

HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS
ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES MANUAL

Procedure: T.1
Page: 8 of 22
Date Authorized: 08/05/2008
Supersedes: 04/04/2006

- d. Accidents, if any, must be reported to the local police before leaving the scene. The Department of Budget and Management - Safety Division must also be notified at (956) 318-2644, as soon as possible.

11. CAR RENTALS

- a. Car rentals will be reimbursed when it is the most economical means of transportation. Reservations for car rentals made under the name of Hidalgo County are required to be made through the State of Texas travel management services contract due to the insurance coverage provided (loss/damage waiver and liability insurance coverage). For further information contact the Purchasing Department at (956) 318-2626. Car rental reservations made with the department's travel card must be reserved through the Purchasing Department (see Travel Card Procedures).
- b. Car rental reservations should be made in advance to ensure availability of appropriate size and type of vehicle. When more than one traveler is going to the same destination, "coordination of travel" is required (see Section 7). In addition, a statement as to whether the department has an assigned County vehicle and the reasons for not utilizing the County vehicle should be noted on the purchase requisition. Rental cars are to be restricted to size and type as follows:
- I. Compact, midsize, or full size car when used by one to four County employees.
 - II. Midsize sport utility or minivan when used by four or more County employees.
 - III. Rental of "luxury" and large "sport utility vehicles" such as a Chevy Suburban, Ford Expedition, or similar models are not allowed. However, rental of these types of models will be allowed if the car rental company honors the rate for the applicable size and type of vehicle allowed by policy.
- c. Rental of cars is acceptable for one day before the meeting or conference begins whenever same day rental is not practical. Return of rental vehicle one day after the meeting or conference ends is acceptable if same day return is not practical.
- d. If a County Official or employee wishes to rent a vehicle other than the vehicle size and type allowed by the policy, the individual will be responsible for paying the entire invoice amount and may seek reimbursement for the amount allowed by Policy. The traveler will only be reimbursed the state contract price rate for the allowable vehicle size and type. In addition, the department's travel card cannot be utilized to