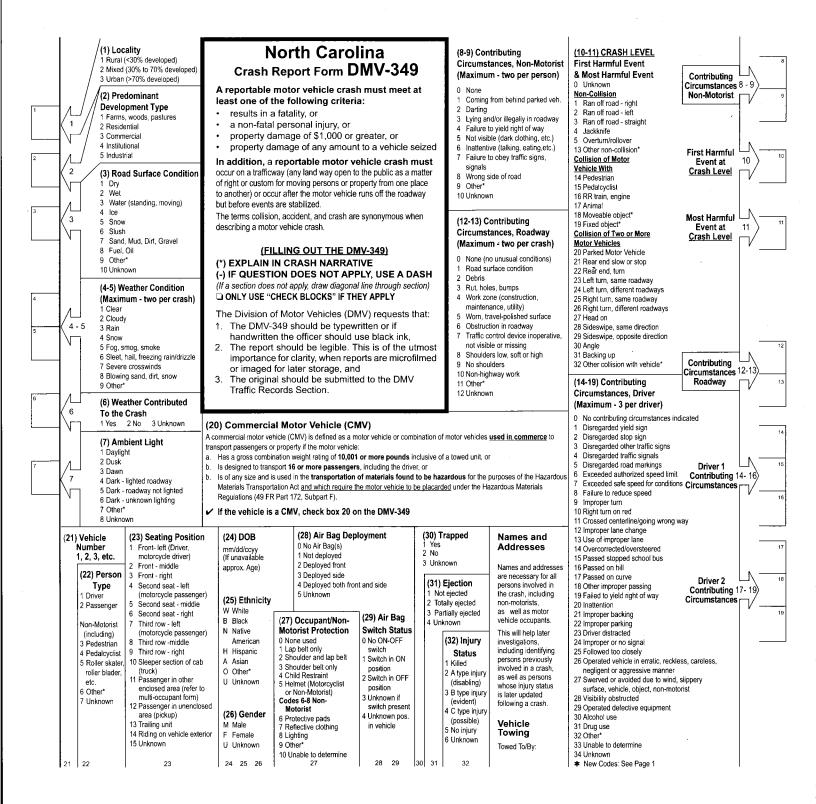
- 15 Passed stopped school bus
- 16 Passed on hill
- 17 Passed on curve
- 18 Other improper passing
- 19 Failed to yield right of way
- 20 Inattention
- 21 Improper backing
- 22 Improper parking
- 23 Driver distracted
- 24 Improper or no signal
- 25 Followed too closely
- 26 Operated vehicle in erratic, reckless, careless, negligent or aggressive manner
- 27 Swerved or avoided due to wind, slippery surface, vehicle, object, non-motorist

- 28 Visibility obstructed
- 29 Operated defective equipment
- 30 Alcohol use
- 31 Drug use
- 32 Other\*
- 33 Unable to determine
- 34 Unknown
- 35 Driver distracted by electronic communication device (cell phone, texting, etc.)
- 36 Driver distracted by other electronic device (navigation device, DVD player, etc.)
- 37 Driver distracted by other inside the vehicle
- Driver distracted by external distraction (outside the vehicle)





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## (33) Relation to Roadway Surface

The location of the first harmful event (at the crash level) as it relates to its position within or outside the trafficway

# On Roadway (Surface)

- Off Roadway
- 2 Shoulder
- Median
- Roadside
- Outside Trafficway
- Unknown

#### (34) Vision Obstruction

- Vehicle window(s) obscured
- Trees, crops, brush, etc.
- Building(s)
- Embankment
- Sign(s)
- Parked vehicle(s)
- Vehicle(s) in traffic/moving
- Blinded, headlights
- 10 Blinded, sunfight
- 11 Blinded, other lights
- 12 Other\* 13 Unknown

- (35) Physical Condition Apparently normal
- Illness
- Fatigue
- Fell asleep, fainted, loss of consciousness
- 5 Impairment due to medications, drugs, alcohol
- Medical condition
- Other physical impairment
- Restriction not complied with
- 10 Unknown

## (36) Driver License Restrictions

Restrictions assigned to an individual's driver license by the license examiner

Indicate restrictions shown on the Driver's License. For out-of-state drivers, write out the restrictions

