



LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**PERSONNEL ORDER**  
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

October 5, 2023

EFFECTIVE DATE

October 9, 2023

NUMBER

PO:23-432

TO:

SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY

AMENDS:

INDEX AS:

OFFICER  
CALEB CRONEY / 56142

RESCINDS:

Effective Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 through Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, Officer Caleb Croney will be placed in a suspended without pay status for two (2) weeks for violation of G.O. 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35 – Violating Any Rules of the Department, Rule 1.04 – Body Worn Camera, and Rule 1.13 – Operation of Vehicles.

Officer Croney is not authorized to enter any Government work site or other employee only area while suspended. Officer Croney must surrender any Police Department and Urban County Government property, including keys and identification.

Officer Croney will also be scheduled for a thirty (30) day suspension of Home Fleet.

Lawrence B. Weathers  
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

AGREEMENT OF CONFORMITY WITH KRS 95.450 / 15.520 AND RELEASE

FORM 113 (8/20)

An allegation has been made that:

Officer Caleb Croney

has committed the offense of:

Emergency and Pursuit Driving, Body Worn Camera, and Violating Any Rules of the Department

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, Appendix B, Operational Rules 1.35 Violating Any Rules of the Department, Rule 1.04 Body Worn Camera, and Rule 1.13 Operation of Vehicles

in that on the 19th day(s) of May, 20 23 he/she allegedly:

Officer Caleb Croney initiated a pursuit with a vehicle that pointed a firearm at him while driving by. Officer Croney pursued the vehicle at high rates of speed the wrong way down one way streets while disregarding traffic control devices. The charges did not outweigh the danger of the pursuit and Officer Croney did not self-terminate. Officer Croney did not start his body worn camera upon initiating the pursuit. Officer Croney was also not wearing a seatbelt during the incident.

Officer Croney took full responsibility for the incident and his violations of policy.

This is Officer Croney's first formal complaint since his employment in January of 2020.

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:

Two (2) week suspension without pay and a thirty (30) day suspension of home fleet.

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

9/18/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of Police Signature

9/19/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<b>ACTION BY URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	APPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	DISAPPROVE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION
 _____ 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.



Lexington-Fayette Urban County  
Division of Police  
**MEMORANDUM**  
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

September 13, 2023

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER  
COP:  
23-0261

TO:

Kenneth Armstrong, Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety

FROM:

Lawrence B. Weathers  
Chief of Police

SUBJECT:

Disciplinary Recommendation  
PIU2023F-008  
Officer Caleb Croney

I met with Officer Caleb Croney on September 12, 2023, and have determined this as  
“Improper Conduct” for violation of:

- General Order 1973-02K - Disciplinary Procedures, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.358 – Violating Any Rules of the Department
- General Order 1973-02K - Disciplinary Procedures, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.04 – Body Worn Camera
- General Order 1973-02K - Disciplinary Procedures, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.13 – Operation of Vehicles

I have recommended a two (2) week Suspension without Pay and a thirty (30) day suspension of Home Fleet for the violations. I have included the summary of this formal complaint for your information.

Officer Croney accepted this discipline on September 12, 2023.

*Lawrence B. Weathers*

Lawrence B. Weathers  
Chief of Police

LBW/rmh

Attachment



LEXINGTON POLICE  
DEPARTMENT  
**MEMORANDUM**  
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE  
August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER  
PIU 23-078

TO:  
Commander Jacqueline Newman  
Bureau of Investigation  
Public Integrity Unit

FROM:  
Lieutenant David Biroshik  
Bureau of Investigation  
Public Integrity Unit

SUBJECT:  
Formal PIU2023F-008  
Officer Caleb Croney  
Summary

This memorandum will provide a synopsis of the investigation; however, other supporting documents may be viewed in conjunction with this memorandum.

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Lieutenant Merideth Taylor filed a Formal Complaint against Officer Caleb Croney for multiple violations of General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers. The summary of these allegations and the investigation that followed can be found below.

**Allegations:**

On Friday May 19th, 2023 Officer Caleb Croney initiated a pursuit with a vehicle, which he observed a passenger in the car point a firearm towards him as they drove by. Although the initiation of the pursuit is justified, the vehicle continued into a residential area where the suspect was operating the vehicle in a reckless manner, exceeding the speed limit and driving the wrong way down one-way streets. Officer Croney proceeded to pursue the vehicle the wrong way on one-way streets, while failing to slow or stop at intersections, along with stop signs and traffic signals.

