

Ramming, or forcing vehicles off the roadway, is the intentional act of driving a police vehicle into another vehicle thereby causing a collision in an attempt to stop or alter the course of the other vehicle.

Ramming or forcing vehicles off the roadway is to be considered use of potentially deadly force. An officer may use a police vehicle to ram another vehicle only when necessary to:

- ❖ Effect the arrest and/or prevent the escape of a person who the officer has **probable cause** to believe has committed a dangerous felony (murder, kidnapping, armed robbery, rape, arson or bombing of an occupied structure, and assault with a deadly weapon) and where the officer has determined that:
 - The suspect poses an imminent threat of death or serious physical injury to others; and
 - Not securing the suspect's immediate apprehension would result in an unacceptable risk to the public or officer safety; and
 - Any other available means to obtain custody would be ineffective.
- ❖ Protect the person of one's self or another from the imminent threat of death or serious physical injury.

In determining whether the use of this force tactic is necessary, officers shall:

- ❖ Evaluate each situation considering the totality of the circumstances to determine that no reasonably effective alternative to the use of potentially deadly force exists to protect against an imminent threat of serious physical injury or death to the officer or another person;
- ❖ Evaluate that the use of potentially deadly force is a reasonable and proportional response to the imminent threat of serious physical injury or death posed to the officer and/or others;
- ❖ Exhaust all available and appropriate de-escalation and/or less lethal tactics prior to using potentially deadly force when feasible and reasonably safe to do so;
- ❖ If feasible, and if doing so would not increase the danger to the officer or others, the officer should give a verbal warning prior to using potentially deadly force.

Officers operating a police motorcycle are prohibited from ramming any vehicle.

While pursuing another motorcycle, officers will not attempt to dislodge the rider by any means.