

Pasco Police Department Policy Manual

PATROL	Chapter No. 41
Effective Date: 04/01/2018 Revised: 08/19/2021	Reference: Chapter 33 – Training and Career Development Mobile Video Data Camera Procedure Canine Program Manual Amber Alert Procedure Blue Alert Procedure Silver Alert & Endangered Missing Person Procedure

41.1.1 CONTINUOUS PATROL COVERAGE

The Pasco Police Department's Field Operations Division maintains patrol coverage 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Field Operations Division's shift hours of work are:

Days: 0700 – 1740 hours
Swings: 1530 – 0210 hours
Graves: 2120 – 0800 hours

Shift / Area / Rotation Assignment

It is the general policy of the Pasco Police Department that officers assigned to the Field Operations Division will work a non-rotating watch. This does not preclude the Field Operations Captain from temporarily reassigning officers from one watch to another for the purpose of responding to special or emergency situations or meeting minimum staffing requirements. Generally, there will be no routine rotation of officers from one watch to another on a daily, weekly, monthly, or quarterly basis. Officers will patrol in clearly marked vehicles to an assigned area within the City of Pasco.

Probationary officers assigned to Field Training Officer (FTO) may be required to rotate shifts for the purpose of orientation and training.

In assigning officers to shifts, the following factors will be taken into consideration:

- The preference of the officer as determined through the seniority-based bidding system;
- The need for appropriate levels of experience on each shift;
- The need for technical skills and training on the shift;
- Other operational needs of the department.

Patrol officers are assigned to a shift on a twelve-month cycle. As a general rule, assignments to a shift will last one year, from approximately January 1 to December 31. In December of each year, assignments will be made for the upcoming year to allow officers advanced notice in the event of a shift change.

Shift supervisors are accountable for the assignment of personnel to the respective patrol districts. On a temporary basis, shift supervisors have the flexibility to achieve the best utilization of personnel resources in providing coverage on a given shift. Area assignments are made utilizing information that includes:

- Average calls for service generated in specific areas during specific times,
- Barriers, natural or man-made, affecting unit mobility,

- Anticipated area activities requiring additional services or attention

Area responsibility will be assigned during the bidding process. Generally, an officer will be assigned to one particular area for a twelve (12) month period.

Under the 10:40 schedule, days off are determined by the officer's initial assignment to either the A or B rotation of their respective Days, Swings, or Graves squad, with all members of the same rotation having the same assigned days on and off within the 28-day cycle.

41.1.2 ROLL CALL (BRIEFING)

Patrol officers attend roll call or "briefing" at the beginning of each shift. Briefings generally last between 15-20 minutes. This time is used to brief personnel with information regarding daily patrol activity with particular attention given to unusual situations, potential and actual police hazards, changes in the status of wanted persons, stolen vehicles, major investigations, and information regarding relevant community-based initiatives. Sergeants and command staff may also use briefing to notify personnel of changes in schedules and assignments and notify personnel of new directives or changes in directives.

41.1.3 SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES

Pasco Police Department utilizes special purpose vehicles to enhance patrol efforts in the community. Deployment of special purpose vehicles is done upon supervisor approval.

Special purpose vehicles may require additional training and certification prior to use. The training sergeant will be responsible for ensuring the proper training requirements are met for each special purpose vehicle.

Each special purpose vehicle will be maintained in operational readiness by assigned personnel. Vehicles will be inspected by the operator prior to its use. Any deficiencies in the vehicle or equipment shall be documented and forwarded to the training sergeant as soon as possible. Operators are responsible for restocking or replacing equipment and supplies following deployment.

Bicycle Patrol

- Conditions and Limitations of Usage

Bicycle officers patrol in a highly visible manner in the areas of the City where there are large numbers of people. Examples of these areas include bicycle and pedestrian pathways, parks, locations of parades and special events, apartment complexes, and shopping centers. These areas are patrolled during the hours of daylight for high visibility and at night for the detection of criminal activity not usually discovered by conventional patrol.

During inclement weather, officers should exercise discretion in the use of the bicycle.

Due to the unobtrusive nature of bicycle patrol, officers assigned to the unit may be used in special operations such as stakeouts or activities requiring plain clothes while operating a bicycle.

Officers may be asked to speak in public and private functions to promote bicycle safety and the concept of community-oriented policing. Bicycle officers may also be sent to assist outside agencies during their special functions at the request of outside agencies and the Chief's approval.

- **Qualifications and Training**

Officers selected for the bicycle unit shall meet the requirements of the position. Particular attention is placed on demonstrated public relations skills and professional appearance.

Bicycle officers attend a bicycle patrol training class as soon as practical after assignment to the unit. Bicycle officers are authorized to operate the bicycle and related equipment after receiving the above-described training.

- **Equipment**

Bicycle officers are personally equipped to meet all applicable safety standards for bicycle patrol duties. The bicycle is capable of withstanding both on- and off-road use. It contains sufficient equipment for officers to complete assigned patrol duties.

Each officer is responsible for the care and maintenance of their assigned bicycles. Requests for maintenance and repair to be done by a specialized mechanic are routed through the chain of command.

The bicycle is equipped with a lighting system that meets the requirements of [RCW 46.61.780](#).

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Patrol

- **Conditions and Limitations of Usage**

ATV's used by the Pasco Police Department will be the property of the Pasco Police Department.

ATV officers patrol in a highly visible manner in the areas of the City where there are large numbers of people or large areas of ground not readily accessible by patrol vehicles. Examples of these areas include bicycle and pedestrian pathways, parks, new construction areas, and crop circles, or vacant acreage. These areas are patrolled during the hours of daylight for high visibility and at night for the detection of criminal activity not normally discovered by conventional patrol.

ATV officers are expected to make a high number of citizen contacts when operating in parks or on pathways and are not restricted in the off-road use of the ATV. Barring exigent circumstances, ATV officers should operate the ATV at all times in a safe and legal manner that would not alarm the public. ATV officers should be cautious around animals, particularly horses, until the animal's reaction can be assessed.

At the request of outside agencies, and the approval of the Chief, ATV officers may be sent to assist agencies during special functions.

