

Annual Pursuit Analysis

2024

Prepared by: Melvin McGuire
January 22, 2025

Annual Review

The Burleson 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.

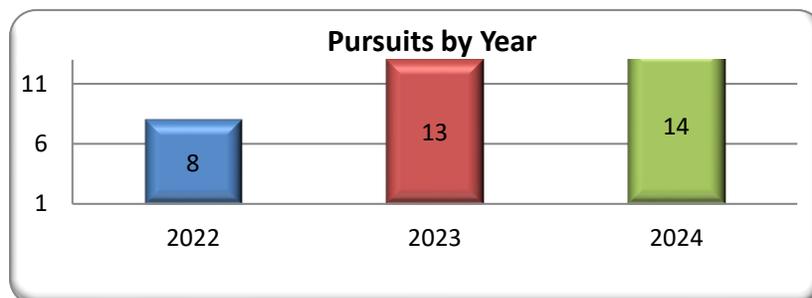
In addition, the policy describes the purpose of a motor vehicle pursuit is the apprehension of a suspect or violator.

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

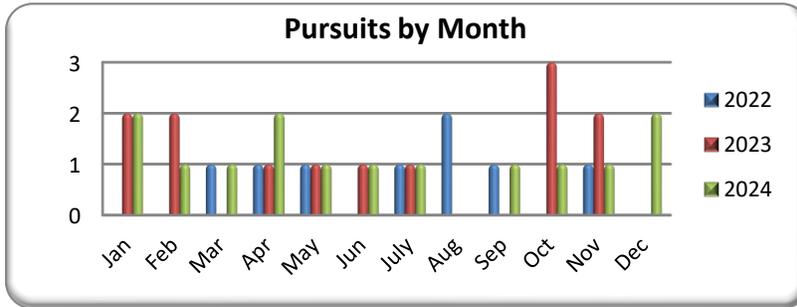
Pursuits by Year

During 2024, Burleson police officers initiated fourteen pursuits.

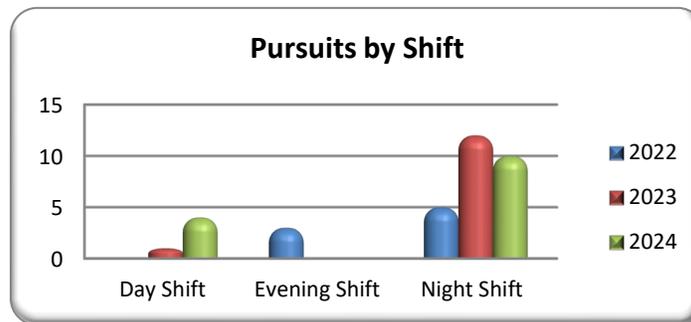


Pursuits by Month, Shift, Time, and Day

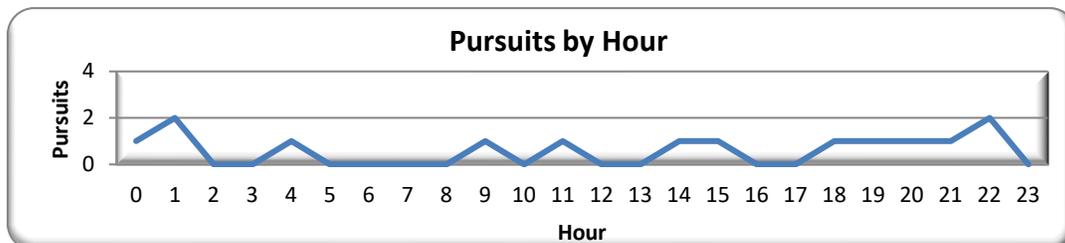
Pursuits, for the most part, were spread evenly throughout the year. Although October was the highest month for pursuits in 2023, there were no such outliers in 2024. A look at pursuits by month over a three-year period failed to reveal anything remarkable.



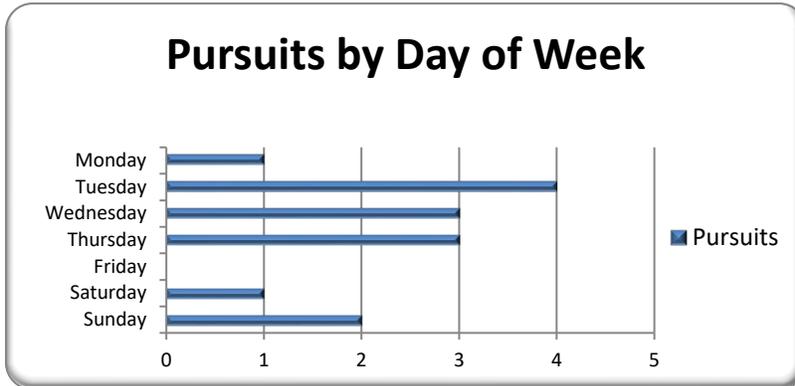
In 2023, patrol staffing was restructured to twelve-hour shifts (starting at 6am and 6pm). Considering the hours of night shift now includes the majority of what was previously evening shift, it seems less remarkable that ten of the fourteen pursuits in 2024 occurred on night shift.



