



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

**2-45 PURSUIT BY MOTOR VEHICLE**

**Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):**

A. Related SOP(s)

- 1-15 Air Support Unit (Formerly 5-2)
- 2-6 Use of Emergency Warning Equipment (Formerly 2-56)
- 2-11 Use of Tire Deflation Devices
- 2-12 Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)
- 2-13 StarChase Pursuit Management System
- 2-16 Reports (Formerly 1-05)
- 2-20 Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments (Formerly 2-42)
- 2-52 Use of Force: General (Formerly 3-45)
- 2-53 Use of Force: Definitions
- 2-56 Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel
- 2-57 Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel
- 3-41 Complaints Involving Department Personnel (Formerly 3-22 and 3-43)

B. Form(s)

- PD 3078 Post-Pursuit Checklist
- Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review

C. Other Resource(s)

- NMSA 1978, §§ 29-20-1 to 29-20-4 Law Enforcement Safe Pursuit Act

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

**2-45-1 Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide procedures for Albuquerque Police Department (Department) personnel who conduct vehicle pursuits, to protect the safety of involved sworn personnel, the public, property, and to comply with the Law Enforcement Safe Pursuit Act.

**2-45-2 Policy**

It is the policy of the Department to initiate a motor vehicle pursuit only when sworn personnel have reasonable grounds to believe an individual presents a clear and immediate threat of death or serious injury to others, or who the officer has probable cause to believe an individual poses a clear and immediate threat to the safety of other motorists or the



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

public, which is ongoing and existed before the pursuit began, or the individual has committed or is committing a violent felony.

**N/A 2-45-3 Definitions**

**A. Assisting Unit**

An officer in the vicinity or location where the pursuit is occurring who can provide assistance with a high-risk stop or perimeter.

**B. Authorizing Supervisor**

The initiating/primary pursuit officer who is the on-duty supervisor or, if is unavailable, the next available on-duty supervisor who shall assume command of the pursuit. Although the supervisor is supervising the pursuit, they are not actively engaged in pursuing the vehicle.

**C. Clear and Immediate Threat**

Conduct that is present before the motor vehicle pursuit is initiated and for which there is an immediate threat of great bodily harm and/or death to others.

**D. Engaged**

Pursuit of an individual's vehicle as either the initiating/primary pursuit unit, the secondary unit, or any reasonable amount of additional units, which has been authorized by the authorizing supervisor.

**E. High-Risk Stop**

A method of stopping, removing, disarming, and detaining occupants of a vehicle who are believed to be dangerous, violent, and/or armed with a deadly weapon while reducing the risk of danger to community members and responding sworn personnel.

**F. Individual**

A person who has been arrested or is a witness, community member, or victim being transported.

**G. Initiating/Primary Pursuit Unit**

The officer initiating a pursuit or any other officer assuming the position behind the vehicle that is being pursued. Only sworn personnel may initiate a pursuit.

**H. Marked Unit**



## ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

A vehicle displaying a government-issued license plate that is equipped with roof-mounted emergency lights, sirens, and other emergency warning devices as required by New Mexico state laws and that is used for emergency response situations.

### I. Motor Vehicle Pursuit

An authorized and deliberate attempt by a law enforcement officer operating an authorized Department emergency vehicle, with engaged authorized emergency warning equipment, to apprehend an occupant of a motor vehicle, the driver of which is actively attempting to avoid apprehension by exceeding the speed limit, refusing to stop, disobeying traffic laws, or otherwise attempting to flee from the officer through evasive driving maneuvers.

### J. Paralleling

Traveling in the same direction as the pursued vehicle extending in the same direction, are equidistant, and the involved vehicles paths do not intersect.

### K. Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)

A precision maneuver, which involves intentional, vehicle-to-vehicle contact and consists of a pursuing officer applying lateral pressure with the front corner of their vehicle to the rear quarter panel of the fleeing suspect's vehicle, resulting in a predictable spin.

### L. Secondary Unit

The second officer in a Department-issued vehicle who becomes involved in the pursuit of a motor vehicle.

### M. Termination/Disengagement of a Pursuit

To abandon or abort the pursuit. When terminating a pursuit, the officer shall make all reasonable efforts to go in the opposite direction of the pursued vehicle, so as to not give a sense of a pursuit continuing.

### N. Tire Deflation Device

A device that uses sharp, hollow spikes to penetrate the tires of a vehicle. The spikes remain in the tire(s) of the vehicle, allowing air to pass through the spikes for a rapid and controlled deflation of the tires. Tire deflation devices include Stop Sticks or spike belts.

### O. Violent Felony

For the purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), means a homicide; criminal sexual penetration; robbery with a deadly weapon; kidnapping/false



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

imprisonment; felony aggravated battery inflicting great bodily harm and/or death; or aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

**5 2-45-4 Initiating a Pursuit**

A. An officer may initiate a pursuit when at least one (1) of the following factors exists:

1. The officer has reasonable grounds to believe an individual presents a clear and immediate threat of death or serious injury to others or when the officer has probable cause to believe the individual poses a clear and immediate threat to the safety of other motorists or the public, that is ongoing, and existed before the pursuit began; or
2. The individual has committed or is committing a violent felony, and allowing escape would put the public in immediate danger of great bodily harm and/or death.

B. Sworn personnel shall, at a minimum, consider the following factors, when deciding whether to initiate, continue or terminate a pursuit:

1. The seriousness of the offense for which the high-speed pursuit was initiated;
2. Whether an individual poses a clear and immediate threat of death or serious injury to others;
3. The risk of harm to others should the individual(s) escape;
4. The amount of motor vehicles and pedestrian traffic;
5. Knowledge of the individual's identity, possible destination, and previous activities that may make apprehension at a later time feasible;
6. Road, weather, environmental, and vehicle conditions;
7. The time of day; and
8. Any other risk presented by the pursuit itself.

C. Sworn personnel with motorcycles, slick-top police vehicles, and unmarked Department-issued vehicles shall only initiate a pursuit if their vehicles are equipped with a siren and red flashing lights.

1. When sworn personnel with a marked Department-issued vehicle with a roof-mounted light bar start to assist with the pursuit, the sworn personnel with motorcycles, slick-top police vehicles, and unmarked Department-issued vehicles shall assume the responsibilities of sworn personnel assigned as secondary units.



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

- a. Once second and subsequent sworn personnel with marked Department-issued vehicles participate in the pursuit, those sworn personnel with motorcycles, slick-top police vehicles, and unmarked Department-issued vehicles shall not actively participate in the pursuit; however, they may monitor the pursuit and shall be available to assist in the apprehension of the individual, if necessary.
- D. Sworn personnel shall not initiate or participate in a pursuit if they have a ride-along or transporting a witness, victim or other community members in their Department-issued vehicle.
- E. Sworn personnel shall not initiate or participate in a pursuit if they have an in-custody individual in their Department-issued vehicle.
- F. Sworn personnel shall not initiate or continue a high-speed pursuit when the immediate danger to the officer and the public created by the high-speed pursuit exceeds the immediate danger to the public if the occupants of the motor vehicle being pursued remain at large.

