

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

**Event Goal:** To teach students how to safely operate and control a law enforcement vehicle in normal, emergency response and pursuit conditions. The students will also learn department policy and state law related to emergency response and pursuit driving.

**Session Goal:** To teach students the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) pursuit policy and state law related to emergency response and pursuit driving.

**Learning Need:**

- Peace officers must recognize that emergency response (Code 3) driving demands a thorough understanding of the associated liability and safety issues. **(LD 19 II)**
- All peace officers who operate law enforcement emergency vehicles must recognize that even though the purpose of pursuit driving is the apprehension of a suspect who is using a vehicle to flee, the vehicle pursuit is never more important than the safety of peace officers and the public. **(LD 19 III)**
- Peace officers need to know the importance of defensive driving principles and techniques in order to develop safe driving habits.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Explain the importance of agency specific policies and guidelines regarding emergency response driving **(LD 19 II. C)**
- Identify the objectives of emergency response driving **(LD 19 II. A)**
- Recognize the statute(s) governing peace officers when operating law enforcement vehicles in the line of duty **(19.II.B)**
  1. Rules of the road **(19.II.B.1)**
  2. Liability **(LD 19 II. B.2)**
- Identify the statutory/responsibilities of non-law enforcement vehicle drivers when driving in the presence of emergency vehicles operated under emergency response conditions **(LD 19 II. D)**
- Identify factors that can limit the effectiveness of a vehicle's emergency warning devices **(LD 19 II. F)**
- Discuss the requirements of Penal Code Section 13519.8 **(LD 19 III. A)**
- Discuss the requirements of Vehicle Code Section 17004.7 **(LD 19 III. B)**
- Discuss common offensive intervention tactics
- Recognize conditions that could lead to the decision to terminate a vehicle pursuit

**Session Time:** 4 hours

**Resources:**

- Classroom with projector
- Computer with DVD player
- “Andy Griffith” video
- “Michelle Norton” video
- Law Enforcement Driving Simulator with a classroom equipped with eight simulators

**RBC Version 6.0 10/2018**

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

**Session Summary:** This Session will teach students radio codes used by the Department along with California Vehicle Codes that relate to emergency response driving, agency/officer liability and immunity. Students will learn the requirements for emergency equipment and siren audibility. The students will learn about California Penal Code Section 13519.8 and the Los Angeles Police Department Pursuit Policy.

Outline	Instructor Notes
<p>I. Policy and Law</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">A. Agency Specific Policies and Guidelines Related to Emergency Response Driving-  <b>Explain the importance of agency specific policies and guidelines regarding emergency response driving. (LD 19 II.C)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1. Department Radio Codes</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Code Two radio call</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">1) Urgent radio call</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">2) Shall be answered immediately</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">3) Red light and siren shall not be used</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">4) Follow the rules of the road</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Code Three Radio Call</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">1) Emergency Call-<b>Identify the objectives of emergency response driving. (LD19 II. A)</b> Drive in a manner, which enables the unit to reach the scene as quickly and safely as possible.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) Back-up Call</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">(1) Officer requires additional unit(s) immediately, but the situation does not rise to the level where serious bodily injury or death is imminent</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">(2) Assigned unit is authorized to respond Code Three</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">(3) Other units may also respond Code Three</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">(4) Notify Communications Division (CD) of the response</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) Help Call</p> <p style="padding-left: 60px;">(1) Officer requires immediate aid for a life-threatening incident</p>	<p>[A1] Ask-Can anyone give an example of a Code Two/Code Three call?</p> <p>[A1a4] Explain-Instructor will clarify the Code Two radio call bullet points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urgent radio call</li> <li>• Shall be answered immediately</li> <li>• Red light and siren shall not be used</li> <li>• Follow the rules of the road</li> </ul>

