



# POLICY & PROCEDURE

## HOLMEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT:	<b>VEHICLE PURSUITS</b>	NUMBER:	3.2
		ISSUED:	03/01/12
SCOPE:	All Sworn Personnel	REVIEWED:	01/28/17
DISTRIBUTION:	Policy & Procedure Manual		
REFERENCE:	WI §85.07(8)(b), §165.85(4)(cm)2b & §346.03(6)	WILEAG 4 <sup>TH</sup> EDITION STANDARDS:	6.1.4.1, 6.1.4.2, 6.1.4.3, 6.1.4.4, 6.1.4.5, 6.1.4.6, 6.1.4.7

INDEX AS:

- Authorized Pursuit
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- Pursuit Vehicle(s)
- Roadblocks
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- Pursuit into another Jurisdiction
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- Reports
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### 1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This order establishes procedures governing the pursuit of motor vehicles. It is our policy that vehicles are operated in a safe manner. Members will comply with WI ss 346.031(6) and related orders. Officers are trained in roadblock techniques.

### 2. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Fixed roadblock:** full/partial roadblock at a fixed point.
- B. **Moving roadblock:** moving unit(s) used to block the road or stop vehicle movement in the same direction.
- C. **Pursuit driving:** attempt by an officer in a unit to apprehend occupant(s) of a fleeing vehicle where the driver is aware of the officer's attempt to stop his/her vehicle and is knowingly fleeing apprehension.
- D. **Roadblock:** obstruction of a roadway for the purpose of stopping vehicles to inspect, interview or apprehend contents, drivers, or occupants of the vehicle.
- E. **Pursuit Immobilization Techniques:** trained technique used to immobilize a fleeing vehicle. Used at speeds lower than or close to 35mph. This technique should not be utilized on motorcycles or vehicles with a high center of gravity unless deadly force is justified. **HOLMEN POLICE DEPARTMENT IS NOT TRAINED IN THIS TECHNIQUE.**

### 3. PROCEDURES

#### A. (6.1.4.1) Evaluation of Circumstances:

1. To initiate, continue and/or to terminate pursuit consider: **road, weather, visibility, time, population**

**density, pedestrian/vehicular traffic, offense severity, necessity if the suspect is known/can be, apprehended later, and if pursuit poses a significant threat of death to the public.** Pursuits WILL be discontinued if the officer or monitoring supervisor feels the risk outweighs the suspect's apprehension. WI ss. 346.03, 346.04. **Emergency Lights and Siren will be used by pursuit units.**

**(6.1.4.3) Pursuits Involving Unmarked Squads.**

Unmarked squad vehicles in pursuits may pursue with extreme caution until a marked vehicle takes over such pursuit or if supervisor authorized. Members in such units may attempt to maintain view or assist. Clean top patrol vehicles used by field services for daily patrols are authorized to pursue.

**B. (6.1.4.2) Initiating Officer's Responsibilities:**

1. A pursuit is NOT made if a non-sworn member or citizen is in the police vehicle.
2. All emergency signaling devices, audible/visual are activated; seat belt is worn.
3. Dispatch MUST be notified of:
  - a. Reason for pursuit; severity of crime.
  - b. Necessity of conducting pursuit.
  - c. Location / Direction of pursuit.
  - d. Road Conditions.
  - e. Density of population.
  - f. Description of the vehicle, number of occupants and the license number of the vehicle.
  - g. Changes in direction, situation, and speeds.
  - h. If the officer doesn't give the above information to the dispatcher, the dispatcher will request it. The supervisor will ensure that such data is obtained.
4. A safe distance is maintained between the squad and the suspect vehicle, unless deadly force is necessary.
5. Dispatch is advised of the location of the suspect and vehicle if his/her vehicle is abandoned; ignition keys of the squad should be removed, and check of suspect vehicle for other occupants should be completed before chasing on foot.
6. **(6.1.4.5)** The pursuing officer must use his best judgment in determining whether the pursuit will continue or be terminated based on officers responsibilities to pursue. On notification by a supervisor to terminate pursuit, the pursuit is ended immediately. The pursuing units may continue to follow at reduced legal speeds without emergency lights and siren engaged.

**(6.1.4.2)**

**C. Designating Secondary Units Responsibilities:** Specifying Roles and Restrictions Pertinent to Marked, Unmarked or other types of Police Vehicles involved in the pursuit:

1. No more than two Holmen units will directly pursue the suspect unless authorized by a Supervisor or senior officer if Supervisor is not on duty. The decision to have more than two officers will also be determined by circumstances of the suspect/offense. Others may parallel, assist or observe. Assisting/Secondary Unit Actions: Monitor escape routes, observe for additional descriptions, or establish supervisory approved and planning for roadblocks, deploy tire deflation devices.

**D. Assigning Dispatchers Responsibilities:**

1. Advise units of the pursuit and restrict radio traffic.
2. Notify on duty supervisors to monitor the pursuit.
3. Keep units updated and assist in unit directions.
4. Coordinate others if it goes outside the Village.

