

**CHAPTER 2**  
**ENFORCEMENT CONTACTS**  
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## CHAPTER 2

### ENFORCEMENT CONTACTS

1. AUTHORITY. Officers who patrol on bicycle have the legal authority, pursuant to Section 2800 of the California Vehicle Code and Section 830 of the Penal Code, to initiate enforcement contacts with individuals and/or vehicles whenever a violation of law is observed or other probable cause exists.
  
2. POLICY. Officers shall comply with policy contained in Highway Patrol Manual (HPM) 100.68, Enforcement Policy Manual, and HPM 70.6, Officer Safety Manual. However, due to the specialized enforcement of the Bicycle Patrol Unit (BPU), officers shall also adhere to the policies contained in this chapter.
  
3. GENERAL.
  - a. Officers shall be alert to the public's proximity in relation to the bicycle at all times and shall act accordingly to ensure the safety of themselves and the public.
  - b. Officers shall consider the following safety factors when initiating an enforcement contact on a person or a vehicle:
    - (1) Safety of the officer and the subject(s) stopped.
    - (2) Safety of the public.
    - (3) Traffic conditions.
    - (4) Surrounding environment and terrain.
    - (5) Lighting conditions.
  
4. ENFORCEMENT CONTACT PROCEDURES.
  - a. Traffic Stops. Bicycle Patrol Unit officers shall use extreme caution when initiating traffic stops on vehicles. Officers shall activate their forward red light along with a verbal command, bike horn/siren, or a hand gesture to stop a vehicle. After the stop, the officer shall dismount their bicycle before approaching the driver or occupant(s) of the vehicle.

b. Pursuits. Bicycle Patrol Unit officers should not normally engage in a vehicle pursuit; however, if in the officer's opinion apprehension or identification of the driver can be accomplished in a safe manner, the following shall apply:

(1) Officers shall request assistance from a marked patrol unit and may follow the suspect vehicle from a safe distance to keep the vehicle in view.

(2) The officer shall discontinue following the vehicle when the risk of following outweighs the danger of permitting the subject to escape. Under most circumstances, the officer should discontinue following the vehicle when:

(a) The circumstances of following present a safety hazard to the public, the officer, or the suspect(s).

(b) Information about the suspect(s) identity is known to the officer, which will allow later apprehension.

(c) The vehicle is no longer in view.

(d) A marked patrol vehicle arrives to assist with the enforcement stop.