



WORTHINGTON DIVISION OF POLICE

Memorandum

Integrity, Respect, Commitment, Honesty, Professionalism

To: Chief Steve Mylett *slm*
From: Lt. Jeff Kubasek
Date: January 03, 2025
Subj: Vehicle Pursuits Annual Review– 2024

Vehicle Pursuits – 2024

Policy Overview

Policy 305 - Vehicle Pursuit - An event involving one or more peace officers attempting to apprehend a suspect trying to avoid arrest while operating a motor vehicle by using a high-rate speed or other evasive tactics or driving legally but willfully failing to yield to an officer's signal to stop.

Per Policy 305 - Officers are authorized to initiate a pursuit when it is reasonable to believe that a suspect is attempting to evade arrest or detention by fleeing in a vehicle that has been given a signal to stop by a peace officer (ORC § 2921.331(B)).

The following factors, individually and collectively, shall be considered in deciding whether to initiate or continue a pursuit:

- a. The seriousness of the known or reasonably suspected crime and its relationship to community safety.
- b. The importance of protecting the public and balancing the known or reasonably suspected offense and the apparent need for immediate capture against the risks to officers, innocent motorists, and others.
- c. The apparent nature of the fleeing suspect (e.g., whether the suspect represents a serious threat to public safety).
- d. The identity of the suspect has been verified, and there is comparatively minimal risk in allowing the suspect to be apprehended later.
- e. The public's safety in the area of the pursuit, including the type of area, time of day, the amount of vehicular and pedestrian traffic (e.g., school zones) and the speed of the pursuit relative to these factors.
- f. The pursuing officer's familiarity with the area of the pursuit, the quality of radio communication between the pursuing units and the dispatcher/supervisor, and the pursuing officers' driving capabilities under the pursuit conditions.

- g. The weather, traffic, and road conditions that unreasonably increase the danger of the pursuit when weighed against the risks resulting from the suspect's escape.
- h. The performance capabilities of the vehicles used in the pursuit in relation to the speed and other conditions of the pursuit.
- i. Vehicle speeds.
- j. Other persons in or on the pursued vehicle (e.g., passengers, co-offenders, and hostages).
- k. The availability of other resources, such as aircraft assistance.
- l. The police unit is carrying passengers other than on-duty police officers. Pursuits should not be undertaken with a prisoner or a non-departmental ride-along in the pursuit vehicle unless exigent circumstances exist and only after the need to apprehend the suspect is weighed against the prisoner's safety in transport or non-departmental ride-along. A unit containing more than a single prisoner should not participate in a pursuit.

Policy Compliance

When involved in vehicle pursuits, officers from the Worthington Division of Police must complete and submit a Vehicle Pursuit report. A supervisor reviews each report to determine if the pursuit and the officer's actions were within policy (Vehicle Pursuits – 305). The review is signed off on by the Patrol Lieutenant and the Chief of Police.

Annually, the Chief of Police and/or designee direct a documented review and analysis of the Division's vehicle pursuits to include policy suitability, compliance, and training needs minimally.

From January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, officers with the Worthington Division of Police were involved in Twenty (20) vehicle pursuits. All pursuits were reviewed by a supervisor. Eighteen (18) of the twenty (20) vehicle pursuits were in compliance with the Vehicle Pursuits policy. Two (2) pursuits were not in compliance with the Vehicle Pursuits policy. Re-training and policy review was conducted after review of the two pursuits that were not found in compliance with the policy.

