

General Order

Houston Police Department



ISSUE DATE:	NO.
September 14, 2023	600-04
REFERENCE: Supersedes all prior conflicting Circulars and Directives, and General Order 600-04, dated June 5, 2018	

SUBJECT: MOTOR VEHICLE PURSUITS

POLICY

The department places the highest value on the life and safety of its officers and the public at large. Officers shall prioritize this value when attempting to apprehend persons in a motor vehicle who have committed or are committing a violation of the law. The methods the department establishes to enforce the laws are intended to minimize the risk of injury to officers and the public alike.

This General Order applies to all classified and emergency communication personnel.

DEFINITIONS

Engage. For this General Order, when a primary or secondary unit is directly following the fleeing vehicle or traveling to a position where the unit will then directly follow the fleeing vehicle.

Motor Vehicle Pursuit. When an officer pursues a suspect driving a motor vehicle who is apparently fleeing from an officer operating an emergency vehicle who is attempting to detain or arrest the person and has directed the driver to stop by using emergency lights and sirens.

Primary Unit. For this General Order, an officer who engages in a motor vehicle pursuit generally in the position closest to the fleeing vehicle.

Secondary Unit. For this General Order, any authorized officer who engages in a motor vehicle pursuit in support of the primary unit.

1 FACTORS IN THE DECISION TO ENGAGE IN A PURSUIT

As required by department policy and Texas law, an officer may engage in a motor vehicle pursuit only if the officer determines in good faith that under the circumstances, the need to immediately apprehend the suspect outweighs the risk of harm to the officer or the public by engaging in the pursuit.

Officers and supervisors shall use the standard of a reasonably prudent officer and supervisor in evaluating the risk of injury and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect.

Each involved officer and supervisor shall constantly and continuously evaluate the risk of injury and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect. If the risk of injury outweighs the need to immediately apprehend the suspect, officers and supervisors shall terminate the motor vehicle pursuit subject to the provisions of this General Order.

Evaluating the Risk of Injury

When evaluating the risk of injury during a motor vehicle pursuit, each officer and supervisor shall consider the totality of the circumstances, including but not limited to the following factors:

- a. The relative performance capabilities of the fleeing vehicle and the officer's vehicle.
- b. Road, lighting, and weather conditions.
- c. Population density and time of day.
- d. Traffic conditions, including the presence and number of motor vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians.
- e. The speed of the fleeing vehicle and the officer's vehicle, especially in relation to the speed limit and customary flow of traffic.
- f. The effect of the speed of the involved vehicles on stopping distance.
- g. The distance between the primary and secondary units and the fleeing vehicle.
- h. The officer's reaction time at the current speed.
- i. The likelihood that any involved vehicle may crash under the current circumstances.
- j. The nature and severity of injuries to any person from a possible crash under the current circumstances.
- k. The possibility that the motor vehicle pursuit would cause an additional risk of secondary crashes.
- l. The duration of the motor vehicle pursuit.

Evaluating the Need to Immediately Apprehend

When evaluating the need to immediately apprehend the suspect during a motor vehicle pursuit, each officer and supervisor shall consider the totality of the circumstances, including but not limited to the following factors:

- a. The seriousness and/or violence of the crime that the suspect has committed or for which the suspect is wanted.
- b. Whether the officer's immediate presence is necessary to apprehend a suspect or to prevent injury or loss of life.
- c. Whether officers have alternative options to arrest the suspect at a later time of officers' choosing (e.g., filing a warrant, executing an existing warrant).

Alternatives to Pursuit

Whenever possible and reasonable under the circumstances, an officer shall use alternative courses of action rather than initially engaging in a motor vehicle pursuit (e.g., filing a warrant if the suspect's identity is known).



2 VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS

When on-duty or off-duty, an officer shall not engage in a motor vehicle pursuit in any vehicle that does not have emergency lights and sirens or any personal vehicle (even if equipped with emergency equipment). An officer shall not engage in a motor vehicle pursuit unless:

- a. The officer is in an HPD marked vehicle that is equipped with working emergency lights and sirens and is believed to be in sound mechanical condition, including but not limited to brakes, steering, and police radio systems.

