

Event 4 - Traffic Enforcement
Session 13 – High Risk Vehicle Stops
LD 22 - Vehicle Pullovers

Date Revised: 11/13/2019

Course Goal: To teach recruits to safely conduct a high risk vehicle stop.

Session Goal: To teach recruits the tactical concepts of vehicle placement and approach during a high risk vehicle stop.

Learning Objectives:

- Describe the three basic categories of vehicle pullovers to include traffic enforcement pullover, investigative pullover and high risk pullover. [22.I.A.1,2,3]
- Demonstrate safety techniques when initiating a vehicle pullover, including selecting an appropriate location: safety factors (e.g., out of the flow of traffic) visibility to passing traffic, avoidance of potentially hostile environments, lighting/illumination, possible escape routes, availability of cover and concealment. [22.II.A.1.a,b,c,d,e,f]
- Communicating with dispatch. [22.II.A.2]
- Getting the attention of the driver of the vehicle to include lights (e.g., emergency lights, headlights, and spotlights), hand gestures, horn/audible devices, and siren. [22.II.A.3.a,b,c,d]
- Maintaining appropriate distance from target vehicle prior to initiating the pullover. [22.II.A.3.e]
- Discuss appropriate actions for cover officers who are called to assist the primary officer during a high-risk vehicle pullover. [22.III.B]
- Discuss officer safety considerations when searching the target vehicle, including: use of available cover officer(s), types of objects sought and likely locations, potential hazards (e.g., needles, edged weapons, etc.), a systematic search process, interior and exterior. [22.III.D.1,2,3,4.a,b]

Session Time: 2 hours

<p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom with tables • White board • Dry erase markers • Two police vehicles • One civilian vehicle • Inert handgun for each recruit 	
<p>Session Summary: The instructor will start with a facilitated discussion in the classroom. Afterwards, the instructors will demonstrate a high-risk vehicle stop. The students will then demonstrate a high-risk vehicle stop using the tactical concepts learned.</p>	
Outline	Instructor Notes
I. Vehicle Pullovers	