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p>(2) Assigned unit is authorized to respond Code Three</p> <p>(3) Notify CD of the response</p> <p>2) Pursuit</p> <p>a) An event involving one or more law enforcement officers attempting to apprehend a suspect operating a motor vehicle</p> <p>b) Suspect is attempting to avoid arrest or detention by using high speed driving or other evasive tactics such as driving off a highway, turning suddenly or driving in a legal manner but willfully failing to yield to the officers signal to stop</p> <p>2. Emergency Response vs. Pursuit</p> <p>a. Speed and route are dictated by officer in emergency response</p> <p>b. Suspect dictates route and his/her own speed in the pursuit</p> <p>c. Officer dictates his/her own speed and ultimately has to decide if that speed is safe</p> <p>B. California Vehicle Codes (CVC)</p> <p>1. <b>Statutes governing peace officers when operating a law enforcement vehicle in the line of duty (LD 19 II. B.1)</b></p> <p>a. 165 CVC defines what constitutes an authorized emergency vehicle</p> <p>b. 21052 CVC refers to peace officers obeying the rules of the road in non-emergency conditions 21055 CVC</p> <p>1) Exemption of authorized emergency vehicles</p> <p>2) Exemption is granted during an emergency, fire, rescue, or pursuit</p> <p>3) Emergency vehicle must display forward facing red light, visible from 1000 feet</p> <p>4) Emergency vehicle must sound siren as reasonably necessary</p> <p>c. 21056 CVC defines “Due Regard”</p>	<p>[A2] Ask- What is the difference between emergency response driving versus pursuit driving?</p> <p>[A2a] Explain-Speed and route are dictated by officer in an emergency response. Route is dictated by suspect in pursuit, but officer must decide what speed is safe.</p> <p>[B1] Discuss- Instructor will clarify definitions of 165 CVC and 21052 CVC by referring to the power point slides.</p> <p>[B1b] Show “Andy Griffith” Video</p> <p><b>Discuss:</b></p> <p>What core value stood out in this video (“Reverence for the Law”)</p> <p>Can you give an example of a time when you saw a law enforcement officer do something that may have been questionable in the public’s view?</p> <p>[B1b2] Clarify-21055 CVC: Instructor will clarify the acronym “FERP” to help the students</p>
--	--

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p>2. Statute governing non-law enforcement vehicle drivers during emergency response and peace officer responsibility for “due regard”</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. 21806 CVC</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1) <b>Identify the statutory responsibilities of non-law enforcement vehicle drivers when driving in the presence of emergency vehicles operated under emergency response conditions (LD 19 II. D)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2) Upon the approach of an authorized emergency vehicle with red light and siren sounding, surrounding traffic shall pull to the right and stop.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. 21807 CVC</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1) Due regard</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2) The provision of section 21806 CVC does not relieve the driver of the emergency vehicle to drive with due regard</p> <p>C. Liability</p> <p>1. Statutes governing liability and immunity</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Recognize the statute(s) governing peace officers when operating law enforcement vehicles in the line of duty <b>(LD 19. II. B. 2)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. 17001 CVC</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1) City liability</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2) A public entity (the city) is liable for death or injury by a negligent or wrongful act or omission by an employee of that entity</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">c. 17004 CVC</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1) Civil immunity <b>(LD 19 II. B. 2)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2) An officer is not civilly liable as long as they are in compliance with 21055 CVC</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3) Officers are never criminally immune</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">d. 17004.7 CVC-Public agency immunity, which will specifically be addressed</p>	<p>remember what situations allow them to be legally exempt from the rules of the road.</p> <p><b>[B1b4] Ask</b>-What does “as reasonably necessary” mean? Instructor will facilitate a discussion on the term “reasonably necessary” and give examples of when it is reasonably necessary, and when it wouldn’t be reasonably necessary.</p> <p><b>[B14c] Explain</b>-Instructor will give explain the term “due regard” using the power point slide.</p> <p><b>[B2a] Explain</b>-Instructor will explain the meaning of 21806CVC using the power point slide and then ask the students-under what conditions are citizens required to yield to emergency vehicles? Instructor will also ask “Do lights and siren guarantee right of way?”</p> <p><b>[B2b] Explain</b>-Instructor will explain the 21807 CVC “due regard” section using the power point slide.</p> <p><b>[C1b2] Ask</b>- “What do you think is meant by a commission or omission?” This is asked after the instructor explains 17001 CVC liability section, which is defined on the power point slide.</p> <p><b>[C1d] Explain</b>-Instructor will explain 17004.7 CVC section using the power point slide.</p>
--	--

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p>when discussing pursuit policy</p> <p><b>D. Emergency Equipment-Identify factors that can limit the effectiveness of a vehicle’s emergency warning devices (LD 19 II. F)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Emergency Lights Requirements<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Forward facing solid red</li><li>b. Visible from 1000 feet</li><li>c. Emergency lights are less effective in fog, rain, and snow</li></ol></li><li>2. Siren Audibility<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. As speed increases, the effectiveness of the siren decreases</li><li>b. Congested urban areas with concrete, steel, and glass have an effect on the ability to hear the siren</li></ol></li></ol> <p><b>E. Pursuits</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Discuss the requirements of California Penal Code section 13519.8 PC (LD 19 III. A)</b><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Initiating a pursuit</li><li>b. Number of units involved</li><li>c. Roles and responsibilities of primary and secondary units</li><li>d. Driving tactics</li><li>e. Helicopter assistance</li><li>f. Communications</li><li>g. Capture of suspects</li><li>h. Terminating a pursuit</li><li>i. Supervisory responsibilities</li><li>j. Blocking, ramming, boxing, and roadblock procedures</li><li>k. Speed limits</li><li>l. Inter-jurisdictional considerations</li><li>m. Condition of vehicle, driver, roadway, weather, and traffic</li><li>n. Hazards to uninvolved bystanders or motorists</li><li>o. Reporting and post pursuit analysis</li></ol></li><li>2. <b>Discuss the requirements of Vehicle Code Section 17004.7 (LD 19 III. B)</b> 17004.7 CVC-Public agency immunity will be addressed during the pursuit policy discussion. Discuss the requirements of</li></ol>	<p><b>[D] Clarify</b>-Instructor will clarify the requirements for emergency equipment, which are listed on the power point slides, and explain how the equipment can be affected by the environment. Instructor will then give pertinent general safety tips, which are listed on the power point slides.</p> <p><b>[D2] Show “Michelle Norton” video</b></p> <p><b>Discuss:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What type of call was the officer responding to?</li><li>• Was her response to the call appropriate?</li><li>• How could this have been avoided?</li></ul> <p><b>[E]</b> Instructor will identify requirements of California Penal Code Section 13519.8 using the power point slide as a guide.</p> <p><b>[E2]</b> Instructor will discuss “Public Agency Immunity”, 17004.7 CVC and will emphasize that officers have to be trained once per year in</p>
---	---