In 2024, pursuits predominately occurred between 6 p.m. and 2a.m., which remained consistent with previous years.

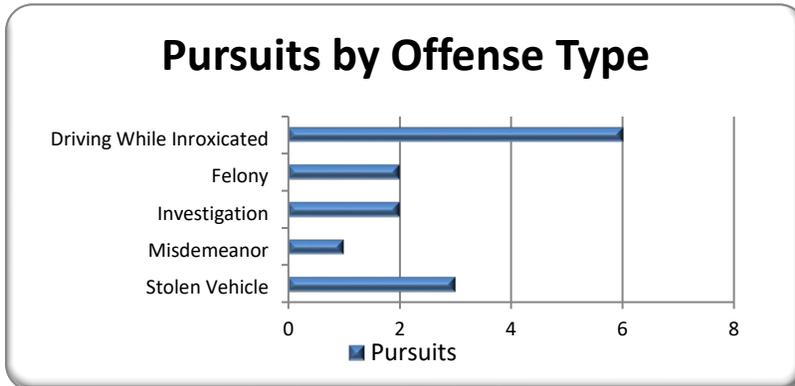


In 2024, the majority of pursuits occurred on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.



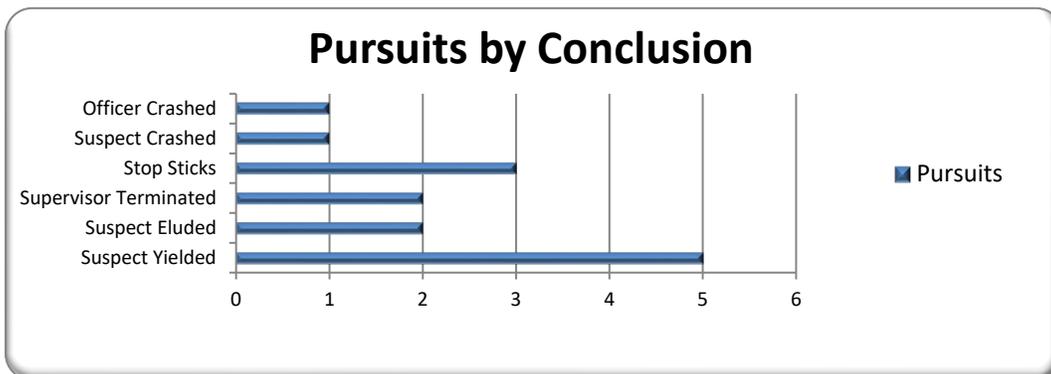
Pursuits by Offense Type

Consistent with previous years, driving while intoxicated was the primary offense type related to pursuits in 2024.



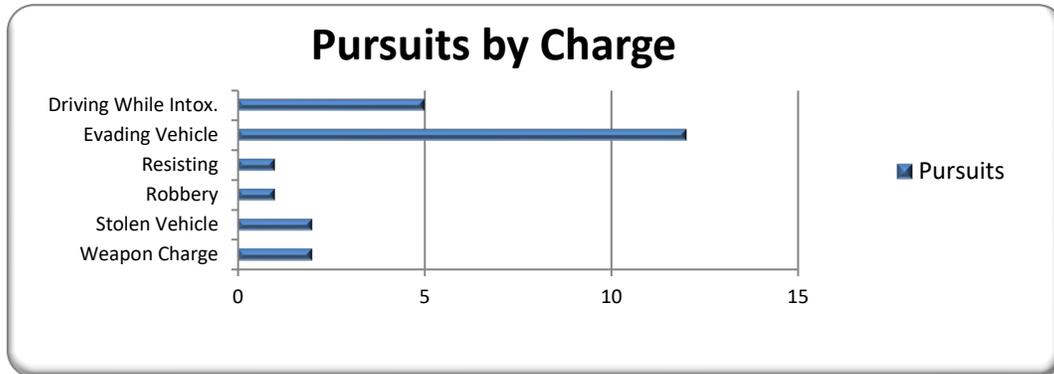
Pursuits by Conclusion

Two of the fourteen pursuits initiated in 2024 were terminated by supervisors. In both instances, the reason for the termination was the danger created by the pursuit. No pursuits were authorized in 2024 based on traffic violation. Over half of the pursuits ended when the suspect yielded (three of those were after being spiked).



