

Policy Number: 10-003

Lucas County Sheriff's Office  
Policy and Procedure



Approved by Sheriff:

*Michael J. Navarre*

Sheriff Michael J. Navarre

DATE FOR REVIEW:

Pages:

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SECTION: COUNTY WIDE COMMUNICATIONS

**PURSUIT COMMUNICATION CONTROL**

**I. BACKGROUND**

Pursuits are dynamic and present a great likelihood of crossing single agency jurisdictional boundaries, frequently involving multiple law enforcement agencies. Pursuits normally involve vehicles, but can involve suspect(s) attempting to avoid apprehension by fleeing on foot. It is necessary to establish a consistent method to provide control and radio management of all pursuits initiated by law enforcement agencies in and adjacent to Lucas County.

**II. POLICY**

**A. INSIDE THE COUNTY**

Whenever a unit informs dispatch that they are in pursuit, the air shall be closed, sound Alert-I whenever possible, and immediately enter either the "TP" (traffic pursuit) or "SP" (subject pursuit command into CAD. Additionally, the dispatcher shall:

1. Ascertain the following information as soon as possible:
  - a. Direction of pursuit – from where to where.
  - b. Suspect/Vehicle description.
  - c. Reason for pursuit.
2. Patch the primary radio channel with the Pursuit and Pursuit 1 channels.
3. Notify the nearest available command officer, and request acknowledgement of the pursuit.
4. Acknowledge and, if necessary, assign a secondary unit to a traffic pursuit, or sufficient back up units in the case of a foot pursuit. Non-involved agencies should not be assigned unless specifically requested by the originating agency.
5. Receive and record all information relative to the pursuit in a timely manner.

6. Relay any information to police units concerning vehicle registration, identification, and wanted status of the registered owner, and any other possible reasons for the pursuit.
7. Transmit the direction and progress of the pursuit to other units.
8. If a pursuit is approaching the boundary of another dispatch channel, activate additional radio patches to include the affected channel(s). This is to permit communications between the telecommunicator, unit(s) originally involved in the pursuit, and those units on the other channel(s). The controlling dispatcher will continue to control the radio management of the pursuit until termination of the pursuit.
9. Advise the box operator or floor supervisor if it appears the pursuit is going to enter an out-of-county police jurisdiction so that proper notification is made to the affected authority, in the event assistance is needed.
10. Retain all duties and responsibilities until pursuit termination.

B. INTER-JURISDICTIONAL

1. When another law enforcement agency initiates a pursuit within Lucas County, or enters Lucas County while in pursuit, the RCOG box operator or supervisor shall ascertain the circumstances of the pursuit and shall ensure this information is relayed to area units. The telecommunicator dispatching the channel nearest the pursuit shall also:
  - a. Suburban  
General broadcast the pursuit to make area units aware so they may respond according to their department policies and procedures.
  - b. Toledo  
Dispatch a supervisor and two units to the general area of the pursuit to monitor the situation.
2. The box operator(s) shall also monitor the pursuit and relay all pertinent information to the affected telecommunicator.
3. If an agency served by the RCOG joins the pursuit, the telecommunicator(s) should patch the primary channel with the Pursuit channel. The controlling telecommunicator will continue to control the radio management of the pursuit until terminated by the originating agency, or until instructed to transfer control due to our agency unit(s) assuming the primary position in the pursuit. If the originating agency discontinues their involvement in the pursuit and breaks their patch, our telecommunicator should then add the Pursuit 1 channel to their patch.

C. LEAVING THE COUNTY

1. When pursuits appear to be headed into another county, the box operator shall notify the affected law enforcement agency of the pursuit.