Vehicle Pursuit Incidents – 2024

Pursuit Report #	Date	Day of Week	Offense	Outcome	Policy Compliance
P-01-24	02-29-24	Thursday	Traffic Violation	Subject stopped	Yes
P-02-24	03-10-24	Sunday	Nonviolent Offense	Terminated by Officer	Yes
P-03-24	03-17-24	Sunday	Nonviolent Offense	Terminated by Officer	Yes
P-04-24	04-21-24	Sunday	Traffic Violation	Subject stopped	Yes

Pursuit Report #	Date	Day of Week	Offense	Outcome	Policy Compliance
P-05-24	04-23-24	Tuesday	Traffic Violation	Subject Stopped	Yes
P-06-24	05-01-24	Wednesday	Traffic Violation	Subject stopped	Yes
P-07-24	05-01-24	Wednesday	Traffic Violation	Subject stopped	Yes
P-08-24	05-26-24	Sunday	Traffic Violation	Subject stopped	Yes
P-09-24	06-20-24	Thursday	Traffic Violation	Terminated by Officer	No
P-10-24	07-06-24	Saturday	Traffic Violation	Terminated by Officer	Yes
P-11-24	07-06-24	Saturday	Traffic Violation	Terminated by Officer	Yes
P-12-24	07-25-24	Thursday	Traffic Violation	Subject stopped	Yes
P-13-24	07-27-24	Saturday	Traffic Violation	Terminated by Officer	Yes
P-14-23	08-04-24	Sunday	Traffic Violation	Terminated by Supervisor	Yes
P-15-24	08-22-24	Wednesday	Traffic Violation	Subject stopped	Yes
P-16-24	08-23-24	Thursday	Non-Violent Offense	Terminated by supervisor	Yes
P-17-24	09-05-24	Thursday	Traffic Violation	Terminated by Officer	No
P-18-24	09-15-24	Sunday	Non-Violent Offense	Terminated by supervisor	Yes
P-19-24	10-25-24	Saturday	Violent Criminal Offense	Offender Crash	Yes
P-20-24	12-16-24	Monday	Criminal Offense	Terminated by supervisor	Yes

Overview of Vehicle Pursuit Incidents

- Ten (10) of the Twenty (20) pursuits occurred on 2nd Shift.
- Nine (9) of the Twenty (20) pursuits occurred on 3rd Shift.
- Fifteen (15) of the Twenty (20) pursuits were initiated as the result of traffic violations.
- Seven (7) of the Twenty (20) pursuits were initiated as the result of a criminal offense.
- Six (6) of the Twenty (20) pursuits were terminated by the initiating officer.
- Four (4) of the Twenty (20) pursuits were terminated by the supervisor.

- Nine (9) of the twenty (20) pursuits ended as a result of the suspect stopping.
- Six (6) of the Twenty (20) pursuits resulted in the apprehension and arrest of the driver for operating a vehicle while impaired (OVI).
- The longest pursuit was 5.66 miles.
- The shortest pursuit was .09 miles.

Report Conclusions

Pursuits by the Worthington Division of Police are uncommon but have shown a 30% percent increase compared to the fourteen pursuits that occurred in 2023. Pursuit durations and distances traveled reflect sound judgment on the part of the officers and supervisors monitoring the pursuits. The short distances and durations, coupled with the pursuit termination rate (50%), indicate that Division personnel carefully consider the danger to the public created by the pursuit against the need to apprehend the offender. All but two pursuits were in compliance with the Vehicle Pursuits policy. The two pursuits that were not in compliance involved a subject that was slow to stop because she was unaware that the officer was attempting to stop her, and an officer was in pursuit but had not initiated his overhead lights AND sirens. Policy was reviewed and changed to allow for occurrences when the subject reasonably does not know that an officer is attempting to stop them. The officer who did not activate lights AND sirens while pursuing was coached on proper use of lights and sirens while engaged in a vehicular pursuit.

