I. **Purpose**

To state the position on vehicular pursuits of suspects, and to establish guidelines for decision making regarding vehicular pursuits of fleeing suspects.

II. **General Order**

The Indiana University Police Department (IUPD) police officers will make every reasonable effort to apprehend a fleeing suspect and to respond to emergency calls quickly and safely, and in accordance with applicable laws. Only authorized emergency vehicles, as defined by Indiana Code (IC) 9-13-2-6, will initiate a pursuit. Officers will exercise due regard to the lives and property of innocent users of the street, highway, the violator, and/or the officer.

III. **Restrictions & Initiation of Pursuit**

A. Vehicular pursuits of suspects will be restricted to serious violent felonies only. Officers will not pursue for misdemeanors or infraction violations. For the purposes of this General Order, fleeing a police office is not considered a “serious violent felony.” Serious violent felonies will be defined in part by Indiana Code (IC) 35-47-4-5, the following will be acceptable offenses to initiate a vehicle pursuit when a person(s) are suspected of:

1. Murder (IC 35-42-1-1).
2. Voluntary Manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3).
3. Reckless Homicide (IC 35-42-1-5).
4. Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).
5. Criminal Confinement (IC 35-42-2-1.5).
6. Rape (IC 35-42-4-1).
7. Sexual Battery (IC 35-42-4-8).
8. Robbery (IC 35-42-5-1), and

10. This is not an exhaustive list. Officers should use their best judgement when there is information to conclude a serious violent felony or incident has occurred, and/or consult their supervisor.
B. Prior to initiating any pursuit, the officer must be aware of and evaluate possible factors that would prohibit the pursuit. Officers initiating and/or continuing vehicular pursuit will consider the following:

1. Whether supervision has authorized pursuits, given present circumstances.
2. The seriousness of the offense.
3. The consequences of not apprehending the suspect.
4. The possibility of apprehension.
5. Whether the suspect is known, or their destination known, making later apprehension possible.
6. Volume of vehicular traffic.
7. Pedestrian traffic conditions.
8. Weather and road conditions.
9. Availability of assistance.
10. Barriers to hearing and/or vision.
11. Barrier to officer communications and safety.
12. Time of day.
13. Vehicular speeds involved.
14. Length of pursuit.
15. Location of pursuit.
16. Population density, and
17. Presence of other persons in an authorized emergency vehicle

C. The decision to initiate pursuit must be based on the pursuing officer’s conclusion that the immediate danger to the officer and public created by the pursuit is less than the immediate potential danger to the public should the suspect remain at large.²

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1 IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
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D. Unless there is an immediate threat to the physical safety or well-being of a person, unmarked vehicles or other types of vehicles should not become involved in pursuits.\textsuperscript{3}

1. Upon arrival of a marked police unit, the unmarked unit or other type of vehicle will discontinue their pursuit.\textsuperscript{4}

E. A pursuit should be limited to only primary and secondary vehicles. Additional units will not become involved, unless directed by a supervisor and only in extenuating circumstances.

F. An officer shall not become involved in any pursuit when a civilian is in the police vehicle.

IV. Pursuit Operations

A. All emergency vehicle operations will be conducted in strict conformity with the applicable traffic laws, general orders, and other department regulations, including the use of occupant safety restraint devices.

B. Upon engaging in a pursuit and during the pursuit, the pursuing police vehicle(s) will activate and maintain operation of emergency lights and siren.

C. Officers involved in a pursuit will follow current in-car video procedures, when these systems are available.

D. Upon engaging in a pursuit, the initiating officer will notify communications of the following:

1. Location.

2. Direction of travel.

3. Speed of the pursuit.

4. Description of the vehicle being pursued.

5. Initial purpose of the stop, and

6. Any additional pertinent information.

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\textsuperscript{4} IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
E. A pursuit will consist of no more than two Department police vehicles, a primary and a secondary unit, unless additional units are authorized by a supervisor.\(^5\)

F. Initiating (primary) unit will continue to provide updated location and direction of travel until a secondary unit is in place.\(^6\)

G. Secondary unit upon engaging in the pursuit will proceed at a safe distance to the primary unit and will perform all communications to dispatch.\(^7\)

H. The secondary unit will become primary when primary responsibility has been relinquished, or by order of the supervisor.\(^8\)

I. When engaged in a pursuit, all officers will travel with due regard and continuously consider the safety of the public.

