

Use of Force Recommendation 43

Use of Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT)



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Objective

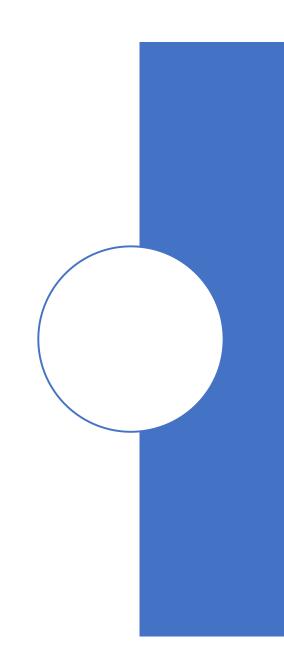
Review policy, training, and application of Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) to ensure compliance with best practices.

Recommendation Highlights

- Determine if PIT should be used
- List specific circumstance for the use of PIT
- Updated policy to reflect refresher training be provided on a regular basis

Pursuit Intervention Technique





Current Practice

MPD authorizes the use of the Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) within restrictive guidelines.

The PIT technique is used infrequently, but when used, has been highly successful.

MPD officers are required to attend refresher training every 2 years.

Current Policy

AUTHORIZED USE:

- Apprehend a subject who poses an immediate threat to human life
- Terminate a hazardous driving situation because of imminent threat to human life.
- Prevent further hazardous driving behavior which poses an imminent threat to human life.



Current Policy

RESTRICTIONS:

- Not authorized if the offense is a civil traffic violation, stolen vehicle only, misdemeanor, or non-violent, non-life threatening felony.
- On a pickup truck or similar type vehicle when there are people occupying the open bed portion.
- On motorcycles.
- When non-sworn personnel are passengers in the PIT vehicle.
- On vehicles with flat tire(s).
- Speeds above 45 MPH unless deadly force is authorized.

Current Policy

REQUIREMENTS:

- Supervisor approval required
- PIT must be performed by PIT certified officer
- Vehicles are traveling at 45 MPH or less at time of PIT
- PIT trained officer has reasonable determined necessity
- The apparent risk of harm to the public from the suspect outweighs the apparent risk of harm involved in using the PIT maneuver.
- The vehicle used for the PIT maneuver should be operated with active emergency lights and siren.

Gap Analysis

Recommendation

- Determine whether PIT should be used.
- List specific circumstance for the use of PIT.
- Updated policy to reflect refresher training be provided on a regular basis.

Current Practice

- The PIT is authorized for use by the MPD.
- Policy lists uses and restrictions for application of the PIT.
- There is no time frame for regular PIT training in MPD policy or lesson plan.



Industry Trends

- IACP does not have a model policy on the PIT
- Gilbert Police Department mirrors MPD with exception of max speed of 35 MPH and no requirement for supervisor approval.
- Department of Public Safety max speed of 45 MPH, no supervisor approval required, no pickup with people, no trailers, no motorcycles.
- Phoenix Police Department restricts PIT to the airport tarmac.
- Chandler Police Department does not authorize PIT.
- Scottsdale Police Department does not authorize PIT.

Pros and Cons

List the reasons *for* allowing the PIT and adopting recommendations:

- Provides officer an effective tool for resolving a high-risk situation.
- Policy addresses both use and restrictions.
- Requirement for refresher training can be added to the policy.

List the reasons *for not* allowing the PIT:

• Not authorizing the PIT removes an effective tool and offers no replacement.



Proposed Action

- Continue to authorize the PIT
- Add statement to policy stating fresher training is required as scheduled by the driving coordinator.





Discussion