Detective Andrew Strong is hereby given a Written Reprimand for violation of General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule, Section 1.35, Violating any Rules of the Department, General Order 2011-08F, Emergency and Pursuit Driving.

This Written Reprimand was approved by the Urban County Council on May 6, 2021.

Lawrence B. Weathers
Chief of Police
LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
AGREEMENT OF CONFORMITY WITH KRS 95.450 / 15.520 AND RELEASE

An allegation has been made that: Detective Andrew Strong #52638

has committed the offense of:

Violating any Rules of the Department - Emergency and Pursuit Driving

which constitutes misconduct under the provisions of KRS 95.450 and/or KRS 15.520
(list other applicable law or rule)

General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35

Violating any Rules of the Department, General Order 2011-08F Emergency and Pursuit Driving.

in that on the ___________ 17th __________ day(s) of ______________, 20 __________ he/she allegedly:

At approximately 0213 hours on the above date Detective Andrew Strong was heading home at the end of his shift and heard a dispatched call for a vehicle traveling the wrong direction on the outer loop of New Circle Road near Tates Creek Road. Detective Strong entered New Circle Road from Harrodsburg Road and observed the vehicle approaching him traveling the wrong direction on New Circle Road. Detective Strong engaged in a brief vehicle pursuit while traveling the wrong way on a limited access highway.

Detective Strong violated the above listed policy which states "Officers shall not immediately follow a pursued vehicle traveling in the wrong direction on a limited access highway. If officers decide to continue the pursuit they shall follow the pursued vehicle while traveling on the correct side of the limited access highway"

This is Detective Strong's first sustained formal complaint since being employed on November 4, 2013. He understands his actions were against policy and has accepted full responsibility.

I have read KRS 95.450, 95.460 and 15.520, and attest that I fully understand all rights guaranteed by these statutes, including the rights to have formal charges preferred and a hearing conducted on those charges.

Further, I, with knowledge of the provisions and my rights under KRS 95.450, 95.460, and 15.520 and in consideration of the recommendation of the Chief of Police of the Lexington Police Department, acknowledge that the appropriate punishment for this conduct is:

A Written Reprimand.

I do hereby voluntarily accept the above disciplinary action, provided that the punishment awarded by the Urban County Council will not exceed the above recommendation of the Chief of Police.
If the Urban County Council rejects the above recommendation, I will be so notified, in which case I may withdraw my acceptance, and will be entitled to all rights, as applicable, under KRS 95.450, 95.460 and 15.520, and this agreement will not be used against me or by me in any hearing in determination of my guilt of punishment.

In further consideration of the acceptance of the above recommendation and penalty by the Urban County Council, I do for myself, my heirs, legal representatives, as assigns hereby expressly release and forever discharge the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, its officers, agents, employees, and their successors and assigns from all claims, demands, actions, damages or causes of action and from all liability for damages of whatsoever kind, nature of description that I ever had, now have or may have against the aforementioned entities created by or arising out of the action contained herein.

Employee Signature 52678

Date 4/20/2021

Chief of Police Signature 24898

Date 4/21/2021

ACTION BY URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

☑ APPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

☐ DISAPPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION 5/16/2021

Signature of Authorized Representative of Urban County Council

SUSPENSION SERVICE GUIDELINES:
Suspensions will be served as outlined in General Order series 1973-02 Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers.
I met with Detective Andrew Strong on April 6, 2021, and have determined this as "Improper Conduct" for violation of:


I have recommended a **Written Reprimand** for the violation. I have included the summary of this formal complaint for your information.

Detective Strong accepted this discipline on April 5, 2021.

---

Lawrence B. Weathers  
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh

Attachment

cc: Assistant Chief Holland  
Public Integrity Unit
This memorandum will provide a synopsis of the investigation; however, other supporting documents may be viewed in conjunction with this memorandum.


**Allegations:**

On Wednesday February 17, 2021 at approximately 0213, Detective Andrew Strong attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling the wrong way on the outer-loop of New Circle Road at Harrodsburg Road. In the course of affecting the traffic stop, Detective Strong engaged in a brief pursuit while traveling the wrong way on a limited access highway.

**Investigation**

On Wednesday February 17, 2021 Detective Strong was heading home when he heard a dispatched call for a vehicle heading the wrong direction on the outer loop of New Circle Road near Tates Creek Road. Instead of heading home he continued out Harrodsburg Road and entered onto the outer loop of New Circle Road.

Immediately after he exited the entrance ramp he observed the suspect vehicle in his lane of traffic, causing him to swerve to avoid collision. When the vehicle had passed him he completed a U-turn with his emergency lights activated, his intention was to pull them over before they collided with any approaching vehicles. The speed of the vehicle when he turned around was between 40-45 mph.

Upon first contact with the vehicle Detective Strong announced through his P.A. System for the suspect to pull over, the vehicle did not pull over, but the suspect did turn his turn signal on as if he were getting ready to. Detective Strong once again made a command through the P.A. System for the suspect to pull over, which again the suspect ignored. Throughout the exchange the speed of the suspect never varied, he continued between 40-45 mph.
It was at this time Detective Strong observed the headlights of approaching vehicles coming towards them, so he immediately pulled off to the side of the road with the intentions of turning around after they had passed. At the same time he pulled to the side of the road the suspect did also. Once the vehicles passed Detective Strong approached and made contact with the suspect of the vehicle. The suspect appeared to be intoxicated and was later arrested for Driving under the Influence by Patrol Units. The entire length of the incident was less than 1 mile.

During this incident Sergeant Boyd heard Detective Strong on the radio stating the vehicle was not stopping, he advised the dispatcher that if anyone were following the suspect they were to terminate. This directive was given as Detective Strong was pulling to the side of the roadway to allow the passing traffic to pass.