If an officer on a motorcycle engages in a pursuit, the first arriving HPD marked vehicle shall take over as the primary unit and the motorcycle officer shall disengage.

- b. The officer, while wearing a police uniform, is in an HPD unmarked vehicle that is equipped with working emergency lights and sirens and is believed to be in sound mechanical condition, including but not limited to brakes, steering, and police radio systems. If an officer in such a vehicle engages in a pursuit, the first arriving HPD marked vehicle shall take over as the primary unit and the officer in the unmarked vehicle shall act as a secondary unit until sufficient marked secondary units have arrived, then disengage.

Officers assigned to the SWAT Detail and Narcotics Tactical Team may engage as a primary or secondary unit in a motor vehicle pursuit in such vehicles pursuant to divisional standard operating procedures (SOPs).

- c. The officer is working extra employment in a non-HPD vehicle that is clearly marked as a police vehicle pursuant to the Texas Transportation Code and otherwise meets the mechanical requirements of above item (a). Officers in such vehicles may only engage in a pursuit because of suspected felony activity, other than Evading in a Motor Vehicle.

If an officer in such a vehicle engages in a pursuit because of suspected felony activity, the first arriving HPD marked vehicle shall take over as the primary unit and the officer in the non-HPD marked vehicle shall act as a secondary unit until sufficient HPD marked secondary units have arrived, then disengage.

3 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES DURING PURSUITS

Officers may engage in a motor vehicle pursuit to detain or arrest a suspect fleeing in a motor vehicle, subject to the restrictions of this policy. When engaged in a motor vehicle pursuit, each involved officer (including drivers and passengers) shall constantly and continuously evaluate the risk of harm and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect.

Only the primary unit and authorized secondary units shall engage in a motor vehicle pursuit. The officer who first engages the motor vehicle pursuit shall be the primary unit until relieved of the responsibility pursuant to this General Order. Pursuant to General Orders 400-23, **Mobile Video Equipment**, and 400-28, **Body Worn Cameras**, officers engaged in the pursuit shall activate their body worn cameras and mobile video recorders.

Officers shall not engage in a motor vehicle pursuit when transporting any person (other than officers as passengers), except as permitted by General Order 600-32, **Ride-Along Program**.

The primary unit shall terminate the motor vehicle pursuit if the officer determines that the risk of injury outweighs the need to immediately apprehend the suspect.

When the primary unit loses visual contact with the fleeing vehicle and does not know the suspect's direction of travel, the primary unit shall terminate the pursuit and notify the dispatcher. The involved officers should continue to search the area for the suspect and may re-engage in the pursuit if they locate the suspect, subject to the restrictions of this policy.

Restriction on Pursuit

An officer shall not engage in a motor vehicle pursuit when the suspect's only possible offense (other than the Evading Arrest itself) includes:

- a. Class C offenses.
- b. Traffic or municipal warrants.
- c. Non-violent misdemeanor warrants.

When the vehicle or a suspect in the vehicle is the subject of an ongoing criminal investigation or when the vehicle has no license plates displayed or license plates issued to a different motor vehicle, the officer may obtain authorization from a supervisor to engage in a motor vehicle pursuit, even when the above provision applies. The officer should obtain authorization prior to the traffic stop.

Response Priority and Safety

Upon designation by a supervisor or the dispatcher, secondary units shall respond priority "E" pursuant to General Order 600-01, **Response Management**.

Officers shall not unofficially engage in the pursuit (i.e., "paralleling" or "shadowing"). Officers not engaged in the motor vehicle pursuit may drive priority three to strategically place themselves in advantageous positions where the pursuit might conclude or pass, or priority two with notification to the dispatcher via MCD (or radio if no MCD is available). At such locations,

these officers may deploy tire deflation devices or provide assistance in situations where additional officers may be needed (e.g., setting up a perimeter or assisting in a foot pursuit).