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<p>A. Terminology of Vehicle Pullovers [22.I.A]</p> <p>1. Traffic Enforcement Pullover [22.I.A.1]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Reasonable suspicion that driver committed a traffic violation.b. Vehicle’s occupants represent no unusual risk.c. Expectation that pullover will result in a citation. <p>2. Investigative Pullovers [22.I.A.2]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Reasonable suspicion that occupant(s) of vehicle engaged or is about to engage in criminal activity.b. Expectation that an investigation might lead to a physical arrest.c. Reasonable expectation that the pullover involves less danger than a “High Risk” pullover. <p>3. High Risk pullover [22.I.A.3]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Reasonable belief that occupant(s) in vehicle may be armed and represent a serious threat to the officer, or have committed a felony. [1]b. Reasonable expectation that an arrest will be made. <p><i>During any type of the above vehicle pullovers, an officer may observe actions by the vehicle occupant(s) that may result in escalating or de-escalating the pullover.</i></p> <p>B. Vehicle Pullover Considerations</p> <p>1. Know the reason for the pullover. Communicate observations with partner.</p>	<p><i>Will need PT</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ <i>Respect for people</i>✓ <i>Reverence for the law</i>✓ <i>Service to our communities</i> <p>➤ Session 1 (2hrs)</p> <p>Facilitated discussion in the classroom (1hr)</p> <p>[1] Ask – When would a high risk pullover be initiated?</p>
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<p>2. Check vehicle license through Stolen Vehicle System (SVS) and Automated Want/Warrant System (AWWS). MDC returns should be read aloud to confirm information for both officers. [2]</p> <p>3. Officers should not take their eyes off the occupant(s).</p> <p>C. Selecting a location for the pullover [22.II.A.1]</p> <p>1. Know the location for the pullover. Officers should delay the pullover until they have selected a location that they can identify.</p> <p>2. The officer selects the pullover location.</p> <p>3. Officers should attempt to initiate a vehicle pullover in a safe location.</p> <p>4. Selecting a location out of the flow of traffic. [22.II.A.1.a]</p> <p>5. Be aware of physical hazards such as: [3]</p> <p>a. Passing traffic. [22.II.A.1.b]</p> <p>b. Visibility impairments (i.e. hills, blind curves).</p> <p>c. Illumination. [22.II.A.1.d]</p> <p>d. Potential hazards to the public (i.e. high risk pullovers in front of schools).</p> <p>6. Awareness of tactical safety issues such as: [4]</p> <p>a. Escape routes. [22.II.A.1.e]</p> <p>b. Tactical re-deployment for officers.</p>	<p>[2] Ask- Why is it important to check the vehicle license through SVS (Stolen Vehicle System) before attempting to stop a vehicle?</p> <p>[3] Ask- What are some physical hazards when conducting a high risk vehicle stop?</p> <p>[4] Ask- What are some tactical issues when conducting a high risk stop?</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">c. Available cover and/or concealment. [22.II.A.1.f]d. Potentially hostile environment (i.e. gang hangouts, bars). [22.II.A.1.c]e. Interference potential (i.e. pedestrian traffic). <p>D. Preparing to initiate a vehicle pullover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Maintain proper distance between vehicles. [22.II.A.3.e]<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Too far provides the opportunity for violator/suspect vehicle to flee.b. Too close can cause a rear end collision.2. Use appropriate communications procedures. [22.II.A.2]<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Notify communications of pullover location and direction of travel, license number and vehicle description, nature of the pullover, and any other pertinent information. <p>Other officers in the area will be unaware of a vehicle pullover if the MDC is used to notify communications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">3. Officers should focus their attention on the occupant(s) and vehicle. <p>E. Initiating a vehicle pullover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Get the driver’s attention. [22.II.A.3]2. Activate forward facing red light.3. If driver fails to respond, use one of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Rotators [22.II.A.3.a]b. Horn [22.II.A.3.c]	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">c. High and low beamsd. Spotlighte. Hand gestures [22.II.A.3.b]f. PAg. Siren [22.II.A.3.d] <p>F. High Risk Pullovers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Notify communications and follow suspect vehicle until additional units arrive.<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. If suspect vehicle stops prior to arrival of additional units, have suspect(s) place their hands outside their windows and have the driver remove the keys and drop them outside of the window. [5]b. Maintain cover until additional units arrive.2. Police vehicle placement<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Put B/W two car lengths behind suspect's vehicle.b. Do not offset B/W. This allows the passenger officer to clearly see the passenger side of the suspect's vehicle. [6]c. Secondary unit should deploy at a 45 degree angle to the [7] suspect's vehicle. [22.III.B]d. Secondary unit can deploy to the left or right of primary unit's vehicle. Secondary unit should stop approximately two car lengths behind the suspect vehicle. Secondary unit should leave enough space between themselves and primary unit so that the vehicle doors can be opened. Back-up unit should park even with the primary unit	<p>[5] Ask- When initiating a high risk stop what should we do with the suspect(s) hands?</p> <p>Ask- Why do we have the driver remove the keys from the ignition?</p> <p>[6] Ask- Why don't we offset the police vehicle during a high risk stop?</p> <p>[7] Ask- How should the secondary unit deploy?</p>
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- b. Use clear and concise commands.
- c. Have all suspect(s) place their hands outside the windows or in a location which is visible to the officers.
- d. Have the driver turn off the ignition.
- e. Have the driver remove the keys and drop the keys outside of their window.

Key Points:

- A high risk vehicle pullover is utilized when officers have the reasonable belief that the occupants in the vehicle may be armed and may represent a serious threat to the officer, or have committed a felony.
- Selecting and knowing the location of the high risk vehicle pullover.
- Police vehicle placement in relation to the suspect's vehicle and correct officer positioning.
- Verbal commands

5. Removal of suspect(s) [10]

- a. Suspect seated in the driver seat is usually the first suspect removed. This removes the person in control of the vehicle.
- b. The driver officer of the primary unit will give the commands. The suspect will be ordered to open the driver door from the outside. This allows the officers to see the suspect's hands at all times. **[11]**
- c. The suspect will be ordered to step out of the vehicle with their back to the officers. The suspect should be ordered to place their hands up with their elbows locked out.

[10] Ask- If there are multiple suspects in the vehicle who should be removed first?

[11] Ask- Why is it important to have the suspect open the door from the outside?