**Detective Strong’s Interview**

Detective Strong was interviewed in the Public Integrity Office by myself and Lieutenant Matt Brotherton on March 3, 2021. He was very forthcoming and detailed about the event. He stated at first he headed towards New Circle Road because he was close and he believed he would located the suspect somewhere wrecked out or on the side of the roadway, due to the lack of updates from the dispatcher. When he entered onto New Circle Road and immediately had to maneuver out of the way to avoid a collision with the suspect his first thoughts were he needed to stop him so he didn’t collide with any innocent victims heading their way.

He did realize at the time that pursuing a vehicle on the wrong side of the roadway was a violation of our policy, but he stated he never felt it was a pursuit, more just that the suspect didn’t realize he was behind him. The speeds of the vehicle and the suspect turning the Turn Signal on made him believe he was going to pull over at any moment. He also advised that if the suspect had ever sped up, or became reckless he would have ended his involvement immediately.

**Conclusion**

After investigating this incident it is obvious that Detective Strong did in fact violate G.O. 2011-08F Emergency and Pursuit Driving policy. He operated his cruiser in a manner that violated policy. He appears to be regretful in his decisions during this incident and understands the policies that he violated.
TO:  
Assistant Chief Roger Holland  
Bureau of Investigation  

FROM:  
Lieutenant David Biroschik  
Bureau of Investigation  
Public Integrity Unit  

COMPLAINANT:  Lieutenant Paul Boyles  

ACCUSED OFC.:  Detective Andrew Strong  

ALLEGATION:  Violating General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35 Violating Any Rules of the Department, specifically: General Order 2011-08F Emergency and Pursuit Driving, Section V, Paragraph H(6) which states:

"Officers shall not immediately follow a pursued vehicle traveling in the wrong direction on a limited access highway. If officers decide to continue the pursuit they shall follow the pursued vehicle while traveling on the correct side of the limited access highway."

ALLEGED CIRCUMSTANCES:  On Wednesday, February 17th, 2021, at approximately 0213, Detective Andrew Strong attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling the wrong way on the outer-loop of New Circle Road at Harrodsburg Road. In the course of effecting the traffic stop, Detective Strong engaged in a brief pursuit while traveling the wrong way on a limited access highway.

ACTION REQUESTED:

- The Bureau Commander and Detective Strong should sign the Acknowledgment Sheet and process this complaint.

- The Commanding Officer should provide the attached copy of the Form 111 and the Officer’s Rights Packet to Detective Strong.

- Detective Strong should contact the Public Integrity Unit to arrange for a time to provide a formal statement.
DATE       TIME
Bureau Commander  2-21-21       1420
Unit Commander  02-23-21       1720
Officer  2-23-21       1719
Returned to the Public Integrity Unit  03-01-21       1420

LT D. Biroschik
Lieutenant David Biroschik
Bureau of Investigation
Public Integrity Unit

mrv

enclosures

cc: Chief Lawrence Weathers
file – PIU2021F-002
Lexington Police Department  
Formal Complaint  
Form 111  

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<td>52638</td>
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<td>02/23/21@1430</td>
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Brief Description of Allegations:
On Wednesday, February 17th, 2021, at approximately 0213, Detective Andrew Strong attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling the wrong way on the outer-loop of New Circle Road at Harrodsburg Road. In the course of effecting the traffic stop, Detective Strong engaged in a brief pursuit while traveling the wrong way on a limited access highway.

If the above is true, Detective Andrew Strong is in violation of General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35 Violating Any Rules of the Department, specifically: General Order 2011-08F Emergency and Pursuit Driving, Section V, Paragraph H(6) which states:

"Officers shall not immediately follow a pursued vehicle traveling in the wrong direction on a limited access highway. If officers decide to continue the pursuit they shall follow the pursued vehicle while traveling on the correct side of the limited access highway."

I swear/affirm that the facts set out above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date: 02-23-21

Subscribed and sworn before me this date: 2-23-21

My Commission Expires: 2-3-2025

Recorded By: Melanie Votaw, Bureau of Investigation, Public Integrity Unit (Rev. 10/19)
### Chief of Police (or "Designee"):

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<tr>
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<th>Finding</th>
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<td>Improper Conduct</td>
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<td>DRIVING SLOWLY</td>
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### Chief of Police Recommendation

- [ ] Recommend Case Be Closed
- [ ] Corrective Training Recommended
- [X] Below Disciplinary Action Recommended

**Comments:**

```
RECOMMEND WRITTEN REPRIMAND
REVIEWED SUMMARY AND COMPUTER
```

**Signature:**

- [Signature]

**Date:** 04/05/2021

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### Disciplinary Review Board

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<td>Policy Failure</td>
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<td>Unfounded</td>
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### Disciplinary Review Board Recommendation

- [ ] Recommend Case Be Closed
- [ ] Corrective Training Recommended
- [ ] Below Disciplinary Action Recommended

**Comments:**

**Signature:**

- [Signature]

**Date:**

---

### Chief of Police 2nd Recommendation

- [ ] Recommend Case Be Closed
- [ ] Corrective Training Recommended
- [ ] Below Disciplinary Action Recommended

**Comments:**

**Signature:**

- [Signature]

**Date:**

---

**Proper Conduct:** Allegation is true; the action of the agency or the officer was consistent with agency policy.

**Improper Conduct:** The allegation is true; the action of the agency or the officer was inconsistent with agency policy.

**Insufficient Evidence:** There is insufficient proof to confirm or to refute the allegation.

**Policy Failure:** The action of the agency or the officer was consistent with agency policy, but the policy did not take into account the circumstances present in this instance.

**Unfounded Complaint:** Either the allegation is demonstrably false or there is no credible evidence to support it.