



# Policy Revision Request

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This revision applies to Existing Policy 07-22-24

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:**

Pursuit Policy 214 needs to be updated to reflect the Force Review Unit's (FRU) role in reviewing pursuits.

**Document the changes or additions to the policy below. Please include the specific policy number. ~~Red strikethroughs~~ are used for deletions and blue underlined for text insertions. Please email completed forms to [APDPolicy@austintexas.gov](mailto:APDPolicy@austintexas.gov). Use this email for any related questions or issues for policy.**

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## 214.7 REPORTING AND REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

### 214.7.1 INVOLVED OFFICER(S) RESPONSIBILITY

All officers involved in the pursuit ~~will~~ shall write a detailed incident report or supplement and ensure their MAV media is correctly classified. This includes the primary officer initiating the pursuit, any secondary officer(s), to include officers riding as passengers, and any additional officer(s) who assisted with the pursuit (e.g., Officers using a TDD, Air Support).

### 214.7.2 CONTROL SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

~~The control supervisor shall review the involved officers' incident report for accuracy and completeness, and:~~

- ~~(a) Complete an Incident Review Packet on SharePoint filling in all applicable fields to include:
 
  1. All pertinent information relating to the vehicle pursuit,
  2. The findings of the supervisor investigation, and
  3. Any training issues or general order violations on the part of the involved officer(s), if applicable.~~

- ~~(b) In order to preserve DMAV videos, the highest applicable category shall be used. In the absence of any criminal charges, the "Two Year" retention code shall be used. This will ensure that the Pursuit Review Board has access to the video and that it is not deleted from the server prematurely.~~

- ~~(c) Create an electronic folder with the case number in the folder G:\Digital Incident Review~~

~~Folder containing all supporting documentation which is not already located in a different location on the APD network. Supporting documentation includes but is not limited to:~~

~~1. Copies of private surveillance video, cell phone video, etc.~~

~~(d) Forward the electronic link(s) to the SharePoint IRP and the digital incident review folder to the involved employee's chain-of-command, up to the lieutenant, for review.~~

### **~~214.7.3 LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITIES~~**

~~After receiving notification and link(s) to the SharePoint IRP and digital incident review folder the lieutenant or designee shall:~~

~~(a) Review the SharePoint IRP, MAV media and supporting documentation in the digital incident review folder for completeness and accuracy.~~

~~(b) Complete the appropriate Lieutenant fields in the SharePoint IRP as follows:~~

- ~~1. Provide a critique of the vehicle pursuit in the Lieutenant Review field.~~
- ~~2. Provide a preliminary determination whether the vehicle pursuit appears to be in compliance with this order or if additional review and/or follow-up are warranted.~~

~~(c) Forward the link(s) to the SharePoint IRP and digital incident review folder to the commander(s) of all involved officers.~~

### **~~214.7.4 COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES~~**

~~(a) If the initiating officer's commander determines that the pursuit falls within general orders guidelines, they shall enter comments reflecting that determination in the Commander Review field in the SharePoint IRP.~~

~~(b) If the initiating officer's commander determines that the pursuit violates general orders guidelines, they shall ensure that appropriate corrective actions are taken. Notification of the corrective action taken shall be made to their Assistant Chief.~~

~~(c) If the pursuit resulted in death or serious bodily injury the pursuit packet link shall be forwarded via email to the chairperson of the R2R Audit Group.~~

### **~~214.8 DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY INJURY DURING PURSUITS~~**

~~The Vehicular Homicide Unit shall forward pursuit packet link via email to the chairperson of the R2R Audit Group when the pursuit resulted in death or serious bodily injury.~~

Once the vehicle pursuit has concluded, the control supervisor shall respond to the area of the pursuit's termination to conduct a preliminary inquiry of the pursuit. Upon the conclusion of law enforcement activities resulting from the pursuit, the control supervisor shall interview the involved officers and any responding officers to determine their roles and level of involvement in the pursuit. These interviews shall be recorded on the control supervisor's BWC. If the BWC system is unavailable, the DMAV system shall be used to record the interviews.

- (a) The Control Supervisor should secure and manage the scene upon arrival and:
  1. Verbally review the general circumstances of the vehicle pursuit individually with the involved officers.