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<p>d. The suspect should be ordered to side step to the far left with their back to the officers.</p> <p>e. Once the suspect is placed in a location where they will be placed in a prone position, officers have the option to conduct a visual inspection by having the suspect turn 360 degrees.</p> <p>f. The passenger officer of the primary unit and both officers from the secondary unit are covering the suspect's vehicle and any additional suspect(s).</p> <p>g. Suspect will be placed into a prone position with their head away from the officers. The suspect's head should face to the left.</p> <p>h. The prone suspect becomes the responsibility of the driver officer in the secondary unit. [12] This passing of responsibility should be done verbally between officers.</p> <p>i. The driver officer of the primary unit focuses their attention back on the suspect's vehicle. [13]</p> <p>j. Removal of front passenger suspect can either be done by the driver or passenger door. The disadvantage of removing the passenger from the driver door is that the officers will temporarily lose sight of the suspect's hands while they slide across the front seat. If the suspect is removed through the driver's door, the driver officer of</p>	<p>[12] Ask- Who is responsible for covering the first suspect proned out to the left of the vehicle?</p> <p>[13] Ask- Where does the driver officer of the primary unit focus their attention after the secondary unit officer says they are covering the suspect?</p> <p>[14] Ask- Which officer removes the front passenger suspect?</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">suspect's vehicle and any additional suspects.</p> <p>The farther the suspect moves to the left, the more cover the passenger officer of the primary unit has to give up, leaving themselves exposed to a vehicle which has not been cleared.</p> <p>p. The driver officer of the primary unit will order the suspect to continue to sidestep to the left. The suspect will be placed in a prone position with their head away from the officers to the right of the driver suspect. The passenger suspect's head should be parallel with the driver suspect's feet creating a diagonal line of suspects. The passenger suspect's head should face to the left.</p> <p>A general guideline is to avoid having suspects walk between prone suspects and the officers covering them. Crossing suspects allows the covering officer of the prone suspect to briefly lose visual of their responsibility. [17]</p> <p>q. When the passenger suspect is placed into a prone position, the responsibility of that suspect is passed from the driver officer of the primary unit to the passenger officer of the secondary unit.</p> <p>r. The driver officer of the primary unit can refocus their attention back on the suspect's vehicle and any additional suspect(s).</p> <p>s. If an additional suspect is seen in the vehicle, that suspect can be removed through whichever</p>	<p>[17] Ask- What happens if we walk a suspect past a prone suspect or suspects?</p>
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door that offers the officers the best tactical advantage. If the suspect is removed from the driver side, the driver officer of the primary unit will give the commands. If the suspect is removed from the passenger side of the vehicle, then the passenger officer of the primary unit will give the commands.

- 1) If the passenger officer removes the suspect, the passenger officer would follow the same guidelines as used when removing the front passenger suspect. Once the suspect is passed off to the driver officer of the primary unit, the passenger officer will again cover the suspect's vehicle and any additional suspects.
- 2) Regardless if the driver officer of the primary unit removes the suspect or becomes responsible for the suspect when passed over from the passenger officer, the driver officer will follow the same above guidelines. The suspect will be placed in a prone position to the right of the two prone suspects. The suspect's head will be parallel with the feet of the suspect immediately to their left creating a diagonal line. The suspect's head should face to the left.
- 3) The responsibility of covering this suspect can be verbally