**7** **2-45-5**      **Procedures during a Pursuit**

A. Sworn Personnel as Initiating/Primary Pursuit Units

1. After initiating a pursuit, the initiating/primary pursuing units shall:

- a. Notify their supervisor of the pursuit;
  - i. After notifying their supervisor, the initiating/primary pursuing units shall only continue the pursuit with specific authorization from the supervisor.
- b. Immediately notify an Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Dispatcher via radio that a pursuit is in progress, and provide the following information:
  - i. Reason for the pursuit;
  - ii. Present location and direction of travel;
  - iii. Vehicle speeds from their speedometer;
  - iv. Any safety factors that must be noted; and
  - v. Whether a hostage situation is involved, consistent with SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments (refer to SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments for sanction classifications and additional duties).
- c. Request Air Support Unit personnel to assist with the pursuit as soon as possible;
- d. Request sworn personnel who are certified to use the StarChase pursuit management system to respond to the area of the pursuit;
- e. Request any additional necessary resources, including additional sworn personnel or Department-authorized resources to assist with the pursuit;
- f. Broadcast the progress of the pursuit until the arrival of sworn personnel assigned as secondary units, who shall then assume that responsibility;

**N/A**



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- i. When sworn personnel are riding as a two-man unit, the passenger officer shall be responsible for radio transmissions until the officer assigned as the secondary unit arrives to assist.
- ii. The passenger officer shall continually relay over the radio the present location, the direction of travel, vehicle speeds, and any safety factors impacting the pursuit until the officer assigned as a secondary unit arrives;
- g. Maintain communication for any pursuit on their original dispatch channel, regardless of whether the pursuit changes area commands and/or jurisdictions; and
  - i. If a pursuit is initiated on a radio frequency other than an area command dispatch channel, sworn personnel shall move to the area command dispatch channel in relation to their present location as quickly and safely as possible.
2. If the initiating officer is a supervisor, the next available on-duty supervisor shall assume command of the pursuit.
3. Pursuits initiated by an officer outside their area command or while off-duty shall be under the command of the supervisor responsible for the area command where the pursuit was initiated.

B. ECC Dispatcher

The ECC Dispatcher shall notify the on-duty supervisor of the pursuit after being notified by sworn personnel assigned as the initiating/primary pursuit unit.

C. Sworn Personnel Dispatched as Secondary Units

1. Sworn personnel dispatched as secondary units shall:
  - a. Notify the ECC Dispatcher of their call sign over the radio;
  - b. Assume the responsibility of radio communications to enable the initiating/primary unit to devote complete attention to the pursuit;
  - c. Be responsible for providing the ECC Dispatcher with updated speeds and any safety factors when they become involved;
  - d. Engage all authorized emergency warning equipment, consistent with Use of Emergency Warning Equipment (refer to SOP Use of Emergency Warning Equipment for sanction classifications and additional duties); and
  - e. Assist with the high-risk stop.

N/A

6

D. Sworn Personnel Dispatched as Assisting Units

1. Sworn personnel dispatched as assisting units shall:
  - a. Not parallel a pursuit; however, sworn personnel may proceed into the area of a pursuit if directed by the supervisor in command to assist at the termination point of the pursuit and assist with the high-risk stop;



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- b. Not involve more than four (4) police vehicles actively engaged in a pursuit unless specifically authorized to do so by a supervisor; and
- c. Be alert to the pursuit progress and location.

E. Air Support Unit Personnel

1. Once Air Support Unit personnel have responded and have a visual on the pursued vehicle, they shall:

- a. Be the primary unit of the authorized pursuit;
- b. Relay the direction of travel of the pursued vehicle to ground units; and
- c. Notify the supervisor who is in charge if sworn personnel on the ground continue to follow the pursued vehicle.
  - i. When possible, Air Support Unit personnel shall identify sworn personnel who continue to follow the pursued vehicle by the Department-issued police vehicle number.

2. Initiating/primary pursuit unit(s) shall discontinue pursuing the motor vehicle and shall provide enough distance so as not to affect the driving of the pursued vehicle.

N/A

3. Air Support Unit personnel may call out the direction of travel as a means to notify other Department personnel to get out of the area if feasible, so they don't contribute to the driving, and so the supervisor that authorized the pursuit can safely get sworn personnel in the area to set up an immediate perimeter consistent with SOP Air Support Unit. (Refer to SOP Air Support Unit for sanction classifications and additional duties.)

4. With direction from Air Support Unit personnel, the supervisor shall:

N/A

- a. Continuously direct and control sworn personnel on the ground in a manner that increasingly constricts the perimeter surrounding the pursued vehicle in order to apprehend the individual(s); and
  - i. Sworn personnel on the ground may use emergency warning equipment as needed in order to maintain the reasonable distance needed from the pursued vehicle.
- b. Determine how many sworn personnel with Department-issued vehicles are needed to form a perimeter around the vehicle as based on information from Air Support Unit personnel.

F. Sworn Personnel

1. Sworn personnel who are not dispatched as initiating/primary pursuit units but who are involved in a pursuit shall:

- a. Before engaging emergency warning equipment, when feasible:
  - i. Identify the license plate information and/or vehicle description;



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- ii. Occupant status (number of occupants, descriptors); and
- iii. Relay that information immediately to an ECC Dispatcher.
- b. At any time during a pursuit, when they or a supervisor determine that the danger to the public or officer(s) outweighs the need for immediate apprehension, immediately discontinue the pursuit; and
- c. Continually question whether the seriousness of the crimes(s) reasonably warrants continuation of the pursuit.

- 2. Sworn personnel engaged in a pursuit shall not attempt to pass the initiating/primary unit unless instructed to do so by that officer or if the initiating/primary pursuit officer is unable to continue.

G. Sworn Personnel with StarChase Pursuit Management Systems

- 1. Initiating/primary pursuit units and sworn personnel with Department-issued vehicles equipped with the StarChase pursuit management system shall coordinate, as necessary, to allow for deployment of the StarChase pursuit management system device.
- 2. When the StarChase pursuit management system is activated:

N/A

- a. Initiating/primary pursuit units shall follow the procedures outlined in SOP StarChase Pursuit Management System (refer to SOP StarChase Pursuit Management System for sanction classifications and additional duties); and
- b. Air Support Unit personnel shall continue to be the primary unit of the authorized pursuit and shall update the location of the pursued vehicle to sworn personnel on the ground.
  - i. When Air Support Unit personnel lose visual of the pursued vehicle, the ECC Dispatcher or the supervisor monitoring the StarChase activation shall provide updated location information for the pursued vehicle.