- **Qualifications and Training**

Officers selected for the ATV use shall have a currently valid driver's license and will have successfully completed a class on the use of the ATV. The class will include instruction on applicable on- and off-road laws concerning ATV's, protective gear (helmets), effective handling techniques, the specific controls on the current ATV's and a practical demonstration of knowledge by operating the ATV over a prescribed course while observed by the EVOC instructor.

- Equipment

ATV's will normally be transported on roadways using a trailer and a hitch-equipped city vehicle. Barring exigent circumstances, ATV's should not be operated on the public roadways. ATV's should receive a walk-around inspection by the user prior to use. Any identified need for repair or maintenance should be passed on to the on-duty patrol supervisor and City Shops to facilitate repair.

Evidence Recovery Vehicle (ERV)

- Conditions and Limitations of Usage

ERV used by the Pasco Police Department will be the property of the Pasco Police Department. The ERV will be used as needed during investigations.

At the request of outside agencies and the approval of the Chief, Support Services Captain, or Investigative Sergeant, the authorized user and ERV may be sent to assist agencies during investigations.

- Qualifications and Training

Operators of the ERV must have completed an operator's course on the vehicle with an EVOC instructor. Officers who have qualified on EVOC are authorized to operate the EVR.

- Equipment

The Evidence Technician is primarily responsible for the condition of the ERV. Any identified need for repair or maintenance should be passed on to the investigations supervisor and City Shops to facilitate repair.

SWAT Equipment Truck

- Conditions and Limitations of Usage

The SWAT truck used by the Regional SWAT Team will be the property of the Pasco Police Department. The SWAT truck will be used as needed during SWAT activations or other department use.

- Qualifications and Training

Operators must have completed an operator's course on the vehicle with an EVOC instructor. Officers who have qualified on EVOC are authorized to operate the SWAT truck.

- Equipment

The TCR is responsible for the condition of the SWAT truck. Any identified need for repair or maintenance should be passed on to the investigation's supervisor and City shops to facilitate repair. An equipment inventory list will be kept inside the vehicle.

Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)

- Conditions and Limitations of Usage

A Pasco Police Department supervisor must authorize the deployment of any Pasco UAS mission before its launch. The UAS program coordinator can authorize UAS training deployments. Any UAS pilot can refuse to fly if they feel that they cannot safely operate the UAS, regardless of a UAS request

- **Qualifications and Training**

The Remote Pilot in Command (RPIC) of any Pasco Police Department operation shall have an FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot's License and 10 hours of training time from a UAS instructor. One hour of night flight training time is required prior to any night flight operations each year.

All licensed pilots must complete the Pasco Police Department's UAS proficiency test in order to operate a UAS as an RPIC. This proficiency test will be administered by the program coordinator or designee of the program coordinator.

An unlicensed individual may manipulate the controls of a UAS under the direct supervision of the RPIC. The RPIC must be close enough to take control of the UAS controls the entire time an unlicensed individual is manipulating the controls of a UAS.

- **Equipment**

When a damaged/worn-out piece of UAS equipment is discovered, the RPIC must place that piece of equipment out of service. Propellers and batteries can be changed out and placed out of service, but if a controller or the body of the UAS is damaged, then the entire UAS is placed out of service. Additional propellers and batteries will be available to RPICs. The program coordinator is responsible for reinspection, repair/replacement, testing, and placing the repaired UAS back into service.

41.1.4 AGENCY SERVICE ANIMALS

The only agency service animal authorized is the approved police canine.

41.1.5 POLICE SERVICE CANINES

The Pasco Police Department uses generalist canine teams to assist patrol and detectives. Refer to the [Canine Procedures Manual](#).

41.1.6 CONDUCTING FIELD INTERVIEWS

The Field Interview (FI) is an effective tool for use in suspect identification, crime suppression, crime analysis, and community relations. FI's have provided suspect leads and cleared possible suspects from criminal suspicion.

Officers of the Pasco Police Department can make non-custodial contacts with citizens. Under these circumstances, citizens are not required to remain at the scene with the officer.

Officers are encouraged to use FI reporting. Field interview cards will be completed for most contacts.

41.2.1 RESPONSE TO EMERGENCY, URGENT AND NON-EMERGENCY CALLS

This section deals with responding to calls in marked patrol vehicles with emergency equipment (lights and siren). Response to calls can be broken into two main categories: calls for service and officer requests for assistance. The type of response to calls and requests for assistance varies depending on the seriousness of the situation.

Calls for Service

Calls for service are broken down into three basic types: non-emergency, urgent, and emergency.

1. A **non-emergency** call is one that is not affected by officer response time. Examples include report calls of prior incidents (Burglary, Theft, etc.), suspicious subject or circumstance calls, and non-injury/non-blocking accidents.
2. An **urgent** call is a more serious call where the safety of the public or apprehension of a suspect is affected by police response time. Officers are required to maintain safe vehicle operations and comply with [RCW 46.37.190](#) and [RCW 46.61.035](#). Examples of urgent calls are an officer's request for a "code 2" backup, robberies or burglaries just occurred.
3. An **emergency** call is when a person's life is in danger. Responding officers will immediately respond using emergency equipment if tactically appropriate. Officers are required to maintain safe vehicle operations and comply with [RCW 46.37.190](#) and [RCW 46.61.035](#). Examples are an officer's request for "code 3" backup, violent crimes against persons in progress, or life-threatening vehicle accidents. Police pursuits are also considered emergency calls.

Responsibilities of On-Duty Driving

When officers are not responding to urgent or emergency calls, they are expected to drive in a safe manner and operate the vehicle in compliance with the RCWs.

Nothing in this section is meant to reduce officer's responsibilities as outlined in [RCW 46.61.035](#) "Authorized Emergency Vehicles."

Officer Requests for Assistance

Officers make requests for assistance or status updates over the radio using one of four codes, depending on the need for priority backup.

Code 1: the officer requests one additional officer, but a priority response is not needed.

Code 2: the officer needs two additional officers and expedited response. Based on the circumstances, the responding officers may use their lights and siren.

Code 3: the officer is in serious trouble and needs multiple officers to assist. Officers respond immediately with lights and siren.

