



# Criminal Flight Event Policy

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## Purpose:

To ensure the primary concern of members during a Criminal Flight Event (CFE) is public and officer safety. This policy sets out the requirements and responsibilities of sworn members involved in a CFE.

## Statement of Principle:

CFE's are inherently dangerous activities that must be balanced against the need to arrest the subject versus the risk of allowing the subject to escape. Each CFE must be continually assessed relative to the risk in consideration of subject, officer and environmental factors, and how those factors relate to public safety.

## Definitions:

*Definitions listed in this section apply to this document only with no implied or intended organization-wide or EPS Policy and Procedure Manual wide use.*

**Criminal Flight** – Occurs when it is perceived that a driver is evading police.

**Criminal Flight Event (CFE)** – Encompasses all activities related to an actual or potential criminal flight occurrence including:

- the criminal flight itself, regardless if a criminal flight response was initiated,
- a criminal flight response,
- any terminated criminal flight response, and
- the application CFE prevention or intervention tactics.

**Criminal Flight Response (CFR)** – Occurs when any police officer, with the exception of Flight Operations, follows a vehicle that is evading, or perceived to be evading, police.

**Public Safety** – Public safety includes the safety of all persons. This includes all members of the public, police members, the suspect and passengers when a vehicle is involved.

**Serious Incident** – A serious incident occurs when the actions of a police officer may have resulted in a serious injury to, or the death of, a person.



<b>Manual Part:</b> <b>Operations (OP)</b>	<b>Policy Number:</b> <b>OP1PO</b>	<b>Alberta Policing Standards:</b> <b>OP 4.1</b>
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## **Policy Statement:**

Public and officer safety must be the primary concern when members enter into, or take any action during, a CFE. Members must continually assess the safety risk created or augmented by their actions related to a CFE against safety risks created by not apprehending the subject. Members must cease any CFE action that poses a greater or an unreasonable risk to public and officer safety. The EPS reviews all CFEs to assess the effectiveness of policy, procedure, training, and equipment.