



Chapter: Operating Department Vehicles
Subject: 10-24 – Roadblocks
Effective: August 26, 2025
Supersedes: Official Order 10-24 – Roadblocks, dated May 02, 2022
Distribution: Department Members

PURPOSE: This Order establishes department policy regarding the use of total, partial, and rolling roadblocks.

10-24-1 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to use roadblocks in a controlled manner, consistent with this Order, while balancing the need for apprehension with the safety of the public, members, and the violator.

Nothing in this Order precludes enforcement members from using their vehicle to surround a slowing or stationary suspect vehicle that they have a reasonable belief may attempt to flee.

10-24-2 DEFINITIONS

- A. Authorized member: Enlisted members and motor carrier officers operating fully marked, slick-top, or semi-marked patrol vehicles who have received training in the use of roadblocks.
- B. Partial roadblock: An incomplete blockage of the roadway, leaving room for an approaching vehicle to avoid the blockage.
- C. Rolling roadblock: A tactic used to slow or stop a vehicle by deploying patrol vehicles or using fixed objects at a controlled speed and positioning them to restrict the vehicle's movement, thereby facilitating apprehension while minimizing the risk of collision and ensuring public safety.
- D. Total roadblock: A physical blockage of the entire roadway using vehicles, materials, or other devices, leaving no room for an approaching vehicle to avoid the blockage. This does not include stop sticks.

10-24-3 TOTAL AND PARTIAL ROADBLOCKS

The use of roadblocks can be an effective means of apprehending a fleeing violator. However, creating a roadblock is potentially dangerous to the fleeing violator, members, and the public. Therefore, total and partial roadblocks shall only be established when authorized by a shift supervisor or higher authority according to the following guidelines:

- A. Emergency warning lights on patrol vehicles shall be in operation at all roadblocks.

- B. Authorized members shall only establish or participate in a total roadblock to apprehend a fleeing felon when the use of firearms would be authorized by the department's deadly force written directives.
- C. A partial roadblock shall only be established to stop a fleeing vehicle when there is a substantial risk that the continued operation of the vehicle may cause serious injury or death to another person.
- D. Total and partial roadblocks shall only be established in locations where the fleeing violator has sufficient visibility and distance to stop their vehicle.
- E. The shift supervisor or higher authority authorizing the roadblock is responsible for:
 - (1) Verifying that the conditions and justifications for use are met.
 - (2) Designating involved members.
 - (3) Monitoring the situation and terminating if risks become unreasonable.

10-24-4 ROLLING ROADBLOCKS

- A. Authorized members are authorized to use a rolling roadblock to stop a fleeing violator's vehicle by employing department vehicles, fixed objects, driving skills, and techniques designed to restrict, reduce, or eliminate the chance for escape, as well as to intentionally slow all vehicles to a stop.
 - (1) Authorized members engaging in a rolling roadblock shall adhere to written directives related to emergency driving and pursuits.
 - (2) Use of a rolling roadblock is not intended to employ the use of deadly force.
 - (3) Authorized members shall not engage in intentional collisions while conducting a rolling roadblock.
 - a. Incidental contact that occurs as the result of a properly executed rolling roadblock shall not be considered ramming as outlined in OO 10-23 – Intentional Collisions.
 - (4) Civilian vehicles shall not be used when conducting a rolling roadblock.
- B. Rolling roadblocks shall only be used when three or more patrol vehicles are present, and each vehicle participating in the rolling roadblock shall be operated by an authorized member. Rolling roadblocks shall not be used or continued in the following circumstances:
 - (1) An occupant of the fleeing vehicle is believed to be armed.
 - (2) The driver of the fleeing vehicle has rammed, or attempted to ram, a patrol vehicle.
- C. Additional considerations in an authorized member's decision to use a rolling roadblock shall include:
 - (1) Volume, speed, and direction of traffic including vehicles involved in the pursuit.
 - (2) Current environmental and weather conditions.
 - (3) Presence of other motorists.

- (4) Presence of pedestrians.
- (5) Nature of the surrounding area (e.g., a school zone, a busy downtown street).

10-24-5 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. All uses of total, partial, or rolling roadblocks shall be fully documented in an incident report, including:
 - (1) Justification for use.
 - (2) Identity of the authorizing shift supervisor or higher authority.
 - (3) Location and conditions at the time of deployment, including any of the following relevant details:
 - a. The underlying crime for which the suspect is being pursued (e.g., whether the crime involved a dangerous weapon or serious injury to a victim).
 - b. The actions of the suspect driver (e.g., driving on the wrong side of road, intentionally striking other vehicles).
 - c. Whether the identity of the suspect is known to the point where later apprehension is possible.
 - d. Volume, type, speed, and direction of vehicular traffic, including the vehicle pursued.
 - e. Nature of and familiarity with the area (e.g., residential, commercial, school zone, open highway).
 - f. Environmental factors (e.g., weather, darkness, lighting, visibility).
 - g. Road conditions (e.g., construction, poor repair, extreme curves, intersections controlled by traffic signals or signs, ice).
 - h. Population density and volume of pedestrian traffic.
 - i. Patrol vehicle capability and condition.
 - j. Type of vehicle being pursued (e.g., motorcycle, ATV, ORV).
- B. All uses of total, partial, or rolling roadblocks shall also be documented in a BlueTeam Vehicle Pursuit Report to be sent for review, through channels, by the district/division commander.

DIRECTOR

Annual Review Responsibility:	Training Division, Field Services Bureau
Accreditation Standards:	CALEA 41.2.3 B-D