

Annual Pursuit Analysis
2021

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Annual Review

The Burleson 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.

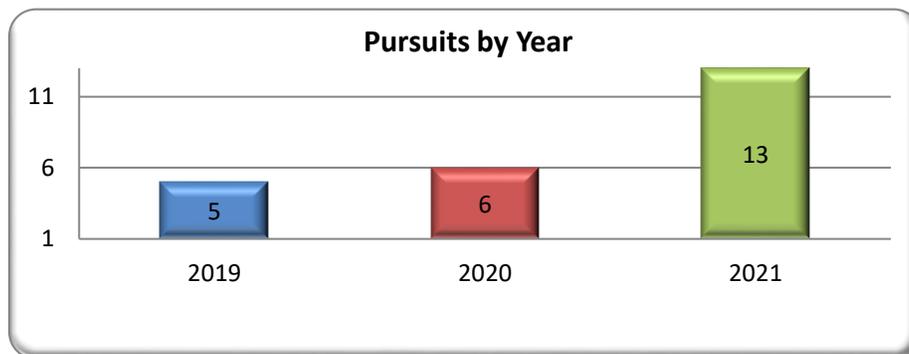
In addition, the policy describes the purpose of a motor vehicle pursuit as the apprehension of the violator.

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 or equipment needs.

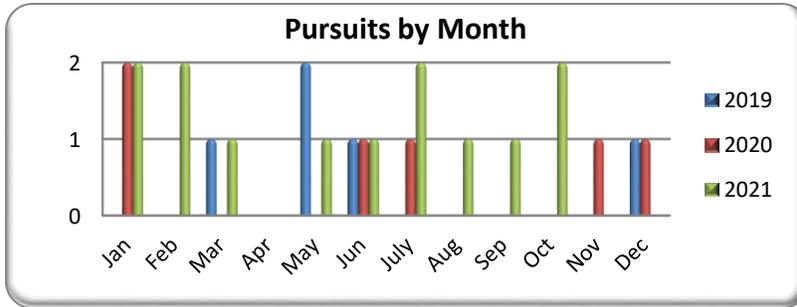
Pursuits by Year

During 2021, Burleson police officers initiated thirteen pursuits.

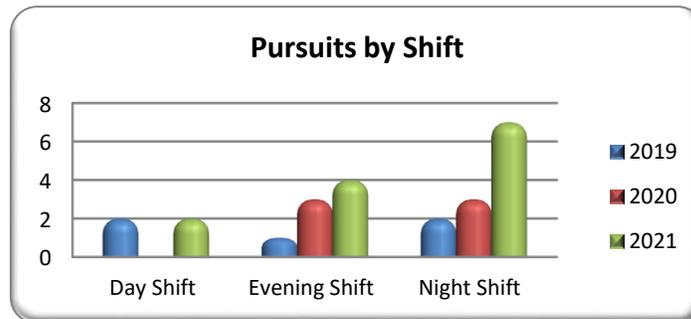


Pursuits by Month, Shift, Time, and Day

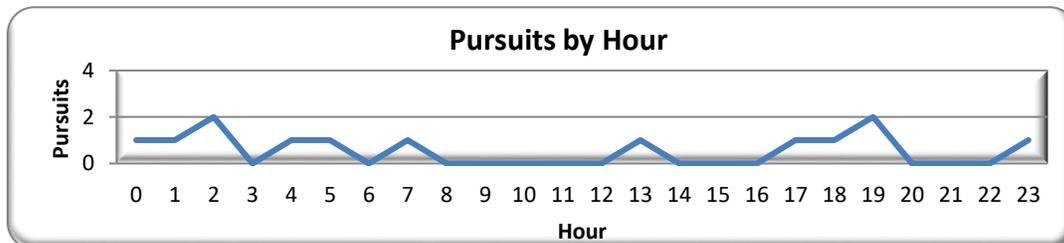
Pursuits, for the most part, were spread evenly throughout the year. A look at pursuits by month over a three-year period failed to reveal anything remarkable.



