

Annual Pursuit Analysis
2020

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March 4, 2021

Annual Review

The Burlleson Police Department, by policy (04-001) (CALEA Standard 41.2.2), conducts annual analysis of all pursuit reports in an effort to identify patterns or trends which may indicate a need for training, equipment, or policy modifications.

Policy

By policy (04-001 IV), a motor vehicle pursuit is defined as:

an active attempt by any law enforcement officer operating a motor vehicle and utilizing simultaneously all emergency equipment to apprehend on (1) or more occupants of another motor vehicle when the driver of the fleeing vehicle is aware or should be aware of the attempt and is resisting apprehension by maintaining or increasing his speed, ignoring the officer, or attempting to elude the officer while driving at speeds in excess of the legal speed limit.

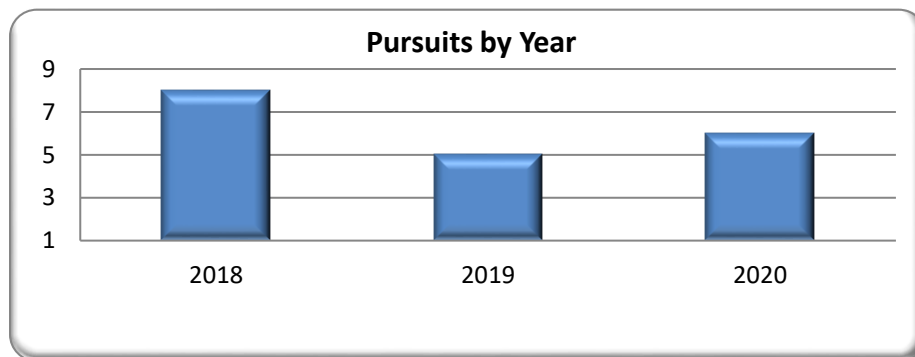
In addition, the policy describes the purpose of a motor vehicle pursuit as the apprehension of the violator.

Pursuit Reporting

At the conclusion of each pursuit, the initiating officer is required to complete a pursuit report, which is forwarded through the chain of command documenting the events of the pursuit. The supervisor, after reviewing and signing the report, will forward the report to the appropriate bureau captain for a second level review. The administrative review process is to ensure the pursuit was within policy and to identify training needs.

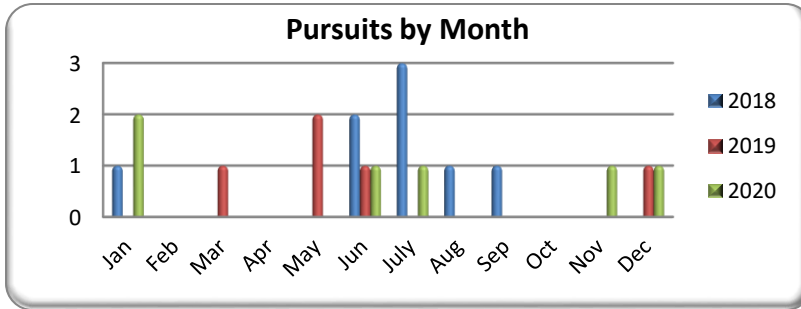
Pursuits by Year

During 2020, Burlleson police officers engaged in six pursuits.

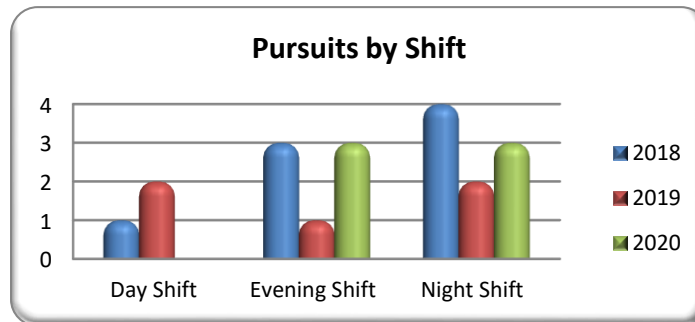


Pursuits by Month, Shift, Time, and Day

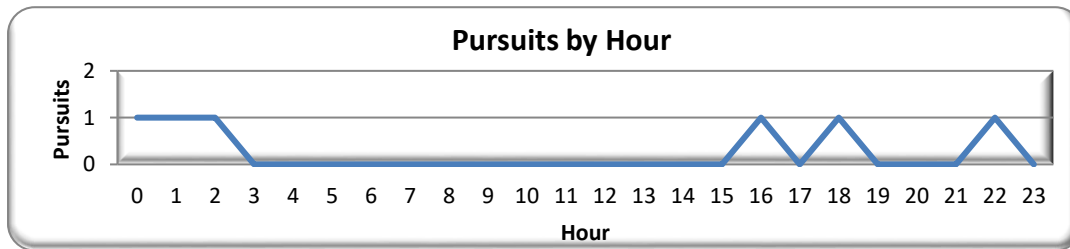
Pursuits, for the most part, were spread evenly throughout the year. A look at pursuits by month over a three-year period failed to reveal anything remarkable.



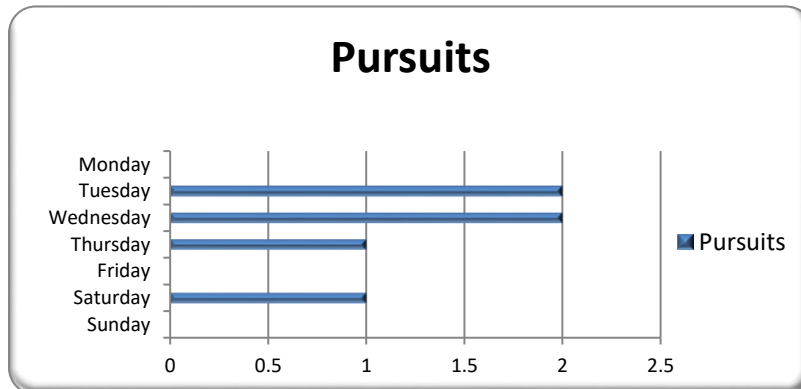
Pursuits in 2020 were spread evenly between Evenings and Night Shift.