Code 4: means the officer is okay and does not need backup.

Use of Emergency Equipment

Officers may choose to, or be required to, use vehicle emergency equipment depending on the type of call or request for assistance they are responding to. Driving conditions vary so much that it is difficult to create a policy that dictates how to respond. When responding to calls or requests for assistance, officers will follow these guidelines:

- Slow to a reasonable speed or stop before proceeding through intersections.
- Proceed through red lights with emergency lights and audible signal activated.
- Never pass on the right when emergency equipment is activated, except when:
 - Traffic is yielding to the left.
 - Traffic is stopped, and the only avenue for safe response is to the right.
 - Intersections in which the safest route for the public and officers is to the right.
 - Other instances where the officer identifies that it would be safer for the public and officers to pass on the right.

- Remember, it is the officer's responsibility to drive with due regard for all persons.

Responsibilities during Emergency Response

Responsibility of the responding officers:

- Drive their police vehicle and use emergency equipment as outlined above.
- Advise SECOMM and other officers via radio when they are responding to an emergency call.
- Slow or discontinue their response when an adequate number of closer units are enroute.

Responsibility of the shift supervisor:

- Determine the nature of the response.
- Limit the number of units responding.
- Monitor the information to determine the continuing need for an emergency response.

Responsibility of the Dispatcher:

- Confirm that the sergeant heard the emergency call.
- Advise the sergeant and others how many units are responding.
- Keep the reporting party on the line (if appropriate) to determine the continued need for an emergency response.
- Advise officers of known hazards that dispatch is aware of.

41.2.2 VEHICLE PURSUITS

Vehicle Pursuit Defined: An attempt by a uniformed peace officer in a vehicle equipped with emergency lights and a siren to stop a moving vehicle where the operator of the moving vehicle appears to be aware that the officer is signaling the operator to stop the vehicle and the operator of the moving vehicle appears to be willfully resisting or ignoring the officer's attempt to stop the vehicle by increasing vehicle speed, making evasive maneuvers, or operating the vehicle in a reckless manner that endangers the safety of the community or the officer.

Training

Entry: Police officers receive EVOC training at the academy.

Initial: Initial training on the Pasco Police Department's pursuit policy will be documented.

Reoccurring: All sworn personnel will receive documented annual training on the Pasco Police Department's pursuit policy.

Patrol officers will receive annual training on Emergency Vehicle Operations and Vehicle Pursuits by a certified Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) instructor.

Evaluating the Circumstances

There are many factors to be considered before deciding to pursue a suspect. Each situation is unique. It is Pasco Police Department's policy to apprehend violators of the law, but that policy is balanced against a greater concern for the safety of the public and the employee. This may result in traffic violators or criminal suspects avoiding apprehension.

Vehicular pursuits require officers to exhibit a high degree of common sense and sound judgment. Officers must not forget that the immediate apprehension of a suspect is generally not more important than the safety of the public and pursuing officers. Police officers acting reasonably under the existing circumstances will not be criticized in any way for a decision not to begin or to discontinue a pursuit.

Officers transporting persons other than commissioned officers should not participate in pursuits except in extreme circumstances and should not pursue while transporting a prisoner.

Initiating officers should be in a fully marked police vehicle. Patrol cars without light bars may initiate a pursuit but must request a fully marked vehicle for assistance. When a fully marked vehicle arrives, the unmarked patrol car must give primary responsibility to the marked vehicle.

Decision to Pursue

A peace officer may not engage in a vehicular pursuit, unless:

- There is probable cause to believe that a person in the vehicle has committed or is committing a violent offense or sex offense as defined in [RCW 9.94A.030](#), or an escape under chapter 9A.76 RCW; or
- There is reasonable suspicion a person in the vehicle has committed or is committing a driving under the influence offense under [RCW 46.61.502](#);
- The pursuit is necessary for the purpose of identifying or apprehending the person;
- The person poses an imminent threat to the safety of others and the safety risks of failing to apprehend or identify the person are considered to be greater than the safety risks of the vehicular pursuit under the circumstances; and
- The officer has received authorization to engage in the pursuit from a supervising officer and there is supervisory control of the pursuit. The officer in consultation with the supervising officer must consider alternatives to the vehicular pursuit. The supervisor must consider the justification for the vehicular pursuit and other safety considerations, including but not limited to speed, weather, traffic, road conditions, and the known presence of minors in the vehicle,
- The vehicular pursuit must be terminated if the above bullets are not met.

Other important considerations include familiarity with geography, the speed of the pursuit, and the ability of other motorists and pedestrians to hear and see police emergency equipment.

Every Department member engaging in a pursuit must be able to articulate what conditions were present that justified the pursuit.

Responsibilities of Officer Initiating a Pursuit

1. Comply with [RCW 46.61.035](#) "Authorized Emergency Vehicle."
2. Immediately notify the Dispatch Center that you are in pursuit. Provide at a minimum: Vehicle description, speed, direction of travel, and reason for the pursuit.
3. Update information regularly.
4. A pursuing officer shall comply with department procedures for designating the primary pursuit vehicle and determining the number of vehicles permitted to participate in the vehicular pursuit and comply with any agency procedures for coordinating operations with other jurisdictions, including available tribal police departments when applicable.

5. Decide if there is a need for immediate apprehension, or can the suspect be identified and charged through investigation.

Responsibility of Secondary Units

A pursuit ordinarily will involve no more than three units; the supervisor may be a fourth unit overseeing the pursuit. Other units may follow at a safe distance using lights and sirens if appropriate.

1. The second unit's primary responsibility is to assist the primary unit. The second unit should handle the radio traffic and replace the primary unit in the event the primary unit cannot continue.
2. The third unit shall have the following responsibilities, but not limited to:
 - Replace either of the first two units if one of them becomes disabled or is otherwise unable to continue the pursuit.
 - Discontinue the pursuit and render aid in the event of a collision involving third parties.
 - Be in a position, at the point of pursuit termination, to implement a high risk stop, containment, or apprehension of fleeing suspects or to provide traffic control, as necessary.
 - If PIT maneuver is utilized, the third unit will assist the secondary unit in pinning the vehicle.
3. Other patrol units near the pursuit area shall monitor the progress of the pursuit. They shall not directly engage in the pursuit unless requested by the primary unit or directed by a supervisor. These units should be ready to replace any assigned unit in the event they cannot continue. They should be in position to respond to any collision that may result from the pursuit. Other officers should make attempts to safely stop traffic at intersections in the path of the pursuit. Backup units should be available to assist in the apprehension of the suspects or provide any needed traffic control at the termination of the pursuit.
4. If a K9 is available, they should take over the primary unit position and responsibilities as soon as it can be safely accomplished. The original primary unit will take over the secondary unit responsibilities.

