



WRITTEN DIRECTIVE	No. PD13-2005	Page: 1 of 2
Subject: HABITUAL OFFENDERS AND CAREER CRIMINALS	Effective Date:	07-30-2013
	Supersedes/ Amends:	PD10-2005
	Reference:	42.1.5



I. Purpose

The purpose of this directive is to establish guidelines for the identification and prosecution of habitual offenders and career criminals.

II. Policy

It shall be the policy of the Lynchburg Police Department to extend every possible effort in the identification and prosecution of those individuals classified as habitual offenders or career criminals in both criminal and motor vehicle cases.

III. Procedure

A. DEFINITIONS

42.1.5 A

1. For the purpose of this directive a habitual offender shall be defined as any person who the Division of Motor Vehicles so designates under Code of Virginia, Section 46.2-357.
2. A career criminal shall be defined as any person who, through a review of criminal records and subsequent convictions, has a record of criminal behavior that would indicate that the individual is a threat to the safety of officers and the general public, or has prior criminal convictions that dictate a current offense be elevated from a misdemeanor to a felony requiring such person be arrested and taken before a magistrate.

B. HABITUAL OFFENDERS

42.1.5 B

Officers of the Lynchburg Police Department who determine through a computer check of DMV files that the operator of a motor vehicle has been designated as an habitual offender shall:

1. follow the appropriate arrest procedures
2. complete the necessary report(s)

42.1.5 C

3. coordinate case preparation with the Commonwealth's Attorney to provide for effective prosecution of the habitual offender.

42.1.5 B**C. CAREER CRIMINALS**

Officers of the Lynchburg Police Department who determine through a computer check of criminal history files that the suspect has a record of criminal activity that would indicate that the individual is a threat to the safety of officers and the general public, has prior criminal convictions that dictate a current offense be elevated from a misdemeanor to a felony requiring such person be arrested and taken before a magistrate shall:

1. follow the appropriate arrest procedures
2. complete the necessary report(s)
3. coordinate case preparation with the Commonwealth's Attorney to provide for effective prosecution of the suspect to help ensure that the offender receives the maximum penalty permitted by law.

42.1.5 C

- D. Dissemination of information regarding habitual offenders or career criminals will be limited to:
1. law enforcement officers
 2. the Commonwealth's Attorney
 3. the City Attorney
 4. other persons as authorized by the Chief of Police in compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Parks H. Snead
Chief of Police

July 30, 2013

Date