



## 2-13 STARCHASE PURSUIT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

### Related SOP(s), Form(s), Other Resource(s), and Rescinded Special Orders:

A. Related SOP(s)

- [2-6 Use of Emergency Warning Equipment \(Formerly 2-56\)](#)
- [2-45 Pursuit by Motor Vehicle \(Formerly 2-55\)](#)

B. Form(s)

None

C. Other Resources

None

D. Rescinded Special Order(s)

None

### 2-13-1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedures, requirements, and expectations for activating the StarChase Pursuit Management System.

### 2-13-2 Policy

It is the policy of the Albuquerque Police Department (Department) to activate the StarChase Pursuit Management System when sworn personnel are engaged in an authorized motor vehicle pursuit or when sworn personnel have probable cause to believe that the individual(s) has committed a felony crime, when an individual attempts to flee the scene of a lawful traffic stop.

### N/A 2-13-3 Definitions

A. Code 3 Response

Response with full emergency equipment in operation. Calls that require a Code 3 response are life-threatening in nature or meet any other criteria for emergency response.

B. Motor Vehicle Pursuit

An authorized and deliberate attempt by a law enforcement officer operating an authorized Department-issued emergency vehicle, with engaged authorized emergency warning equipment, to apprehend an occupant of a motor vehicle, the



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driver of which is actively attempting to avoid apprehension by exceeding the speed limit, refusing to stop, disobeying traffic laws, or otherwise attempting to flee from the officer through evasive driving maneuvers.

C. StarChase Pursuit Management System

Apparatus that is used by a trained officer in a Department-issued police vehicle equipped with a StarChase Pursuit Management System vehicle-mounted GPS launcher (StarChase GPS launcher), which is used to remotely attach StarChase the GPS tracker to an individual's vehicle.

D. StarChase Pursuit Management System Activation

When trained sworn personnel use the StarChase Pursuit Management System's air pressure system to deploy and attach the StarChase GPS tracker onto the individual's vehicle. Once the StarChase GPS tracker is attached to the individual's vehicle, Department personnel may track the vehicle's location using a computer with Internet access.

**6** 2-13-4 **Pre-Activation Procedures**

A. Sworn Personnel Responsibilities

1. Sworn personnel who are trained on the proper use of the StarChase Pursuit Management System who have a StarChase-equipped police vehicle shall be authorized to activate the system only for legitimate law enforcement purposes and to engage an individual who is wanted in connection to a known felony crime.
2. The officer shall be authorized to make the final decision to activate the StarChase Pursuit Management System. Before activating the StarChase Pursuit Management System, the officer shall consider:
  - a. Whether the officer can safely maneuver close enough to the individual's vehicle to come within targeting range;
  - b. Whether the officer can safely pass any other emergency vehicles involved in the motor vehicle pursuit;
  - c. Whether other circumstances would indicate that the StarChase GPS tracker would be ineffective; and
  - d. The safety of the community, sworn personnel, and the individuals in the target vehicle.

3. Sworn personnel may:

**N/A**

- a. When they have a Department-issued police vehicle equipped with the StarChase GPS launcher, respond Code 3 to join a motor vehicle pursuit to potentially deploy the StarChase GPS tracker with approval from a supervisor



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(refer to SOP Use of Emergency Warning Equipment for sanction classifications and additional duties).

- i. However, when they locate an individual's vehicle and have probable cause to believe that the individual(s) have committed a felony crime, the officer may deploy the StarChase GPS launcher without prior authorization from a supervisor.

**6** 2-13-5 **Procedures during Activation**

A. Involved Sworn Personnel Responsibilities

1. Once StarChase has been activated, the involved officer shall:

- a. Announce the activation over a Talk Group that is monitored by an Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Dispatcher;
- b. Give a description of the vehicle;
- c. Provide an approximate description of the involved individual(s);
- d. When the individual flees in their vehicle, adhere to the procedures outlined in SOP Pursuit by Motor Vehicle; and
- e. When it is safe to do so, remove the StarChase GPS tracker at the termination point of a motor vehicle pursuit or when the individual is apprehended.

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2. When involved sworn personnel deploy the StarChase GPS tracker and it is attached to an individual's vehicle and the individual flees, after they engage the individual with their emergency equipment and the motor vehicle pursuit would otherwise be prohibited under the Department's Standard Operating Procedure(s) (SOP), involved sworn personnel shall disengage their emergency equipment and immediately stop pursuing the individual.

- a. The ECC Dispatcher shall track and monitor the individual's vehicle.
  - i. A supervisor may also track and monitor the individual's vehicle.
- b. Sworn personnel shall notify the ECC Dispatcher upon deployment of the StarChase GPS tracker.
- c. Sworn personnel in a marked unit shall stay in the vicinity and shall be available to establish a perimeter around the area should the individual attempt to flee on foot.

3. Involved sworn personnel shall not:

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- a. Preemptively activate the StarChase Pursuit Management System on an unoccupied vehicle that is not stolen or currently being used in the commission of a crime, nor activate the system outside of official police duties, nor to track an individual's movements in which that individual is not the suspect of a crime;
  - b. Attempt to track a StarChase activation or access the StarChase monitor while driving;
  - c. Deploy the StarChase GPS tracker when they have an individual in custody in their vehicle; and



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d. Deploy the StarChase GPS tracker on two-wheel to three-wheeled vehicles.

B. Supervisor Responsibilities

1. A supervisor may direct involved sworn personnel to assume the lead position in a motor vehicle pursuit to deploy the StarChase GPS tracker.
2. The on-duty supervisor of the involved officer who deployed the StarChase GPS tracker shall be in command of the activation.
  - a. If the on-duty supervisor is unavailable, the next available on-duty supervisor shall take command of the activation.

C. ECC Dispatcher Responsibilities

1. Once the StarChase GPS tracker has been deployed and it is attached to the individual's vehicle, the ECC Dispatcher shall:
  - a. Advise all Talk Groups that the StarChase GPS tracker has been deployed;
    - i. Involved sworn personnel who are on the dispatched Talk Group shall remain on the primary channel and shall not switch channels when the individual moves to another area command(s).
    - ii. If the deployment occurred on a non-dispatch Talk Group, involved sworn personnel shall switch to a dispatch-monitored Talk Group as quickly and safely as possible.
  - b. Advise involved sworn personnel if the StarChase GPS tracker is trackable; and
    - i. If the StarChase GPS tracker is not trackable and does not violate SOP Pursuit by Motor Vehicle, when it is safe to do so, the involved officer may attempt to deploy a second StarChase GPS tracker as authorized under this SOP.
  - c. Continually inform and update the on-duty supervisor on the status and progression of the activation.

**7** 2-13-6 **Post-Activation Procedures**

- A. Following a StarChase Pursuit Management System activation, the involved officer shall submit a Uniform Incident Report and forward it to Operations Review Section personnel detailing the number of StarChase GPS trackers deployed as the result of the activation, whether or not the individual was apprehended, and whether a vehicle or property was recovered, including a dollar amount.
1. The involved officer shall list the individual's information, if known, and shall list the recovered property as a result of the StarChase activation.
    - a. The involved officer shall email StarChase at [support@starchase.com](mailto:support@starchase.com) for tracking purposes.



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- i. The email shall include the results of the activation, the serial number of the StarChase GPS tracker, and whether the StarChase GPS tracker was successful.
2. Supervisors shall ensure any StarChase GPS tracker deployment is appropriately documented in a Uniform Incident Report.