5

H. Authorizing Supervisor

- 1. Upon notification of a pursuit, the on-duty authorizing supervisor shall:
  - a. Constantly monitor radio communications within their area command to ensure all pursuits meet the proper criteria and the pursuit is managed according to this SOP;
  - b. Assume command from origination through conclusion;
  - c. Ensure Air Support Unit personnel have been requested;
  - d. Ensure the affected public safety agencies are notified;
  - e. Assist sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary pursuit units with any necessary support requested;
  - f. Authorize the use of a pursuit intervention technique (PIT) when necessary for the protection of the public.
  - g. Call for the establishment of a location to disable the fleeing vehicle by using the PIT and/or tire deflations devices;



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- h. When necessary, direct the sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary pursuit units to abandon the pursuit; and
- i. Continually evaluate the pursuit to allow its continuation, or to order termination of the pursuit.

2. If the initiating/primary pursuit sworn personnel on-duty supervisor is not available, the next available on-duty supervisor shall assume command of the pursuit.

**6** I. Use of Devices and Techniques

1. Tire Deflation Device

**N/A**

- a. The tire deflation device is an acceptable method of disabling a pursued vehicle when used in accordance with SOP Use of Tire Deflation Devices.
  - i. Only sworn personnel who have been trained on how to deploy a tire deflation device shall be authorized to use it.
  - b. Sworn personnel shall not use the tire deflation device on two- or three-wheeled vehicles, unless the use of deadly force is justified (refer to SOP Use of Tire Deflation Devices and SOP Use of Force: Definitions for sanction classifications and additional duties).

2. PIT

**N/A**

- a. Sworn personnel shall:
  - i. Only use the PIT when they have been trained and certified to use it and the PIT has been authorized.
  - ii. Make every effort to use a high-risk stop (felony stop) with additional sworn personnel after the PIT has been completed.

**N/A**

- b. Sworn personnel shall not:
  - i. Use the PIT at speeds greater than thirty-five (35) miles per hour, unless deadly force is warranted (refer to SOP Pursuit Intervention Technique for sanction classifications and additional duties).
  - ii. Use the PIT on two- or three-wheeled vehicles, unless the use of deadly force is justified (Refer to SOP Pursuit Intervention Technique and SOP Use of Force: Definitions for sanction classifications and additional duties).

**N/A**

- c. Sworn personnel may use the PIT to end a pursuit (refer to SOP Pursuit Intervention Technique for sanction classifications and additional duties).
- d. All uses of the PIT above thirty-five (35) miles per hour are considered deadly force and shall be reported as a Level 3 use of force (refer to SOP Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

**N/A**

- e. All uses of the PIT above thirty-five (35) miles per hour shall be investigated as a Level 3 use of force (refer to SOP Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

N/A

- f. If the authorizing supervisor(s) approves the use of a PIT, another supervisor shall be responsible for completing the on-scene use of force investigation (refer to SOP Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

N/A

- J. Sworn personnel shall not use firearms to disable the tires of a vehicle that is being pursued (refer to SOP Use of Force: General for sanction classifications and additional duties).
- K. Sworn personnel shall use felony stop procedures when the vehicle has stopped or been disabled.

6

**2-45-6 Terminating a Pursuit**

- A. When terminating a pursuit, sworn personnel shall make all reasonable efforts to go in the opposite direction of the pursued vehicle, so as to not give a sense of a continuing pursuit.
- B. Sworn personnel who terminate a pursuit for safety considerations shall not be subject to discipline for making this decision.
- C. If a supervisor orders a pursuit to be terminated, they shall direct sworn personnel engaged or assisting with the pursuit to immediately meet with them at a designated location.

6

**2-45-7 Post-Pursuit Incident Review**

A. Sworn Personnel

1. Sworn personnel shall:

N/A

- a. Complete and submit a Uniform Incident Report before the end of their shift, consistent with SOP Reports (refer to SOP Reports for sanction classifications and additional duties); and
  - i. If an officer is unable to complete a Uniform Incident Report because of physical injury, involvement in an officer-involved shooting (OIS), or the officer is the victim of a crime, the on-duty supervisor shall assign another officer to document the incident.

N/A

- b. Upload on-body recording device (OBRD) footage before clearing from the incident (refer to SOP Use of On-Body Recording Devices for sanction classifications and additional duties).

B. Authorizing Supervisor

1. The authorizing supervisor shall:



## ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

- a. Create an Internal Affairs (IA) database web application entry within the end of their shift;
  - b. Complete, review, and submit the following IA database web application entry:
    - i. Police Pursuit Post Checklist;
    - ii. Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review, which is an Interoffice Memorandum addressed to affected area commander/division head. The Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review shall include:
      1. The reason for the pursuit;
      2. A brief synopsis of the pursuit;
      3. Identify the number of vehicle accidents; and
      4. Highlights of pertinent information, including references of any pertinent SOP and any identified policy, training, equipment, and/or tactic concerns that require follow-up.
        - A. If any training issues are identified, the authorizing supervisor shall complete a training request and attach the entry of the request in the Internal Affairs (IA) database web application, including all necessary attachments that are pertinent to the reason for the training request.
    - iii. Review all Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) information related to the pursuit;
    - iv. Review the CAD recording(s);
    - v. Ensure all sworn personnel assisting in the pursuit complete Uniform Incident Reports and Uniform Crash Reports, if applicable;
    - vi. Review all Uniform Incident Reports;
    - vii. Review OBRD footage from sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary pursuit units from the initiation of the pursuit to when all individuals are in custody;
    - viii. Photos of the incident, if applicable;
    - ix. Video footage from the Air Support Unit, if available; and
    - x. Documentation to support extension requests that were granted or denied.
  - b. Complete and submit the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review within ten (10) calendar days.
    - i. Where a supervisor is unable to complete and submit a review within the initial ten (10) calendar day deadline, the supervisor may request a ten (10) calendar day extension, by submitting an extension request through the Internal Affairs (IA) database web application outlining the reason(s) for an extension, to the involved officer's commander.
2. Once the reviewing supervisor has completed their review, it shall be sent to the affected lieutenant for review.
  - a. If at any point a lieutenant is the authorizing supervisor, they shall complete the authorizing supervisor's responsibilities and ensure another lieutenant from the affected officer's area command completes the Lieutenant Review.
3. If any officer, regardless of rank, is the officer assigned as the initiating/primary pursuit unit, another on-duty authorizing supervisor starting at the rank of



## ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

sergeant or acting sergeant shall complete the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.

- a. The lieutenant shall identify the on-duty authorizing supervisor who shall complete the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.
  - b. If the lieutenant is unavailable, the next available on-duty lieutenant shall make the decision.
4. In the event the authorizing supervisor is unable to work their next shift, due to injury or administrative leave, or had involvement as indicated in this SOP, another on-duty sergeant, acting sergeant, or the authorizing supervisor's lieutenant shall be responsible for completing and submitting the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review
  5. A supervisor who was participating in the pursuit, by participating in a pursuit or ordering or participating in a use of force, or who was a witness of an officer involved shooting shall not complete the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.
  6. If the pursuit results in a Level 2 or Level 3 use of force, the Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) will be responsible for the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.

