

**SA 03 EVOC**  
**Session 5 – Operational Track-Night Time**  
**Learning Activity 20**  
**LD 19 Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**

**Purpose:** The student will learn to safely drive and control a law enforcement vehicle on a pre-designated course during a pursuit and emergency response conditions during the hours of darkness. Fundamentals of vehicle control, proper intersection analysis, safety, situational awareness, and radio broadcasts will be the primary focus of this learning activity. The student will experience the visibility of other approaching emergency vehicles responding Code-3 as well as gain an understanding of the concept of “driving within your headlights.”

**Description:** The student will practice the fundamentals of vehicle control, proper intersection analysis, and radio broadcasts, while operating a law enforcement training vehicle in a pursuit and emergency response condition on a pre-designated course during the hours of darkness. The EVOC instructor will reinforce the application of steering technique, braking technique, throttle control, roadway positioning, speed judgment, and weight transfer, as well as intersection clearance. The instructor will continue to emphasize the importance of safety and situational awareness at all times. This exercise will be conducted at a speed designated by the instructor. The instructor to student safety ratio is 1:3.

**The student will participate in a learning activity that requires the student to drive a law enforcement vehicle during the hours of darkness (as defined in Vehicle Code Section 280) utilizing headlights. The activity must include emergency response and/or pursuit (LD 19 VI. C).**

Each student will then be given an appropriate amount of time to practice the exercise. The student will demonstrate the following:

- Maintaining vehicle control at all times while driving in a pursuit and emergency response condition
- Reasons and timing for activating lights and siren
- Reasons and timing for making required radio broadcasts
- Appropriate following distance to suspect and other police vehicles
- Recognizing guidelines for entering a controlled intersection when driving under emergency response conditions **(LD 19 II. I)**
- Appropriate actions to prevent intersection collisions **(LD 19 I D)**
- Determining a safe distance when following another vehicle **(LD 19 I A)**
- Appropriate actions to prevent intersection collisions **(LD 19 I D)**
- The importance and proper use of safety belts in a law enforcement vehicle **(LD 19 I G)**
- Identify the objectives of emergency response driving **(LD 19 II. A)**
- The use of emergency warning devices available on law enforcement vehicles **(LD 19 II. E)**
- Recognize guidelines for entering a controlled intersection when driving under emergency response conditions **(LD 19 II. I)**
- Proper braking methods **(LD 19 IV. G)**
- Proper throttle control **(LD 19 IV. D)**
- Proper techniques for two handed shuffle steering **(LD 19 IV. C)**

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- Proper roadway position and the three essential reference points of a turning maneuver **(LD 19 IV. E)**
- Identifying the factors that can limit the effectiveness of a vehicle's emergency warning devices **(LD 19. II. F)**

During the session, the EVOC instructor while seated in the front passenger seat, will actively assess the performance and provide real time instruction to positively reinforce proper techniques or correct any deficiencies that are observed.

**Resources needed:**

- EVOC track training vehicles
- Headlights/ Emergency Lights and siren
- Police radios

**Key learning points:**

- Fundamentals of vehicle control during hours of darkness
- Operating a law enforcement vehicle in a pursuit and emergency response condition during the hours of darkness
- Proper intersection analysis
- Radio broadcasts
- Understand the concept of “driving within your headlights”
- Safety and situational awareness during hours of darkness

**Time required:** 1 hour