Training Recommendations

During 2024, all officers were issued nineteen (18) LEXIPOL Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) directly related to Vehicle Operations and Pursuits. A copy of the category list of the total 286 DTBs issued in 2024 is included in this report. The Vehicle Operations category is highlighted in yellow. **(Figure A)**

On August 14, 2024, Vehicle Pursuits policy 305 was issued to all officers to review and acknowledge. All officers read and electronically acknowledged the Vehicle Pursuits policy 305 via PowerDMS. A copy of the 2024 Vehicle Pursuits Policy Acknowledgement sheet is included in this report. **(Figure B)**

While the frequency of vehicle pursuits is low, the risk involved is high. This low-frequency, high-risk relationship necessitates an emphasis on training, tactics, and accountability. It is recommended that an annual review of the Vehicle Pursuits policy and issuance of Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) continue to address Vehicle Operations and Pursuits. Additional training can also be accomplished through roll call training, supervisor debriefing of officers involved in vehicle pursuits, and issuance of officer safety bulletins.

In 2024, The Patrol Support Officer/Training Officer conducted training on stop stick deployment which included a video and PowerPoint and reviewed the current pursuit policy for all sworn personnel. **(Figure C)**

Review of Policy and Procedure

The Worthington Division of Police revised and reissued policy 305 on September 11th, 2024 to significantly reduce the permissible reasons to engage in a vehicle pursuit.

FIGURE A: Vehicle Operations Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs)

Report Date 12/9/2024
Reporting Period Start: 01/01/2024 End: 12/09/2024

Lexipol				Use of Force	Vehicle Operations	TOTAL TRAINING TIME
PREDICTABLE IS PREVENTABLE						
POST ID	Last Name	First Name	DTBs	DTBs		
OHIO	Agin	Keith	49	17		8.133
	Aisel	Micheal	54	18		8.967
	Altenburger	Isaac	54	18		8.967
	Anthony	Justin	54	18		8.967
	Babb	Elizabeth	49	17		8.133
	Biller	Blake	49	17		8.133
	Bradbury	Austin	54	18		8.967
	Brorein	Richard	50	17		8.167
	Earley	Steven	54	18		8.967
	Erhardt	Sherry	28	12		5.367
	Farmer	Jennifer	49	17		8.133
	Floyd	Tammy	52	17		8.500
	Geary	Jeremy	49	17		8.133
	Gebhart	Jon	54	18		8.967
	Ginikos	Michael	28	12		5.367
	Grille	Eric	42	16		7.200
	Harris	Ken	54	18		8.967
	Herman	Jeremy	49	17		8.133
	Holton	Michael	49	17		8.133
	Jones	Jeffery	54	18		8.967
	Kubasek	Jeffrey	54	18		8.967
	Lange	Jeff	54	18		8.967
	Lippolis	Richard	49	17		8.133
	Luoma	Steven	54	18		8.967
	Manning	Christopher	49	17		8.133
	Mcdonald	Douglas	54	18		8.967
	Moran	James	33	12		6.067
	Musa	Mostafa	49	17		8.133
	ONeal	Wayne	49	17		8.133
	Osborne	Krishea	54	18		8.967
	Raak	Tyler	28	12		5.367
	Rigano	Kevin	54	18		8.967
	Ross	Angela	54	18		8.967
	Smith	Andy	54	18		8.967
	Smith	Brian	54	18		8.967
	St. John	Damien	54	18		8.967
	Swenson	Gary	50	17		8.233
	Wigg	Michael	54	18		8.967