**E. Describing Supervisor's Responsibilities:**

1. On duty supervisor will monitor pursuits, direct units, evaluate progress, authorize/terminate roadblocks or terminate the pursuit if necessary. If no supervisory is available the responsibility will fall to senior officer.

**F. (6.1.4.4) Using Forcible Stopping/Roadblocks**

1. Last resort to stop a fleeing vehicle, when all other reasonable means have failed and **ONLY** due to one or more of the following:
  - a. Suspect(s) are reasonably believed to have committed a felony involving use or threats of deadly force.
  - b. Continued manner of operation by the suspect is creating a substantial risk of death to the public.
  - c. Suspect(s) pose a significant threat of death to the public for reasons unrelated to the pursuit if not immediately apprehended.

2. Prior to roadblocks, make every effort to get supervisory approval.

**3. Fixed Roadblocks**

- a. Consider a location which affords the greatest degree of safety taking into account vehicular and pedestrian traffic, weather, visibility, time of day and other roadway physical aspects.
- b. Area should be as well lighted as possible; additional lighting should be used to ensure that the roadblock can be readily seen.
- c. Vehicles will not completely block the roadway or force collision; sufficient room will be left as an escape route for the violator.
- d. Provide approaching vehicles adequate time and distance to stop and avoid collision.
- e. Private vehicles/property will NOT be used without supervisor approval and only as a last resort.
- f. Remove all persons from the area; members will be away from their parked units in case of collision.
- g. Notify LEDC of the roadblock's location and when removed. Roadblocks will be for a minimal time and are removed as soon as possible; remove prior to use if it is too much of a hazard.

**4. Moving Roadblocks**

- a. Extremely hazardous, only for extreme conditions better suited for lower speeds; consider:
- b. Presence of vehicular/pedestrian traffic, weather, visibility, time of day, physical aspects of the roadway for the greatest degree of safety.
- c. Emergency lights/siren are activated; officers will attempt gradual initiation to avoid collision giving the suspect opportunity to stop without hitting a police unit. Unintentional contact is not considered ramming.
- d. Use for a minimum time and discontinue as soon as possible; terminate if it becomes apparent that the roadblock is creating an unreasonable hazard.

**5. Circle Technique**

- a. Another form of Moving Road Block wherein multiple police vehicles surround the suspect's vehicle in an attempt to "box-in" the suspect's vehicle; officers will initiate gradual deceleration giving the suspect opportunity to stop without hitting a police unit. Unintentional contact is not considered ramming.
- b. Same considerations should be given as outlined in 4-a through d.

**6. Tire Deflation Devices- Deployed by trained officers.**

- a. Deploying officers shall notify LEDC of intention to deploy tire deflation devices and allow pursuing officers' time to disengage to avoid deflation of police vehicle tires.
- b. Deployment location should avoid deflation of non-involved vehicles.
- c. **Officer Safety is of the utmost importance when deploying deflation devices.** Officers shall choose a location which provides them with the most safety.
- d. Deflation devices should be monitored and removed as soon as possible following deployment.
- e. Following deployment authorized officers will service the deployment device to ensure that the device is operational for further deployments. Service needs should be brought to the attention of the Police Chief or Lieutenant
- f. Deflation devices should not be utilized on Motorcycles unless DEADLY FORCE is authorized.
- g. Devices are kept in squad trunks, if any.
- h. Deployments shall be in accordance with department/officer training.

**G. (6.1.4.6) Engaging in INTER/INTRA Jurisdictional Pursuits:**

- 1. Department Pursuits outside of the Village.
  - a. Officers may continue pursuits initiated within the Village into another jurisdiction unless restricted by law or Department order such as pursuing out of state. Out of state pursuits MUST have the prior permission of a supervisor whenever possible.
  - b. Officers will comply with all laws and orders.
  - c. LEDC personnel and a supervisor will coordinate the actions of the pursuing officer with members of other agencies who join in the pursuit.
- 2. Other Agency Pursuits into the Village.
  - a. Officers may assist agencies pursuing into the Village at the discretion of the Supervisor or Senior Officer. Supervisor shall be notified immediately if not on duty. Pursuit orders apply while assisting other jurisdictions.
  - b. On duty supervisors will monitor and coordinate activities of members while assisting other jurisdictions.
  - c. If a pursuit enters and then departs the Village, Department personnel will terminate the pursuit unless assistance is requested by the pursuing agency or when directed to do so by the on duty supervisor.

**H. (6.1.4.7) Critique of Pursuits**

1. ALL pursuits will be reviewed by the Chief/Lieutenant or his/her designee.
2. For review purposes, it is still a pursuit even if the violator is not apprehended or if pursuit is low speed.
3. Supervisors will ensure that the primary pursuing officer/ designee shall complete a State Mandatory Pursuit Report Copies of the State form will be attached to the General Report.

Shane Collins  
Police Chief

This Policy & Procedure cancels and supersedes any and all previous written directives relative to the subject matter contained herein.

Initial 01/28/17