Officer Croney failed to specifically recognize that his pursuit and actions began to increase risks with the physical location and population density, the existence of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and the speed and evasive tactics employed by the suspect were no longer outweighing the immediate danger to the officer and public by continuing the pursuit thus ultimately violating LPD Policy by not terminating the pursuit.

Officer Croney also failed to activate his BWC upon the initial start of the pursuit (Late BWC Activation) and was also observed not wearing his seatbelt during the incident.

If the above allegations are true Officer Croney is in violation of the below:

- General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35 Violating Any Rules of the Department, G.O. 2011-08F Emergency and Pursuit Driving.

- General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedure, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.04 - Body-Worn Camera Procedures, which states - Officers issued body-worn cameras shall wear and use them, as outlined in department policies.
- General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedure, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.13 - Operation of Vehicles, which states - Officers should operate department vehicles in a careful and prudent manner and shall obey all laws

## **Investigation**

On May 19, 2023 Officer Croney was working an off-duty assignment at the Temple Adath Israel, located at 124 N. Ashland Avenue. During this assignment he was sitting in his "marked" cruiser when he heard a car quickly accelerating and heading towards him. When he looked in the mirror he observed a male black individual leaning out of the window holding what appeared to be an AR Pistol with a 100 round drum/magazine. As the vehicle passed him the individual holding the weapon saw him and alerted the driver of his presence. The car then sped off on N. Ashland away from Officer Croney, prior to doing so the weapon the suspect was holding was pointed at him as they passed.

Officer Croney immediately began pursuing the individual's north on N. Ashland towards National Avenue. During the initial stages of the pursuit Officer Croney failed to activate his Body Worn Camera until he had turned onto National Avenue, which was approximately 5 ½ blocks. The buffering did capture some of the pursuit, but did not capture the initial contact with the suspects. Prior to turning onto National Ave. Officer Croney passed through 2 stop signs without attempting to stop or clear the intersection and rolled through a third without clearing it completely.

Once on National Avenue which house multiple restaurants, bars, and businesses he sped up significantly trying to stay up with the suspects. He attempted multiple times to give out information about them, but was unable to do so, due to the speeds and distance they were from him. Due to Officer Croney's BWC sitting low on his shirt you can't see the suspect vehicle, or the roadway very well, but you can see cars parked along the roadway and pedestrians walking along the sidewalk. The speed of these passing objects do indicate that Officer Croney was well past the posted speed limit of 25mph.

As he traveled along National Avenue, he approached Walton Avenue where he went through the intersection with no attempt to stop at the posted Stop Sign. Instead of staying on the roadway, which required him to turn left or right, he continued going straight into the parking lot of "Ferguson Bath, Kitchen and Lighting Gallery". He then proceeded through the "Shrout, Tate and Wilson" business parking lot and out onto Winchester Road, again without slowing down or stopping.

After exiting onto Winchester Road, the pursuit continued onto Third Street. It was at this time Sergeant McCullough requested to know the current speed of the pursuit, Officer Croney who was passing through the intersection of Race Street advised they were currently traveling at 65mph. The pursuit continued onto Ohio Street, the wrong way against traffic, they continued the wrong way until the road ended at Seventh Street.

While traveling the wrong way on Ohio Street, Officer Croney encountered vehicle traffic traveling the correct way on the road and he went through every intersection he encountered, with no attempt to stop, slow down, or clearing of the intersections. His estimated speeds from observing houses and cars go by, along with the sound of the motor leads one to believe the speeds were faster than the 65mph he had reported on Third Street.

When Officer Croney came to the end of the roadway at Seventh Street he turned on to it, and then onto Elmtree Lane, once again heading the wrong direction on a one way road. Again while traveling on Elmtree Lane his speeds were high and he did not clear any intersection prior to turning onto Fifth Street. He then turned onto Ohio Street, once again traveling the wrong direction. The pursuit on Ohio Street ended approximately a quarter way down the block where the suspects stopped the car and fled the scene.

When Officer Croney exited his vehicle, he immediately pulled his duty weapon from his belt and gave chase after the suspects. In the area at the time of this foot pursuit were approximately 15-20 pedestrians lined along the street and houses. The suspect ran and appeared to enter the home at Ohio Street. Officer Croney ran towards the home and onto the porch, which was occupied by approximately 5-6 individuals, along with 4-5 more standing in the yard. The pedestrians moved out of the way, but were still in close proximity when Officer Croney started kicking the front door. At no point in time did he check the door knob to see if it were unlocked, nor did he ask the home owner who was sitting on the porch to let him in. He kicked the door 7 times, each time with his gun still in his right hand waiving around attempting to keep his balance, unable to "open" the door he proceeded down the right side of the home, which was blocked by a fence.