Pursuits by Arrest

Of the fourteen drivers involved in pursuits, nine were arrested at the conclusion of the pursuit and one was released without charges. Of the four who eluded officers; two have been arrested and two remain unidentified. The primary charge types for drivers who fled in 2024 were evading and driving while intoxicated.



Pursuit by Officer and Number of units

In 2024, eight pursuits involved a single police unit. Three pursuits involved a primary and secondary unit. Two pursuits involved three units. In both cases the third unit was a supervisor. One pursuit involved four units one of which was a supervisor. At no time during this pursuit were there more than two units actively pursuing at the same time. The fourteen pursuits in 2024 involved eighteen officers. The officers driving during the pursuit consisted of two females, both Hispanic and sixteen males; fourteen White, one Black, and one Hispanic. The officers ranged in age from 25 to 51, with an average age of 36. The officers experience ranged from two to fifteen years, with an average of eight years of service.

Pursuits by Injury

Of the fourteen pursuits in 2024, one pursuit resulted in minor injury to the suspect as a result of the suspect losing control and crashing their vehicle. The suspect was treated at a local hospital prior to being released to custody.

Pursuits by Property Damage

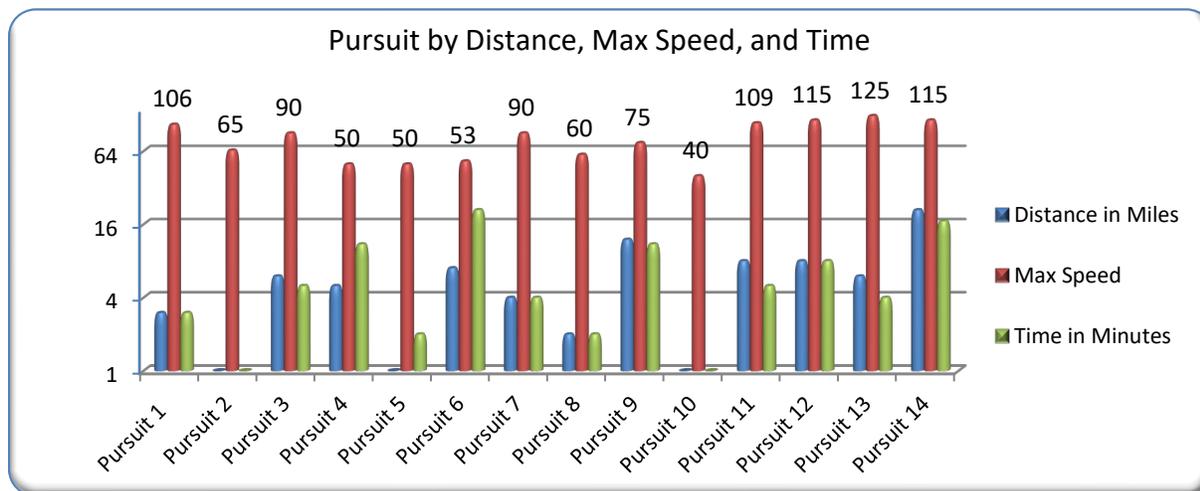
Three pursuits resulted in the suspect's vehicle tires being damaged from the deployment of spikes. In addition to the suspect's vehicle tire being damaged, a Burleson Police unit's tire was also damaged during a spike deployment. In yet another pursuit a Burleson Police unit struck a curb damaging a tire.

Pursuits by Suspect

Of the fourteen suspects who fled in 2024, two were identified as females; one White and one Asian. The gender and race of two driver's was unknown. The remaining ten were identified as males; five White, two Hispanic, and three Black. Those with known ages ranged from 15 to 50 years of age. The average age of the suspects was 32. There was a single pursuit that was determined to involve a juvenile driver; however, at the time of the pursuits the officers involved were unaware of their juvenile status.

Pursuit by Distance and Speed

Of the fourteen pursuits in 2024, five had top speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour. All of the pursuits were initiated by Burleson officers within the city limits. Five pursuits ended in Burleson, seven ended in Fort Worth, and two ended in Alvarado. Aside from two spike deployments, Burleson officers did not participate in any outside agency pursuits in 2024. There was a supervisor on duty during each pursuit.



Summary

In 2024 pursuits increased by one and the number of pursuits exceeding 100 miles per hour increased by four. All pursuits in 2024 were determined to be within policy. Supervisors 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, providing an avenue for training. The department's pursuit policy was reviewed in 2024, but no changes were made. The department recently promoted two sergeants bringing the number of sergeants with two years or less of supervisor experience to five. During the coming year the department will continue to emphasis training and adherence to the pursuit policy.