### C. Lieutenant

1. The Lieutenant shall:
  - a. Ensure all steps were taken by the authorizing supervisor as listed in the authorizing supervisor responsibilities in this SOP;
  - b. Review the:
    - i. IA database web application entry;
    - ii. Police Pursuit Post Checklist;
    - iii. Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review and ensure if any policy, training, equipment, and tactics concerns are identified and follow-up is documented;
    - iv. Review all CAD information related to the pursuit;
    - v. Review CAD recording(s);
    - vi. Review all Uniform Incident Reports and Uniform Crash Reports, if applicable;
    - vii. Review OBRD footage from all sworn personnel involved in the pursuit from the initiation of the pursuit to when all individuals are in custody;
    - viii. Photos of the incident, if applicable;
    - ix. Video footage from the Air Support Unit, if available; and
    - x. Documentation to support extension requests granted or denied.
  - c. The lieutenant shall complete their review and address it to the affected area commander/division head stating if they found the pursuit to be within compliance with this SOP or did not comply with this SOP; and



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

N/A

- i. If the pursuit did not comply with the procedures outlined in this SOP, the evidence identifying that the pursuit was out of compliance shall be identified and documented in the comments section.
  - ii. The lieutenant shall ensure any policy, training, equipment, supervision and/or tactics concerns were identified by the authorizing supervisor and follow-up was completed.
  - iii. If the lieutenant identifies any supervisory concerns, they shall be responsible for documenting the concern and ensuring follow-up is completed by completing an Internal Affairs Request (IAR) (refer to SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties) or training request.
  - d. Complete and submit the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review within ten (10) calendar days upon receipt of the IA database web application entry.
    - i. When the Lieutenant is unable to complete and submit a review within the initial ten (10) working day deadline the Lieutenant may request a ten (10) calendar day extension, by submitting an extension request through the IA database web application outlining the reason(s) for an extension, to the involved officer's commander.
2. Lieutenants of sworn personnel involved in the pursuit shall hold an open critique session of the pursuit.

D. Area Commander/Division Head

1. The Area Commander/Division Head shall:

- a. Approve extensions for Police Pursuit Post-Incident Reviews of up to ten (10) calendar days for both the authorizing supervisor and the lieutenant, and shall include the new due date in the approving correspondence;
- b. Review the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review to determine compliance with this SOP;
- c. Check the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review for completeness;
- d. If necessary, conduct a meeting with the supervisor and sworn personnel involved in the pursuit to thoroughly review the pursuit; and
- e. Have ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the entry to enter comments in the IA database web application about whether the pursuit adhered to the procedures outlined in this SOP.
- f. If they identify any, policy, training, equipment, tactics, or supervision concerns during their review, they shall submit an IAR (refer to SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).
  - i. Where the Area Commander/Division Head is unable to complete and submit a Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review within the initial ten (10) working day deadline, they may request a ten (10) calendar day extension by submitting an extension request through the Internal Affairs (IA) database web application and outlining the reason(s) for an extension to the involved officer's Deputy Commander.

N/A



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

2. The Area Commander/Division Head's completion of the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review shall not exceed sixty (60) calendar days.

E. Operations Review Section

1. Operations Review Section personnel shall:

- a. Prepare an analysis of pursuits for the calendar year; and
- b. Distribute their analysis to the Chief of Police, Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board (CPOAB), and the Internal Affairs Professional Standards (IAPS) Division. The analysis shall include:
  - i. The number of pursuits for the calendar year;
  - ii. The number of pursuits that did not adhere to the procedures outlined in this SOP, and why they were considered to not be within policy;
  - iii. The number of vehicle accidents that were the result of officer negligence;
  - iv. Any policy change requests for this SOP that were identified during the annual review and during follow-up, if any; and
  - v. Any negative trends involving supervision, training, equipment and/or tactics that were identified, including during follow-up.

**6 2-45-8**

**Jurisdictional Issues during a Motor Vehicle Pursuit**

- A. When a pursuit goes outside the City of Albuquerque limits, sworn personnel shall stop the pursuit if:
  1. Directed to do so by a supervisor;
  2. A supervisor is no longer in command of the pursuit;
  3. Requested to do so by the jurisdictional agency; or
  4. Proper communications become a safety issue.
- B. When a pursuit by an outside law enforcement agency enters City limits, a supervisor shall:
  1. Ensure Department personnel adhere to this SOP when providing assistance; and
  2. Ensure every attempt is made to assist the agency leading the pursuit when resources are available and when it is safe to do so.
- C. When a pursuit by an outside law enforcement agency does not meet the standards of this SOP, Department personnel shall limit their participation.
  1. Department personnel shall not actively participate in the pursuit but may provide the following safety measures:



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

- a. Blocking of intersection(s) to allow unrestricted and safe passage of vehicles involved in the pursuit;
- b. Communications support in order to coordinate the movements of the pursuit and facilitate the timely response of assisting personnel to the areas involved; and
- c. Containment and preservation of the location where a pursuit stopped, if it is within the City service area.

REDLINED



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

**2-45 PURSUIT BY MOTOR VEHICLE**

**Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Order(s):**

A. Related SOP(s)

- [1-15 Air Support Unit \(Formerly 5-2\)](#)
- 2-6 Use of Emergency Warning Equipment [\(Formerly 2-56\)](#)
- 2-11 Use of Tire Deflation Devices
- 2-12 Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)
- 2-13 StarChase Pursuit Management System
- 2-16 ~~Records~~ [Reports \(Formerly 1-05\)](#)
- 2-20 Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments [\(Formerly 2-42\)](#)
- 2-52 Use of Force: General [\(Formerly 3-45\)](#)
- 2-53 Use of Force: Definitions
- 2-56 Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel
- 2-57 Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel
- 3-41 Complaints Involving Department Personnel [\(Formerly 3-22 and 3-43\)](#)

B. Form(s)

- [PD 3078 Post-Pursuit Checklist](#)
- Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review

C. Other Resource(s)

NMSA 1978, §§ 29-20-1 to 29-20-4 Law Enforcement Safe Pursuit Act

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

**2-45-1 Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide procedures [for Albuquerque Police Department \(Department\) personnel who conduct](#) ~~for~~ vehicle pursuits, ~~to~~ protect the safety of involved sworn personnel, the public, property, and to comply with the Law Enforcement Safe Pursuit Act.

**2-45-2 Policy**

It is the policy of the ~~Albuquerque Police Department~~ (Department) to initiate a motor vehicle pursuit only when sworn personnel have reasonable grounds to believe an individual presents a clear and immediate threat of death or serious injury to others, or who the officer has probable cause to believe an individual poses a clear and immediate threat to the safety



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

of other motorists or the public, which is ongoing and existed before the pursuit began, or the individual has committed or is committing a violent felony.

**N/A** 2-45-3 Definitions

A. Assisting Unit

An officer in the vicinity or location where the pursuit is occurring who can provide assistance with a high-risk stop or perimeter.