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<p>passed over to an officer who may be in the background. That officer can cover the suspect from the driver's door of the primary B/W.</p> <p>4) When all visible suspects have been removed, the driver officer of the primary unit should consider using a ruse to gain the attention of any possible additional suspects. [18]</p> <p>6. Approaching the suspect's vehicle</p> <p>a. Passenger officer of the primary unit covers the vehicle while the driver officer walks around the rear of the B/W and joins him/her.</p> <p>b. Officers of the secondary unit and any additional officers will cover the prone suspects while the officers from the primary unit make their approach.</p> <p>c. Officers from the primary unit will make their approach to the suspect's vehicle from the passenger side utilizing a shoulder to shoulder approach. [19]</p> <p>1) Inside officer area of responsibility is the rear trunk and rear windshield of the suspect's vehicle.</p> <p>2) Outside officer's area of responsibility is the passenger side of the suspect's vehicle.</p> <p>d. As the officers reach the rear trunk of the suspect's vehicle, the inside officer will check the trunk</p>	<p>[18] Ask- After all visible suspects are removed why should the driver officer call out a bluff?</p> <p>[19] Ask- Which side of the suspect's vehicle should the officers make their approach to clear the vehicle?</p> <p>[20] Ask- While the inside officer is checking the trunk what should the outside officer be watching?</p>
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<p>suspect to the left. The officers from the primary unit will cover the suspect on the right. [23]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2) All other officers will depress their muzzles or holster their weapons at this time.3) The officers will cover the prone suspects from the feet parallel with each other. The suspect on the right will be taken into custody first. [24]4) The contact officer from the primary unit will approach the suspect farthest to the right from the right side. The contact officer will take the suspect into custody. The cover officer should depress their muzzle at this time.5) The contact officer should search the suspect's rear waistband prior to resting the suspect's hands on their back. The suspect will be stood erect where the contact officer will search the suspect's front and rear waistband. The contact officer will move the suspect to a location where a thorough search will be conducted prior to placing the suspect into a B/W.6) The cover officer from the first suspect will become the contact officer for the second suspect. Both officers will approach the second suspect and take the suspect into custody utilizing the same	<p>[25] Ask- Who covers the suspect furthest to the left?</p>
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<p>guidelines as described above.</p> <p>c. Approaching three suspects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The officers from the secondary unit will approach and cover their respective suspect responsibilities. The driver officer of the [25] secondary unit is covering the suspect farthest to the left while the passenger officer covers the suspect in the middle. The primary officers will cover the suspect farthest to the left.2) All other officers should depress their muzzles or holster their weapons at this time.3) The cover officers will cover the suspect from the feet parallel with each other.4) The primary unit will take the suspect farthest to the right into custody first. The contact officer will approach from the suspect's right arm. As the suspect is being taken into custody, the cover officer will depress their muzzle. The suspect's rear waistband will be searched prior to resting the suspect's hands on their back. The suspect will be stood erect and their waistband searched. The contact officer will remove the suspect to another location where a thorough search will be	<p>Ask- Why is it important to search the suspect's rear waistband before resting the suspect's hands on their back?</p>
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<p>conducted prior to placing the suspect in a B/W.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5) The cover officer from the first suspect becomes the contact officer for the suspect in the middle. The cover officers for the middle suspect and the suspect to the left will move forward parallel with each other. The cover officers continue to cover from the feet.6) The contact officer will approach from the suspect's right arm and follow the same guidelines as described above. The cover officer will depress their muzzle at this time.7) Once the suspect has been handcuffed, searched and removed, the cover officer for the second suspect becomes the contact officer for the last suspect.8) Again, the contact officer will approach the suspect from the right arm and take the suspect into custody. The cover officer will depress their muzzle at this time. The contact officer will handcuff, search and remove the suspect as done with the two previous suspects. <p>II. Physical searches of vehicles</p> <p>A. General considerations for the physical searches of vehicles [22.III.D]</p>	<p></p> <p>[26] Ask-When searching the suspect's vehicle what are some safety hazards?</p>
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<p>1. Any physical search of a vehicle must be lawful. The particular circumstances of the pullover may limit the scope of the search.</p> <p>2. The objective of the physical search of a vehicle is to locate any weapons, contraband or evidence, which may be located therein.</p> <p>3. Officers should be aware of specific personal safety hazards associated with physical searches of vehicles, which include, but are not limited to: [22.III.D.3] [26]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Edged weaponsb. Sharp points or other biological hazards (i.e. needles)c. Chemicals (i.e. drug lab material)d. Booby traps (i.e. explosives) <p>B. Search techniques</p> <p>1. A fundamental principle of physically searching a vehicle is to maintain control of the situation at all times. [22.III.D.1]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Consider the use of back-up officer(s) if available.b. It may be necessary to prevent interference by persons (witnesses, victims and the curious) or even other officers.c. A key factor of maintaining control is the proper removal and control of suspects. This may necessitate additional officer(s). [27]d. Never “relax”. This may be the moment the suspect has waited for, and apparent relaxation may encourage the suspect to take	<p>[27] Ask- Why is maintaining control such a key factor?</p> <p>[28] Ask- Why is doing a systematic search of the vehicle important?</p>
