

DOCARE Policy Manual	Page 1
Section: 14.00	<b>PURSUIT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE</b>
Revised	Effective Date: 09-04-08

**I. PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines for emergency response utilizing an emergency vehicle.

**II. POLICY**

All DOCARE officers will follow guidelines pertaining to DOCARE emergency vehicle equipment as set forth in this policy.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Emergency Vehicle:**

All DOCARE vehicles and vessels that are marked with DOCARE law enforcement emblem decals and equipped with siren, mounted blue/red emergency lights and public address (PA) system.

2. **Vehicle Stop:**

An active attempt by a DOCARE officer to stop a moving vehicle by activating the emergency lights, siren and PA system, if needed, and during which after a reasonable amount of time, the driver recognizes the officer's intent and slows the vehicle to a complete stop.

3. **Vehicle Pursuit:**

An active attempt by a DOCARE officer to stop a moving vehicle by activating the emergency lights, siren and PA system, if needed, and during which after a reasonable amount of time, the driver recognizes the officer's intent and is resisting to stop by maintaining or increasing his/her speed or by ignoring the officer's attempt to stop the vehicle.

4. **Un-Congested Waters or Lands/Roadways:**

An area without other traffic, conveyances or persons visible to the officer in the path of the pursuit.

- Un-congested waters will include all State and Federal waters.
- Un-congested lands/roadways will be restricted to only lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

DOCARE Policy Manual	Page 3
Section: 14.00	<b>PURSUIT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE</b>
Revised	Effective Date: 09-04-08

**V. AUTHORIZED OPERATORS**

All DOCARE officers are authorized to utilize DOCARE emergency vehicle equipment while on duty.

**VI. AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLE EQUIPMENT**

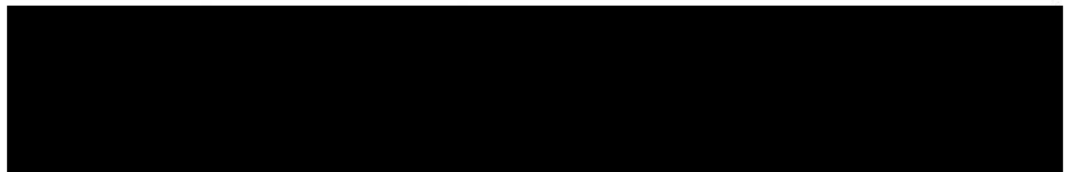
Only emergency vehicle equipment authorized by the DOCARE Enforcement Chief will be utilized.

1. DOCARE emergency vehicle equipment will consist of blue/red emergency lights, siren and PA system
2. Only roof mounted emergency lights will be authorized for use on all DOCARE land vehicles with exception to ATV's.
3. DOCARE vessels will have the emergency lights mounted on the roof or in a conspicuous area which affords 360 degree coverage.