B. Authorizing Supervisor

The initiating/primary pursuit officer who is the on-duty supervisor or, if is unavailable, the next available on-duty supervisor who shall assume command of the pursuit. Although the supervisor is supervising the pursuit, they are not actively engaged in pursuing the vehicle.

C. Clear and Immediate Threat

Conduct that is present before the motor vehicle pursuit is initiated and for which there is an immediate threat of great bodily harm and/or death to others.

D. Engaged

Pursuit of an individual's vehicle as either the initiating/primary pursuit unit, the secondary unit, or any reasonable amount of additional units, which has been authorized by the authorizing supervisor.

E. High-Risk Stop

A method of stopping, removing, disarming, and detaining occupants of a vehicle who are believed to be dangerous, violent, and/or armed with a deadly weapon while reducing the risk of danger to community members and responding sworn personnel.

F. Individual

A person who has been arrested or is a witness, community member, or victim being transported.

~~F.G.~~        Initiating/Primary Pursuit Unit

The officer initiating a pursuit or any other officer assuming the position behind the vehicle that is being pursued. Only sworn personnel may initiate a pursuit.

~~G.H.~~        Marked Unit



## ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT PROCEDURAL ORDERS

**SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)**

**P&P Draft 02/22/2023**

A vehicle displaying a government-issued license plate that is equipped with roof-mounted emergency lights, sirens, and other emergency warning devices as required by New Mexico state laws and that is used for emergency response situations.

### H.I. Motor Vehicle Pursuit

An authorized and deliberate attempt by a law enforcement officer operating an authorized Department emergency vehicle, with engaged authorized emergency warning equipment, to apprehend an occupant of a motor vehicle, the driver of which is actively attempting to avoid apprehension by exceeding the speed limit, refusing to stop, disobeying traffic laws, or otherwise attempting to flee from the officer through evasive driving maneuvers.

### H.J. Paralleling

Traveling in the same direction as the pursued vehicle extending in the same direction, are equidistant, and the involved vehicles paths do not intersect.

### J.K. Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)

A precision maneuver, which involves intentional, vehicle-to-vehicle contact and consists of a pursuing officer applying lateral pressure with the front corner of their vehicle to the rear quarter panel of the fleeing suspect's vehicle, resulting in a predictable spin.

### K.L. Secondary Unit

The second officer in a Department-issued vehicle who becomes involved in the pursuit of a motor vehicle.

### L.M. Termination/Disengagement of a Pursuit

To abandon or abort the pursuit. When terminating a pursuit, the officer shall make all reasonable efforts to go in the opposite direction of the pursued vehicle, so as to not give a sense of a pursuit continuing.

### M.N. Tire Deflation Device

A device that uses sharp, hollow spikes to penetrate the tires of a vehicle. The spikes remain in the tire(s) of the vehicle, allowing air to pass through the spikes for a rapid and controlled deflation of the tires. Tire deflation devices include Stop Sticks or spike belts.

### N.O. Violent Felony

For the purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), a "violent felony" means a homicide; criminal sexual penetration; robbery with a deadly weapon;



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

kidnapping/false imprisonment; felony aggravated battery inflicting great bodily harm and/or death; or aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

**5** 2-45-4 Initiating a Pursuit

A. An officer may initiate a pursuit when at least one (1) of the following factors exists:

1. ~~An~~ The officer has reasonable grounds to believe ~~the~~ an individual presents a clear and immediate threat of death or serious injury to others or when the officer has probable cause to believe the individual poses a clear and immediate threat to the safety of other motorists or the public, that is ongoing, and existed before the pursuit began; or
2. The individual has committed or is committing a violent felony, and allowing escape would put the public in immediate danger of great bodily harm and/or death.

B. Sworn personnel shall, at a minimum, consider the following factors. ~~When deciding whether to initiate, or continue or terminate a high-speed pursuit, sworn personnel shall consider the following factors, at a minimum:~~

1. The seriousness of the offense for which the high-speed pursuit was initiated;
2. Whether an individual poses a clear and immediate threat of death or serious injury to others;
3. The risk of harm to others should the individual(s) escape;
4. The amount of motor vehicles and pedestrian traffic;
5. Knowledge of the individual's identity, possible destination, and previous activities that may make apprehension at a later time feasible;
6. Road, weather, environmental, and vehicle conditions;
7. The time of day; and
8. Any other risk presented by the pursuit itself.

C. Sworn personnel with motorcycles, slick-top police vehicles, and unmarked ~~units~~ Department-issued vehicles ~~may~~ shall only initiate a pursuit ~~only~~ if their vehicles are equipped with a siren and red flashing lights.

1. When sworn personnel with a marked units-Department-issued vehicle with a roof-mounted light bar start to assist with the pursuit, the sworn personnel with motorcycles, slick-top police vehicles, and unmarked ~~units~~ Department-issued



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

~~vehicle~~vehicles shall assume the responsibilities of sworn personnel assigned as secondary units.

a. Once second and subsequent officers ~~sworn personnel~~ with marked units Department-issued vehicles participate in the pursuit, ~~those~~ sworn personnel with motorcycles, slick-top police vehicles, and unmarked units Department-issued vehicles shall not actively participate in the pursuit; however, they may monitor the pursuit and shall be available to assist in the apprehension of the individual, if necessary.

D. Sworn personnel shall not initiate or participate in a pursuit if they have a ride-along or transporting a witness, victim or other community members ~~n in custody individual in their custody~~ in their Department-issued vehicle.

~~D.~~E. Sworn personnel shall not initiate or participate in a pursuit if they have an in-custody individual in their Department-issued vehicle. ~~For the purposes of this policy, an individual is an individual who has been arrested, or an individual who is a witness, community member, or victim who is being transported.~~

~~E.~~F. Sworn personnel shall not initiate or continue a high-speed pursuit when the immediate danger to the officer and the public created by the high-speed pursuit exceeds the immediate danger to the public if the occupants of the motor vehicle being pursued remain at large.

