

Annual Pursuit Analysis

2023

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Annual Review

The Burlleson Police Department, by policy (04-017) (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 (04-017 III), 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 one (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 their speed, ignoring the officer, or attempting to elude the officer while driving at speeds in excess of the legal speed limit.

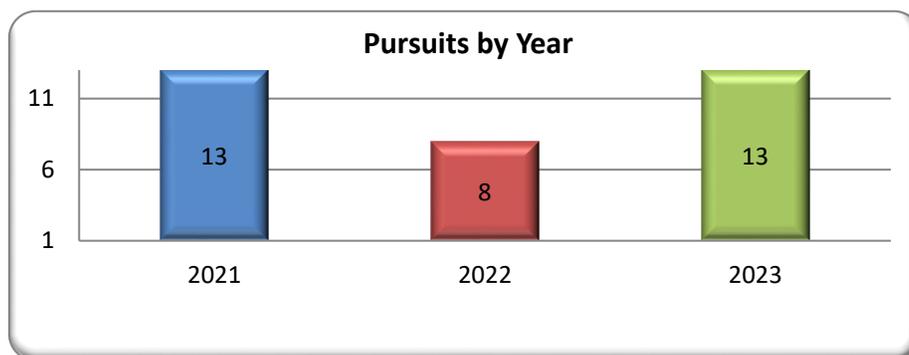
In addition, the policy describes the purpose of a motor vehicle pursuit is the apprehension of a suspect or violator.

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 the report, will forward the report to the appropriate midlevel manager along with a finding and recommendation for a second level review. The administrative review process is to ensure the pursuit was within policy and to identify training or equipment needs.

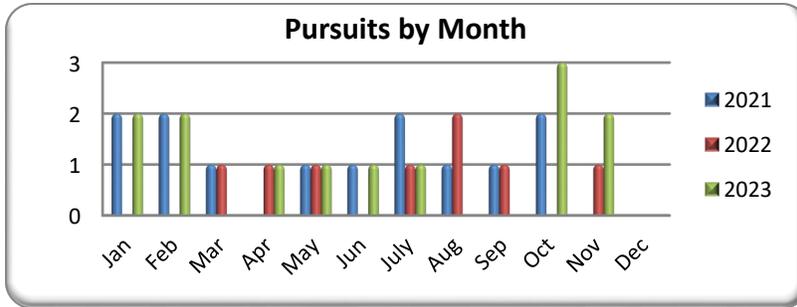
Pursuits by Year

During 2023, Burlleson police officers initiated thirteen pursuits.

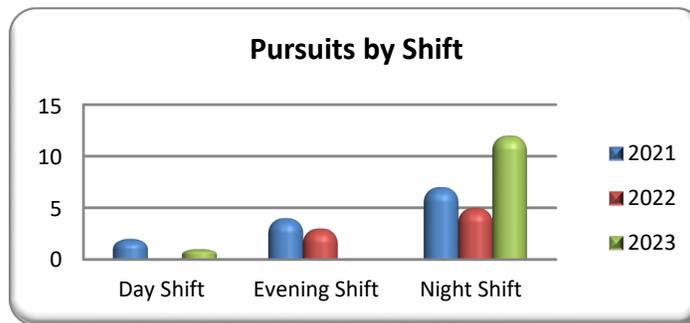


Pursuits by Month, Shift, Time, and Day

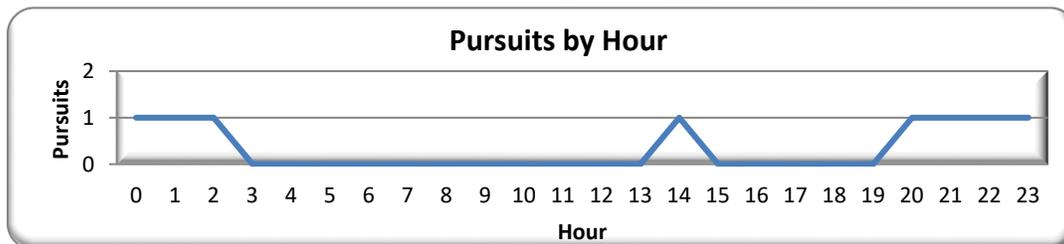
Pursuits, for the most part, were spread evenly throughout the year. Although October was the highest month for pursuits in 2023, a look at pursuits by month over a three-year period failed to reveal anything remarkable.



