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# POLICE DEPARTMENT

# **Annual Review of Pursuits by the Lake Forest Park Police Department**

Review of 2019

#### Members of the Pursuit Review Board

Mike Harden:

**Chief of Police** 

Rhonda Lehman:

**Police Lieutenant** 

Diego Zanella:

**Police Lieutenant** 

#### 2019 Lake Forest Park Police Overview

2019 Pursuits:

2

2019 Traffic Stops:

3739

2019 Arrests:

231

## 2019 Injury, Damage and Collision Overview

Pursuits resulting in Injury 0
Pursuits resulting in Property Damage 0

Pursuits resulting in Collision

1

# **Review of Incidents**

There were two pursuits by Lake Forest Park Officers in 2019

Pursuit #1 occurred on 09/29/19 at approximately 0149 hours. The involved Patrol Sergeant intercepted a suspect vehicle from a shooting incident that had just occurred in Seattle. A traffic stop was initiated using lights and sirens in the Sergeants fully marked patrol vehicle. The suspect driver initially pulled over, exiting his vehicle and reaching for his waistband. The suspect driver then re-entered his vehicle and fled. The Sergeant initiated a pursuit of the vehicle through several streets until the suspect crashed his vehicle into a ditch. The driver fled on foot directly into the path of the Sergeants vehicle, causing the Sergeant to swerve to avoid striking the suspect. The Sergeant vehicle then struck a curb, disabling the patrol vehicle. Shoreline Police later located the suspect. The pursuit lasted approximately one minute and 39 seconds, covering 0.9 miles. No injuries occurred, both the suspects vehicle and patrol vehicle sustained significant damage.

Pursuit # 2 occurred on 11/21/2019 at approximately 1138 hours. The officer stopped a vehicle for expired registration. The driver initially pulled over and was contacted by the officer. The driver refused to provide license and registration then drove off after being told he was detained and not free to go. The officer pursued the vehicle along with a second backing officer. The driver initially obeyed traffic laws with the officers behind him with their lights and sirens activated. After approximately 3 minutes the

driver began to drive recklessly so the pursuit was terminated. No injuries, collisions or vehicle damages occurred.

#### **Pursuits by Officer**

The Lake Forest Park Police Department employed 20 commissioned officers during 2019 that included the Chief of Police, an Operations Captain, Admin Sgt. two Lieutenants, and two Detectives. Also employed by the department was one specially commissioned Police Support Officer and one limited commission Reserve Officer. The Chief and Captain retired in July. The two Lieutenants replaced the Captain and Admin Sgt. positions.

The two pursuits involved three officers.

## Change from the previous year

There was one pursuit in 2018 and two pursuits in 2019

#### Conclusion

Pursuit monitoring is a critical function that provides opportunities to evaluate specific personnel in various situations and determine whether training and policy compliance standards have been met. In addition, it permits analysis of data to identify trends that may or may not be indicative of the need for training intervention. Pursuit monitoring allows an assessment of the appropriateness of officer actions.

Given the information and analysis in this report, it is clear that pursuits by Lake Forest Park Police Officers are very rare. Since the adoption of a limited pursuit policy, pursuits are almost non-existent in this jurisdiction. Both pursuits conducted by Lake Forest Park Officers were found to be within policy

Mike Harden, Chief of Police

thonda Lehman, Operations Lieutenant

Diego Zanella, Administrative Lieutenant

Date | 2020