

## FG Supplemental - Two Tragic HRVS Examples

On April 5, 1970, a two-person Californian Highway patrol unit prepared to stop a vehicle occupied by two subjects – one who had just brandished a weapon at a citizen in an apparent ‘road-rage’ incident. Another two-person car was in route as backup. The officers followed standard policy and procedure in place and positioned themselves using the tactics in place for “felony” stops at the time – as the car stopped in a restaurant parking lot before their backup arrived. What followed was anything but ‘standard’. The two heavily armed occupant-criminals, within just five minutes, had taken the lives of four CHP officers.

On April 11, 1986 – multiple vehicles with eight FBI agents prepared to stop a vehicle occupied by known robbery suspects. The suspects were ex-military – one having served as an airborne ranger, the other as a military policeman. They were aware of police tactics and were prepared when an FBI vehicle forced them off the road and into a tree located in a parking lot. Just nine minutes later, two FBI agents were dead, five wounded.

Hindsight has helped law enforcement identify and correct tactical mistakes made during these (and other) tragedies. Present tactics were designed to safely extract potentially dangerous suspects from a vehicle while minimizing risk to officers, civilians, and suspects. You may hear these tactics referred to as making a ‘felony stop’, but these are correctly called