Pursuant to General Order 600-01, **Response Management**, the officer operating an authorized emergency vehicle during a motor vehicle pursuit shall drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and is responsible for the consequences of reckless disregard for the safety of others.

While engaged in the motor vehicle pursuit, the primary and secondary units shall:

- a. Reduce speed at all street intersections (including uncontrolled intersections where traffic may be crossing or turning) to such a degree that the officer has control of the vehicle.
- b. Clear each intersection to ensure safe passage before proceeding.
- c. Proceed past a stop signal or sign only after slowing as necessary for safe operation, which may require stopping to ensure the intersection is safe and clear.
- d. Maintain control of the vehicle at all times in order to make sudden stops or take other evasive action.
- e. Establish sufficient following distance to provide additional reaction time to the suspect's actions.
- f. Further increase following distance when pursuing a suspected intoxicated driver.

Restrictions During Pursuit

When engaged in a motor vehicle pursuit, an officer shall not:

- a. Pursue a fleeing vehicle by driving the wrong way on a freeway.
- b. Pursue a fleeing vehicle without the officer's emergency equipment activated, except as permitted by this policy.
- c. Drive along the side or in front of a fleeing vehicle in an attempt to stop or force the vehicle from the roadway, unless authorized pursuant to Section 7, *Additional Options During Pursuits*.
- d. Continue a motor vehicle pursuit if the primary unit, on-scene police helicopter, or any supervisor orders the pursuit to be terminated.
- e. Intentionally ram a fleeing vehicle in an attempt to damage or disable the vehicle or to cause the vehicle to crash.
- f. Discharge a firearm to disable or stop a fleeing vehicle, except as permitted by General Order 600-17, **Use of Force**.
- g. Use barricades or other obstructions set across a roadway to stop or prevent the escape of a fleeing vehicle, except as authorized pursuant to Section 7, *Additional Options During Pursuits*.

Notifications and Updates

An officer who engages in a motor vehicle pursuit shall immediately notify the dispatcher, who shall determine if it is necessary to switch the incident to another dispatch channel or to keep the incident on the existing channel. Officers engaged in a motor vehicle pursuit shall not use a radio channel not monitored by a dispatcher. If the motor vehicle pursuit remains on the existing channel, the dispatcher shall close the air and all other officers shall immediately refrain from non-emergency radio transmissions on that channel.

The primary unit shall provide the following information over the air upon first engaging in the motor vehicle pursuit:

- a. The officer's unit number.
- b. The starting location.
- c. Description and number of occupants in the fleeing vehicle, if known.
- d. Description of the fleeing vehicle (e.g., license plate, make, model, color).
- e. If it is known that the suspect is armed.
- f. The officer's reason(s) for the pursuit, including possible charges against the suspect.

Unless the helicopter crew has taken over the responsibility, the primary unit shall provide the following information over the air upon first engaging in the motor vehicle pursuit and then on a regular and continuous basis:

- g. Present location.
- h. Direction of travel.
- i. The current speed of the officer and estimated speed of the suspect.
- j. Any observed risk factors.

The primary unit may transfer the responsibility for regular and continuous updates to a secondary unit as needed.

4 DISPATCHER AND SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES DURING PURSUITS

When notified of a motor vehicle pursuit, the dispatcher shall designate the initial pursuing vehicle as the primary unit. The dispatcher shall also designate a secondary unit and a field supervisor. If available, the dispatcher shall designate a Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) certified unit, police helicopter, and canine unit as additional secondary units. If the primary unit is a supervisor, the dispatcher shall designate another supervisor as the field supervisor.

Upon notification that an officer is driving priority two to provide possible assistance, the dispatcher shall add such unit(s) to the call slip.

The dispatcher shall ensure that all officers engaged in and assisting in the motor vehicle pursuit use the same radio channel.

The dispatcher shall also notify an Emergency Communications Division (ECD) supervisor of the motor vehicle pursuit. The supervisor shall ensure notification of Watch Command, which shall notify the Command Center Division, which shall notify the primary unit's lieutenant (including an acting lieutenant) after the pursuit has lasted five minutes or more.