In 2020, pursuit occurred mainly between Midnight and 2am and 4pm and 6pm.



In 2020 there did not appear to be any correlation between the day of week and the number of pursuits.



Pursuits by offense type

Of the six pursuits in 2020, two were related to felonies, three were suspected drunk drivers who had previously demonstrated dangerous driving behavior, and one was for a traffic violation.

Pursuits by termination

The pursuit initiated based on a traffic violation was terminated by the on duty supervisor. Although at the moment of termination the suspect yield and surrendered, resulting in his arrest. The officer was counseled on the pursuit policy and the expectations as they pertain to pursuing a vehicle. In one of the felony pursuits the suspects had committed an aggravated robbery with firearms. The pursuit ended when the vehicle left the roadway, crashed into a wood line, and the occupants fled on foot. In the second felony pursuit a suspect pointed a handgun at an individual during a disturbance. The suspect stopped after having the vehicle tires deflated by stop sticks. In the remaining three DWI cases the suspects stopped fleeing and surrendered

Pursuits by arrest

Of the six drivers involved in pursuits, five were arrested at the conclusion of the pursuit and one eluded capture.

Pursuit by officer and number of units

In 2020, one pursuit involved one police unit while the remaining five involved a primary and secondary unit. No pursuits involved more than two units at the same time. In all, but one, pursuit the police units involved were occupied by a single officer. Of the thirteen officers involved in pursuits during the year (one officer was involved in three pursuits) eleven were white and two were Hispanic. Twelve were male and one was female. The officer's average age was 34. The average years of service of pursuing officers was seven. The high was 18 years and the low was ten months.

Pursuits by Injury

There were no injuries because of pursuits in 2020.

Pursuits by Property Damage

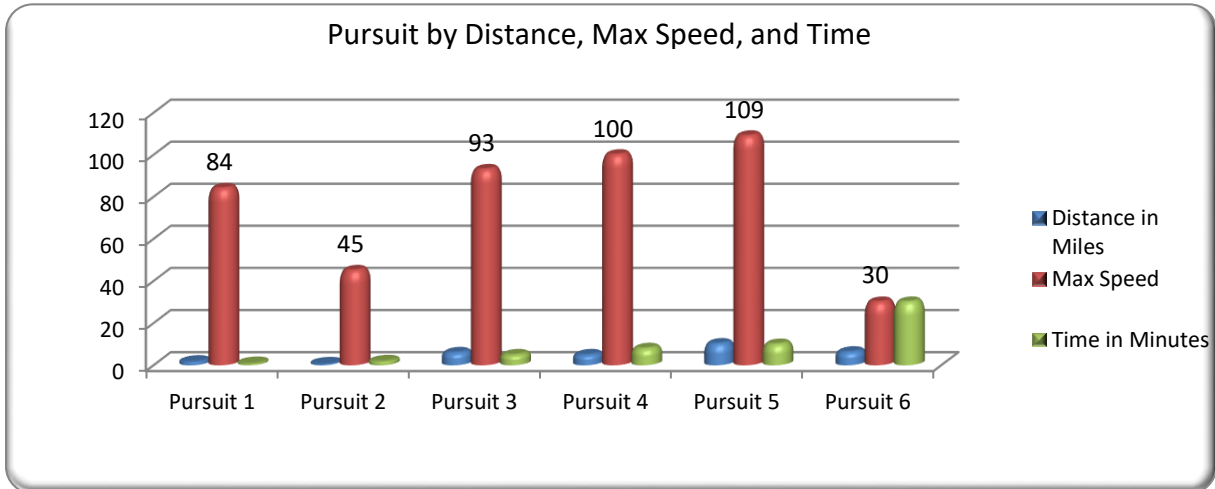
Three pursuits resulted in vehicle damage to the fleeing vehicle and one resulted in damage to a civilian vehicle. No police vehicles were damaged. Of the suspect vehicles damaged, one was damaged from crashing into an occupied parked vehicle, one had the tires spiked, and one struck a wood line after leaving the roadway.

Pursuits by Suspect

Of the six suspects who fled in 2020, four were males and one was female. They ranged in age from 18 to 43 years of age. The driver's race was described as four white and one Hispanic. Once suspect eluded capture, as a result their demographics were unknown.

Pursuit by Distance and Speed

Four of the six pursuits in 2020 had top speeds below 100 miles per hour. The majority of the pursuits were short in both duration and distance. Five of the six pursuits began in Burlleson. Three of those end outside the city limits, while two ended inside the city. One pursuit originated outside the city. Due to the suspects being wanted for an aggravated robbery involving firearms, Burlleson officers became engaged in the pursuit. In 2020, there was a supervisor on duty during each pursuit.



Summary

Roll call training and supervisor feedback as to the importance of following the pursuit policy continues to be a primary focus. In 2020, there was one pursuit initiated based on a traffic violations alone. In that instance, the supervisor quickly terminated the pursuit. The officer involved received counseling and remedial training in the pursuit policy. Although there was no disciplinary action taken during 2020; there were several opportunities to provided training during the debriefing of pursuits. There will continue to be an emphasis on training, supervision, and the adherence to the pursuit policy.