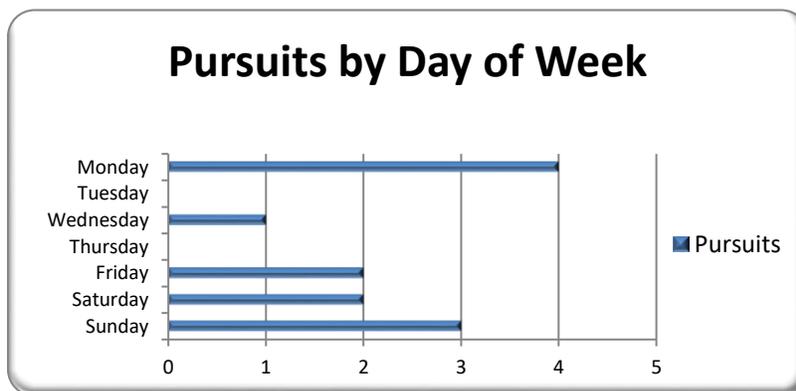
In 2021 more pursuits occurred on night shift than did on days or evenings.



In 2021, pursuit occurred mainly between Midnight and 2am and 4pm and 7pm which is consistent with previous years.

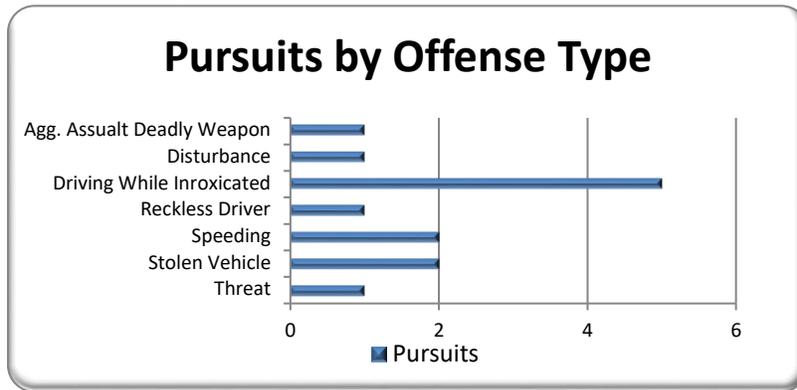


In 2021 there did not appear to be any correlation between the day of week and the number of pursuits, although Monday and Sunday had the most pursuits.



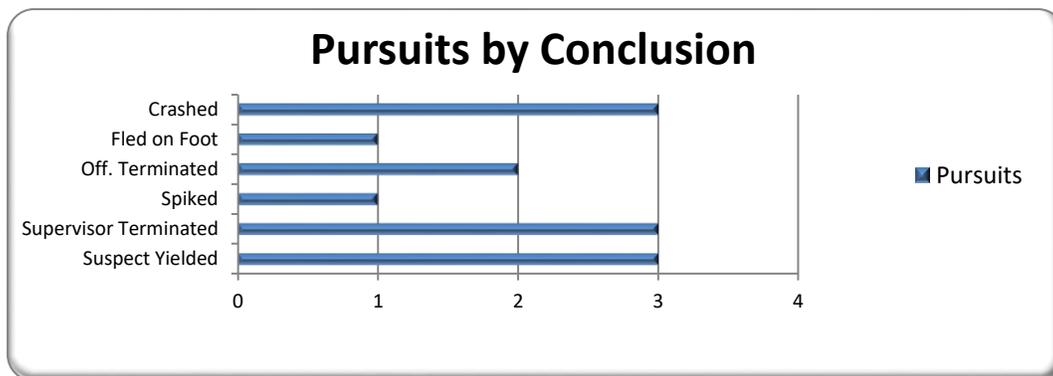
Pursuits by Offense Type

Of the thirteen pursuits in 2021, three were related to felonies, while ten were related to misdemeanors. Consistent with previous years driving while intoxicated was the primary offense type related to pursuits.



Pursuits by Conclusion

Five of the thirteen pursuits initiated in 2021 were terminated by either the officers involved (two) or the supervisor (three). The pursuits initiated based on speeding were both terminated by the officers who initiated them, once it was clear to the officers the driver was not going to yield. The pursuits related to one of the reckless driver call, one of the stolen vehicles, and the disturbance were terminated by the on duty supervisor. Two of the three pursuits that resulted in crashes were of suspected intoxicated drivers, the other was of a stolen vehicle.