Officer Croney then came back to the front yard where he encountered the suspect that was driving the car getting up from the ground, where he had prone himself out. Officer Croney immediately went over to him, made him lay back down and completed the arrest. It should be noted that the entire time Officer Croney was running after the suspects his language and commands were not within the standards of the Lexington Police Department. He continually yelled "curse" words at the individuals while running and while affecting the arrest.

Officer Croney also failed to secure his seatbelt throughout the pursuit, the warning light and chime continually flashed and sounded throughout the incident.

### **Officer Caleb Croney's Interview**

Officer Croney was interviewed on August 4, 2023 at Headquarters in the Public Integrity Unit. The interview was conducted by Lieutenant Jeff Jackson and myself.

During the interview Officer Croney did acknowledge his violations of policy while pursuing the suspect vehicle. He did admit to being aware of the Pursuit Policy prior to the incident and the importance of it. His mindset at the beginning of the pursuit was the elevated status of the crime observed. While being completely focused on what he had observed he failed to activate his Body Worn Camera as well as his seatbelt.

As the pursuit continued his adrenaline was high and he was not familiar with the streets of Central Sector as he is currently assigned to Patrol in West Sector. He was not aware that the streets he was traveling on were one way, even though they were clearly marked, until he turned

onto Ohio Street the second time. During the interview he does admit to being so focused on the vehicle he never looked down to see what his speed was. He also agrees that he was not thinking properly due to his adrenaline at such a high level, being so focused on apprehending the suspects, and that he never thought to terminate the pursuit.

When questioned about the foot pursuit he advised he was chasing the driver who he did see run into the home at Ohio Street. He definitely saw the hazard with kicking a door with his gun out and people standing around. Prior to clearing the area and heading to the jail he did apologize to the home owner for the incident on her porch.

Officer Croney did state if he was faced with a similar incident in the future he would not chase the car, due to speeds, unfamiliarity with the area and he would put an ATL out on the vehicle. He has gone over this incident multiple times with his supervisor's where he received counseling and re-training.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion Officer Croney does not deny any of the allegations and takes complete responsibility for his actions. He readily admits to not wearing his seatbelt during the incident, nor does he activate his Body Worn Camera in time and within Department Policy. Looking back on the incident he does understand how his actions caused a dangerous situation for the citizens of Lexington and that he should have terminated the pursuit, when the danger of apprehending the individuals was higher than the crime he was pursuing them for.

It is my opinion that Officer Croney did violate policy for all of the allegations that Lieutenant Merideth Taylor stated when initially filing the Formal Complaint.





Lexington Police Department  
**MEMORANDUM**  
Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

July 11, 2023

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER

PIU: 23-060

TO: Assistant Chief Brian Maynard Bureau of Patrol	SUBJECT:  FORMAL COMPLAINT
FROM: Lieutenant David Biroshik Bureau of Investigation Public Integrity Unit	

**COMPLAINANT:** Lieutenant Meredith Taylor

**ACCUSED OFC.:** Officer Caleb Croney

**ALLEGATION:** Violating General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35 - Violating Any Rules of the Department, also General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.04 - Body Worn Camera and General Order 1973-02K Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.13 - Operation of Vehicles.

**ALLEGED CIRCUMSTANCES:** On Friday May 19th, 2023 Officer Caleb Croney initiated a pursuit with a vehicle, which he observed a passenger in the car point a firearm towards him as they drove by. Although the initiation of the pursuit is justified, the vehicle continued into a residential area where the suspect was operating the vehicle in a reckless manner, exceeding the speed limit and driving the wrong way down one-way streets. Officer Croney proceeded to pursue the vehicle the wrong way on one-way streets, while failing to slow or stop at intersections, along with stop signs and traffic signals. Officer Croney failed to specifically recognize that his pursuit and actions began to increase risks with the physical location and population density, the existence of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and the speed and evasive tactics employed by the suspect were no longer outweighing the immediate danger to the officer and public by continuing the pursuit thus ultimately violating LPD Policy by not terminating the pursuit.