Responsibility of the Dispatch Center

1. On notification of a pursuit, announce that the air is restricted.
2. Rebroadcast initial communications from the pursuing officer.
3. Confirm the supervisor knows of the pursuit.
4. Advise officers of known hazards affecting involved or responding units.

Responsibility of Supervisors

1. State over the radio that they are aware of and are monitoring the pursuit.
2. Control the number of units in the pursuit.
3. Decide whether to let the pursuit continue or direct its termination.

Mandatory Pursuit Termination

Vehicle Pursuits will be terminated when:

1. Directed by a supervisor or commanding officer.
2. The suspect is identified and there is no need for immediate custody.
3. The danger of continuing the pursuit outweighs the immediate necessity of arresting the suspect.
4. The pursuing officer loses contact with the eluding vehicle.
5. The speed of the pursuit is beyond the driving skill of the officer.
6. Pursuing officers are unfamiliar with local geography or radio communication cannot be maintained.

Authority to Terminate Pursuit

Directed by a supervisor or commanding officer. The involved officer may terminate if they feel it is not safe to continue.

Inter-and Intra-Jurisdiction Pursuits

When a pursuit enters another agency's jurisdiction, the primary officer or supervisor, taking into consideration distance traveled, unfamiliarity with the area, and other pertinent facts, should determine whether to request the other agency to assume the pursuit. Unless entry into another jurisdiction is expected to be brief, it is generally recommended that the primary officer or supervisor ensure that notification is provided to each outside jurisdiction into which the pursuit is reasonably expected to enter, regardless of whether such jurisdiction is expected to assist.

1. Assumption of Pursuit by Another Agency: Units originally involved will discontinue the pursuit when advised that another agency has assumed the pursuit and assistance of the Pasco Police Department is no longer needed. Upon discontinuing the pursuit, the primary unit may proceed upon request, with or at the direction of a supervisor, to the termination point to assist in the investigation.
2. Pursuits Extending into this Jurisdiction: The agency that initiates a pursuit into Pasco shall be responsible for conducting the pursuit. The Pasco supervisor will determine if Pasco units should become involved in the pursuit.
3. When a request is made for this department to assist or take over a pursuit from another agency that has entered this jurisdiction, the Pasco supervisor should consider the factors listed in this policy.
4. As soon as practical, the Pasco supervisor should review a request for assistance from another agency. The supervisor, after consideration of the factors listed in this policy, may decline to assist in, or assume the other agency's pursuit.
5. If a pursuit from another agency terminates within this jurisdiction, officers shall provide appropriate assistance to officers from the allied agency, including, but not limited to, scene control, coordination, and completion of supplemental reports and any other assistance requested or needed.

After Action Reports/ Pursuit Critique

The patrol supervisor is responsible for holding an after-action critique for all vehicle pursuits and preparing a written report of that critique for training and policy review. This report will be included in the Blue Team pursuit submission, which is forwarded to the Field Operations Captain. The Field Operations Captain will review all pursuit information to ensure policy compliance.

Annual Analysis of Reports

The Field Operations Captain is responsible for the annual review and analysis, to include a review of policy and reporting procedures of all pursuits. After the review, a report will be submitted to the Chief of Police.

41.2.3 FORCIBLE STOPPING

Prior to utilizing, officers will complete training in forcible stopping techniques. The following forcible stopping techniques may be used after receiving authorization from a supervisor.

1. Vehicle Pinning

Officers may use their patrol vehicle as a tool to keep a vehicle from moving from a stationary position when it is reasonably believed that the vehicle can/will be used in an attempt to flee lawful detention.

- Officers should consider factors such as potential suspect violence, weapons, tactical positioning, bystanders, vehicle occupants, and traffic conditions before using this tactic.
- Vehicle pinning is a very low-speed tactic and should cause little to no vehicle damage.
- When a departmental vehicle is being used as an approved tool, no collision report is required.

2. Ramming

Ramming is used to cease a vehicle's movement rendering it inoperable. This is accomplished when an officer intentionally uses a patrol vehicle to strike the suspect's vehicle to stop it or keep it from moving. Prior to intentionally striking vehicles, officers will:

- Receive authorization from the shift supervisor.
- In most circumstances, only strike the vehicle at low speeds (less than 25 mph).
- Employ the technique in a relatively safe area. (Not near an embankment, in heavy traffic, near pedestrians)

Ramming may be considered an application of deadly force when that force is applied in a manner likely to produce death or serious bodily injury.

Ramming requires an administrative review and a written use of force report for each incident.

3. Pursuit Immobilization Technique (PIT)

The pursuit immobilization technique is a method to reduce risks in bringing pursuits to a conclusion. Extenuating circumstances, for purposes of this policy, are defined as: any circumstance/s, which creates a high risk to the public, and using PIT could bring an end to that risk. Examples of this may include wrong-way drivers on the freeway, situations where police believe a vehicle is not stopping due to mechanical failure, and/or medical issues of the driver. PIT is a forced rotational vehicle stop of a non-compliant suspect in an effort to end the suspect's flight. As instructed and used by officers, it is separate and distinct from Intentional Ramming.

No officer shall take part in a PIT attempt without first being trained in the PIT. The PIT will require two separate cars (PIT car and pin car) whose drivers both must be PIT-trained. PIT training will consist of a course taught by certified EVOC instructors. The PIT class will include

but is not limited to a review of this policy, an explanation of the PIT, practical repetitions of the PIT on a closed course using designated cars, and successful PIT applications by each officer while monitored by an EVOC instructor. The use of a PIT is considered a use of force, and must be in compliance with the Department's Use of Force policies and procedures.