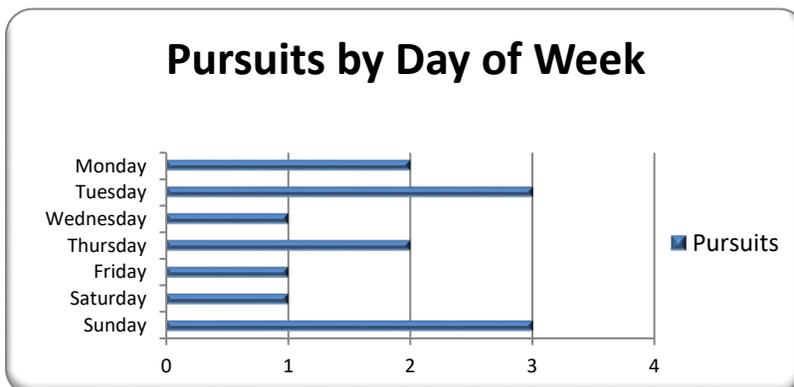
In 2023, patrol staffing was restructured to twelve-hour shifts (starting at 6am and 6pm). Considering the hours of night shift includes the majority of what was previously evening shift, it seems less remarkable that twelve of the thirteen pursuits in 2023 occurred on night shift.



In 2023, pursuits overwhelmingly occurred between 8 p.m. and 2a.m., which remained consistent with previous years.

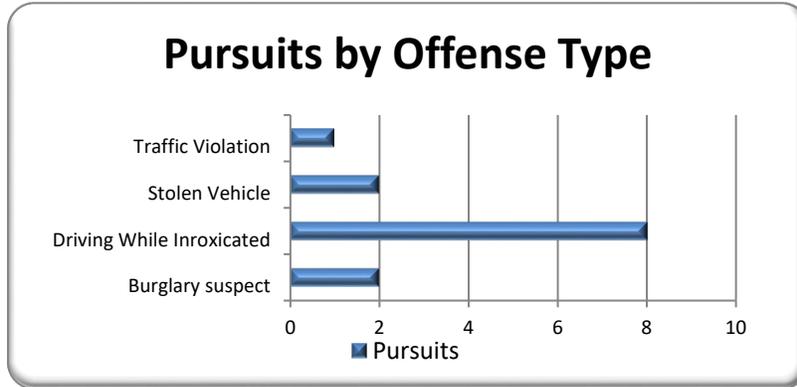


In 2023, the majority of pursuits occurred on Tuesday and Sunday.



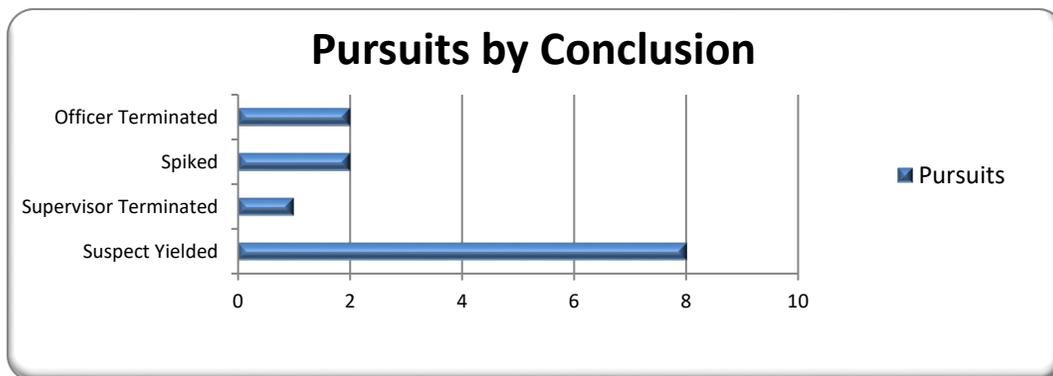
Pursuits by Offense Type

Consistent with previous years, driving while intoxicated was the primary offense type related to pursuits in 2023.



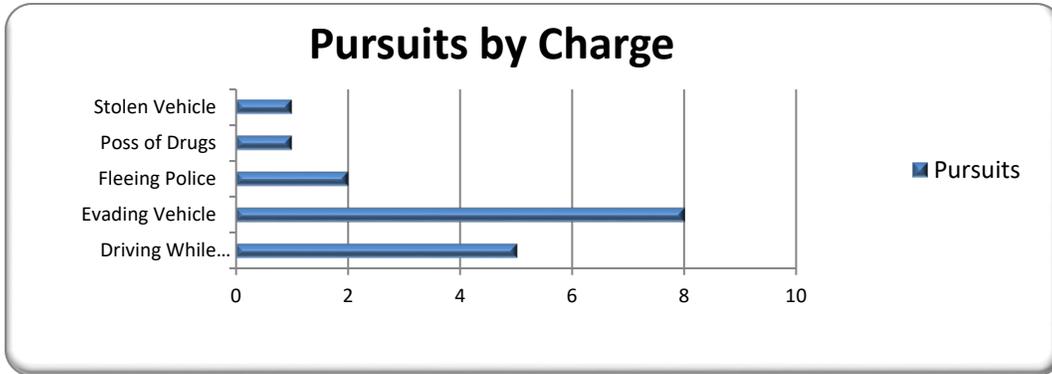
Pursuits by Conclusion

Three of the thirteen pursuits initiated in 2023 were terminated by either the officer involved (two) or the supervisor (one). A pursuit initiated based on a turn signal violation was terminated by the supervisor once it was clear the driver was not going to yield. A pursuit related to one of the possible intoxicated drivers was terminated by the officer due to rain and hazardous road conditions. A pursuit related to a burglary suspect was terminated by the officer due to speeds. In eight pursuits, the suspect yielded and in two pursuits, the suspect vehicle was spiked.