### (37) Alcohol/Drugs Suspected

- 1 Yes alcohol, impairment
- suspected 2 Yes - alcohol, no impairment detected
- 3 Yes other drugs, impairment suspected
- 4 Yes other drugs, no impairment detected
- 5 Yes alcohol and other drugs
- impairment suspected 6 Yes - alcohol and other drugs, no impairment detected
- 7 Unknown

### (38) Aicohol/Drugs Test Status

- 0 No test
- 1 Alcohol test
- 2 Test for other drugs
- 3 Alcohol & other drugs test 4 Test refused
- 5 Unknown

# (39) Alcohol/Drugs Test Results

- No alcohol or other drugs
- 2 Alcohol (percent BAC)
- 3 Other drugs reported
- 4 Contaminated sample/unusable
- 5 Pendina

**CRASH/MOTOR VEHICLE/UNIT** A <u>motor vehicle crash</u> is any event that results in death, injury or property damage attributable directly to a motor vehicle or its load in transport, but not involving aircraft

or watercraft. It must occur on a trafficway or after the motor vehicle runs off the roadway but before events are stabilized.

A motor vehicle is any mechanically or electrically powered device, not operated on

A unit is any motor vehicle, pedestrian, pedalcyclist, moped or other road vehicle excluding railway vehicles, which can be shown on the report as "other" RR train.

rails, upon which any person or property may be transported or drawn upon a highway

DRIVERLESS MOTOR VEHICLE

A driverless motor vehicle, though previously parked, or a motor vehicle out of control while being towed or pushed, is considered to be a motor vehicle in transport. Also,

an abandoned motor vehicle, upon a roadway, is considered to be a motor vehicle in

machinery, highway graders, construction machinery, or similar devices which are not

A hit & run vehicle is one which was involved in the crash on the "striking vehicle" or

as the "vehicle struck" but which left the scene. The appropriate box must be checked.

e.g., vehicle 1, vehicle 2, etc. and any information that is known, included in the Driver

transport. This principle does not apply to such devices as farm or industrial

in use at the time of the crash for transport.

and/or Vehicle areas.

### (40) Vehicle Seizure (DWI)

Check this box if the crash involves alcohol or other drugs in sufficient amount to constitute a DWI, and the vehicle is

### (41) Vehicle Style (Type)

- Passenger car
- Pickup
- Light truck (mini-van, panel)
- Sport utility
- 6 Commercial bus
- School bus
- Activity bus Other bus
- 10 Single unit truck (2-axle, 6-tire)
- 11 Single unit truck (3 or more axles)
- 12 Truck/trailer
- 13 Truck/tractor (i.e., bobtail)
- 14 Tractor/semi-trailer
- 15 Tractor/doubles 16 Unknown heavy truck
- 17 Taxicab
- 18 Farm equipment
- 19 Farm tractor
- 20 Motorcycle
- 21 Moped 22 Motor scooter or motor bike
- 23 Pedalcycle
- 24 Pedestrian
- 25 Motor home/recreational vehicle
- 26 Other\* 27 All terrain vehicle (ATV)
- 29 EMS Vehicle, Ambulance, Rescue Squad
- 30 Military 31 Police
- 32 Unknown

#### (42) Vehicle Drivable

, Vehicle is <u>disabled by damage</u> severe enough to prevent driving it. For comparison purposes, this data element could be used as a minimum reporting threshold for "property damage only"

### (43) TAD

#### Damaged Areas

- Front concentrated
- FD Front distributed
- FΙ Front left comer
- Front right corner
- Rear concentrated BD Rear distributed
- Rear left comer
- Rear right comer LP Left side (door)
- Right side (door)
- LFQ Left side front quarter
- RFQ Right side front quarter
- LBQ Left side rear quarter RBQ Right side rear guarter
- LD Left side distributed
- Right side distributed
- Left side & top (rollover)
- R&T Right side & top (rollover)
- UND Underneath

# **Extent of Deformity**

The Severity of Damage is based on a scale of "0" being no damage and "7" being the most severe damage

### (44) Estimated Damage

Dollar estimate of the cost to restore the vehicle to its condition just prior to the crash, or the estimated value of the vehicle before the crash, whichever is less. For a "totaled" vehicle, enter a dollar estimate of the retail value of the vehicle prior to the crash. Do not enter the word

A vehicle being towed by another is part of the towing vehicle and its damage should be included in the "Parts Damaged" and "Amount of Damage" categories

# (45) Cargo Body Type

- Bus (seats for 16 or more.
- including driver) 2 Bus (seats for less than 16, including driver)
- Van/enclosed box
- Grain/chips/gravel truck Pole truck
- Cargo tank
- 7 Flatbed
- 8 Dump
- 9 Concrete mixer
- 10 Auto transporter
- 11 Garbage/refuse
- 12 Log Iruck 13 Other\*

### (46) Name of EMS

Record the name of the EMS (or EMS unit number if available) that responded to the crash. A letter designation, unique to each injured person is provided in the first column of the Occupant and Non-Motorist Section. This unique identifier must precede the name of the EMS for each injured person being transported.