**7** 2-45-5 **Procedures during a Pursuit**

A. Sworn Personnel Assigned as Initiating/Primary Pursuit Units

1. After initiating a pursuit, ~~sworn personnel assigned as~~the initiating/primary ~~pursuit~~pursuing units shall:

- a. Notify their supervisor of the pursuit;
  - i. After notifying their supervisor, ~~sworn personnel assigned as~~the initiating/primary ~~pursuing~~ units shall only continue the pursuit with specific authorization from the supervisor.
- b. Immediately notify an Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Dispatcher via radio that a pursuit is in progress, and provide the following information:
  - i. Reason for the pursuit;
  - ii. Present location and direction of travel;
  - iii. Vehicle speeds from their speedometer;
  - iv. Any safety factors that must be noted; and
  - v. Whether a hostage situation is involved, consistent with SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments (refer to SOP Hostage Situations, Barricaded Individuals, and Tactical Threat Assessments for sanction classifications and additional duties).
- c. Request Air Support Unit personnel to assist with the pursuit as soon as possible;

N/A



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- d. Request sworn personnel who are certified to use the StarChase pursuit management system to respond to the area of the pursuit;
  - e. Request any additional necessary resources, including additional sworn personnel or Department-authorized resources to assist with the pursuit;
  - f. Broadcast the progress of the pursuit until the arrival of sworn personnel assigned as secondary units, who shall then assume that responsibility;
    - i. ~~When officers~~ sworn personnel are riding as a two-man unit, the passenger officer shall be responsible for radio transmissions until the officer assigned as the secondary unit arrives to assist.
    - ii. -The passenger officer shall continually relay over the radio the present location, the direction of travel, vehicle speeds, and any safety factors impacting the pursuit until the officer assigned as a secondary unit arrives; and
  - g. Maintain communication for any pursuit on their original dispatch channel, regardless of whether the pursuit changes area commands and/or jurisdictions; and
    - i. If a pursuit is initiated on a radio frequency other than an area command dispatch channel, sworn personnel shall move to the area command dispatch channel in relation to their present location as quickly and safely as possible.
2. If the initiating officer is a supervisor, the next available on-duty supervisor shall assume command of the pursuit.
3. Pursuits initiated by an officer outside their area command or while off-duty shall be under the command of the supervisor responsible for the area command where the pursuit was initiated.

B. ECC Dispatcher

The ECC Dispatcher shall notify the on-duty supervisor of the pursuit after being notified by sworn personnel assigned as the initiating/primary pursuit unit.

7

C. Sworn Personnel Dispatched ~~Assigned~~ as Secondary Units

- 1. Sworn personnel dispatched ~~assigned~~ as secondary units shall:
  - a. Notify the ECC Dispatcher of their call sign ~~identity~~ over the radio;
  - b. Assume the responsibility of radio communications to enable the initiating/primary unit to devote complete attention to the pursuit;
  - c. Be responsible for providing the ECC Dispatcher with updated speeds and any safety factors when they become involved;
  - d. Engage all authorized emergency warning equipment, consistent with Use of Emergency Warning Equipment (refer to SOP Use of Emergency Warning Equipment for sanction classifications and additional duties); and
  - e. Assist with the high-risk stop.

N/A

6



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

D. Sworn Personnel ~~Assigned~~ Dispatched as Assisting Units

1. Sworn personnel ~~assigned~~ dispatched as assisting units shall:

- a. Not parallel a pursuit; however, sworn personnel may proceed into the area of a pursuit if directed by the supervisor in command to assist at the termination point of the pursuit and assist with the high-risk stop;
- b. Not involve more than four (4) police vehicles actively engaged in a pursuit unless specifically authorized to do so by a supervisor; and
- c. Be alert to the pursuit progress and location.

E. Air Support Unit Personnel

1. Once Air Support Unit personnel have responded and have a visual on the pursued vehicle, they shall:

- a. Be the primary unit of the authorized pursuit;
- b. Relay the direction of travel of the pursued vehicle to ground units; and
- c. Notify the supervisor who is in charge if sworn personnel on the ground continue to follow the pursued vehicle.
  - i. When possible, Air Support Unit personnel shall identify sworn personnel who continue to follow the pursued vehicle by the Department-issued police vehicle ~~unit~~ number.

~~2. Sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary pursuit unit(s) shall discontinue pursuing the motor vehicle and shall provide enough distance so as not to affect the driving of the pursued vehicle.~~

N/A

2.3. Air Support Unit personnel may call out the direction of travel as a means to notify ~~warn~~ other Department personnel to get out of the area if feasible, so they don't contribute to the driving, and so the supervisor that authorized the pursuit can safely get sworn personnel in the area to set up an immediate perimeter consistent with SOP Air Support Unit. (Refer to SOP Air Support Unit for sanction classifications and additional duties.)

~~3.4.~~ 3.4. With direction from Air Support Unit personnel, the supervisor shall:

N/A

- a. Continuously direct and control sworn personnel on the ground in a manner that increasingly constricts the perimeter surrounding the pursued vehicle in order to apprehend the individual(s); and
  - i. Sworn personnel on the ground may use emergency warning equipment as needed in order to maintain the reasonable distance needed from the pursued vehicle.
- b. Determine how many ~~officers~~ sworn personnel with ~~police~~ Department-issued vehicles are needed to form a perimeter around the vehicle as based on information from Air Support Unit personnel.



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

F. Sworn Personnel

1. Sworn personnel who are not ~~dispatched~~ assigned as initiating/primary pursuit units but who are engaged ~~involved~~ in a pursuit shall:
  - a. Before engaging any ~~authorized~~ emergency warning equipment, when sworn personnel shall, when feasible:
    - i. Identify the license plate information and/or vehicle description;
    - ii. Occupant status (number of occupants, descriptors); and
    - iii. Relay that information immediately to an ECC Dispatcher.
  - b. At any time during a pursuit, when they or a supervisor determine that the danger to the public or officer(s) outweighs the need for immediate apprehension, immediately discontinue the pursuit; and
  - c. Continually question whether the seriousness of the crimes(s) reasonably warrants continuation of the pursuit.
2. Sworn personnel engaged in a pursuit shall not attempt to pass the initiating/primary unit unless instructed to do so by that officer or if the initiating/primary pursuit officer ~~assigned as the initiating/primary pursuit unit~~ is unable to continue.

G. Sworn Personnel with StarChase Pursuit Management Systems

1. ~~Sworn personnel assigned as~~ initiating/primary pursuit units and sworn personnel with ~~police~~ Department-issued vehicles equipped with the StarChase pursuit management system shall coordinate, as necessary, to allow for deployment of the StarChase pursuit management system device.
2. When the StarChase pursuit management system is activated:
  - a. ~~Sworn personnel assigned as~~ Initiating/primary pursuit units shall follow the procedures outlined in SOP StarChase Pursuit Management System (refer to SOP StarChase Pursuit Management System for sanction classifications and additional duties); and
  - b. Air Support Unit personnel shall continue to be the primary unit of the authorized pursuit and shall update the location of the pursued vehicle to sworn personnel on the ground.
    - i. When Air Support Unit personnel lose visual of the pursued vehicle, the ECC Dispatcher or the supervisor monitoring the StarChase activation shall provide updated location information for the pursued vehicle.

