

**Office of the State Public Defender  
Administrative Policies  
Human Resources**

<b>Subject:</b> Reimbursement for Personal Vehicle Use	<b>Policy No.:</b> 504
<b>Title</b>	<b>Pages:</b> 1
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Last Review Date:</b> 11/18/13
<b>Effective Date:</b> 9/1/09	<b>Revision Date:</b> Approved 8/6/14

**1. POLICY**

The Office of the State Public Defender has made considerable effort and financial investment in making state cars available in each office. Because of budget constraints as well as the need to maximize the use of the state vehicles, the following policy is adopted.

**2. PROCEDURE**

- 2.1** An employee must use a state car when traveling on state business in any instance when a state car is available or when carpooling in a state car is an option.
- 2.2** If an employee chooses to drive their own vehicle *for any reason* when a state car is available, the employee will not be reimbursed for mileage.
- 2.3** An employee seeking mileage reimbursement when a state car is unavailable must attach written documentation from the Office Fleet Manager stating the travel date, destination, and that a state car is unavailable on that date. For Helena employees, notification from the State Motor Pool stating that a state car is unavailable is also required. The travel voucher itself does not constitute appropriate documentation that a vehicle is unavailable.
- 2.4** Any exceptions to employee reimbursement under this policy must be pre-approved prior to travel by the Chief Public Defender, Chief Appellate Defender, Conflict Coordinator or their designee.

**3. CROSS-REFERENCES**

OPD Policy 220, Vehicle Management Policy  
MOM 1-310, State Travel Policy

**4. CLOSING**

This policy shall be followed unless it conflicts with negotiated labor contracts or specific statutes, which shall take precedence to the extent applicable.

Questions about this policy can be directed to your supervisor or to the OPD Human Resource Officer at:

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Administrative Service Division  
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