Example: A -Cumberland County Ambulance

# (47) Injured Taken by EMS to

Record the destination of the injured person preceded by the unique letter designation (from the first column) for the person involved if they were taken to a hospital, clinic, doctor's office, or other place of emergency medical aid. Include both name of

treatment facility and city or town. Example: A- N.C. Memorial, Chapel Hill; B - Duke Hospital, Durham, etc.

# 

NON-CONTACT VEHICLE OR NON-MOTORIST Non-contact phantom motor vehicles or non-motorists are units that caused the crash but left the scene. They should not be counted in the number of units, but should be referred to in

Non-contact motor vehicles or non-motorists are units that caused the crash and remained at the scene. They should be counted as units with identifying information, and referred to in the narrative. A school bus could be an exile of a non-contact vehicle that is related to a crash (refer to data element #68).

# SCHOOL BUS

A motor vehicle used for the transportation of any school pupil at or below the 12th-grade level to or from a public or

A school bus must be externally identifiable by the color yellow, the words "school bus," flashing red lights located on the front and rear, and identifying lettering on both sides indicating the school or school district served, or the company operating the bus.

# MOTOR VEHICLE STATUS

The use of the device at the time of the crash is the primary

- criterion for establishing motor vehicle status. For example 1. A registered motor vehicle is being drawn by a team of horses
- on a city street; it is considered other road vehicle. A registered motor vehicle is being used to draw a plow engaged in breaking ground an a farm; it is considered farm
- machinery while engaged in plowing. 3. A registered truck is engaged in spreading concrete at a road construction site; it is construction machinery.
- 4. A motorized highway grader, under its own power, is moving from one work place to another on a public way; it is considered a motor vehicle in transport.

5. A registered truck, with a blade attached, is engaged

it is considered a motor vehicle in transport

- in plowing snow from a trafficway, it is considered road maintenance machinery. 6. A riding, motorized lawn mower, under its own power, is being driven from one home to another on a city street; it is
- considered a motor vehicle in transport. 7. A military tank is being moved, under its own power, from the firing range to the motor pool, on a land way of a military post;

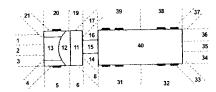


private school or school-related activity.



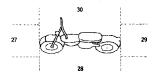
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Passenger Cars/Small Trucks



0 Pedestrian & Non-contact Vehicle

Tractor-Trailers



Motorcycle, Bicycle, Moped or ATV

## (49) Vehicle Maneuver/Action

- Stopped in travel lane Parked out of travel lane
- 3 Parked in travel lanes
- Going straight ahead
- Changing lanes or merging
- 6 Passing 7 Making right turn
- Making left turn
- 9 Making U turn
- 10 Backing
- 11 Slowing or stopping
- 12 Starting in roadway
- 13 Parking
- 14 Leaving parked position
- 15 Avoiding object in road

### (50) Non-motorist Action

- Entering or crossing specified location
- Walking, riding, running/jogging with traffic Walking, riding, running/jogging against traffic
- Working
- Pushing vehicle
- Approaching or leaving vehicle
- Praying
- 8 Standing

### (51) Non-motorist Location Prior to Crash

- Marked crosswalk at intersection
- At intersection but no crosswalk
- Non-intersection crosswalk
- Driveway access crosswalk
- 5 In roadway 6 Not in roadway
- Median (but not on shoulder)
- 8 Island
- 9 Shoulder
- 10 Sidewalk
- 11 Within 10 feet of roadway (not on shoulder, median, sidewalk, island)
- 12 Beyond 10 feet of roadway (within trafficway)
- 13 Outside trafficway
- 14 Shared-use path or trails

### (52-56) VEHICLE LEVEL

# Crash Sequence of Harmful Events (First, Second, Third, Fourth), fields 52-55, and Most

Second, Third, Fourthly, heads 32-30, and most Harmful Event, field 56 for each Unit (Vehicle) If a vehicle has only one event then only one code is required. Vehicles can have up to 4 harmful events. The Most Harmful Event may or may not be one of the 4 events.