If the lieutenant is unavailable for any reason, a Command Center supervisor shall locate an on-duty ranking supervisor to take the oversight responsibility described in Section 6, *Management Responsibilities During Pursuits*, in the following preferred order:

- a. A lieutenant from the division of the primary unit.
- b. The night commander or a lieutenant at the Command Center.
- c. A lieutenant working weekend command.
- d. The commander of the division of the primary unit.
- e. The commander working weekend command.
- f. The on-call duty chief.

Helicopter Unit

If no helicopter is in service, the dispatcher shall contact the department's Air Support Division and have one dispatched to the scene, weather and availability permitting.

The involved helicopter crew shall:

- a. Advise over the air when the fleeing vehicle is in view.
- b. Monitor the motor vehicle pursuit and provide relevant information to the primary and secondary units and the designated field supervisor. On a regular and continuous basis, the helicopter crew shall provide the present location, direction of travel, estimated speed of the fleeing vehicle, and the speed limit.
- c. Obtain the necessary approval to enter and operate in Class B Airspace, which is the controlled area that extends outward to a radius of eight miles from airports such as Hobby Airport and Bush Intercontinental Airport.
- d. Advise over the air if unable to continue the motor vehicle pursuit (e.g., low fuel, unable to enter Class B Airspace) and remind the primary unit or designated secondary unit to resume providing regular and continuous updates.
- e. Terminate the motor vehicle pursuit if, using the same criteria in Section 1, *Factors in the Decision to Engage in a Pursuit*, the crew determines that the risk of injury outweighs the need to immediately apprehend the suspect.

Canine Unit

If no canine unit has been assigned, an available canine unit shall travel in the direction of the pursuit to assist as needed until assigned by the dispatcher.

5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES DURING PURSUITS

When supervising a motor vehicle pursuit, the designated field supervisor shall constantly and continuously evaluate the risk of harm and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect. The supervisor shall order the termination of the pursuit if the supervisor determines that the risk of injury outweighs the need to immediately apprehend the suspect.

Upon notification of the motor vehicle pursuit, the designated field supervisor shall acknowledge their command of the pursuit and request any necessary information from the dispatcher or primary unit. The field supervisor shall immediately assess the motor vehicle pursuit based on the information from the primary unit and the dispatcher.

The designated supervisor may delegate certain supervisory responsibilities (e.g., tactical planning, resource management) to additional supervisors as needed.

Enforcing Restriction on Pursuit

Unless authorized under Section 3, *Officer Responsibilities During Pursuits*, the notified supervisor shall immediately terminate a motor vehicle pursuit when the suspect's only possible offense (other than the Evading Arrest itself) includes:

- a. Class C offenses.
- b. Traffic or municipal warrants.
- c. Non-violent misdemeanor warrants.

Secondary Units

The designated field supervisor may authorize additional secondary units as needed under the circumstances, including but not limited to the following situations:

- a. There is an insufficient number of officers in the authorized units to safely arrest the suspect(s) or engage in an authorized stopping technique.
- b. An authorized primary or secondary unit is unable to continue the motor vehicle pursuit and a replacement unit is needed.
- c. There is a likelihood that the suspect has a deadly weapon.


The designated supervisor may transfer the responsibilities of the primary unit to one of the secondary units, who shall take over in the position closest to the fleeing vehicle.

The designated supervisor may engage in the motor vehicle pursuit as a secondary unit but shall not take the responsibilities of the primary unit unless another supervisor takes over the supervisory responsibilities.

Reminders and Responsibilities

The designated field supervisor shall:

- a. Monitor all radio communications related to the motor vehicle pursuit and make every effort to ensure only authorized units participate in the pursuit.
- b. Break the air upon taking command to remind officers of the following:
 1. That officers shall not engage in the pursuit unless authorized as a secondary unit.
 2. That officers engaged in the pursuit shall monitor their speed and drive with due regard for safety.
- c. Break the air as needed under the circumstances to provide instructions or reminders to officers, including but not limited to the following:
 1. To maintain their professional composure.
 2. To maintain sufficient distance from the fleeing vehicle to react to unexpected events.