N/A

5

H. Authorizing Supervisor

1. Upon notification of a pursuit, the on-duty authorizing supervisor shall:



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- a. Constantly monitor radio communications within their area command to ensure all pursuits meet the proper criteria and the pursuit is managed according to this SOP;
  - b. Assume command from origination through conclusion;
  - c. Ensure Air Support Unit personnel have been requested;
  - d. Ensure the affected public safety agencies are notified;
  - e. Assist sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary pursuit units with ~~the~~ any necessary support requested;
  - f. Authorize the use of a pursuit intervention technique (PIT) ~~W~~when necessary for the protection of the public;
  - ~~f.g.~~ Ccall for the establishment of a location to disable the fleeing vehicle by using the ~~pursuit intervention technique (PIT)~~ and/or tire deflations devices;
  - ~~g.h.~~ \_\_\_\_\_When necessary, direct the sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary pursuit units to abandon the pursuit; and
  - ~~h.i.~~ \_\_\_\_\_Continually evaluate the pursuit to allow its continuation, or to order termination of the pursuit.
2. If the initiating/primary pursuit sworn personnel on-duty supervisor is not available, the next available on-duty supervisor shall assume command of the pursuit.

6

I. Use of Devices and Techniques

1. Tire Deflation Device

N/A

- a. The tire deflation device is an acceptable method of disabling a pursued vehicle when used in accordance with ~~{SOP Use of Tire Deflation Devices.~~
  - i. Only sworn personnel who have been trained on how to deploy a tire deflation device shall be authorized to use it.

N/A

- b. Sworn personnel shall not use t~~The tire deflation device shall not be used on~~ two- or three-wheeled vehicles, unless the use of deadly force is justified (refer to SOP Use of Tire Deflation Devices and SOP Use of Force: Definitions for sanction classifications and additional duties).

2. ~~Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)~~

a. Sworn personnel shall:

- ~~b.i.~~ Only use the PIT ~~sworn personnel who have~~ when they have been trained and certified to deploy use it and the PIT has been ~~the PIT shall be~~ authorized to use it.

~~c.i. Sworn personnel may use the PIT to end a pursuit (refer to SOP Pursuit Intervention Technique for sanction classifications and additional duties).~~

- ~~d.ii.~~ Sworn personnel shall mMake every effort to use a high-risk stop (felony stop) with additional sworn personnel after the PIT has been completed.

N/A

b. Sworn personnel shall not:



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

N/A

e.i. ~~u~~Use the PIT at speeds greater than thirty-five (35) miles per hour, unless deadly force is warranted (refer to SOP Pursuit Intervention Technique for sanction classifications and additional duties).

N/A

f.ii. ~~Sworn personnel shall not~~ ~~u~~Use the PIT on two- or three-wheeled vehicles, unless the use of deadly force is justified (Refer to SOP Pursuit Intervention Technique and SOP Use of Force: Definitions for sanction classifications and additional duties).

g.c. Sworn personnel may use the PIT to end a pursuit (refer to SOP Pursuit Intervention Technique for sanction classifications and additional duties).

h.d. All uses of the PIT above thirty-five (35) miles per hour are considered deadly force and shall be reported as a Level 3 use of force (refer to SOP Use of Force: Reporting by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

N/A

i.e. All uses of the PIT above thirty-five (35) miles per hour shall be investigated as a Level 3 use of force (refer to SOP Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

N/A

j.f. If the authorizing supervisor(s) approves the use of a PIT, another supervisor shall be responsible for completing the on-scene use of force investigation- (refer to SOP Use of Force: Review and Investigation by Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).

N/A

J. Sworn personnel shall not use firearms to disable the tires of a vehicle that is being pursued (refer to SOP Use of Force: General for sanction classifications and additional duties).

K. Sworn personnel shall use ~~high-risk~~ felony stop procedures when the vehicle has stopped or been disabled.

6 2-45-6

**Terminating a Pursuit**

A. When terminating a pursuit, sworn personnel shall make all reasonable efforts to go in the opposite direction of the pursued vehicle, so as to not give a sense of a continuing pursuit.

B. Sworn personnel who terminate a pursuit for safety considerations shall not be subject to discipline for making this decision.

C. If a supervisor orders a pursuit to be terminated, they shall direct sworn personnel engaged or assisting with the pursuit to immediately meet with them at a designated location.

6 2-45-7

**Post-Pursuit Incident Review**

A. Sworn Personnel

1. Sworn personnel shall:



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

N/A

- a. Complete and submit a Uniform Incident Report before the end of their shift, consistent with SOP ~~Records~~Reports (refer to SOP Reports for sanction classifications and additional duties); and
- i. If an officer is unable to ~~write~~complete a Uniform Incident Report because of physical injury, involvement in an officer-involved shooting (OIS), or the officer is the victim of a crime, the on-duty supervisor shall assign another officer to document the incident.

N/A

- b. Upload on-body recording device (OBRD) footage before clearing from the incident (refer to SOP Use of On-Body Recording Devices for sanction classifications and additional duties).

B. Authorizing Supervisor

1. The authorizing supervisor shall:

a. Create an Internal Affairs (IA) database web application entry within the end of their shift;

~~a.b.~~ Complete, review, and submit the following Internal Affairs (IA) database web application entry in BlueTeam:

- i. Police Pursuit Post Checklist;
- ii. Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review, which is an Interoffice Memorandum addressed to affected area commander/division head. The Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review shall include:
1. The reason for the pursuit;
2. ~~with a~~ brief synopsis of the pursuit;
- ~~4.3.~~ 3. Identify the number of vehicle accidents; and
- ~~2.4.~~ 4. Highlights of pertinent information, including references of any pertinent SOP and any identified policy, training, equipment, and/or tactic concerns that require follow-up.
- A. If any training issues are identified, the authorizing supervisor shall complete a training request and attach the entry of the request in their Internal Affairs (IA) database web application BlueTeam, including all necessary attachments that are pertinent to the reason for the training request.
- iii. Review all Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) information related to the pursuit;
- iv. Review the CAD recording(s);
- v. Ensure all sworn personnel assisting in the pursuit complete Uniform Incident Reports and ~~accident~~Uniform Crash Reports, if applicable;
- vi. Review all Uniform Incident Reports;
- vii. Review OBRD footage from sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary pursuit units from the initiation of the pursuit to when all individuals are in custody;
- viii. Photos of the incident, if applicable;
- ix. Video footage from the Air Support Unit, if available; and



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- ~~x.~~ A map detailing the area where the pursuit started and ended, and the direction of travel; and
    - ~~xi.~~x. Documentation to support extension requests that were granted or denied.
  - b. Complete and submit the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review within ten (10) calendar days.
    - i. Where a supervisor is unable to complete and submit a review within the initial ten (10) calendar day deadline, the supervisor may request a ten (10) calendar day extension, by submitting an extension request through the BlueTeam Internal Affairs (IA) database web application outlining the reason(s) for an extension, to the involved officer's commander.
- 2. Once the reviewing supervisor has completed their review, it ~~should~~ shall be sent to the affected lieutenant ~~Lieutenant~~ for review.
  - a. If at any point a Lieutenant is the authorizing supervisor, they shall complete the authorizing supervisor's responsibilities and ensure another Lieutenant from the affected officer's area command completes the Lieutenant Rreview.
- 3. If any officer, regardless of rank, is the officer assigned as the initiating/primary pursuit unit, another on-duty authorizing supervisor starting at the rank of sergeant or acting sergeant shall complete the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.
  - a. The ~~Watch~~ Lieutenant shall identify the on-duty authorizing supervisor who ~~will~~ shall complete the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.
  - b. If the ~~Watch~~ Lieutenant is unavailable, the next available on-duty Lieutenant shall make the decision.
- 4. In the event the authorizing supervisor is unable to work their next shift, due to injury or administrative leave, or had involvement as indicated in this SOP, another on-duty sergeant, acting sergeant, or the authorizing supervisor's lieutenant shall be responsible for completing and submitting the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review
- 5. A supervisor who was participating in the pursuit, by participating in a pursuit or ordering or participating in a use of force, or who was a witness of an officer involved shooting shall not complete the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.
- 5.6. If the pursuit results in a Level 2 or Level 3 use of UO force, F the Internal Affairs Force Division (IAFD) will be responsible for the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review.

