

# Ainad Shrine Circus Parade Safety Guidelines

## **SAFETY GUIDELINES**

**General:** We are very concerned with the safety of both the parade participants and the spectators. We have outlined items or situations that we would like everyone to observe to make the parade a safe event. Anyone who does not abide by these safety guidelines will be asked to leave the parade for the safety of all. This safety list may not include every hazard that may occur during the event but will better prepare you and your fellow participants in the event something may occur and to prevent simple accidents and injuries. It is requested that you share these with all of those who participate with your particular unit. Everyone is responsible for safety.

**Responsible Party:** We require a designated safety representative for each unit who will be an active participant in the parade. This person will be the point of contact for any "Emergency-Group-Call" (via cell phone) announcements that will be utilized to notify participants of any major safety concerns. The announcement will include any applicable instructions related to the notice. It is your responsibility to please make sure everyone in your group is aware of the rules and safety concerns.

**Speak up for Safety:** Please be aware of your surroundings at all times as there are pedestrians, animals and moving vehicles, which when mixed, can have dangerous consequences. We want you to report dangerous conditions or activities to either the police or parade marshals before someone is hurt. If there is an accident or any emergency, contact a parade marshal ASAP and the emergency responders will be notified.

**Candy/Handouts:** No objects shall be thrown from any vehicle, trailer or walkers during the parade. The entry, and its participants, who wish to provide these items shall have walkers along the edge of the sidewalk to hand them out. They shall be handed to individual spectators by the walkers, and shall not be thrown into any spectator areas. Items such as "super or bouncy balls" shall be prohibited from distribution due to the danger of children chasing these into the street and the potential of them being run over by a parade unit. **Any unit caught violating these rules will be removed from the parade.**

**Severe Weather:** Severe weather, such as dangerous storms, lightning, high winds/tornados, etc. will be monitored closely by the parade marshals and the Belleville Police/Fire Department. If the weather appears to be a safety concern a "Hyper-Reach" message will be sent to notify the participants of the same and any instructions to be followed. We will not cancel the parade for a minor rain event unless it is accompanied by dangerous conditions such as lightning, high winds, etc. There will not be a make-up date. If you are alerted to an imminent danger related to severe weather while either in the staging area or along the parade route via "Emergency-Group-Call" or other means, designated shelters will be available for your protection. The Police and/or Fire Departments will be available to open and direct you to these spaces if required.

**Vehicular Hazards:** Exposure to vehicular traffic is one of our greatest risks before, during and after the event. Drivers are often non-responsive to the reduced speed limits and other staging zone hazards. Therefore, participants must be constantly aware of their surroundings. Avoid being in between units or near moving units. Additional hazards that are associated with vehicular movements are identified in this document.

**Riders:** Children shall be under constant adult supervision during the parade, and shall remain seated at all times when the vehicle is running, regardless of whether the vehicle is in motion or has temporarily stopped. Advise participants to sit within convertibles and not on rear deck. Standing participants on any vehicle or trailer shall have a device to hold, such as safety rails, barriers, or ropes, which are sufficient to prevent falling on or from the vehicle or trailer. No passenger shall cling to or ride on the outside of any vehicle at any time, regardless of whether or not the vehicle is in motion. Riders shall either remain properly inside the vehicle or on the trailer once the parade begins and at all times during the parade when the vehicle is running, regardless of whether the vehicle is in motion or has temporarily stopped.

**Restricted visibility:** One or more spotters shall be located with each unit at all times throughout the event in order to immediately communicate with the driver of the vehicle(s) about any problem or concern on or about the unit that needs to be addressed and to avoid an accident. Decorations shall be designed to allow the driver one hundred eighty (180)

degrees clear vision to the front and sides of the trailer and vehicle. If one hundred eighty (180) degrees vision cannot be provided to the driver for any reason, two or more spotters with clear vision of all obstructed areas shall be in/on/around the unit at all times and shall act as a guide for the driver. All vehicles, with or without an attached trailer, must be able to make a ninety (90) degree corner within two (2) traffic lanes.

**Licenses, Registrations and Insurance:** Drivers shall be 21 years old and have a valid driver's license which shall be kept in the vehicle at all times during the parade and the driver shall be in competent/non-impaired condition to safely operate the vehicle throughout the entire time of the staging and parade. Vehicles and trailers shall be properly licensed, registered and insured as required by law. Vehicles licensed for highway use shall have proof of insurance in terms and coverage as required by law and such proof shall be kept in the vehicle at all times on the date of the parade and be available to be presented upon its request.

**Vehicular/Trailer Maintenance and Service:** All vehicles to be used in the parade, including those pulling trailers and self-propelled vehicles, are to be in good condition and in complete legal working order. All shall be properly maintained and serviced for brakes, gas, oil, water, tire inflation, battery charging, horn, etc. prior to reporting to the staging areas for the parade.

**Connected vehicles/trailers:** All trailer hitches and connections to a vehicle shall be in good condition and in complete legal working order on the date of the parade, and shall comply with all applicable laws and standards. Primary and secondary connections shall be appropriate for the normal and anticipated loads.

**Fire/Carbon Monoxide Hazards:** Open flame devices are prohibited on parade floats. No smoking on or near units. Fireworks or any type of explosive devices are not permitted at any time. The use of fuel fired torches, candles or similar devices which can ignite the parade float are prohibited. Decorations shall not cover the exhaust pipe or be placed in a position where they may interfere with the exhaust system. Exhaust pipes shall clearly extend beyond all decorative materials on the vehicle and trailer. All decorations shall be made of fire retardant materials.

**Generators:** Follow similar concerns for above for fire/carbon monoxide hazards. No refueling of tanks is allowed once the unit has reached the staging area or during the parade. No additional fuel containers shall be stored on floats.

**Alcohol and Drugs:** There shall be no consumption of alcohol, unlawful drugs or smoking on any vehicle or trailer. No person operating a vehicle, trailer or other motorized vehicle in the parade shall be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or unlawful drugs of any type.

**Fireworks/Firearms:** No person shall discharge firearms, noise makers, fireworks, or similar items at any time during the event.

**Animals in Parade:** No animals shall be permitted to be in the parade except for those approved through the parade application process. Participants who are not associated with the animals shall keep a safe distance from them as they are most likely not familiar with you or the crowded and active surroundings. Avoid loud noises or quick movements as not to "spook" or alarm the animals as this may result in injuries to either/or both the animals or participants. Keep other animal participants away from another for the same reason.

THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING AND MAKING AINAD'S CIRCUS PARADE A SAFE & SUCCESSFUL EVENT.

Steve Kraus, Marshal

Jim Kurtz, Mike Koeneman, Mike Johnson, Co-Chairmen