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<p>some action, which the suspect might otherwise fear to try.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">e. Evidence must be secured and safeguarded for the prosecution and involved property may need to be preserved. <p>2. Initiate a systematic search of the entire vehicle [22.III.D.4] [28]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Plan the search<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Consider the nature of the area to be searched.2) Consider the nature of the object(s) being sought (i.e. contraband and weapons). [22.III.D.2]b. Search systematically (i.e. start at the top and work down, work from the front to the rear, from the inside to the outside, etc.). <p>3. The extent of the physical search may be limited by a number of factors including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The particular circumstances of the pulloverb. Time limitationsc. Legal restrictions <p>C. Searching specific areas</p> <p>1. Searching the interior of the vehicle [22.III.D.4.a]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Areas which may contain [29] weapons and/or contraband include, but are not limited to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Glove compartment.2) Under the dashboard (i.e. the maze of wiring under the dash board to see if anything is attached to it).	<p>[29] Ask- What are some areas that may contain weapons and/or contraband inside the vehicle?</p>
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<ol style="list-style-type: none">3) Back of the ignition (i.e. to see if it being operated properly or by some means of “jumper wiring”).4) Back of the rubber cover of the brake pedal, clutch pedal and accelerator pedal.5) Under speaker covers.6) Fire wall area, door panels and side kick panels. The sides of the kick panels are usually covered by cardboard or fiberboard, which are fastened down by small clips or screws. Many items can be hidden in the lower portion of the doors.7) Air ducts of the ventilation system.8) Ash trays. If there is anything in the ash trays, empty the contents on a sheet of paper. Many items can be hidden in the ashes.9) Steering column (for anything that may be taped to it).10) Cigarette lighter and the housing into which it fits.11) Knobs on the dashboard to determine if they might operate a hidden compartment located in the vehicle.12) Courtesy lights on the dashboard or roof (especially if they do not light).13) Under the floor carpet and floor mats.14) Both sides of the sun visors for anything that may be	
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<p>attached. Many items can be hidden between a mirror and the sun visors or registration and the sun visors. (I.e. checks, money, narcotics, etc.).</p> <p>15) Floor under the front seat.</p> <p>16) Underside of the front and rear seats for anything that might be attached.</p> <p>17) Check between the seat and kick panel located on the right and left sides of the front seat.</p> <p>18) Crevice area down between the seat cushion and the back of the seat.</p> <p>19) Upholstery of both seats for any tears or seams that have been opened and re-sown.</p> <p>20) Seat covers (making sure that nothing is concealed between the seat and the seat cover).</p> <p>21) Surface of the door, window handles and arm rests, for anything that might be attached to them (i.e. narcotics may be hidden inside a handle).</p> <p>22) Any trash containers or litter bags found in the car, attached to the door, dashboard, etc.</p> <p>23) Any miscellaneous items found inside the vehicle</p> <p>a) If they are in a container, examine each as you remove it.</p>	<p>[30] Ask- Where are some areas on the exterior of the vehicle that may contain weapons and/or contraband?</p>
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<p>b) Check all clothing found in vehicle, check books, blankets, etc.</p> <p>2. Searching the exterior of the vehicle [22.III.D.4.b]</p> <p>a. Areas which may contain [30] weapons and/or contraband include, but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Surface of front and rear fenders for anything that might be hidden or attached there.2) Behind the rear bumper and the rear license plate.3) Area where the neck of the gas tank is located.4) Area between the radiator and grill and lower portion of the hood.5) Engine compartment and motor accessories.6) All outside accessories that are false or “ornaments”.7) Trunk (i.e. look inside spare tire coverings, boxes, bags, containers that are found in the trunk, go through any clothing found in the trunk).8) Tail light assemblies.9) Hub caps for anything hidden behind them.10) Center post (to make certain that the center post is stationary).<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Some burglars will remove the center post and weld it in position to the front or rear doors on the right side of the vehicle.	<p>End 1hr</p> <p>Learning Activity 1- Instructor Demo 1hr (if time permits students will participate)</p>
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b) When the rear door is opened, the front door and center post open with it, providing ample room for loading stolen goods (i.e. televisions, safes, etc.). **[22.III.D.2]**

Key Points:

- Proper verbal commands and tactics while removing suspects from vehicle.
- Proper positioning of suspects when removed from vehicle.
- Proper approach to suspect's vehicle.
- Proper approach to prone suspects.