**VII. PROCEDURES**

**1. Use Of Equipment (General)**

a

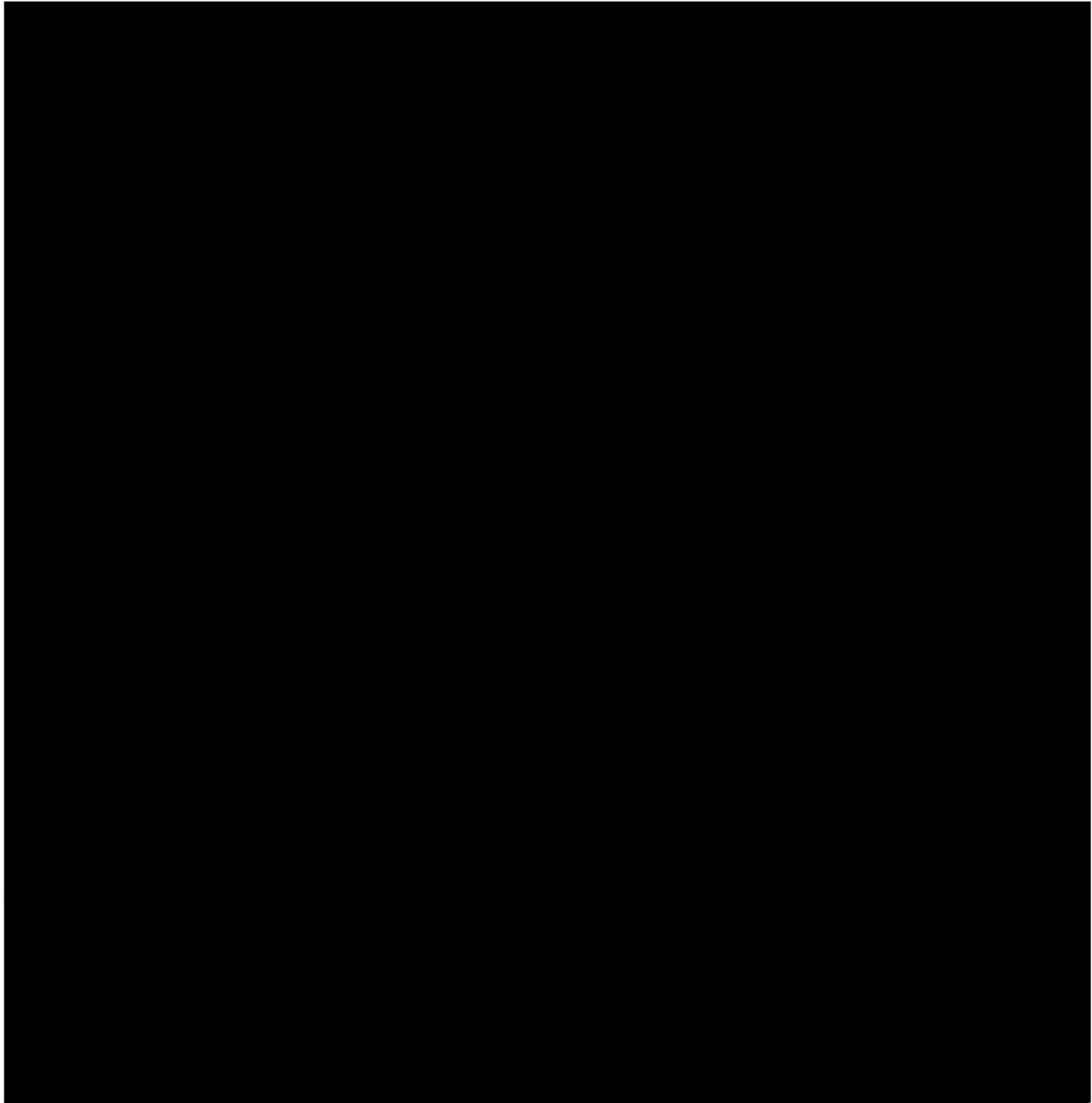


b. The authority to drive contrary to regulatory codes does not relieve officers of the responsibility of exercising due regard for others. Officers should give consideration to such factors as the nature and seriousness of the offense, people and vehicles in the area, traffic volume, road/water, patrol vehicle, time of day, visibility and weather conditions.

c. Officers shall exercise good judgment and discretion in the use of blue/red emergency lights, siren and PA system.

DOCARE Policy Manual	Page 5
Section: 14.00	<b>PURSUIT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE</b>
Revised	Effective Date: 09-04-08

**4. Pursuit**

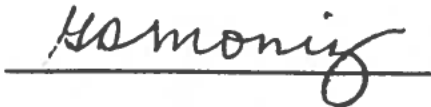


DOCARE Policy Manual	Page 7
Section: 14.00	<b>PURSUIT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE</b>
Revised	Effective Date: 09-04-08

**X. FAILURE TO COMPLY**

All DOCARE Officers who fail to comply with this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Approved:



**Gary D. Moniz**  
**DOCARE Enforcement Chief**

Date: September 4, 2008