

**COMMUNITY PEACE OFFICER  
EMERGENCY VEHICLE RESPONSE POLICY #21.0.8**

**1. POLICY STATEMENT**

The Council of the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 has been requested by the Wetaskiwin Protective Services Department to permit Community Peace Officers to utilize emergency lights and sirens to respond to certain emergent situations.

The Public Security Peace Officer Program Policy under the direction of the Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security Division states that all agencies employing Community Peace Officers must have an Emergency Vehicle Response Policy that meets the requirements of the *Peace Officer Act* and Peace Officer (Ministerial) Regulations.

**2. PROCEDURES**

2.1. An Authorized Employer who chooses to assume this authority must apply to the Director of Law Enforcement, Solicitor General and Public Security, and have the authority appear on the Authorization to Employ Peace Officers.

2.2. The Director of Law Enforcement, Solicitor General and Public Security will consider the application if the following requirements are met:

2.2.1. Only Peace Officers who have successfully completed a forty (40) hour Emergency Vehicle Operations Course based on a police curriculum may apply to the Director for emergency response authority. It is noted that:

The pursuit course elements of EVOC training are in no manner intended to suggest that peace officers are legally permitted or sufficiently trained to engage in pursuits. All pursuit training provided to peace officers should be treated as skill development

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related to the handling of a motor vehicle only. Section 24.7 of the Public Security Peace Officer Program Policy and Procedure Manual – PURSUITS outlines pursuit prohibitions and will be followed.

2.3. Community Peace Officers may only engage in emergency response duties if they have applied to the Director of Law Enforcement, Solicitor General and Public Security, and had their Peace Officer appointment amended to include this authority.

2.4. Situations in which an emergency response is allowed are restricted to:

2.4.1. Injury collisions;

2.4.2. Providing backup to police or Peace Officers where there is a reasonable belief that the officer is in serious danger and the Peace Officer may be the closest assistance available;

2.4.3. Attending a fire or medical situation at the request of the Fire or EMS department. It is not standard practice to provide a co-response to all fire or medical situations; or

2.4.4. Any emergent situation, if requested by Fire, EMS, Police EOC Site Commander or the Director of Disaster Services, to attend in an emergency response capacity;

2.5. Community Peace Officers will respond at a speed that is reasonable given the type of vehicle being driven, weather conditions and training provided.

All situations must be evaluated by the Community Peace Officer to assess if the services they can provide on-scene outweigh the risk created to the public and peace officer by travelling in an emergency response capacity. Public Safety is the primary consideration in all emergency response situations.

2.6. Emergency Vehicle Response will not be conducted for:

2.6.1. Non-injury vehicle collisions;

2.6.2. Providing back-up to police or Peace Officers where there is a police officer closer and already responding to the situation, unless requested by that police service to attend; or

2.6.3. Any other non-urgent situations.

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- 2.7. All motor vehicle collisions resulting from emergency vehicle responses are to be reported to the Director of Law Enforcement as a sensitive/serious occurrence on the approved Public Security Peace Officer Program Policy Form.
- 2.8. All County employed Community Peace Officers Level 1 shall be trained to the Solicitor General's Office standard of the forty (40) hour Emergency Vehicle Operations Course and required re-certification as required.
- 2.9. Any time the Community Peace Officer responds to an emergency as outlined in this Policy, it must be reported to the supervisor.

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