

New Jersey Police Traffic Officers' Association



Chief-to-Chief Briefing: What the New NJ E-Bike Law Means for Your Agency

From: Chief Antonio Ellis

President, New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association

Colleagues,

Governor Murphy has signed comprehensive legislation regulating electric bicycles in New Jersey. This law was enacted to address the rapid growth of high-speed and modified e-bikes and the corresponding rise in crashes and serious injuries.

The intent of this statute is not punitive. Its purpose is crash reduction, injury prevention, and safer roadways for everyone.

The law now requires registration, licensing, and insurance for low-speed electric bicycles, reclassifies many throttle-based and high-speed e-bikes as motorized bicycles, and treats the highest-powered devices as motorcycles under Title 39. It also prohibits tampering and conversion kits that increase speed or power.

Importantly, the statute provides a six-month compliance window following the effective date for riders to obtain registration, licensing, and insurance. This creates an opportunity for uniform statewide education and outreach before full enforcement begins.

Our Association strongly supports this law because it:

- Brings accountability to unsafe devices
- Addresses youth-safety and school-zone risks
- Reduces serious injury and fatal crashes
- Clarifies confusing e-bike classifications
- Improves statewide crash and registration data

I recommend each agency:

- Brief patrol and traffic units on new classifications
- Adopt an education-first posture during the six-month window
- Coordinate messaging with schools and municipal leaders
- Track e-bike crashes and enforcement activity
- Designate an MVC coordination point-of-contact

Our collective objective is compliance with the rules of the road — not punishment.

Education, consistency, and safety outcomes must guide our approach.

Respectfully,

Chief Antonio Ellis

President, New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association