



# Policy Revision Request

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This revision applies to Existing Policy

If new, recommended section \_\_\_\_\_

This revision is necessary to comply with Best Practices

Whom does this revision affect? Department

This revision has an unbudgeted financial impact of \$ 0

## **Brief reason for the revision:**

To offer direction on applying tire deflation tactics yet to be encompassed by department guidelines. This update also has enhancements to the existing policy verbiage.

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## 214 Vehicle Pursuits

### 214.6 APPROVED PURSUIT INTERVENTION AND TERMINATION TACTICS

#### 214.6.2 TIRE DEFLATION DEVICE (TDD)

The use of a Tire Deflation Device (TDD) should be approved in advance by the control supervisor and deployed only when it is reasonably apparent that only the pursued vehicle will be affected by ~~their~~ use. Officers should carefully consider the limitations of such devices as well as the potential risks to officers, the public, and occupants of the pursued vehicle. If the pursued vehicle is, ~~for example,~~ transporting hazardous materials, or a school bus ~~is~~ transporting children, officers and supervisors should weigh the potential consequences against the need to ~~immediately~~ stop the vehicle ~~immediately~~.

(a) TDD shall not be used when a motorcycle is involved in the pursuit.

(b) TDD Deployment During Vehicle Pursuit

1. Only officers who have received and successfully completed Departmental ~~approved~~ training in ~~the application and use of~~ applying and using an approved TDD shall use this intervention tactic.
2. The following scenarios require supervisor approval prior to a TDD deployment:
  - (a) The fleeing vehicle has made overt attempts to strike any other vehicles, persons, or structure during the pursuit, or
  - (b) There is a reasonable belief that the suspect is armed (independent witness claims, self-admittance, multiple victim statements, etc.)
3. Officers who are driving units equipped with a TDD and are authorized to deploy the TDD may proceed Code 3 to a location likely to be in ~~the path of the~~ pursuit path.

4. TDD units shall advise Communications when they have reached the deployment site and ~~give~~provide their location.
5. Prior to deploying a TDD, officers shall consider the following:
  - (a) The need to continue the pursuit versus terminating the pursuit in the event the deployment of a TDD ~~are~~is ineffective;
  - (b) The risk to the public ~~and the~~or pursuing law enforcement vehicles caused by the deployment of the TDD; and,
  - (c) The hazard to the occupants of the pursued vehicle.
6. After ~~a deployment site has been established~~,establishing a deployment site, the control supervisor may authorize other units to operate Code 3 ~~in order~~ to channel the fleeing vehicle to this location.
  - (a) Channeling may include blocking freeway exits and~~/or~~ major side streets.
  - (b) Police units shall not attempt to ~~make~~cause a fleeing vehicle to take any action other than continuing straight on the road upon which it is already traveling.
  - (c) Police units shall activate all emergency lights~~ing~~ while blocking exits or streets.
7. The officer calling the pursuit shall broadcast the identity of the target vehicle to the TDD unit when the pursuit approaches the deployment site. The information should include ~~details of the~~ vehicle details, such as license plate, color, make and model.
  - (a) ~~The target vehicle should be visually confirmed by the TDD unit to reduce errors in deployment.~~ The TDD unit should visually confirm the target vehicle to reduce deployment errors.
  - (b) All pursuing units should maintain at least a three to five-second gap behind the target vehicle to allow sufficient time for the setup and retrieval of the TDD.
  - (c) Pursuing vehicles should proceed cautiously upon approaching and crossing the TDD deployment site.

(c) Pre-Pursuit TDD Deployment

1. There may be times when using a TDD prior to a pursuit can potentially avoid a dangerous pursuit or considerably lower the speeds and length of a pursuit.
  - (a) When practicable, any pre-pursuit deployment of a TDD should be approved by a supervisor and acknowledged verbally over the radio by the approving supervisor.
  - (b) TDD-equipped units shall advise Communications when they have reached the deployment site and provide the location.
2. The Pre-pursuit deployment of a TDD, including the justification for deployment, should be documented in the officer's initial report or supplement and the Incident Review Packet if needed. The officer should put the approving supervisor's name in their report or supplement or explain why supervisor approval could not be attained.
3. Pre-pursuit deployment of a TDD against moving vehicles should only be used during instances where this General Order justifies pursuits, the vehicle is already eluding, and there is other information or evidence to show the reasonableness of using the TDD prior to a potential pursuit (e.g., a freshly reported serious crime, suspect in a violent crime series, the vehicle or suspect has previously evaded). In circumstances where officers seek pre-pursuit deployment of a TDD against a moving vehicle due only to a belief that a particular suspect is driving the vehicle, officers must positively identify the suspect as the driver before deploying the TDD.
4. Pre-pursuit deployment of a TDD against stationary vehicles may prevent a subject from attempting to flee a scene when a seizure of that subject and/or vehicle may be warranted. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Limiting the possibility of a wanted or dangerous person from entering a vehicle and attempting to leave an area of containment,
- (b) Containing a suspected intoxicated or impaired driver who either refuses or is unable to exit a vehicle and who may attempt to drive away after being stopped by an officer,
- (c) Attempt to prevent or significantly slow a vehicle from leaving the scene of an incident when that vehicle itself is considered, or could reasonably become, evidence.

(d) TDD Deployment at Fixed Positions

1. An officer may use a TDD when reasonably believing it is prudent to prevent or significantly slow vehicles that may attempt to enter a secured scene, potentially threatening the safety of personnel in or around that scene (e.g., roadway closures, special events).
2. A supervisor should approve any deployment of a TDD at fixed positions.
  - (a) The deploying officer shall advise Communications of the deployment location and request this be annotated in the call notes under the assigned incident.
  - (b) The deploying officer shall document any contact between a TDD and any vehicle(s) in the appropriate incident report.
3. Deployment of a TDD at fixed positions of pre-planned events:
  - (a) If the event is a Special Events Unit (SEU) coordinated event, then an SEU supervisor should approve deployment. If no SEU supervisor is available, another on-duty supervisor may approve the deployment, and an SEU supervisor should be notified as soon as practicable.
  - (b) If the event is not an SEU coordinated event: Any on-duty supervisor may approve the deployment.
4. Officers should place a TDD at fixed positions so that drivers have sufficient opportunity to stop or comply with directions before incurring damage.
5. Deployed TDD at fixed positions should not be left unattended to prevent theft or tampering.