PIT - Under 40 Miles Per Hour

PIT maneuvers at less than 40 miles per hour may be executed at the discretion of a pursuing officer; however, if time allows, supervisor authorization should be requested by the pursuing officer. If performed at less than 40 miles per hour, PIT may be used under the following conditions:

- PIT shall be used only to apprehend felony offenders whose actions indicate a disregard for the safety of the officer(s) or the public.
- Eluding can be the only felony present precipitating the need for PIT maneuvers.

PIT – Over 40 Miles Per Hour

If executed at 40 miles per hour or higher, PIT requires supervisory authorization. In these instances, PIT may be used:

- After less intrusive methods have been tried or considered and have been judged to be ineffective; and when the totality of the circumstances requires immediate intervention to stop a fleeing suspect's vehicle.

Site Assessment for the Use of PIT

A site assessment is crucial when considering the use of PIT. Prior to executing a PIT maneuver, officers should consider features in the surrounding area, such as:

- Blind Curves (PIT works best in curves but should not be performed when the officer believes that visibility is significantly compromised.)
- Bridge abutments
- Major obstacles on roadsides
- Oncoming traffic
- Pedestrians

Officers shall not be disciplined for a decision against executing a PIT maneuver in a pursuit situation.

Ramming a vehicle is the deliberate act of hitting another vehicle with a patrol vehicle for the purpose of functionally damaging or forcing the other vehicle off the road. The use of the Pursuit Immobilization Technique (PIT) is not ramming.

41.2.4 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

Police Supervisors

Officers arriving at the scene of an emergency situation should notify their supervisor and dispatcher as soon as possible with the status of the incident. This notification should be made over the radio. If the incident is of a sensitive nature, telephonic or mobile data communication should be made. The officer should make any requests for further staffing and/or equipment over the radio. The shift supervisor will monitor the incident and/or request additional information. The

shift supervisor will handle notifications to the division captain. Shift supervisors will respond to all serious incidents that occur during their shift unless already committed to a more serious event.

Coroner

The Coroner's office is notified whenever Pasco Police personnel investigate a human death within our jurisdiction. The notification is made by phone, and details of the situation are provided. The Coroner or his staff will either respond to the scene to take custody of the deceased or issue a N.J.A. (No Jurisdiction Assumed) number in cases they deem response is not needed. The latter occurs most often in cases where natural death has occurred, personal physicians agree to sign the death certificate, and the deceased is released to a funeral home.

Street Department

During normal business hours, Pasco Police employees contact the Street Department by radio or phone for routine information, assistance, and support.

After hours, the on-call street department supervisor approves emergency assistance needed by police. This "after hours" notification approval applies to both the Street Department and the State of Washington Department of Transportation. In these situations, a SECOMM dispatcher notifies the appropriate agencies by phone.

Public Utilities

In cases of accidental property damage or utility interruptions, police officers direct dispatch to notify the appropriate public utility.

In emergency or investigative cases, the appropriate Pasco Police Department authority contacts utility employees with specific requests or assistance.

Media Notification

In addition to case reports, press releases will be prepared for the following incidents:

- Homicides
- Accidental Deaths
- Officer-Involved Shootings (Press releases will be prepared and delivered to the media by the Tri-Cities Special Investigation Unit)
- Major Traffic Collisions
- Major Wanted Persons/Fugitive Arrests

Before release, a commissioned supervisor approves the press release.

In addition to formal press releases, the information in these matters and other "soft news" items that may be considered of interest to the public may be released through the Pasco Police social media accounts by designated members of the Social Media Team. Before posting information on department social media accounts, members of the Social Media Team must attend department directed training. Social Media Team members may post to department social media accounts without prior approval.

41.2.5 MISSING PERSONS

The Pasco Police Department shall have a case file (electronic or hard copy) on file to support a missing person entry. A record for a missing person who is the age of 21 and over may be entered

in the Missing Person file provided the department has signed documentation in its possession supporting the stated conditions under which the person is declared missing. This documentation will aid in the protection of the individual's right to privacy.

In the absence of documentation from a parent, legal guardian, next of kin, physician, or other authoritative sources, including friend or neighbor in unusual circumstances, or when such documentation is not reasonably attainable, a report by the investigating officer will suffice.

A record for a missing person who is under the age of 21 must be entered into WACIC/NCIC using one of the appropriate categories within two hours of receipt of the minimum data required to enter the record. All other adult missing person records should be entered as soon as possible after a missing person report has been taken.

Entries remain within WACIC/NCIC until the person is located or the entering agency clears or cancels the record.

- Officers obtain as much identifying information about the person as possible, noting the information on the missing person form. If a photograph of the person is available, obtain and attach it to the case. Obtain the name of the missing person's dentist whenever possible. Officers also try to determine the missing person's last known location and any area the person is known to frequent.
- After obtaining identifying information, officers look for the missing person in areas that information indicates the person might be. Other Pasco officers assist as needed. If the missing person is known to frequent locations outside Pasco, an officer will contact the agency responsible for that jurisdiction and request they check the location.
- Reporting officers contact the records section as soon as possible and provide them with a complete description of the missing person. A records specialist or the investigating officer will enter the information into WACIC and NCIC. Missing persons are removed from the computer only after appropriate notification from a Pasco or outside agency employee that the person has been located.
- The below alert systems may be used when applicable to assist in locating missing adults and children.
 1. Amber Alert
 2. Silver Alert
 3. Endangered Missing Person Advisory
 4. Blue Alert

Washington State Patrol is responsible for setting criteria for each notification listed on [WSP Alerts & Missing Persons website](#).

- Reporting officers indicate the case status as "referred to detectives" who conduct follow-up investigations, including any subsequent contacts with the reporting party.

41.2.6 MISSING CHILDREN

An immediate investigation is required whenever an officer receives information that a child is or may be missing. The officer completes an incident report and makes an effort to locate the missing child.

If it appears that the child is lost or the victim of a criminal act, the investigating officer notifies the supervisor. The supervisor decides whether to notify the Field Operations Captain, and if other special efforts to locate the child should be initiated. Prompt and systematic searches shall be considered. Use of alert systems shall be considered and, if appropriate, the Amber Alert Procedure will be utilized.