Pursuits by Arrest

Of the thirteen drivers involved in pursuits, ten were arrested at the conclusion of the pursuit and three eluded police. The primary charge types for drivers in 2023 were evading and driving while intoxicated.



Pursuit by Officer and Number of units

In 2023, nine pursuits involved one police unit while the remaining four involved a primary and secondary unit. No pursuit involved more than two units. The thirteen pursuits in 2023 involved seventeen officers, thirteen drivers and four passengers. All officers involved in pursuits as drivers were males; fifteen White, one Black, and one Hispanic. They ranged in age from 23 to 51 and their average age was 33. Their years of service with the department ranged from one to nine years, with an average of five years of service.

Pursuits by Injury

There were no injuries as a result of pursuits in 2023.

Pursuits by Property Damage

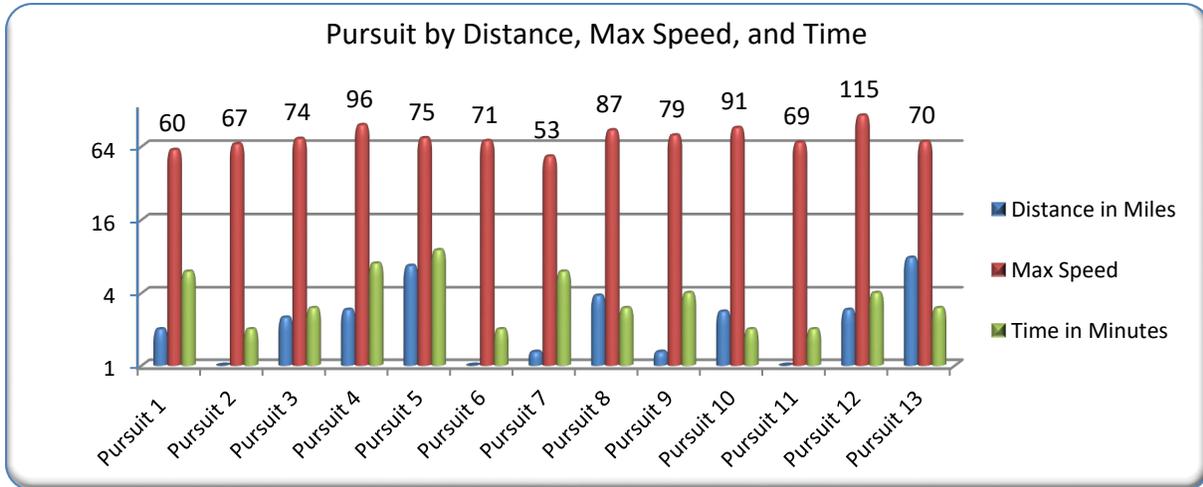
Two pursuits resulted in the suspects’ vehicle tires being damaged from the deployment of spikes. In the remaining eleven pursuits there was no damage related to the pursuit.

Pursuits by Suspect

Of the thirteen suspects who fled in 2023, four were identified as female; two White and two Hispanic. The gender and race of one driver was unknown. The remaining eight were identified as males; three White, two Hispanic, and two Black. Those with known ages ranged from 14 to 60 years of age. The average age of the suspects was 29. There were two pursuits involving juvenile drivers; however, at the time of the pursuits the officers involved were unaware of their juvenile status.

Pursuit by Distance and Speed

Of the thirteen pursuits in 2023, only one had a top speed in excess of 100 miles per hour. The pursuit was for a drunk driving suspect. All of the pursuits were initiated by Burleson officers within the city limits. Eight pursuits ended in Burleson, two in Fort Worth, one in Joshua, one in Alvarado, and one in Crowley. Burleson officers did not participate in any outside agency pursuits in 2023. There was a supervisor on duty during each pursuit.



Summary

Although the number of pursuits increased in 2023, the overall speeds remained low. In addition, all pursuits in 2023 were determined to be within policy. Both Supervisors and officers continue to demonstrate a willingness to terminate pursuits and follow policy related to pursuits. The department entered into an agreement with the Mansfield Police Department to utilize their driving track; thereby, increasing the opportunity for training. The department’s pursuit policy was updated in 2023 and a new pursuit reporting software was implemented. Moreover, the department added a midlevel management rank of lieutenant. The addition of this rank should help with the development and oversight of first line supervisors. The department will continue to emphasis training and adherence to the pursuit policy.