V. Pursuit Tactics

A. Officers trained in the use of tire deflation devices are authorized to deploy these devices, in accordance with established training and procedures for deployment, after authorization by their supervisor.

B. Officers are not authorized to follow the pursuit or drive on parallel streets in emergency status.

C. Officers are not authorized to use any type of roadblock, including but not limited to the following:\(^9\)
   1. Circle system.
   2. Fixed roadblock.
   3. Moving roadblock.

D. Officers are restricted from firing their weapons from or at moving vehicles. The use of deadly force in these situations is prohibited unless a suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily harm to the officer or another person.\(^10\)

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\(^6\) IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
\(^7\) IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
\(^8\) IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
\(^9\) IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
\(^10\) IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
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Indiana University Police Department

Pursuit of Motor Vehicles

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| Rescinds: | None |
| IACLEA Standards: | 9.2.2, 9.2.3 |

1. Officers will not place themselves in front of a moving vehicle to justify the use of deadly force. The officers’ first option should be to move safely out of the path of the moving vehicle.

2. Officers must weigh the need to use deadly force in these situations against the potential harm to bystanders that may result from the use of deadly force.

E. Officers will only use deadly force if circumstances warrant deadly force according to the General Order G7.1.1 Response to Resistance.

F. The intentional contact between an authorized pursuit vehicle and the suspect vehicle, which may cause substantial damage and disablement to the fleeing vehicle and may cause serious injury and/or death to the suspect, is considered to be deadly force and will only be used as a last resort.11

G. Once the pursued vehicle is stopped, officers will utilize appropriate officer safety tactics and will use only force which is reasonable and necessary to take suspects into custody.12

VI. Termination of Pursuit

A. The primary pursuing unit will continually re-evaluate and assess the pursuit situation, including all of the initiating factors, and will terminate the pursuit whenever they reasonably believe the risks associate with the continued pursuit are greater than the public safety benefit of making an immediate apprehension.13

B. The pursuit may be terminated by the primary unit at any time.

C. A supervisor may order the termination of a pursuit at any time.14

D. A pursuit will be terminated if the suspect’s identity has been determined, immediate apprehension is not necessary to protect the public or officers, and apprehension later is feasible.15

E. The pursuit will be terminated if radio communications between pursuit units and dispatch becomes limited or non-existent.16

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15 IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
16 IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
F. If the initial officer or a supervisor determines the pursuit has become as large as to constitute a danger in and of itself, the officer or a supervisor will terminate the pursuit. Other agencies involved in the pursuit will be advised of this decision.\textsuperscript{17}

\section*{VII. Inter and Intra-Jurisdictional Pursuits}

A. If a pursuit leaves the general contiguous area of campus, local law enforcement and the subsequent jurisdiction will be notified by IUPD communications operators as the pursuit approaches that jurisdiction and assistance will be requested.\textsuperscript{18}

B. Officers will terminate the pursuit if requested to do so by a supervisor of the outside agency, whose jurisdiction the pursuit has entered.\textsuperscript{19}

C. Pursuit into a bordering state will conform to the laws of the state of Indiana and any applicable inter-jurisdictional agreements.

D. When a pursuit enters another jurisdiction, the actions of officers will be governed by the procedures of the officer’s own agency, specific inter-jurisdictional agreements, and state law as applicable.\textsuperscript{20}

E. Officers will not become involved in another agency’s pursuit unless specifically requested to do so, and the request is granted by the supervisor. This does not preclude securing intersections to warn the public of inter and intra-jurisdictional pursuits.\textsuperscript{21}

F. While engaged in another agency’s pursuit, officers will still be governed by IUPD Orders and Indiana Statue during the pursuit.\textsuperscript{22}

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\textsuperscript{18} IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles

\textsuperscript{19} IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles

\textsuperscript{20} IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles

\textsuperscript{21} IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles

\textsuperscript{22} IACLEA 9.2.2 Pursuit of Motor Vehicles
VIII. Communications Operators Responsibilities

A. During a pursuit, communications operators will have the following responsibilities: 23

1. Notify shift supervisor and all other units that a unit is in pursuit and clear the radio of all non-emergency communications traffic.
   a. In the event a Division in pursuit does not have a supervisor on-duty, the communications operators will request a supervisor from another Division to assume responsibility for the involved-Division's pursuit.