Missing juveniles are required to be entered into WACIC/NCIC within two hours. This includes persons between the ages of 18-21 per Suzanne's Law of April 2003 and the Adam Walsh Act of 2006. Juvenile missing reports do not require a signed report for entry, although a signed report is always recommended.

A records specialist or officer clears this information from WACIC/NCIC when notified the child is found. Parents shall be reminded to immediately notify Pasco Police when the child returns.

Follow-up Investigations

1. Cases involving missing children that are not immediately assigned will have copies forwarded to the Investigative Services Division for review. If further follow-up investigation is required, the case will be assigned to a detective.
2. If, after 30 days, the missing child has not returned, the Washington State Patrol Missing Children Clearinghouse will be notified. Additionally, the juvenile's parent(s) may be contacted to obtain dental records or any other information that may help in locating the child. If dental records are available, they will be forwarded to the State Patrol Dental Investigation Unit.

Returned Missing Juveniles

1. When information is received indicating that a missing child has been found or returned, clear the report after verifying the information.
2. A records specialist clears the WACIC/NCIC entry upon notification from the detective section. A locate is sent to WACIC and NCIC, which in turn notifies the Missing Children Clearinghouse that the child is no longer missing or on runaway status.

41.2.7 MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

It is the policy of the Pasco Police Department to ensure a consistently high level of service is provided to all persons. Agency personnel shall afford people who have mental illness or disabilities the same rights, dignity, and access to police and other government and community services as provided to all.

The intent of this policy is to provide guidance to department personnel in dealing with persons suspected of being mentally ill or having special needs. While the most serious consequences of officer interactions with the mentally ill are altercations or armed confrontations, other agency personnel who come in contact with the public will need to provide information and assistance to the mentally ill. While the list below is certainly not complete, it should provide personnel with some behaviors and conditions they can observe that may help to identify persons with mental health needs.

Possible indicators of mental illness

Persons suffering from mental illness may neglect their personal care and exhibit some of the following:

Personal appearance

- Dirty or uncombed hair
- Unshaven
- Dirty clothing
- Inappropriate clothing for the weather
- Body odors

Condition of residence (if applicable)

- Exterior and/or interior of residence in poor repair
- Evidence of hoarding
- Inaccurate calendar
- Little or no food
- Strong odors
- Many pets – animals appear neglected
- Garbage or litter

They may exhibit signs of some of the following mental / emotional conditions:

- Confusion
- Disorientation
- Inappropriate responses
- Forgetfulness
- Repetitiveness in conversation
- Seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, feeling things that are not there
- False irrational beliefs, which persist but are not real or true
- Suspiciousness, lack of trust
- Unusual or bizarre behavior
- Exhibit anger, irritability, hostility towards self and/or others
- Appear nervous or fidgety
- Appear sad or depressed
- Alcohol and/or drug abuse

Community resources for mental illness

There are agencies that provide services for persons with special needs or who are suffering from mental illness and may be appropriate for intervention and services. The dispatch center has the current numbers and locations. Officers receive information about resources available and how to access them at annual training.

Guidelines

When dealing with persons suspected of being mentally ill, officer(s) should remember that the subjects' mental condition is an "illness," not a crime. Because the mentally ill can act in unpredictable ways, an Officer should always employ good officer safety practices.

Some tactical considerations with persons suspected of mental illness are:

- Only one officer should talk at a time (two officer minimum response)
- Use firm, one-sentence commands
- Repeat instructions as often as needed
- Tell the person what you are going to do
- Use good communications skills
- Do not indicate you believe in their delusions but show you understand they believe it is happening
- Show empathy and understanding
- Never turn your back on a mentally disturbed person
- Scan the immediate area for potential weapons or danger
- Avoid getting too close to the subject unless you intend to subdue them physically
- Never allow the individual to leave the room or immediate area by themselves
- Be alert. Watch the person's hands and eyes as their actions may indicate what they plan to do next
- Do not assume that mentally ill persons are slow or otherwise physically incapacitated
- Gauge your responses to the subject according to the symptoms they exhibit
- Stop doing anything that escalates dangerous behavior
- Continue doing anything that de-escalates dangerous behavior
- Take the subject into custody if legally justified.
- If circumstances do not warrant custody, release the subject to an appropriate agency or caretaker
- If no appropriate mental health services are available and circumstances do not warrant a custodial arrest, and there is no imminent danger to another person, officers may exercise discretion in clearing the contact.

When individuals suspected of a mental disorder have committed a crime for which they may be legally arrested, officers/supervisors will exercise their judgment in deciding whether to arrest the individual(s) in the criminal matter(s).

If interviews or interrogations of an individual suspected of a mental disorder are required in a criminal investigation, care should be used to be sensitive to the individual's mental state/condition.

- Conduct the interview/interrogation in a non-threatening environment as possible.
- There should be at least two officers present during the interview/interrogation.
- Thoroughly document the individual's demeanor, actions, and statements during the interview/interrogation.

Involuntary Treatment Act

Pursuant [RCW 71.05.150](#) after receiving a signed order of apprehension by a superior court judge, a crises responder may notify a peace officer to take such person or cause such person to be taken into custody and placed in an evaluation and treatment facility, secure withdrawal management and stabilization facility, or approved substance use disorder treatment program.

Imminent Danger ([RCW 71.05.153](#))

Crisis Responder: When a designated crisis responder receives information alleging that a person, as the result of a behavioral health disorder, presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm, or is in imminent danger because of being gravely disabled, after investigation and evaluation of the specific facts alleged and of the reliability and credibility of the person or persons providing the information if any, the designated crisis responder may take such person, or cause by oral or written order such person to be taken into emergency custody in an evaluation and treatment facility, secure withdrawal management and stabilization facility if available with adequate space for the person, or approved substance use disorder treatment program if available with adequate space for the person, for not more than one hundred twenty hours as described in [RCW 71.05.180](#).

If the individual is released to the community, the behavioral health service provider shall inform the officer of the release within a reasonable period of time after the release if the officer has specifically requested notification and provided contact information to the provider.