# 0 Unknown

# Non-Collision

- Ran off road right
- Ran off road left Ran off road straight ahead
- Jackknife
- Overturn/rollover
- Crossed centerline/median
- Downhill runaway Cargo/equipment loss or shift
- Fire/explosion
- 10 Immersion 11 Equipment failure (tires, brakes, etc.)
- 12 Separation of units

# 13 Other non collision\* Collision of Motor Vehicle With 14 Pedestrian

- 15 Pedalcyclist 16 RR train, engine
- 17 Animal 18 Movable object\*
- Collision of Two or More

# Motor Vehicles

- 19 Parked motor vehicle
- 20 Rear end, slow or stop
- 21 Rear end, turn
- 22 Left turn, same roadway 23 Left turn, different roadways
- 24 Right turn, some roadway 25 Right turn, different roadways 26 Head on
- 27 Sideswipe, same direction
- 28 Sideswipe, opposite direction
- 29 Angle
- 30 Backing up
- 31 Other collision with vehicle\*

# (57) Distance & Direction from Road to Object Struck

- 0 None
- In road
- Right of road, 0-10 ft.
- Right of road, 11-30 ft Right of road, over 30 ft
- Left of road, 0-10 ft
- 6 Left of road, 11-30 ft
- Left of road, over 30 ft,
- Straight ahead, 0-10 ft
- 9 Straight ahead, 11-30 ft 10 Straight ahead, over 30 ft

### (58) Vehicle Underride/Override

An underride refers to a vehicle sliding under another vehicle during a crash. An override refers to a vehicle riding up over another vehicle. Both can occur with a parked vehicle.

- Underride
- Override
- Neither Underride or Override
- 3 Neither Unknown

#### (59) Vehicle Defects Maximum of two per Vehicle

- 0 None detected
- Brakes
- Headlights
- Rear lights
- Steering
- Tires
- Other defects\* Unknown

# (60) Authorized Speed Limit

Authorized speed limit for the vehicle at the time of the crash. The authorization may be indicated by the posted speed limit, blinking sign at construction zones. restricted speed for permitted vehicles

(61) Estimate of Original Speed Estimated speed in miles per hour for each vehicle involved in the collision Estimates reflect the speed of each

vehicle at the moment the driver initially

# perceived an existing hazard.

- Intersection of roadways (7-12)
  - Four-way intersection
  - T-intersection
  - Y-intersection
  - 10 Traffic circle/roundabout

  - 11 Five-point, or more
- 35 Luminaire pole (non-breakaway) 36 Lumenaire pole (breakaway) 13 Non-intersection median crossing
- 37 Official highway sign (non-breakaway) 38 Official highway sign (breakaway)
- 39 Overhead sign support
- 40 Commercial sign 41 Guardrail end on shoulder

Collision with Fixed Object

34 Utility pole (with or without light)

- 42 Guardrail face on shoulder
- 43 Guardrail end in median 44 Guardrail face in medan
- 45 Shoulder barrier end (non-guardrail) 46 Shoulder barrier face (non-guardrail)
- 47 Median barrier end (non-guardrail)
- 48 Median barrier face (non-quardrail)
- 49 Bridge rail end 50 Bridge rail face
- 51 Overhead part of underpass 52 Pier on shoulder of underpass
- 53 Pier in median of underpass
- 54 Abutment (supporting wall) of underpass 55 Traffic island curb or median
- 56 Catch basin or culvert on shoulder
- 57 Catch basin or culvert in median 58 Ditch
- 54 Embankment
- 60 Mailbox
- 61 Fence or fence post
- 62 Construction barrier
- 63 Crash cushion 64 Other fixed object\*

Estimated speed in miles per hour for each vehicle involved in the collision. Estimates reflect the speed of each vehicle at the moment of impact

### (63) Tire Impressions Before Impact

(62) Estimate of Speed at Impact

Length (in feet) of the tire impressions (skid marks, tire print yaw) far each vehicle involved in the collision, prior to impact

(64) Distance Traveled After Impact
Distance (In feet) each vehicle or pedestrian traveled after impact as a result of the force of the collision

(65) Emergency Vehicle Use Indicates vehicles which are on an emergency response, i.e., traveling with physical emergency signals in use; lights, siren

