

Roadblocks

335.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy will outline procedures to be followed for roadblocks. These procedures will help ensure the safety of the officers involved and the general public.

335.2 POLICY

In making the decision to use roadblocks to effect a vehicle stop, officers should keep in mind the concept of deadly force.

Roadblocks are used to present the fleeing driver with three possible courses of action:

- (a) To stop and surrender.
- (b) To become involved in a collision.
- (c) To be directed over a tire deflation device.

Roadblocks are to be used when:

- (a) Other alternatives are inappropriate or;
- (b) Other alternatives have failed to be effective or;
- (c) The need to apprehend is very great or the need for apprehension is immediate due to the seriousness of the offense.

335.3 FIXED ROADBLOCKS

- (a) When setting up a roadblock it should be remembered that a lane of traffic should be left open for the pursued vehicle to be directed to drive over a tire deflating device, if available.
- (b) A roadblock should be established in a location where the fleeing driver has ample sight and stopping distance to avoid a collision if they elect to stop.
- (c) If possible, non-involved civilian traffic should be diverted away from the road block location.
- (d) Police vehicles involved in the roadblock should have emergency lights operating.
- (e) Occupants of the blocking unit(s), if possible, should exit their vehicles prior to the approach of the fleeing suspect vehicle and take up a safe position.
- (f) Dispatch and police vehicles should be notified by radio of any roadblocks that exist.

335.4 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY

- (a) Supervisors will monitor and control roadblocks whenever possible.
- (b) Officer attempting to use a roadblock should make a reasonable effort to notify the supervisor for his / her permission.

Town of Cheektowaga Police Department

Policy Manual

Roadblocks

- (c) Shift commanders will review the use of any roadblock and report the outcome to their Captain.

335.5 STOP STICKS

It will be the policy of the Cheektowaga Police Department to authorize the use of the "Stop Stick" to bring a vehicle to a controlled stop.

- (a) The "Stop Stick" will be assigned to marked patrol vehicles only.
- (b) Only Officers who have been trained in the proper deployment of the "Stop Stick", and receive annual refresher training thereafter may deploy same.
- (c) Officers attempting to deploy the "Stop Stick" shall request authorization from the supervisor in charge before deploying "Stop Sticks"..
- (d) Officers attempting to deploy "Stop Sticks" will make a radio broadcast to pursuing police units that "Stop Sticks" are being deployed before deploying them.
- (e) The "Stop Stick" may be deployed under circumstances such as:
 - (f) To slow or bring a pursued vehicle to a stop.
 - (g) To slow or stop a vehicle that is wanted for a crime and is at risk of fleeing if a traditional vehicle stop is attempted.
 - (h) To control access to or departure from a secured area.
- (i) "Stop Sticks" Deployment - Stationary Vehicles
 - 1. "Stop Sticks" may also be deployed against stationary vehicles to prevent them from being moved by a suspect who may attempt or is attempting to flee a scene.
 - 2. "Stop Sticks" may be deployed to prevent movement of a vehicle that is, or possibly will be, evidence.
 - 3. When deploying "Stop Sticks" against a stationary vehicle, officers should warn the operator, if present, that movement of their vehicle will result in damage.
- (j) The "Stop Stick" will not be used to slow or stop a pursued two or three wheeled vehicle.
- (k) Assisting Other Agencies: "Stop Sticks" may be used to assist another agency, inside our jurisdiction only after a supervisor authorizes the use of the device with consideration to being able to communicate with the other agency. When assisting other agencies, "Stop Sticks" should only be used when the officer knows or has reasonable grounds to believe the violator has committed a felony or any offense involving the endangerment of human life.