

**CHAPTER 25 – VEHICLE STOPS**

**Section 25.00 – Vehicle Stops**

**Section 25.01 – Felony Vehicle Stops**

**EFFECTIVE: JULY 1, 2020**

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### Section 25.00 – Vehicle Stops

A. As a part of effective proactive patrol, officers will conduct vehicle stops for the purpose of identifying suspicious activity and issuing traffic citations for violations of the law. The procedures below should be followed to increase safety for the officer and the citizen, and bring the incident to a proper conclusion.

B. Before making a stop, the officer must consider the following items:

**[REDACTED]**

F. Contact Communications and advise of the vehicle check, providing the following information when acknowledged by the dispatcher:

1. Street location and nearest cross street.

**[REDACTED]**

G. Signal the vehicle to stop.

**[REDACTED]**

5. If the vehicle flees, refer to pursuit procedures.

H. Properly place the police vehicle in relation to the vehicle being stopped.

**[REDACTED]**

J. Communication with the driver/occupants.

1. All verbal interaction with the driver and occupants of the vehicle should be professional and informative. Individuals should be provided with reasons for the stop as well as answers to any questions as necessary or applicable.

**[REDACTED]**

K. In the event an occupant is wanted on misdemeanor charges, the following guidelines should be used:.

**[REDACTED]**

7. Provide clear and concise directions to the wanted person about what actions they are to take.

**[REDACTED]**

11. Once the wanted person is in custody, officers will determine the disposition of the vehicle and note it on the arrest report.

- a. Release the vehicle to an occupant if allowed by the arrest and the occupant has a valid operator's license and is not wanted.
- b. Release the vehicle to a driver responding from another location if requested by the arrest and only if the driver can respond to the scene within a reasonable time frame.
- c. Inventory and tow the arrest's vehicle.
- d. With consent of the owner, a vehicle may be left parked legally on a city street. An authorization not to tow the vehicle will be completed by the officer and signed by the owner prior to leaving the scene.

### **Section 25.01 – Felony Vehicle Stops**

A. Stopping a vehicle occupied by persons wanted on felony charges, or who have just committed a felony, may pose a serious threat to officers and the public. Special attention should be given to the following factors when deciding to stop such a vehicle:

**[REDACTED]**

C. Officers must evaluate the necessity to implement this procedure based on information indicating that the suspect is a threat. If the suspect is wanted for a lesser felony that does not involve a violent crime, officers may elect to take the suspect into custody without a felony car stop. In addition, it may not be necessary to use this procedure on every person occupying the suspect vehicle, if the wanted person can be identified and isolated from others in the car.