



SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING BULLETIN

TO: ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM: Anthony Mata
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: HIGH RISK VEHICLE CONTACTS

DATE: March 26, 2021

Bulletin# 2021-010

In response to a recommendation by the Independent Police Auditor, the Department has created a Training Bulletin regarding the execution of high-risk vehicle contacts (HRVCs). During HRVCs, it is important to apply appropriate tactical considerations and/or de-escalation strategies. These considerations and/or strategies are based on Department policies, standard operating procedures, and safety protocols.

Duty Manual section L 9020 defines HRVCs. Duty Manual section L 9021 requires a supervisor respond to the scene of HRVCs. Duty Manual section L 9022 requires all HRVCs to be documented.

It is important to understand that each HRVC will pose its own set of unique circumstances. As a result, a template-style approach to safely resolving the variables of these contacts will not work in every circumstance. However, the information below should be considered by Department members engaged in these high-risk and dynamic vehicle contacts whenever it is practical and safe to do so.

HRVCs are generally made when an officer has reason to believe that:

- One or more of the occupants of the vehicle are presenting a deadly threat or a threat of serious bodily injury to officers or the public
- One or more of the occupants of the vehicle are armed, believed to be armed, or are known to carry weapons
- One or more of the occupants of the vehicle are violent, believed to be violent, or have a known history of violence
- One or more occupants of the vehicle have committed a felony, are believed to have committed a felony, or are known to be felons
- The vehicle was believed to be used in a crime of violence (e.g. through an APB or a broadcast alert)

Officers should consider the following safety protocols:

- Notify Communications of the information below
- Ensure sufficient personnel and equipment are on-scene and/or en route
- Use tactical positioning, distance, lighting, and available cover
- Utilize available resources (e.g. air support, canine units, etc.)

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- Ensure less-than-lethal weapons are on scene and available

When notifying Communications of an HRVC, the following information should be communicated:

- Initiating unit identification
- Units have initiated an HRVC (e.g. "11-96")
- The location of the HRVC and the direction of the line of fire
- The vehicle description and license number
- The number and description of the vehicle occupants
- The level of compliance of the vehicle occupants
- Any resources needed and/or already deployed
- The reason for the HRVC if not evident based on the event information (e.g. conducting an HRVC on an occupied stolen vehicle stop versus shifting from an occupied suspicious vehicle to an HRVC)
- An ingress route for responding units
- Continue to update Communications as appropriate

Officers should consider the principles of de-escalation and follow L 2602.5 TACTICAL CONDUCT:

- Ensure there is a core transaction
- Determine the level of urgency
- Conduct a threat assessment and gather all available information
- Utilize cover, concealment, distance, and time
- Request a member of the Crisis Intervention Team (if appropriate)

Due to the unique variables of each HRVC, the following list are some tactical considerations officers should consider. This list is not exhaustive, and officers should consider all information available to them at the time of an HRVC:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]ng
- [REDACTED]
 - An incident commander to:
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Officers should consider the following contingencies that may occur during an HRVC:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]



Anthony Mata
Chief of Police

AM:SD:JH