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p>17004.7 Vehicle Code Section</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Public agency immunity</li><li>b. The city is immune from civil liability resulting from the collision of a suspect that is being pursued by a police officer employed by that public entity (third party collisions)</li></ol> <p>3. Los Angeles Police Department Pursuit Policy (LAPD Manual Volume I/555, Volume 3/201, and Volume 4/205)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Initiation<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) When not to initiate<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) When it is based solely on an infraction</li><li>b) For misdemeanor evading or reckless driving in response to enforcement action taken by Department personnel</li><li>c) Balance Test (initiation/termination)</li><li>d) Following versus initiating a pursuit</li></ol></li><li>2) Number of units permitted in a pursuit<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Officer engaged must notify Communication Division (CD) that they are in pursuit</li><li>b) CD shall assign a back-up, air unit, and a supervisor</li><li>c) Responding officers may respond Code Three</li><li>d) Once all authorized units have joined the pursuit, all other units will discontinue their Code Three response</li><li>e) When available, any unit in pursuit should be a two-officer unit.</li><li>f) Motorcycle, dual purpose, and hybrid units must relinquish upon the arrival of a marked black and white unit fully equipped with external roof-mounted emergency lights</li></ol></li></ol></li></ol>	<p>order for the agency to be granted immunity.</p> <p><b>[E3a1b] Ask</b>-What do you think constitutes “enforcement action?” (1/555.10)-Instructor will clarify what constitutes “enforcement action.”</p> <p><b>[E3a1c] Ask</b>-What factors may influence your decision to initiate and/or terminate a pursuit?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Instructor will clarify the importance of the balance test with an emphasis on speed.</li></ul> <p><b>[E3a2] Explain</b>-Instructor will explain pursuit policy procedures covering topics listed on power point slide with an emphasis on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communications Division</li><li>• Number of units in pursuit</li><li>• Motorcycle and dual purpose/hybrid</li></ul>
--	--

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p><b>b.</b> Pursuing unit responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Responsibility of the primary unit<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Primary unit is responsible for the apprehension of the suspect(s) without unreasonable risk to themselves or others</li><li>b) The senior officer in the primary unit is the incident commander until a supervisor arrives</li><li>c) The senior officer is also responsible for the decision to become involved in the pursuit, whether more than two units should join the pursuit, and whether the pursuit should be terminated</li></ol></li><li>2) The secondary unit shall be responsible for backing up the primary unit and broadcasting pertinent information at the termination</li></ol> <p><b>c.</b> Vehicle pursuit driving tactics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Primary responsibility for pursuit activities must be restricted to authorized units only-all other units must remain clear</li><li>2) No paralleling or passing</li><li>3) Blocking, ramming, boxing, and roadblocks<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Tactics such as roadblocks, boxing in, heading off, ramming, or driving alongside a pursued vehicle are strongly discourages</li><li>b) These tactics should only be considered in those rare instances when warranted to save a life, and then only as a last resort</li></ol></li><li><b>c)</b> Techniques to consider when suspect goes the wrong way on the freeway or on a one-way street<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) use air unit</li><li>(2) maintain visual on correct</li></ol></li></ol>	<p><b>[E3b] Explain-</b>Instructor will explain responsibilities of primary and secondary unit's responsibility in pursuit using power point slide as guideline.</p> <p><b>[E3c] Explain-</b>Instructor will explain driving pursuit tactics using the power point slide as a guideline.</p> <p><b>[E3c3c)] Ask-</b>What do you think some options are for handling a suspect that goes the wrong way on a one way street/freeway?</p>
--	--



