

# CHARLOTTESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Note: This directive is for internal use only and does not enlarge an officer's liability in any way. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims. Violations of this directive, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by the Charlottesville Police Department and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

Type of Directive: GENERAL ORDER	Number: 04-15
<b>VEHICLE PURSUIT POLICY</b>	Date: November 22, 2019
VLEPSC Number: OPR.01.01 thru OPR.01.04, OPR.01.09, OPR.07.09	Manual Number: 541.27
	Effective Date: 11/22/19
Authorization: Chief R.M. Brackney <i>Rm Brackney</i>	Follow-up Date: As Needed

## I. POLICY

All personnel operating department vehicles shall exercise due regard for the safety of all persons. Members of the department who operate department vehicles will strictly adhere to existing state and local statutes and this policy. Particular attention will be focused on engaging in vehicle pursuits. Officers engaged in emergency vehicle operations shall utilize both the audible (siren) and visual (emergency lights) emergency warning equipment while engaged in vehicle pursuits or overtaking a vehicle in accordance with 46.2-920 of the Code of Virginia. When using a department vehicle in emergency operations, pursuing officers and supervisors must justify their actions and, once they have decided to pursue, continue to evaluate the safety of their actions.

## II. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines governing the operation of police vehicles, with special attention to pursuits.

*A limited number of the enclosed City of Charlottesville Police Department General Orders have been redacted. The redactions ensure that that Police Department's operational and tactical responses are withheld for community and Officer Safety (e.g., bank alarm response, response to an active threat, and Tactical Operations).*