FIGURE B: 2024 Vehicle Pursuits Policy (305) Acknowledgment Sheet

305 Vehicle Pursuits Policy Signoff

First Name	Last Name	Signed	Status
Eric	Grile	09/11/2024	Signed
Jeffrey	Kubasek	09/11/2024	Signed
Austin	Bradbury	09/11/2024	Signed
Meghan	Zhang	09/11/2024	Signed
Rich	Lippolls	09/11/2024	Signed
Blake	Billr	09/11/2024	Signed
Brian	Smith	09/11/2024	Signed
Richard	Brorein	09/12/2024	Signed
Mike	Holton	09/12/2024	Signed
Steve	Earley	09/12/2024	Signed
Jeff	Lange	09/13/2024	Signed
Michael	Wigg	09/13/2024	Signed
Krishea	Osborne	09/13/2024	Signed
Kevin	Rigano	09/13/2024	Signed
Michael	Ginikos	09/15/2024	Signed
Jim	Moran	09/15/2024	Signed
Isaac	Altenburger	09/15/2024	Signed
Angela	Ross	09/16/2024	Signed
Jon	Gebhart	09/16/2024	Signed
Ethel	Vernon	09/17/2024	Signed
Tige	St. John	09/18/2024	Signed
Elizabeth	Babb	09/19/2024	Signed
Tyler	Raak	09/20/2024	Signed
Mostafa	Musa	09/20/2024	Signed
Jeff	Jones	09/20/2024	Signed
Douglas	McDonald	09/23/2024	Signed
Gary	Swenson	09/23/2024	Signed
Micheal	Alsel	09/23/2024	Signed
Jennifer	Farmer	09/24/2024	Signed
Ken	Harris	09/24/2024	Signed
Jeremy	Herman	09/25/2024	Signed
Wayne	Oneal	09/27/2024	Signed
Tammy	Floyd	09/27/2024	Signed
John	Strawser	10/07/2024	Signed
Sherry	Erhardt	10/09/2024	Signed
Steven	Luoma	10/10/2024	Signed
Kim	Santuomo	10/10/2024	Signed
Andy	Smith	10/12/2024	Signed
Justin	Anthony	10/29/2024	Signed
Christopher	Manning	11/05/2024	Signed
Keith	Agin	11/15/2024	Signed

FIGURE C: 2024 Stop Stick PowerPoint Training AND Video Acknowledgment

CPT 24-0712 - Pursuit Intervention Tactics - Stop Stick

First Name	Last Name	Due On	Signed	Status
Austin	Bradbury	06/21/2024	Signed	
Michael	Wigg	06/22/2024	Signed	
Kevin	Rigano	06/22/2024	Signed	
Krishea	Osborne	06/22/2024	Signed	
Michael	Ginikos	06/22/2024	Signed	
Ken	Harris	06/23/2024	Signed	
Jon	Gebhart	06/23/2024	Signed	
Gary	Swenson	06/24/2024	Signed	
Mike	Holton	06/24/2024	Signed	
Richard	Brorain	06/24/2024	Signed	
Eric	Grile	06/24/2024	Signed	
Jeff	Lange	06/24/2024	Signed	
Mostafa	Musa	06/25/2024	Signed	
Jeffrey	Kubasek	06/25/2024	Signed	
Steven	Luoma	06/26/2024	Signed	
Tige	St. John	06/26/2024	Signed	
Rich	Lippolis	06/27/2024	Signed	
Steve	Earley	06/27/2024	Signed	
Douglas	McDonald	06/28/2024	Signed	
Jim	Moran	06/28/2024	Signed	
Brian	Smith	06/29/2024	Signed	
Angela	Ross	06/30/2024	Signed	
Micheal	Aisel	06/30/2024	Signed	
Isaac	Attenburger	07/01/2024	Signed	
Emily	Lanzer	07/07/2024	Signed	
Jeff	Jones	07/07/2024	Signed	
Elizabeth	Babb	07/08/2024	Signed	
Wayne	Oneal	07/08/2024	Signed	
Jeremy	Herman	07/12/2024	Signed	
Tyler	Raak	07/22/2024	Signed	
Jennifer	Farmer	07/23/2024	Signed	
Justin	Anthony	07/23/2024	Signed	
Tammy	Floyd	07/26/2024	Signed	
Andy	Smith	07/27/2024	Signed	
Blake	Blitter	07/31/2024	Signed	
Jeremy	Geary	08/16/2024	Signed	
Keith	Aglin	09/03/2024	Signed	
Sherry	Erhardt	09/03/2024	Signed	
Christopher	Manning	11/05/2024	Signed	