

SUBJECT: Vehicle Operation		
0.0	EFFECTIVE:	, Chief of Police
	REVISED:	
	TOTAL PAGES: 13	
CALEA: 41.2.1; 41.2.2; 41.2.3; 41.3.3		

0.0.1 POLICY

Officers who engage in vehicle pursuits and other emergency vehicle operation must continually assess the risks against the need to pursue or respond at high rates of speed. In all vehicle operation, officers shall exercise reasonable caution, prudence and due regard for the rights and safety of others. Officers shall not initiate or continue pursuits for non-felony offenses, non-violent felony offenses or traffic infractions. For purposes of this policy, “pursuit(s)” and “pursuit driving” are defined as operating a police vehicle significantly outside the ordinary rules of the road in an effort to remain in proximity with another speeding vehicle.

0.0.2 PURPOSE AND DISCUSSION

This policy establishes rules and procedures governing pursuit driving, emergency response driving and other vehicle operation in order to assure that all vehicle operation is consistent with department policy and procedures and the law.

0.0.3 PROCEDURE

Routine Patrol and Normal Vehicle Operation

All Department vehicles shall be operated with due regard for safety and in full compliance with all traffic laws and regulations. Police vehicles are conspicuous symbols of authority and each officer is responsible for setting a visible example of good driving behavior and habits.

Sending or typing text messages/photographs while driving a government or department issued vehicle is prohibited. Officers will use cellular telephones in a manner that is conducive to the safe operation of the motor vehicle and in compliance with state law.

Officers shall exercise good judgment and appropriate caution when operating a vehicle in which a mobile data terminal (MDT) is mounted. The operation of this equipment is secondary to safety. In all vehicle operation, officers shall be cognizant of their duty to ensure that proper attention and due regard are given to their primary responsibility—operation of the vehicle.