- sounding, etc.
- EMS Vehicle, Ambulance, Rescue Squad, etc.
- Military

# 5 Other

(66) Post Crash Fire If "Yes" check block

(67) School Bus - Contact Vehicle If "Yes" check block. This data element is used to determine "school bus related." The school bus, with or without a pupil on board, is directly involved as a contact vehicle

(68) School Bus - Noncontact Vehicle If "Yes" check block. This data element is used to determine "school bus related." The school bus, with or without a pupil on board, is

# indirectly involved as a noncontact vehicle

- (69) Road Feature
- No special feature
- Bridge Bridge approach
- Underpass
- Driveway, public

# Driveway, private Alley intersection

- 12 Related to intersection

# 14 End or beginning-divided highway

- Interchange (15-21)
- 15 Off-ramp entry
- 16 Off-ramp proper
- 17 Off-ramp terminal on crossroad 18 Merge lane between on and off ramp
- 19 On-ramn entry
- 20 On-ramp proper
- 21 On-ramp terminal on crossroad 22 Railroad crossing 23 Tunnel

25 Other

# (70) Road Character - Horizontal

24 Shared-use paths or trails

- and Vertical Alignment Straight, level
- Straight, hillcrest Straight, grade
- Straight, bottom (sag) Curve, level Curve, hillcrest Curve, grade
- Curve, bottom (sag) Other

# (71) Road Classification

- Interstate US Route
- NC Route
- State Secondary Route
- Local Street
- Public Vehicular Area Private Road, Driveway

#### 8 Other'

- (72) Road Surface Type Concrete
- Grooved concrete Smooth asphalt
- Coarse asphalt
- Gravel
- 6 Sand Soil 8 Other
- (73) Road Configuration
- (Traffic way Description)
- One-way, not divided Two-way, not divided
- Two-way, divided, unprotected median Two-way, divided, positive
- median barrier

# 5 Unknown

- (74) Access Control
- No access control Full access control

# Partial access control

(75) Number of Lanes Total number of lanes in both directions in the trafficway. If

# parking lot, enter "0"

- (76) Traffic Control Device No control present
- Stop sign
- Yield sign Stop and go signal
- Flashing signal with stop sign Flashing signal without stop 5
- sign
- 6 RR gate and flasher
- RR flasher
- RR crossbucks only Human control

13 Double vellow line, no

10 Warning sign 11 School zone signs 12 Flashing stop and go signal

passing zone

- 14 Other
  - (77) Traffic Control Operating Yes No

# 3 Unknown (78 - 81) Work Zone Related

(78) Did crash occur in or near Construction work area

Maintenance work area

Utility work area Intermittent/moving work-e.g.

## patching pothole 5 No (79) Work activity at time

of crash On going 2 No apparent activity

# 11 Other semi trailer

(82) Trailer Type

Non-semi trailers

Towed vehicle

Other non-semi

10 Flatbed or platform

0 No trailer

Boat

Utility

Horse

Semi trailers

8 Tanker Enclosed van

Camper

(83) Overwidth Trailer/Mobile Home Enter the number of the vehicle pulling overwidth trailer, including overwidth mobile home, followed by

House trailer (mobile home)

# the permit number

(84) Crash Diagram

- The diagram should include: Roads and intersecting roads; if a vehicle is struck exiting a driveway, give
- the name of the business or resident Direction of travel for each lane All pertinent roadside features Paths of travel for vehicles.
- pedestrians, bicyclists, etc. Tire marks and debris Measurements pertinent to the location of the point of impact. Use a

#### tape for distances up to 500 feet. Use an odometer for greater distances

- For crashes within an interchange: Add a small line sketch of the interchange and show an "x" where
- the crash occurred Sketch should be less than 25% of

(85) Crash Narrative

the total diagram area, and Conform to the north arrow Identify number, name of the road(s), ramps, and service roads shown

#### Provide a word description of events occurring prior to, during and after the crash which are not elsewhere on the form. Note all pertinent and unusual aspects of the crash. Statements

made in this narrative should be in the

opinion of the investigating officer.

(86) Additional Property Damage Enter any property other than motor vehicles that was damaged, identify the property and its owner and enter an estimate of the dollar damage. Damage to signs, buildings,

mailboxes, fences, etc., should be

# (80) Work area marked with warning

- signs, cones Yes Nο
- (81) Location of crash

entered here

- Before work area In work area approach taper
- Adjacent to actual work area