PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Administrative Directive is to offer additional expectations related to vehicle pursuits in accordance with current policy.

PROCEDURE:

This Administrative Directive is intended to supplement the current vehicle pursuit policy. Considering the risk to community safety and officers, pursuits related to traffic infractions are not allowed. Additionally, pursuits related to misdemeanor offenses not involving violence and/or risk of serious harm to public safety are in most all cases discouraged.

In all pursuits, the on-duty sergeant or officer-in-charge must quickly assess the circumstances surrounding the initiation of the pursuit and decide, based on policy and this directive, as to whether the pursuit should continue.

Officers are reminded that they must always use their emergency lights and sirens when attempting to overtake a violator’s vehicle, clearing intersections against a red light or operating outside the rules of the road as outlined in CVC 21055.

Nothing in this directive is intended to discourage officers from enforcing traffic laws or attempting to keep the motoring public safe.

The additional information outlined in this directive is intended to further balance the importance of apprehending fleeing suspects against the public safety risks associated with vehicle pursuits.