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- d. Authorize the use of stopping techniques only when the supervisor determines that the need to conclude the pursuit outweighs the inherent risk of the technique.
 - e. State periodically whether the pursuit should continue or be terminated.

6 MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES DURING PURSUITS

Upon notification of a pursuit that has lasted five minutes or more, the ranking supervisor notified pursuant to Section 4, *Dispatcher and Support Responsibilities During Pursuits*, shall assume second-level oversight responsibility over the motor vehicle pursuit, acknowledge responsibility over the air, and closely monitor the motor vehicle pursuit. The designated field supervisor shall maintain operational control of the motor vehicle pursuit. The supervisor with operational control shall not concurrently assume oversight responsibility as an acting lieutenant.

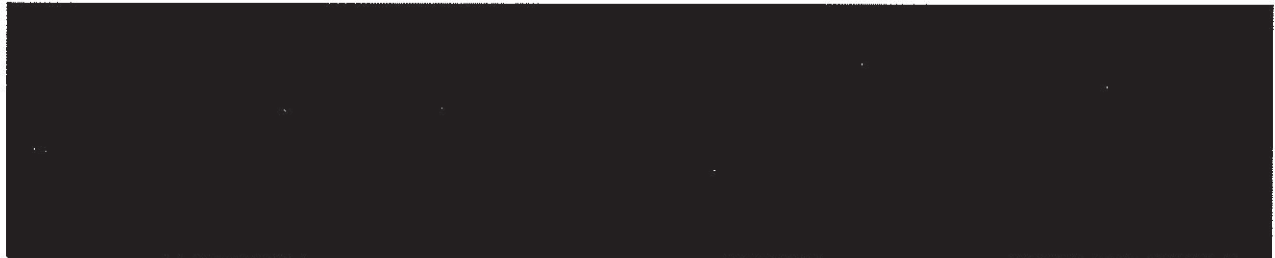
The ranking supervisor should perform any other needed supervisory responsibilities (e.g., tactical planning, resource management). The ranking supervisor shall maintain awareness of the number and location(s) of the primary unit, secondary units, and other units on the call slip.

If the ranking supervisor determines that the risk of injury outweighs the need to immediately apprehend the suspect, the ranking supervisor shall order the termination of the pursuit.

The ranking supervisor and the night commander may engage in the motor vehicle pursuit as secondary units, consistent with Section 2, *Vehicle Restrictions*.

If monitoring the motor vehicle pursuit and regardless of assignment, any on-duty supervisor, if of higher rank than the ranking supervisor having oversight responsibility, shall order the termination of the pursuit if the supervisor determines that the risk of injury outweighs the need to immediately apprehend the suspect.

7 ADDITIONAL OPTIONS DURING PURSUITS



If an officer has sufficient information to establish probable cause for the criminal activity and the identity of the suspect, the involved officers and supervisors shall terminate the motor vehicle pursuit in favor of filing a warrant, unless the need to immediately apprehend the suspect outweighs the risk of injury.

Stopping Techniques

Only officers with certified training by the Training Division shall use authorized stopping techniques.

Officers shall assess the risk of bodily harm to all persons when using stopping techniques, including but not limited to members of the public, the officers, and the driver and passenger(s) in the fleeing vehicle.

Officers may use the following stopping techniques when authorized by the field supervisor and in accordance with current department training and procedures:

- a. **Rolling Roadblocks:** The secondary unit(s) may move in front of and/or next to the fleeing vehicle, if the suspect is not speeding but is willfully failing to stop. Officers shall maintain awareness of the potential of an armed suspect and/or a crossfire situation when using rolling roadblocks.
- b. **Tire Deflation Devices:** Officers may use devices designed to cause the controlled deflation of a fleeing vehicle's tires (e.g., Stingers® and Stop Sticks®) only when able to do so without placing the officer or members of the public in danger, taking into consideration traffic, road, and weather conditions. The officer using the tire deflation device shall use cover and concealment, if possible, and shall not use the device on a freeway.