Officer Croney also failed to activate his BWC upon the initial start of the pursuit (Late BWC Activation) and was also observed not wearing his seatbelt during the incident.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

- The Bureau Commander and Officer Croney 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 Officer Croney.
- Officer Croney should contact the Public Integrity Unit to arrange for a time to provide a formal statement.

DATE

TIME

Bureau Commander MLB [Signature] 07-17-23 0930  
Supervisor St. M. J. Taylor 07-14-2023 1104S  
Officer C. R. [Signature] 07-14-2023 1104S

Accused officer would like the Public Integrity Unit to notify the FOP President or their designee that a formal complaint is filed against them. (Circle One) YES or NO

Returned to the Public Integrity Unit D. Biroshik 33732

LT. David Biroshik  
Lieutenant David Biroshik  
Bureau of Investigation  
Public Integrity Unit

mrv

enclosures

cc: Chief Lawrence Weathers  
file – PIU2023F-008

**LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**FORMAL COMPLAINT FORM**  
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FORM 111 (5/21)

File #: PIU 2023F - 008

Employee Involved: Officer Caleb Croney			Employee #: 56142	Hire Date: 01/20/2020
Present Assignment: Bureau of Patrol / West Sector, Second Shift				
Complainant: Lieutenant Meredith Taylor 49213		Complainant Address: 150 East Main Street, Lexington KY 40507		
Complainant Phone #: (859) 258-3600	Alternate Complainant Phone #:	Complainant Email: mtaylor@lexingtonpolice.ky.gov		
Date of Incident: 05/19/2023	Time of Incident: 1952	Location of Incident: 124 North Ashland Avenue	Date and Time Reported: 07/10/2023 / 1400	How Reported: <input type="checkbox"/> Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Email

**DESCRIPTION OF ALLEGATIONS:**

On Friday May 19th, 2023 Officer Caleb Croney initiated a pursuit with a vehicle, which he observed a passenger in the car point a firearm towards him as they drove by. Although the initiation of the pursuit is justified, the vehicle continued into a residential area where the suspect was operating the vehicle in a reckless manner, exceeding the speed limit and driving the wrong way down one-way streets. Officer Croney proceeded to pursue the vehicle the wrong way on one-way streets, while failing to slow or stop at intersections, along with stop signs and traffic signals. Officer Croney failed to specifically recognize that his pursuit and actions began to increase risks with the physical location and population density, the existence of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and the speed and evasive tactics employed by the suspect were no longer outweighing the immediate danger to the officer and public by continuing the pursuit thus ultimately violating LPD Policy by not terminating the pursuit.

Officer Croney also failed to activate his BWC upon the initial start of the pursuit (Late BWC Activation) and was also observed not wearing his seatbelt during the incident.

If the above allegations are true Officer Croney is in violation of the below:

General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures of Sworn Officers, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35 Violating Any Rules of the Department, G.O. 2011-08F Emergency and Pursuit Driving.

General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedure, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.04 - Body-Worn Camera Procedures, which states - Officers issued body-worn cameras shall wear and use them, as outlined in department policies.

General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedure, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.13 - Operation of Vehicles, which states - Officers should operate department vehicles in a careful and prudent manner and shall obey all laws

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

Complainant Signature: Meredith Taylor Date: 07-11-2023  
Subscribed and sworn before me this date: 7-11-23 Melanie R. Volaw KYNP20019  
(Date) (Notary)  
My Commission Expires: 2-3-2025

**Witness:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded By: Bureau of Investigation, Public Integrity Unit

File #: PIU 2023F - 008Employee: Officer Caleb Croney**CHIEF OF POLICE**[Finding: PC=Proper Conduct, IC=Improper Conduct, IE=Insufficient Evidence, PF=Policy Failure, UC=Unfounded Complaint]  
Finding Policy Violation

IC	General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedures, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.35 Violating Any Rules of the Department
IC	General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedure, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.04 - Body-Worn Camera
IC	General Order 1973-02K, Disciplinary Procedure, Appendix B, Operational Rule 1.13 - Operation of Vehicles

Chief of Police Recommendation: ☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☒ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Materials Reviewed:

Reviewed PIU Summary

Comments:

Two weeks suspension without pay and 30 days suspension of home fleet upon return from suspension.

Signature: *Shirley B. Weather*Date: 09/12/2023**DISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD**

Finding

Policy Violation


Disciplinary Review Board Recommendation: ☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☐ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Comments:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHIEF OF POLICE FINAL RECOMMENDATION**☐ Case Be Closed ☐ Corrective Training ☐ Disciplinary Action (see below)

Comments:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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