

Speed Limit and Stop Sign Enforcement in Jonathans Landing

Background

Speed limits and stop signs in JL are established to help ensure safe use of the roadways for drivers, golf carts, bicycles, pedestrians and other users.

Most operators of the roads in JL largely comply with the posted and implicit speed limits and stop signs. JL Security purchased a speed monitoring sign in 2021. The sign has been placed at various locations along JL roads to gather data in vehicle speeds. The data shows that 95% - 97% of vehicles are at or near the speed limit when they pass the sign. This leaves roughly 3% - 5% of vehicles passing the sign that are 5 mph or greater over the posted speed limit.

JL Security has acquired a traffic camera to identify vehicles in violation of the posted speed limit. The camera takes a photograph of the license plate of the vehicle, along with a record of the date, time and speed detected.

In addition, in various places throughout JL, some drivers ignore the established stop signs and enter intersections without first coming to a complete stop.

The Security Committee recommends that the POA Board of Directors adopts the following policy regarding speed limit and stop sign enforcement in JL.

Recommended JL Speed Limit/Stop Sign Enforcement policy

There is an array of vehicles and operators on JL roadways:

- Residents
- Resident's guests
- Golf Club members (non-resident)
- Guests of the Golf Club or its members
- Marina members
- Marina guests
- OTB guest
- Employees of the POA
- Employees of the Golf Club
- Vendors/contractors with a VID card
- Vendors/contractors without a VID card
- All others

Penalties

Speeding penalties are intended to encourage compliance with the posted speed limits and stop signs along the roads in JL. To be effective, the penalties should be:

- Imposed in compliance with Florida statute 720.305
- Easy to understand
- Unambiguous
- Meaningful to the offender
- Applied in a progressively punitive manner for repeat offenders

Per FL Statute 230.305, there are 2 remedies that a governing body (a.k.a. Association) may impose on a member, or a member's tenant, guest, or invitee for violation of their rules and regulations – fines and suspension of privileges.

Recommended Penalties

Suspension of Entry Gate Barcodes

Barcode entry to JL is an amenity granted to an operator by the POA. Florida statutes allow suspension of an amenity/privilege. The Security Committee believes a temporary suspension of a barcode would likely have the greatest impact on obtaining speed limit/stop sign compliance by repeat violators having a POA issued barcode.

Suspension of VID card Access

Likewise, VID cards provide an access convenience for vendors/contractors coming to JL. The Security Committee believes a temporary suspension of a VID card would likely have the greatest impact on obtaining speed limit/stop sign compliance by repeat violators having a POA VID card.

Suspension of Access

For operators without a barcode or VID car, the Security Committee is recommending temporarily restricting access to JL.

Implementation

JL Security and the POA are responsible for the enforcement of speed limits and stop signs in JL. The POA Board of Directors is responsible that penalties assessed for violations are enforced.

JL Security and the JL POA will utilize data gathered from the traffic camera to detect and identify vehicles speeding or ignoring stop signs in JL.

For the purposes of penalties, operators on JL roadways are categorized into three groups:

- Those with expedited access (a barcode sticker or VID card)
 - Residents
 - Golf Club members

- Renters
- Marina members
- Employees of the POA
- Employees of the Golf Club
- Employees of the Marina
- Employees of OTB
- Vendors/contractors with a VID card
- Resident sponsored guests
 - Resident's guests
- Other Guests
 - Guest of the Golf Club or its members
 - OTB guests
- Vendors/contractors without a VID card

The Security Committee recommends a 4 step procedure for encouraging speed limit/stop sign compliance in JL. The procedure varies slightly based on the type of operator and whether they have expedited access privileges.

Penalties for those with expedited access:

First Violation – owner of the vehicle receives a letter from Security based on information about the operator stored in the ABDI or VID. The letter advises them that they have been observed speeding or ignoring a stop sign and encourages them to be prudent in minding the speed limits in JL.

Second Violation – owner of the vehicle receives a written letter from the POA Board of Directors based on information about the operator stored in the ABDI or VID. The letter advises them that they have been observed multiple times speeding or ignoring a stop sign and warning them to obey speed limits in JL and that subsequent violations carry penalties.

Third Violation - operator receives a written letter from the POA Board of Directors based on information about the operator stored in the ABDI or VID. The letter tells them that they have again been observed speeding or ignoring a stop sign and that in 14 days their expedited access to JL is being suspended. It will also indicate that the operator has the opportunity to request a hearing by the POA Appeals Committee. Otherwise, implementation of the suspension occurs automatically and lasts 7 days.

Fourth violation – Similar to third violation with a 30 day suspension

Subsequent violations – Similar to the fourth violation but with a 6 month suspension.

Penalties for Resident sponsored guests

Same as those above but penalties are applied to resident sponsor.

Penalties for Other sponsored guests (OTB or Golf Club)

Similar to above but fourth violation results in restriction of access to JL for the guest.

Penalties for Vendors/contractors without a VID card

Similar to above but fourth violation results in restriction of access to JL for the vendor.

Appeals

Per FL Statute 230.305, a suspension levied by the board of administration may not be imposed unless the board first provides at least 14 days' notice and an opportunity for a hearing before a committee of at least three members appointed by the board who are not officers, directors, or employees of the association, or the spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister of an officer, director, or employee. The role of the committee is limited to determining whether to confirm or reject the suspension levied by the board.

Violation Reset

Speeding/stop sign violations are designed to be progressively punitive for repeat offenders. Violations are tracked and accumulate for 6 months. A violator's violation count resets to zero after a period of 6 months with no additional violations.