

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

January 17, 2024

NOTICE

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TO: All Department Personnel

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: DIGITAL IN-CAR VIDEO SYSTEM LIVE-STREAMING OF VEHICLE PURSUITS – PILOT PROGRAM

The purpose of this Notice is to inform Department personnel of the Digital In-Car Video System (DICVS), live-streaming feature, that will stream real-time DICVS video to an Area/Division watch commander, or their designee's, workstation. The Department will implement DICVS vehicle pursuit live-streaming as a Department wide pilot program. The DICVS live-streaming provides watch commanders, or their designees, with the ability to enhance management oversight during a vehicle pursuit and to assist supervisors and officers with situational awareness.

The purpose of this pilot program is to evaluate the feasibility and capabilities of the live-streaming DICVS video to a watch commander, or their designee, when a vehicle pursuit is initiated. The DICVS live-streaming will also be assessed for efficiency, reliability, quality of live-stream video, ease of use, functionality, and any benefits to supervisors and officers during a vehicle pursuit. Due to the potential limitations of the DICVS live-streaming, such as availability of a watch commander or their designee, quality of live-streaming video, and limited perspective, officers and supervisors shall not rely solely on a watch commander's, or their designee's, assessment of a vehicle pursuit and shall continue to adhere to the Department's pursuit policy, procedures, and training.

Note: A separate Special Order will be published that will revise the Watch Commander's Daily Report, Form 15.80.00, and the Vehicle Pursuit Report, Form 01.14.00, to include a checkbox on both forms to indicate whether a watch commander or their designee has viewed the livestream.

Watch Commander's Digital In-Car Video System Live-Streaming Responsibility. The Digital In-Car Video System (DICVS) live-streaming enhances the management oversight of a vehicle pursuit by providing real-time situational awareness to watch commanders. When a vehicle pursuit is initiated at an Area/Division, the assigned watch commander shall, as soon as practicable:

- Log into the watch commander's workstation and view the live-stream video;

Note: A watch commander shall not designate another designee to monitor and view the live-stream video of a pursuit that is in progress on behalf of the watch commander, when the watch commander is present at the workstation. The watch commander is responsible for viewing the live-stream video to provide guidance to supervisors and officers, when practicable. A designee who is temporarily appointed by the watch commander shall be a supervisor (e.g., Detective II or III, or Sergeant I or II) who is delegated to briefly assume the watch commander role, while the watch commander is performing other duties, including field or administrative functions. The designee shall view the live-stream video during a pursuit, while the watch commander is enroute back to the workstation; however, once the watch commander has returned to the workstation, the watch commander shall resume to personally view the live-stream video, as soon as practicable.

- Assist supervisors and officers with the situational awareness during the vehicle pursuit; and,
- Continually assess the situation and take into consideration the balance test to determine whether the pursuit should continue or be terminated, based on pursuit policy and the circumstances surrounding the pursuit, when practicable. The Incident Commander (IC) should also continually evaluate the situation, based on being enroute to the pursuit or as part of the pursuit package, whether to continue the pursuit or terminate it, since the IC has situational awareness in real-time, especially while participating in the pursuit package.

Note: Generally, the IC shall not remotely access the live-stream video, unless justified based on the totality of the circumstances. The viewing of the live-stream video shall not interfere, obstruct, or otherwise jeopardize the safe operation of the patrol vehicle or substitute the in person monitoring of the pursuit. The primary responsibility of the IC is to monitor the pursuit and continuously assess the situation and ensure that the pursuit is conducted within Department guidelines (Department Manual Section 4/205.10).

If a Watch Commander becomes aware of a Categorical Use of Force (CUOF) during the viewing of the live-stream, the watch commander shall notify Force Investigation Division (FID) and be guided by current protocols consistent with Department Manual Section 3/794.10.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Transit Services Bureau, at (213) 922-3614.



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

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