Pursuits by Arrest

Of the thirteen drivers involved in pursuits, eight were arrested at the conclusion of the pursuit, four eluded capture, and one was apprehended by another agency.

Pursuit by Officer and Number of units

In 2021, ten pursuit involved one police unit while the remaining three 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 fourteen officers involved in pursuits during the year, twelve were white and two were black. Twelve were male and two were female. The officer’s average age was 33. The average years of service of the pursuing officers was five, with a high of nineteen and the low of one year.

Pursuits by Injury

One pursuit of a suspected intoxicated driver resulted in a single vehicle crash with the suspect vehicle left the roadway and rolled. Suspect (driver) received minor injuries while the passenger sustained serious injury. The suspect was charged with Intoxication assault. No civilians or police officers were injured as a result of pursuits in 2021.

Pursuits by Property Damage

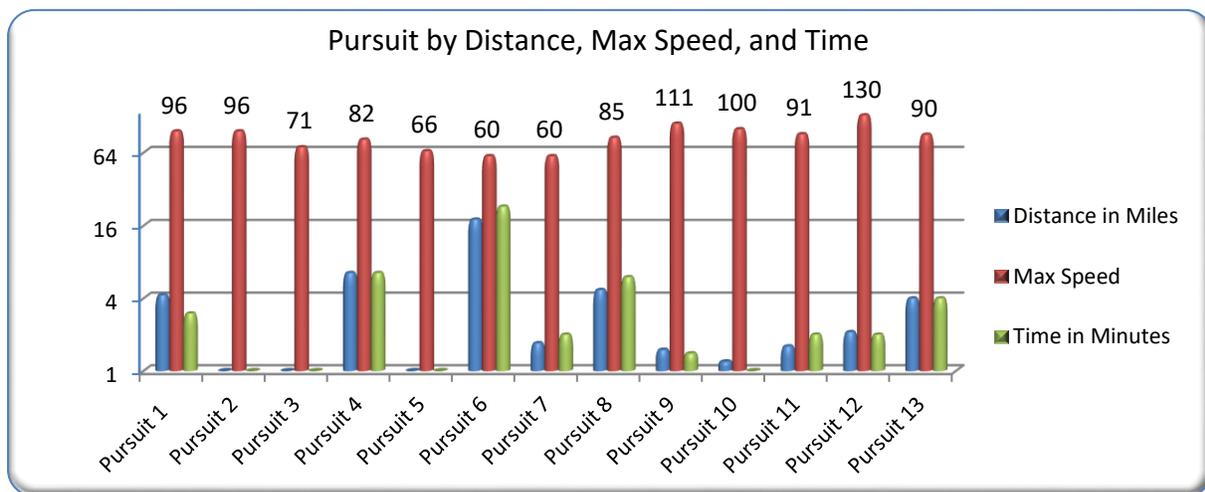
Five pursuits resulted in vehicle damage to the fleeing vehicles only. One vehicle left the roadway and rolled, one vehicle lost control and struck a guardrail, two vehicles struck curbs and became disabled, and one vehicle’s tires were spiked and it became disabled. No police or civilian vehicles were damaged.

Pursuits by Suspect

Of the thirteen suspects who fled in 2021, eleven were identified as males. Seven were white, two were black, and the race of four was unknown. They ranged in age from 23 to 51 years of age.

Pursuit by Distance and Speed

Of the thirteen pursuits in 2021 three had top speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour. All three were short in duration (two minutes or less) and distance (two miles or less). Moreover, they were all terminated by either the supervisor (two) or officer involved (one). All the pursuits were initiated by Burleson officers within the city limits. Eight pursuits ended outside the city limits, while the remaining five ended inside the city. Burleson officers did not participate in any outside agency pursuits in 2021. There was a supervisor on duty during each pursuit.



Summary

In 2021, there were more pursuits initiated; however, there were also more pursuits terminated by supervisors and officers involved. In the two instances where pursuits began based on speed, the officers took the initiative to terminate those pursuits in accordance with policy. Although there was no disciplinary action taken during 2021; there were a number of opportunities to provide constructive feedback during pursuit reviews with both officers and supervisors. There will continue to be an emphasis on training, supervision, and the adherence to the pursuit policy.