

EVOC Entrance Exam Study Guide

1) Legal Foundations (Know These Cold)

County of Sacramento v. Lewis (1998)

- Standard: **“Shocks the Conscience”**
 - Applies to: **High-speed pursuits**
 - Key idea: Officers are **NOT liable** unless their conduct is extreme and unjustifiable
 - 👉 Split-second decisions matter
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2) Graham v. Connor (1989)

- Standard: **Objective Reasonableness**
- Applies to: **ALL use of force (including vehicle force)**
- Must consider:
 - Severity of the crime
 - Immediate threat to others
 - Active resistance or attempting to avoid arrest by **flight**

👉 A pursuit = **attempt to seize**, so force must be reasonable

3) Brower v. County of Inyo (1989)

- A roadblock = **Fourth Amendment seizure**
 - Can be **unreasonable** if:
 - Hidden
 - No chance to avoid
 - 👉 Can be considered **deadly force**
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4) Seekamp v. Michaud (1997)

- Roadblocks are **legal IF reasonable**.
- Must include:
 - Visible from distance
 - Warning (lights/signs)
 - Escape route

👉 Idaho also follows **Idaho Code 19-622**

5) Athay v. Stacey (2010)

- Idaho standard:
 - **Due Regard vs Reckless Disregard**
 - Officers can be personally liable if they act recklessly. This case set the Due Regard standard for Idaho.
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6) Idaho Code 49-623(also know subsections 1,2,3,4)

- Emergency drivers:
 - May exceed speed / ignore signals.
 - BUT you must use **due regard**.
- You are still responsible for:
 - **Reckless disregard**

👉 Lights & siren do NOT protect you from liability

7) Scott v. Harris (2007)

- Force used (Graham Factors) **can be reasonable** if suspect is dangerous. Training in the use of force and pursuits is needed.
- Key idea:
 - Public safety over suspect safety
- DOES NOT give unlimited authority.

👉 Force used Must still be **reasonable and you must have proper training**.

8) NOT a legal impact from Scott V Harris

🚓 Pursuit Principles

When to Terminate a Pursuit

- Risk outweighs need for capture
- Suspect is identified
- Lost visual contact

👉 Always weigh **risk vs necessity**

9) Code 3 Driving

- **Never assume people see you**
 - Oncoming lane = **NOT always safest**
 - Intersections = **highest risk area**
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10) PIT Technique (Precision Immobilization Technique)

DO NOT PIT

- Motorcycles
- 3-wheeled vehicles
- High center-of-gravity vehicles

 Unless **deadly force is justified**

- **11) and 12) PIT Considerations-know what you need to consider when performing a PIT.**
- Public safety
- Traffic
- Environment (curves, embankments)
- Space to perform safely.
- Wide enough area to safely perform the maneuver.
- Vehicle type
- Speed

13) **KNOW the difference between PIT and Ramming**

- Public safety
 - Traffic
 - Environment (curves, embankments)
 - Space to perform safely.
 - Wide enough area to safely perform the maneuver.
 - Vehicle type
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14) Keys to a Good PIT

- **Finesse, not force**
 - Match Speed
 - Touch
 - Turn
 - Maintain Speed or Accelerate or Prepare to brake

👉 PIT ≠ ramming

15) Driver Psychology & Responsibility

- **Attitude controls performance/Good Attitude allows you to apply skills**
- Most crashes = **driver input errors**
 - Oversteering
 - Overuse or misuse of braking

👉 Smooth = safe

16) and 17) Vehicle Dynamics & Control

- **Speed is the Most Critical Factor in Turns, which makes your most important gauge in the car your speedometer.**
- **Know about the weight transfer, too much brake, too much gas, too much speed**
- **What does that do to your contact patch**

➡ **Speed**

18) Know when you should terminate or stop pursuing.

- Goes to your policy, the legal standards, use of due regard and danger to the public outweighs the risk.
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19) What are the major driver input errors that cause crashes, besides speed?

- It usually has something to do with the misuse or overuse of your brakes causing brake fade.
 - Misuse and Overuse of the steering wheel. Turning too fast when we are sliding and the car cannot recover.
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20) Driving Strategy (EVOC Philosophy)

Proactive Driving

- Think ahead
 - Anticipate problems
 - Stay in control
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21) Hand Position

9 and 3

- Best control & airbag safety
 - Still hold the radio mic in your hand
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22) Four (4) Components of Driving

- Steering
 - Braking
 - Cornering
 - Accelerating
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23) IDAHO EVOC Driving Line is

- **High → High → Low**
(Outside → Outside → Inside) Or late apexing in the corners.

👉 Maximizes traction & visibility

24) Control Standard, we want you to drive in 100% control at all times and only use 80% of your ability in case of errors (vehicle, road, etc)

- Drive:
 - **100% in control, 100% of the time**
 - **At ~80% of your ability and 80% of your vehicle's ability**

👉 Leaves margin for error

25) MOST Common Reported, POLICE Crash Locations are?

! Intersections = #1 danger zone

- Cross traffic
 - Visibility issues
 - Civilian unpredictability
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🔑 Key Takeaways (What Students MUST Remember)

- 🚗 **You are always responsible** (due regard)
- ⚖️ **All force must be reasonable**
- 🧠 **Think ahead (proactive driving)**
- ☐ **Speed kills, use control**
- 🚓 **Pursuits are risk management decisions**
- ❌ **PIT is controlled—not aggressive**
- ⚠️ **Intersections are the most dangerous place**