

# Hamden Police Department

## General Orders

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**Policy Number:** 024-028

**Effective Date:** August 01, 2005

**Section:** Patrol

**Rescinds:**

**Title:** Use of Road Spikes.

**Approved By:**

**Approval Date:**

### PURPOSE

To assure the safe deployment and operation of devices designed to stop motor vehicles whose operators have ignored every other reasonable attempt to stop that vehicle.

### POLICY

The deployment of road spikes will only be allowed when the operator of a pursued motor vehicle has clearly demonstrated his intention to avoid arrest by fleeing in a motor vehicle and the danger to life, by letting that suspect escape, clearly outweighs the danger to life that would be presented by use of the road spikes.

### Procedures

- A. The road spike device is an alternate means to terminate a pursuit, designed to slowly deflate a tire, avoiding a "Blowout" condition.
  1. The Road Spike device is to be used on four wheeled vehicles only and is to be deployed on paved, (concrete or asphalt), surfaces only. Recommended use is for speeds over 25 M.P.H.
  2. The Following criteria must be met before deploying the Road Spikes.
    - a. The decision to deploy the device must be made by a supervisor of the rank of sergeant or above, who is directly aware of, or involved in the pursuit.
    - b. The deploying officer is trained in the deployment of road spikes and the deployment is done by established training and manufactures recommended use.

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- c. The pursuing officer is made aware of and acknowledges that the road spike is to be used, including the location of, and any officer controlled lane restriction (ROAD BLOCK) which may have been established.
- d. To avoid puncturing the patrol vehicle tires, when approaching the area of road spike deployment, the pursuing officer(s) will slow their vehicles until deploying officer can make safe the road spikes.
- e. The deploying officer must stay with the road spikes and/or bring them with him.
- f. In the event the road spikes are used they will be treated as evidence.
  - i. The serial number sticker affixed to each individual road spike strip used or damaged will be peeled off and submitted to Training Officer.
  - ii. Training Officer will then submit serial number to obtain replacement road spike strip.
- g. The road spike may be utilized in non-pursuit situations, where a supervisor, (Sergeant or above), has deemed it necessary to prevent a motor vehicle from becoming mobile.
- h. A report will be filed after each deployment of the road spike, whether deployment was successful or not.
- i. The following conditions will be taken into account by all officers involved prior to deployment of road spikes:
  - i. Line of sight.
  - ii. Traffic.
  - iii. Road and weather conditions.
  - iv. Location.
  - v. Communications with other officers involved.
  - vi. Passengers of the vehicle.