Officer: An officer may take or cause such person to be taken into custody and immediately delivered to a triage facility, crisis stabilization unit, evaluation and treatment facility, secure withdrawal management and stabilization facility, approved substance use disorder treatment program, or the emergency department of a local hospital under the following circumstances:

- Pursuant above (See [Crises Responder](#)), or
- When he or she has reasonable cause to believe that such person is suffering from a behavioral health disorder and presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm or is in imminent danger because of being gravely disabled.

Use of Force-When lawful: ([RCW 9A.16.020\(6\)](#)) Whenever used by any person to prevent a mentally ill, mentally incompetent, or mentally disabled person from committing an act dangerous to any person, or in enforcing necessary restraint for the protection or restoration to health of the person, during such period only as is necessary to obtain legal authority for the restraint or custody of the person.

Officers will be sure to include all facts to indicate why the person was an imminent danger and will include any information regarding repeated and escalating patterns of behavior.

Training ([WAC 139-09-020](#) / [RCW 43.101.427](#))

Entry: All recruits receive 8 hours of Crises Intervention Team (CIT) training in the Basic Law Enforcement Academy.

Reoccurring: All Pasco Police Department sworn personnel must complete a 2-hr annual online crises intervention training per RCW 43.101.427. Each year CJTC releases a new course with a new crisis or de-escalation topic.

Pasco Police Department will strive to ensure that 25% of commissioned officers receive the 40-hr CIT training. The CIT training is designed to provide tools and resources to criminal justice personnel to respond more effectively to individuals in behavioral health crisis. This training provides tools to increase safety for both personnel and those in crisis.

Suicide attempts and mental health referrals

Referrals to a mental health agency pursuant to this policy should be limited to instances where:

- A person is the subject of a report of threatened or attempted suicide; and
- The responding officer(s) believe, based on their training and experience, that the person could benefit from mental health services;
- The person does not consent to voluntary mental health services;
- The person is not involuntarily committed or involuntarily transported for a mental health evaluation under [RCW 71.05](#); and
- The person is not being transported to a hospital or jail.

Procedure

Upon responding to threatened or attempted suicide report where all the criteria mentioned above are met, the primary officer is encouraged to refer the person to CRISIS Response Unit (CRISIS) located at 1175 Carondelet Dr., Richland, WA 99354.

Referrals should be made via written documentation and should be noted/coded in a way to allow the law enforcement agency to identify specific reports where a referral was made/is being made (similar to how DV-related incidents are noted/coded). Additionally, referrals should include sufficient narrative for the mental health agency to understand the nature of the call, the individual's behavior and prioritize their level of response.

Referrals by written documentation can be supplemented with a phone call or dispatch referral to CRISIS. Phone calls or dispatch referrals should not be a substitute for written documentation referrals and should be noted in the written documentation, including the date and time of the referral and to whom the officer spoke.

Referrals made by written documentation only, without a phone call or dispatch referral to CRISIS, should be processed quickly as practicable. [RCW 71.05.458](#) requires the mental health agency to attempt to contact the referred person to determine whether additional mental health intervention is necessary, including, if needed, an assessment by a designated crisis responder for initial detention under RCW [71.05.150](#) or [71.05.153](#).

41.3.1 VEHICLE MARKINGS

Vehicles used in routine or general patrol service, whether conspicuously marked or unmarked, are equipped with operational lights and a siren.

Conspicuous patrol vehicles are marked in the following manner:

- **Emergency lights:** Patrol vehicles have overhead red and blue light bars or conspicuous emergency red and blue lights mounted on the grill, dash and/or rear deck. Some command and detective vehicles may have emergency red and blue lights mounted on the grille, dash, and/or rear deck without markings, with a goal of having flashing lights visible from all angles.
- **Striping:** The majority of patrol vehicles have a designated graphic package with the words "Pasco Police" displayed conspicuously on the sides and rear of the vehicle.
- **Sirens:** Every patrol vehicle is equipped with an audible siren.

The Pasco Police Department does not normally use unmarked vehicles for patrol; however, it may be necessary on occasions.—Unmarked vehicles include but are not limited to the command and detective vehicles as well as undercover vehicles.

41.3.2 PATROL VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

Patrol vehicles will be stocked with the following equipment:

A. Trunk or rear storage area:

- Fingerprint kit (powder, brush, tape, and cards)
- Latex Gloves (3 pair)
- Hypodermic needle containers (2)
- Road flares (12 minimum)
- Paper and plastic bags
- First-aid kit
- Fire extinguisher
- Bio-Hazard kit

B. Passenger Compartment:

- CPR mask (in addition to the ones issued to individual officers)
- Hazardous materials guide
- Vehicle registration, insurance card, city accident form
- Disinfectant scrubs
- Hand cleaner

C. Traffic cars also carry a collision investigation kit that includes:

- 100' tape
- Marking crayons
- Spray paint
- Concrete nails and hammers
- Miscellaneous small hand tools

Replacement equipment will be available in the supply room, accessible by supervisors. Any item not in stock should be reported to the Admin Sergeant or other Quartermaster role to be reordered. Sergeants shall encourage periodic checks by officers to replenish supplies and assure operational readiness.

41.3.3 SEATBELT USE

All Pasco Police Department vehicles will be equipped with manufacturer-installed seat belts in front and back seats. All occupants must utilize the seatbelts while operating or occupying a Pasco Police vehicle. Personnel may not alter the restraint systems in any way.

[RCW 46.61.688](#) requires that any person operating or riding in a vehicle to wear a seat belt.

Pasco Police Department will use the appropriate child car seat pursuant RCW 46.61.687 if transportation is necessary.

41.3.4 AUTHORIZED PERSONAL EQUIPMENT AND APPAREL

Officers who elect at their own expense to replace individual issued items with similar personal items shall ensure that such personal items meet the standards described in policy 22.1.6. For example, gloves will be plain black without visible logo, shoes and boots will have solid black toes capable of being polished.

No lapel pins or similar objects will be worn on the uniform unless authorized by the Chief or his designee.

Personal items such as eyeglasses, watches, or hairnets/holders should, as a general rule, be simple and not conspicuous when worn with the uniform.