8 TERMINATING AND CONCLUDING PURSUITS

When an officer terminates a motor vehicle pursuit or an authorized officer or supervisor orders the termination of a pursuit, all officers engaged in the pursuit shall immediately:

- a. Resume compliance with all traffic laws, including speed.
- b. Deactivate emergency lights and sirens when safe.

The primary unit shall also:

- c. Acknowledge the pursuit termination over the air.
- d. Notify the dispatcher of their location.

If an officer locates the suspect vehicle after the termination of the pursuit, a supervisor may authorize the officer to engage in a new motor vehicle pursuit, subject to the restrictions of this policy.

Pursuit Conclusion

Upon conclusion of a pursuit, officers shall conduct a high-risk stop pursuant to General Order 600-34, **High-Risk Vehicle Approaches**. To the extent possible, officers shall use their vehicles for cover and concealment while attempting to establish communication with the occupant(s) of the vehicle.

If circumstances do not permit a high-risk stop (e.g., suspect crash), officers shall use extreme caution when approaching the suspect vehicle.

If a motor vehicle pursuit ends due to a crash, the primary unit shall notify the dispatcher and request emergency medical services if necessary.

The primary and secondary units shall provide first aid to injured persons as appropriate and feasible under the circumstances, as shall any arriving additional officers.

If the driver and/or any passenger flees on foot, officers shall follow the provisions of General Order 600-11, **Foot Pursuits**.

The field supervisor shall immediately go to the location where the motor vehicle pursuit concluded, regardless of the manner in which it concluded, and take command of the scene. A different supervisor shall take command of the scene of any crash at a separate location.

Scene Investigation

The designated field supervisor who takes over the scene at the conclusion of the motor vehicle pursuit shall complete a *Significant Event Report* if required to do so by General Order 200-10, **Significant Events**.

If any officer attempted the PIT Maneuver, the field supervisor shall ensure that digital images and/or photographs are taken of all vehicles and other property affected by the PIT Maneuver, showing any damage or lack thereof resulting from the intervention. The supervisor shall record damage to department vehicles in accordance with established guidelines for reporting vehicle damage. Since the PIT Maneuver is an intentional act, the contact between the officer's vehicle and the fleeing vehicle is not considered a crash for purposes of General Order 400-08, **City Vehicle Crashes**.

In the event of a crash involving the suspect's vehicle (including an unintended crash involving the use of the PIT Maneuver) and any third-party vehicle, person, or property, the supervisor shall assign an officer who was not engaged in the pursuit to complete a crash report pursuant to General Order 600-09, **Crash Investigations**. If the crash resulted in a fatality or serious bodily injury, the Vehicular Crimes Division (VCD) shall complete the crash report.

VCD shall also complete a crash report if an officer's vehicle is involved in an unintended crash with any vehicle, person, or property, pursuant to General Order 400-08, **City Vehicle Crashes**.

The supervisor shall complete all required tasks under General Order 500-07, **Filing Class B or Higher Charges**, regarding approval of Evading Arrest or Detention charges.

9 DOCUMENTATION OF A PURSUIT

The initiating unit shall document the motor vehicle pursuit in a thorough incident report and include a detailed description of the suspect and vehicle, as well as the information of any known witness. If necessary, other units shall supplement the report pursuant to General Order 800-07, **Completion of Incident Reports**.

Whether successful or not, each officer who attempted the PIT Maneuver or deployed a tire deflation device during the motor vehicle pursuit shall include the following information in the original or supplemental incident report:

- a. The name of the supervisor who authorized the stopping technique.
- b. The date, time, location, estimated speed, and direction of travel of the suspect at the time of implementation.
- c. The result of the stopping technique and any damage to any vehicle or property.
- d. Any unintended traffic collision and any injuries observed or alleged.
- e. The name of the supervisor who made the scene.
- f. If applicable, why the technique was not successful.

