

POLICE PURSUIT MODEL POLICY
MN RULES 6700.2701

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Breitung Police Department to protect lives while enforcing the law and to guide its officers in the safe and reasonable performance of their duties. To accomplish these goals, the following policy is provided to control and regulate emergency vehicle operations. When engaged in emergency vehicle operations in the performance of official duties, drivers of authorized emergency vehicles are granted exemptions from certain traffic laws by State Statute. These exemptions are provided to help protect lives, not to place them at undue risk.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. *Pursuit*:** A multi-stage process by which a peace officer initiates a vehicular stop and a driver resists the signal or order to stop, increases speed, takes evasive action and/or refuses to stop the vehicle. Once the driver refuses to obey the peace officer's signal or order, this pursuit policy and procedure will determine the officer's and agency's actions.
- B. *Termination of a Pursuit*:** A pursuit shall terminate when the pursuing officer(s) turn off the emergency equipment, resume routine vehicle operation and informs dispatch, or when the suspect vehicle stops.
- C. *Divided Highway*:** Any highway that is separated into two or more roadways by:
1. a physical barrier, or
 2. a clearly indicated dividing section constructed so as to impede vehicular traffic.
- D. *Channeling*:** To direct vehicular traffic into a progressively narrowing passageway or lane location on the roadway.
- E. *Compelling Path*:** The use of channeling technique with a modified roadblock located at its narrowed end. The compelling path differs from a termination roadblock in that the driver or any vehicle traveling the path has an exit option at the narrowed end.

III. PROCEDURE

A. Pursuit Considerations

1. Pursuit is justified when:
 - a) a vehicle operator fails to stop after being given a visual or audible signal to stop by a peace officer; and
 - b) there is reasonable expectation of a successful apprehension of the suspect.
2. Other factors to be considered:
 - the initial decision to engage in a pursuit shall rest primarily with the officer who has initiated the vehicular stop, after considering the elements of this policy.
 - these elements shall include, but are not limited to: the crime for which the suspect is wanted (the need to apprehend immediately), and the risk to the