2. Move non-involved units to secondary radio channel (talk-group) for continued police operations and/or bring additional officer(s) into dispatch to assist.

3. Broadcast the location, direction of travel, description of the pursued vehicle, occupant description(s), reason for pursuit, and any additional information upon initiation of a pursuit.

4. Query vehicle registration and wanted files if available, including the registered owner of the vehicle.

5. Update pursuit locations as advised, notify surrounding jurisdictions, and provide them with all information available as soon as possible.

IX. Supervisor Responsibilities

A. When made aware of and during a vehicular pursuit the shift supervisor will assume the authority for all pursuits through radio communications and have the following responsibilities: 24

1. Coordinate and direct activities as needed to ensure that proper procedures are followed, and actions are consistent with this procedure.

2. Make the decision to authorize additional units in the pursuit, including requesting other agencies to assistance such as K-9 and/or air support.

3. Monitor all incoming information.

4. Provide on-scene assistance and direction at the conclusion of the pursuit.

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5. Make proper notifications in the chain-of-command.

B. In the event a Division in pursuit does not have a supervisor on-duty, a supervisor from another Division will switch to the appropriate talk-group and assume the above stated responsibilities. 25

X. After-Action Reporting & Review

1. All vehicle pursuits will be fully documented, regardless of the cause or outcome of the pursuit. The F9.2.2-1 Pursuit Review form, Police Case Report, Computer Aided Dispatch record, and other supporting documents and images will be used to review every pursuit. 26

   1. The documentation will be forwarded to the shift supervisor for review. The supervisor will then forward the documentation to the Division Chief and the Vehicle Operations System-wide Review Board.

   2. The Review Board chair will prepare a memorandum with the board’s findings. The memorandum and pursuit packet will then be sent to the Division Chief and the Director of Public Safety Education.

   3. The Division Chief will make the determination if discipline is warranted. The Director of Public Safety Education will determine if changes are needed in the training program.

2. Within a week of a pursuit occurring, an administrative review and a debriefing will be conducted by the Vehicle Operations System-wide Review Board with the use of the documentation. 27

   1. The review board will meet and confer on the information in the pursuit packet. They will determine if violations of General Orders occurred and if there are changes needed to either the General Orders or training program.

      1. A memo from the review board will be sent to Director of Public Safety Education and the Division Chief

      2. The Vehicle Operations System-wide Review Board will be nominated annually and will consist of at least five members to serve a term of one year. The Board will include an Emergency Vehicle Operations (EVO) instructor, a

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representative from patrol, supervisory personnel, training, and a union representative.

3. The IUPD Education and Training Section will annually, analyze police pursuit activity, and identify any modifications warranted in the department pursuit procedures and training.  

XII. Related Information

Indiana University Police Department:

F9.2.2-1 Vehicle Pursuit Report

G7.1.1 Response to Resistance

Indiana Code:

IC9-13-2-6 Authorized Emergency Vehicle

IC9-19-10-1 Passenger Restraint Systems Application of Chapter

IC9-19-11-1 Passenger Restraint Systems for Children Application of Chapter

IC9-19-14-1 Siren, Exhaust, Whistle, or Bell

IC9-19-14-3 Audibility Requirements for Sirens, Whistles, or Bells

IC9-19-14-5 Police Vehicles Used as Emergency Vehicles

IC9-21-1-0.5 Lawful Intervention Technique

IC9-21-1-8 Emergency Vehicles

IC35-41-3-3 Use of Force Relating to Arrest or Escape

Benjamin Hunter (01/07/19)
Superintendent of Public Safety

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29 IACLEA 9.2.3 Pursuit Training