Supervisor and Management Duties

Within five calendar days of the motor vehicle pursuit, the designated supervisor shall review all available information pertaining to the pursuit (e.g., unit histories, incident reports and supplements, body worn camera or mobile video recorder footage) and complete a *Vehicle Pursuit* form via the Vehicle Pursuit Database, accessible via the Intranet Portal. The shift commander may assign this responsibility to another supervisor as needed. The supervisor need not complete a supplement unless expressly required to do so by this General Order or any other.

For motor vehicle pursuits that last 10 minutes or more or if a unit from another jurisdiction (excluding air support) was involved in the pursuit, the primary unit's lieutenant shall review all available information from the pursuit and supplement the original report with any available relevant or pertinent information within five calendar days of the supervisor's completion of the *Vehicle Pursuit* form. The division commander may assign this responsibility to another lieutenant as needed.

Follow-Up Investigations

If an officer did not engage in or terminated a motor vehicle pursuit and the suspect's identity is known, the officer shall attempt to obtain an arrest warrant for the suspect from the appropriate district attorney's office prior to the end of the officer's shift or, with a supervisor's authorization, the following workday. The officer shall also contact the concerned division for the most serious crime committed, which shall conduct a follow-up investigation.

If an officer did not engage in or terminated a motor vehicle pursuit and the suspect's identity is unknown, the officer shall contact the concerned division for the most serious crime committed.

The concerned division shall conduct a follow-up investigation and file a warrant if appropriate. If Evading Arrest is the only known offense, the Major Offenders Division shall forward the report to the primary unit's division (e.g., Crime Suppression Team), which shall conduct the follow-up investigation.

10 INTERJURISDICTIONAL PURSUITS

ECD, with the approval of the field supervisor in command of the motor vehicle pursuit, shall notify outside law enforcement agencies when this department is involved in a pursuit in the outside agency's jurisdiction. The person notifying the outside agency shall specify whether the call is a request for assistance or a courtesy notification with no participation requested.

If such a motor vehicle pursuit is terminated, the ECD supervisor shall immediately ensure notification of all outside law enforcement agencies with officers who have joined the pursuit.

Other Agency Pursuits

An officer may become involved in another agency's motor vehicle pursuit if any of the following are true:

- a. The other agency requests assistance.
- b. It is clear the other agency's unit is unable to request assistance.
- c. The emergency nature of the situation dictates the need for assistance.

Prior to the officer engaging as a secondary unit in the other agency's pursuit, the officer shall obtain authorization from a supervisor assigned to Watch Command or a lieutenant or higher.

Officers and supervisors shall follow this General Order, including but not limited to the provision restricting certain pursuits outlined in Section 3, *Officer Responsibilities During Pursuits*, when an officer is engaged in another agency's motor vehicle pursuit.

The officer shall not continue the pursuit if the outside agency terminates the pursuit, unless the suspect has committed a new felony offense (other than the Evading Arrest itself) during the pursuit. The officer need not complete an offense report or supplement after engaging in another agency's pursuit unless expressly required to do so by this General Order or any other General Order.

11 PUBLIC STATEMENTS FOLLOWING PURSUITS

After a motor vehicle pursuit has ended, officers shall refer all media requests for a statement to the designated field supervisor. Upon request of the media, the designated field supervisor may make a limited statement or defer to another supervisor. The supervisor giving a statement shall give only preliminary factual information, in compliance with General Order 800-02, **Media Relations**.

An on-duty department public information officer (PIO) shall make all scenes of pursuits that result in a fatality. The PIO or the highest-ranking on-scene supervisor shall make the media statement, if any.

12 REQUIRED REPORTS

The Office of Planning & Data Governance shall produce a quarterly report of relevant motor vehicle pursuit data. The assistant chief over the Organizational Development Command shall review the report and determine if there are any training and policy implications, then forward the completed report to the Chief of Police.


Troy Finner
Chief of Police