2. Shall ensure all MAV media is properly classified if it contains any information or statements related to the vehicle pursuit.
- (b) Once the scene has been cleared, the Control Supervisor shall be responsible for the following:
1. Using PD0047 RTR Pursuit Notification Form, send an email notification to the FRU prior to the end of their tour of duty.
  2. Send email notifications with the incident report number prior to the end of the tour of duty to the:
    - (a) Involved employee's chain-of-command up to the commander.
    - (b) Reviewing supervisor's chain-of-command up to the commander, if not already included.
    - (c) Commander of the area where the incident took place, if not already included.

### **214.7.3 FRU RESPONSIBILITIES IN VEHICLE PURSUITS**

- (a) Once the FRU has received a vehicle pursuit email notification, the FRU Lieutenant will assign a FRU Sergeant to conduct a review of the vehicle pursuit.
- (b) The assigned FRU Sergeant shall be responsible for the following:
1. Reviewing all reports related to the vehicle pursuit.
  2. Properly classifying BWC/DMAV videos and all Axon evidence in accordance with policy.
  3. Requesting the non-compressed WAV file for the vehicle pursuit from communications.
  4. Completing an Incident Review Packet (IRP) in AXON Standards, filling in all applicable fields to include:
    - (a) All pertinent information relating to the vehicle pursuit and the officer(s) response.
    - (b) The findings of the review, including whether the vehicle pursuit complies with law and policy.
    - (c) Make observations regarding any possible training issues, tactical concerns, equipment issues, professional development issues or possible policy violations on the part of the involved officers(s), if applicable.
  5. Adding and attaching all supporting documentation in the AXON Standards IRP. Supporting documentation includes but is not limited to, copies of private surveillance video, cell phone video, etc.
  6. Conducting a thorough review of all documents including the vehicle pursuit incident report and any supplements to ensure completeness, accuracy, and quality.
- (c) Once the FRU Sergeant has completed a vehicle pursuit review, they will mark the AXON Standards IRP as complete.
- (d) If any observations regarding training, professional development, equipment or possible policy violations are identified, the assigned FRU Sergeant will notify the FRU Lieutenant and route the AXON Standards Incident Review Packet to them for review.
- (e) The FRU Lieutenant will immediately notify the FRU Commander of any potential serious

policy violations or criminal violations.

1. The FRU Commander will notify the subject officer's Commander of any potentially serious policy violations or criminal violations.

2. The Chain of Command Commander will notify SIU and IA of any potential or criminal violations.

3. The Chain of Command Commander will notify IA of any potential policy violations. The date and time of the notifications will be documented in the AXON Standards IRP.

4. The Chief of Police will be notified of any potential criminal violations.

(f) FRU Sergeants will complete their assigned reviews within eight (8) days from the date assigned, unless granted an extension by the FRU Lieutenant.

1. Requests for extensions must be based upon delays in the review process, including, but not limited to: delays in gathering evidence, staffing or scheduling issues by anyone in the review process, or other unforeseen emergency situations that may interfere with the completion of the review.

2. The reason and new deadline for extensions will be documented in the AXON Standards IRP.

#### **214.7.4 CHAIN-OF-COMMAND RESPONSIBILITIES IN VEHICLE PURSUITS**

(a) If the FRU has routed any identified observations to an officer's chain of command, the chain of command will review the observations, make the determination whether the observations are either a possible policy violation or a training, tactical, or professional development issue and take the appropriate corrective actions according to policy. If the chain of command determines the observations do not constitute a policy violation or a training/tactical/professional development issue, the reasons why will be documented in the COC review.

1. Sergeants will document actions taken to address identified observations within eight (8) working days in the AXON Standards IRP report titled COC Review, which will then be routed to the Lieutenant who will complete their documentation within eight (8) working days. Lieutenants will route the COC Review to the Commander, and the Commander will finalize the COC Review within eight (8) working days. The documented actions taken from the chain of command shall include:

(a) Any corrective actions taken.

(b) Any training administered.

2. The COC Review regarding observations made by the FRU will be finalized by the chain of command as detailed below:

(a) Observations that are determined by the COC to be training, professional development equipment or policy issues shall be finalized by the Commander (or designee).

3. Disagreements arising from observations made by the FRU will be resolved directly between the FRU Commander and the Chain of Command Commander. Should the Chain of Command Commander and the FRU Commander hold differing views on identified

observations, the Chain of Command Commander will inform the affected Assistant Chief for the final resolution of the matter.