


# MEMORANDUM

LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT

GREG FISCHER  
MAYOR

STEVE CONRAD  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**TO:** All Personnel

**FROM:** Robert J. Schroeder  
Chief of Police 

**DATE:** June 30, 2020

**RE:** Special Order #20-037  
Extension to Special Order #19-003 Pursuit Policy

In 2019, the Louisville community saw a continuing pattern of increasing violent crime. We continued to see too many of our citizens become the victims of shootings or homicides. We observed a pattern of shooting incidents involving the use of stolen cars to perpetrate the crime. We are committed to continually adjust our approach for the safety of our community.

In Special Order #19-001, a pilot effort to prevent these criminals from terrorizing our community was implemented. We conducted an analysis of the changes and the effect on crime in Louisville. The rash of violence experienced in our community subsided in conjunction with the implementation of this special order. Homicides decreased, non-fatal shootings leveled off, and Wanton Endangerments and stolen vehicles decreased. The evidence thus far indicates this strategy is working. In December of 2019, this pilot effort was extended for another six months with Special Order #19-003. I am hereby extending the pilot effort for another six months and will continue to evaluate its effectiveness.

I am approving LMPD officers to initiate a vehicle pursuit under the following special circumstances:

- The officer has determined, prior to initiating a pursuit, the vehicle is stolen (via MetroSafe); and
- The commanding officer will acknowledge, over the radio, the verified stolen vehicle to continue the pursuit. The commanding officer will actively monitor the radio, proceed toward, engage in, and directly control the pursuit.

I am concerned, as I know each of you are, about your safety and that of the public we serve. We must continue to exercise due regard for public safety and comply with LMPD policies and this Special Order. Officers and supervisors must be able to articulate the verification of the stolen vehicle prior to the pursuit as part of the Administrative Incident Report (AIR) review process.

This Special Order will expire on December 31, 2020. Prior to that date, we will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of this change and consider this and other possible adjustments to the Pursuit policy.

All members having computer access are responsible for reading, understanding, and acknowledging receipt of this Special Order, using the PowerDMS Document Management System. Members without computer access will continue to sign an accountability roster, as they have in the past.

All commanding officers will ensure that their personnel are made aware of this information.

This Special Order will be posted in each division, section, or unit for a period of ten (10) days. Please refer any questions through the appropriate chain of command.