41.3.5 BODY ARMOR – BALLISTIC VESTS – PROTECTIVE VESTS

All commissioned personnel of the Pasco Police Department are issued a protective vest at the time of hire. Ballistic vests shall have a type II or higher protection level and are replaced as recommended by NIJ standards.

Use of the protective vest is as listed for all sworn personnel while on duty.

- Patrol: Uniformed officers at all times while on duty.
- Detectives: When making contact with suspects or any potential high-risk situation.
- Command: When making contact with suspicious or any potential high-risk situation.
- Undercover: As required.
- No exceptions unless specified by the Chief of Police.

41.3.6 PROTECTIVE VESTS – HIGH-RISK USAGE

The Pasco Police Department requires all commissioned personnel engaged in pre-planned high-risk situations to wear their protective vest. The personnel most likely affected would be detectives, narcotics detectives, K-9 handlers, and uniformed personnel assigned to assist the above entities. Examples of high-risk situations are barricaded persons, drug raids, residential search warrants, etc.

41.3.7 MOBILE DATA COMPUTER (MDC)

Members of the Pasco Police Department who utilize the MDC's must maintain certification with the Washington State ACCESS System. The Support Services Division is responsible for training and maintaining these files.

The MDC's are for official police use only, only by ACCESS-trained officers and records specialists.

No software programs or files will be installed on the MDC's without the authorization of the Chief or his designee. No software currently running on Pasco-owned mobile, desktop, or handheld computers will be altered or manipulated. MDC's are subject to inspection and monitoring at any time by supervisory and command staff to ensure compliance.

41.3.8 AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING EQUIPMENT

The Department provides field personnel with recording equipment for use during the performance of their duties. Such personnel shall utilize these devices in accordance with the provisions of this policy and should upload all recordings to the Department's storage system by the end of each shift.

In-Car

The Pasco Police Department uses in-car audio/video recording equipment in the patrol vehicles. The Mobile Video Camera (MVC) system enhances the safety of the officers while making contact with the public. The MVC system documents details that are useful in resolving court cases and complaints against the officers. The MVC system is also a valuable training tool.

The use of the MVC system is subject to guidelines contained in [RCW 9.73.090\(1\)\(c\)](#) and [Mobile Video Data Camera procedure](#).

Body Worn Camera (BWC)

It is the policy of the Pasco Police Department that officers shall activate the BWC when such use is appropriate to the proper performance of his or her official duties, where the recordings are consistent with this policy and law. This policy does not govern the use of surreptitious recording devices used in undercover operations.

[The Body Worn Camera Procedure](#) is intended to provide officers with instructions on when and how to use body-worn cameras (BWCs) so that officers may reliably record their contacts with the public in accordance with the law.

Personnel who are assigned BWCs must complete an agency approved and/or provided training program to ensure proper use and operations. Additional training may be required at periodic intervals to ensure the continued effective use and operation of the equipment, proper calibration and performance, and to incorporate changes, updates, or other revisions in policy and equipment.

41.3.9 LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION SYSTEMS

The Pasco Police Department does not use License Plate Recognition (LPR) systems.

41.4.1 RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC CALLS

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for law enforcement officers in response to domestic violence calls. Officers shall be expected to do the following:

- Establish arrest and prosecution as a preferred means of police response to domestic violence
- Take appropriate action for any violation of permanent, temporary, or emergency orders of protection
- Afford protection and support to adult and child victims of domestic violence
- Promote the safety of law enforcement personnel responding to incidents of domestic violence
- Provide victims or witnesses of domestic violence with support and assistance through cooperative efforts with community stakeholders in order to prevent further abuse and harassment or both
- Complete thorough investigations and effect arrest of the primary aggressor upon the establishment of probable cause

It is the policy of this department to provide a proactive, pro-arrest approach in responding to domestic violence. The primary focus shall be on victim safety, followed closely by perpetrator accountability. The officer shall attempt to determine the primary aggressor and arrest him or her. Officers should not arrest a person who acted in self-defense as defined by state statute. Officers should refer to the Department's Domestic Violence Procedures.

41.4.2 NASAL NALOXONE / NARCAN

Nasal Naloxone/Narcan is a nasal spray which may counteract the effects of a heroin or other opioid overdose. It is designed to reverse the depressive effects of opioids on the respiratory system with just one application.

It is the policy of Pasco Police Department that sworn officers who have been trained in the use of Nasal Naloxone/Narcan will carry the kit in their patrol car while on duty, with the option of using it when responding to an apparent opioid overdose.

All authorized personnel who are properly trained in the use and administration of naloxone in suspected opioid-induced overdose patients are authorized to administer naloxone as allowed under [RCW 69.41.095](#).

Employees of the Pasco Police Department are also covered from liability under house bill ESB 5516 which states: "A person acting in good faith may receive, possess, and administer naloxone to an individual suffering from an apparent opiate-related overdose. Health practitioners or persons who administer, dispense, prescribe, purchase, acquire, possess, or use naloxone in a good faith effort to assist a person experiencing or likely to experience an opiate-related overdose will not be in violation of professional conduct standards or provisions. Effective June 10, 2010."

[RCW 69.50.315](#) (Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Law) states that:

1. A person acting in good faith who seeks medical assistance for someone experiencing a drug-related overdose shall not be charged or prosecuted for possession of a controlled substance pursuant to [RCW 69.50.4013](#), or penalized under [RCW 69.50.4014](#) if the evidence for the charge of possession of a controlled substance was obtained as a result of the person seeking medical assistance.
 - A person acting in good faith may receive a naloxone prescription, possess naloxone, and administer naloxone to an individual suffering from an apparent opioid-related overdose.
2. A person who experiences a drug-related overdose and is in need of medical assistance shall not be charged or prosecuted for possession of a controlled substance pursuant to [RCW 69.50.4013](#) or penalized under [RCW 69.50.4014](#) if the evidence for the charge of possession of a controlled substance was obtained as a result of the overdose and the need for medical assistance.
3. The protection in this section from prosecution for possession crimes under [RCW 69.50.4013](#) shall not be grounds for suppression of evidence in other criminal charges.