**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p>personal discipline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5) Supervisory responsibility</li><li>6) Blocking, ramming, boxing, and roadblocks<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>c) Tactics such as roadblocks, boxing in, heading off, ramming, or driving alongside a pursued vehicle are strongly discourages</li><li>d) These tactics should only be considered in those rare instances when warranted to save a life, and then only as a last resort</li></ul></li><li>7) Speed Limits<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) When speeds dangerously exceed the normal flow of traffic, termination should be considered</li><li>b) The Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) should not be attempted if the pursued vehicle is traveling in excess of 35 mph</li><li>c) The Tire Deflation Device (TDD) should not normally be deployed for a pursued vehicle traveling in excess of 65 mph</li></ul></li><li>8) Inter-jurisdictional considerations<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) When a pursuit leaves the primary unit's area of assignment, notify CD so that the pursuit information gets broadcasted on the proper frequency</li><li>b) When the pursuit is entering another city, notify CD so they can coordinate the exchange of information between the involved agencies</li><li>c) When a pursuit initiated by another agency enters the City, the initiating unit and jurisdiction shall be responsible for the progress of the pursuit</li><li>d) LAPD units shall not assist</li></ul></li></ul>	<p><b>[E3d4] Explain</b>-Instructor will explain Department policy on "Termination of Pursuit" using the power point slide as a guide.</p> <p><b>[E3d5] Discuss</b>-Instructor will give a general description of supervisory role during and after the pursuit using the power point slide as a guideline.</p>
--	---

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p>unless specifically requested by the pursuing agency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>e) If LAPD takes over the pursuit, Department pursuit policy applies.</li><li>f) Generally, it is a poor practice to co-mingle</li></ul> <p>9) Conditions of the vehicle, driver, roadway, weather, and traffic- Recognize the risk to officer/public safety versus the need to apprehend and recognize conditions that could lead to the decision to terminate a vehicle pursuit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Assess whether vehicular and or pedestrian traffic safety is unreasonably compromised</li><li>b) Assess if the weather conditions create an unreasonable risk of injury</li><li>c) Assess whether the volume of traffic causes an unreasonable risk of injury</li><li>d) Assess whether the nature of the area causes an unreasonable risk of injury</li><li>e) Familiarity of the primary unit with the area</li></ul> <p>10) Hazards to uninvolved bystanders or motorists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) During a pursuit, there is an increased risk to the public and the officers</li><li>b) The pursuit could become a hazard to uninvolved bystanders and motorists</li><li>c) Officers shall continually evaluate the necessity for continuing the Officers involved in a pursuit shall continually evaluate the necessity for continuing the pursuit. Officers must determine whether the seriousness of the initial</li></ul>	
---	--

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

violation or any subsequent violations reasonably warrants continuance of the pursuit. The following factors should be considered when evaluating speeds throughout a pursuit and assessing whether to continue or terminate a pursuit (balance test):

- (1) Whether there is an unreasonable risk of injury to the public's safety, the pursuing officers' safety or the safety of the occupant(s) in the fleeing vehicle;
- (2) Whether speeds dangerously exceed the normal flow of traffic;
- (3) Whether vehicular and/or pedestrian traffic safety is unreasonably compromised;
- (4) Whether the suspects can be apprehended at a later time;
- (5) If the weather conditions such as rain, fog, snow, etc., create an unreasonable risk of injury to the public or the pursuing officers;
- (6) The suspect is not responding to the emergency equipment, e.g., siren and red lights of the police vehicle; is not accelerating to get away from the officer; and the only known reason for initiating a pursuit is a minor traffic infraction;
- (7) The seriousness of the crime and its relationship to community safety;
- (8) The traffic conditions: Volume of vehicular traffic, volume of pedestrian traffic and road conditions;

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p>(9) Nature of the area of the pursuit: Residential, commercial, or rural;</p> <p>(10) Whether the lack or quality of communication between the primary unit and Communications Division or the primary unit and a supervisor causes an unreasonable risk to the public;</p> <p>(11) The familiarity of the primary pursuing officer with the area;</p> <p>(12) The availability of an air unit; and,</p> <p>(13) The loss of the pursued vehicle, or unknown location of the pursued vehicle.</p> <p>(14) All officers involved in a vehicle pursuit will be held accountable for the continuation of a pursuit when circumstances indicate it should have been discontinued. Since driver officers are usually concentrating on the safe operation of the police vehicle, passenger officers are particularly responsible for advising drivers when they feel the pursuit is exceeding reasonable limits.</p> <p>11) Reporting and post pursuit analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) The supervisor is responsible for completing the Vehicle Pursuit Report (VPR)</li><li>b) The watch commander is responsible for insight and policy recommendations in the VPR under the heading “Watch Commander/OIC Evaluation and Insight”</li></ul>	
--	--

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 1 – Policy and Law**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

<p><b>F.</b> (see instructors note)</p>	<p><b>[F]</b> Direct the student to the Law Enforcement Driving Simulators. See Learning Activity No. 1</p>
---	---