C. Lieutenant

- 1. The Lieutenant shall:



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

- a. Ensure all steps were taken by the authorizing supervisor as listed in the authorizing supervisor responsibilities in this SOP;
  - b. Review the:
    - i. ~~BlueTeam Internal Affairs (IA) database web application~~ entry;
    - ii. Police Pursuit Post Checklist;
    - iii. Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review and ensure if any policy, training, equipment, and tactics concerns are identified and follow-up is documented;
    - iv. Review all CAD information related to the pursuit;
    - v. Review CAD recording(s);
    - vi. Review all Uniform Incident Reports and Uniform Crash Reports, if applicable;
    - vii. Review OBRD footage from all sworn personnel assigned as initiating/primary units involved in the pursuit from the initiation of the pursuit to when all individuals are in custody;
    - viii. Photos of the incident, if applicable;
    - ix. Video footage from the Air Support Unit, if available; and
    - ~~x. A map detailing the route of pursuit; and~~
    - ~~xi. Documentation to support extension requests granted or denied.~~
  - c. ~~The~~ After reviewing the above mentioned items, the lieutenant shall complete an Interoffice Memorandum their review and address it ed to the affected area commander/division head ~~affirmatively~~ stating if they found the pursuit to be within compliance with this SOP or did not comply with this SOP; and
  - e. ~~i.~~ If the pursuit did not comply with the procedures outlined in this SOP, the evidence identifying that the pursuit was out of compliance shall be identified and documented in the comments section; and
  - ~~ii.~~ The Lieutenant shall ensure any policy, training, equipment, supervision and/or tactics concerns were identified by the authorizing supervisor and follow-up was completed.
  - ~~iii.~~ If the Lieutenant identifies any supervisory concerns, they shall be responsible for documenting the concern and ensuring follow-up is completed by completing an Internal Affairs Request (IAR) (refer to SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties) or training request.
  - d. Complete and submit the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review within ten (10) calendar days upon receipt of the BlueTeam Internal Affairs (IA) database web application entry.
    - i. ~~When~~re the Lieutenant is unable to complete and submit a review within the initial ten (10) working day deadline the Lieutenant may request a ten (10) calendar day extension, by submitting an extension request through the Internal Affairs (IA) database web application ~~BlueTeam~~ outlining the reason(s) for an extension, to the involved officer's commander.
2. Lieutenants of sworn personnel assigned as ~~initiating/primary pursuit units involved in the pursuit~~ and ~~secondary units involved in a pursuit~~ shall hold an open critique session of the pursuit.

N/A



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

D. Area Commander/Division Head

1. The Area Commander/Division Head shall:

- a. Approve extensions for Police Pursuit Post-Incident Reviews of up to ten (10) calendar days for both the authorizing supervisor and the Lieutenant, and shall include the new due date in the approving correspondence;
- b. Review the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review to determine compliance with this SOP;
- c. Check the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review for completeness;
- d. If necessary, conduct a meeting with the supervisor and sworn personnel involved in the pursuit to thoroughly review the pursuit; and
- e. Have ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the entry to enter comments in BlueTeam ~~the Internal Affairs (IA)~~ database web application about whether the pursuit adhered to the procedures outlined in this SOP.
- e.f. If they ~~Area Commander/Division Head~~ identifies any, policy, training, equipment, tactics, or supervision concerns during their review, they shall submit an IAR (refer to SOP Complaints Involving Department Personnel for sanction classifications and additional duties).
  - i. Where the Area Commander/Division Head is unable to complete and submit a Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review within the initial ten (10) working day deadline, they may request a ten (10) calendar day extension by submitting an extension request through the Internal Affairs (IA) database web application ~~BlueTeam~~ and outlining the reason(s) for an extension to the involved officer's Deputy Commander.

N/A

2. The Area Commander/Division Head's completion of the Police Pursuit Post-Incident Review shall not exceed sixty (60) calendar days.

E. Operations Review Section

1. Operations Review Section personnel shall:

- a. Prepare an analysis of pursuits for the calendar year; and
- b. Distribute their analysis to the Chief of Police, Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board (CPOAB), and the Internal Affairs Professional Standards (IAPS) Division. The analysis shall include:
  - ii. ~~i.~~ The number of pursuits for the calendar year;
  - iii. ~~ii.~~ The number of pursuits that did not adhere to the procedures outlined in this SOP, and why they were considered to not be within policy;
  - iv. ~~iii.~~ The number of vehicle accidents that were the result of officer negligence;
  - v. ~~iv.~~ Any policy change requests for this SOP that were identified during the annual review and during follow-up, if any; and
  - vi. ~~v.~~ Any negative trends involving supervision, training, equipment and/or tactics that were identified, including during follow-up.



ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURAL ORDERS

SOP 2-45 (Formerly 2-55)

P&P Draft 02/22/2023

2-45-8 Jurisdictional Issues during a Motor Vehicle Pursuit

- A. When a pursuit goes outside ~~the limits of the City of Albuquerque~~ limits, sworn personnel shall stop the pursuit if:
1. Directed to do so by a supervisor;
  2. A supervisor is no longer in command of the pursuit;
  3. Requested to do so by the jurisdictional agency; or
  4. Proper communications become a safety issue.
- B. When a pursuit by an outside law enforcement agency enters ~~the limits of the City of Albuquerque~~ limits, ~~the responsible~~ a supervisor shall:
1. Ensure Department personnel adhere to this SOP when providing assistance; and
  2. Ensure every attempt is made to assist the agency leading the pursuit when resources are available and when it is safe to do so.
- C. When a pursuit by an outside law enforcement agency does not meet the standards of this SOP, Department personnel shall limit their participation ~~when resources are available; however, their participation shall be restricted.~~
1. Department personnel shall not actively participate in the pursuit but may provide the following safety measures:
    - a. Blocking of intersection(s) to allow unrestricted and safe passage of vehicles involved in the pursuit;
    - b. Communications support in order to coordinate the movements of the pursuit and facilitate the timely response of assisting ~~units~~ personnel to the areas involved; and
    - c. Containment and preservation of the location where a pursuit stopped, if it is within the City service area.