

MEMORANDUM
Police Department



City of Bothell™

DATE: April 8th, 2022

TO: Clint Beck, Deputy Chief, Bothell Police Department

FROM: Kendall Smith, Acting Captain, Bothell Police Department, Operations

SUBJECT: Pursuit Review Summary for case 22-4135

Call Summary:

On March 8th, 2022, at about 2234 hours, Officer E. Crealock responded to the 12700 block of 129th Ave NE in Bothell, and discovered a vehicle parked on the side of the road with the driver passed out. The driver was asleep, but had a butane lighter in one hand and there was narcotics paraphernalia in plain view. Based on his training and experience, Officer Crealock believed that the male subject was 'on the nod'. Officer C. Russell arrived and positioned his vehicle to the front of the subject's vehicle, in order to prevent escape. Prior to Officer Russell moving his vehicle into position, Officer Crealock positioned a Piranha single use spike strip in front of the suspect's rear driver's side tire. (Later repositioned to the rear of the same tire.) Officers Crealock and Russell both were dressed in their full patrol uniforms, including Bothell Police Department shoulder patches, external vests with police patches and badges displayed.

While the officers were looking about the car, the subject suddenly awoke, appeared disoriented, and then turned the key in the ignition to start the car. He was ordered to stop, but did not comply, instead yelling at the officers, "Ok! Relax." With the car still running, he was told to unlock the door but he declined. The subject was still clearly displaying signs of impairment and after being told several times to turn the car off and unlock the door, he finally turned the car off but kept the doors locked. The subject continued to keep the doors locked and he was finally told that if he didn't unlock the doors, the windows would be broken and unlocked by the officers. He replied by starting the car back up and putting it into gear. Officer Crealock believing that the driver was under the influence of illegal narcotics, and that he would be an immediate threat to the public if we were allowed to drive, broke out the driver's window in an attempt to gain access to the locking mechanism. The driver replied by reversing away from Officer Russell's car, thus running over the Piranha spike strip, and then taking off at a high rate of speed. Officer Crealock stated over the air that he had probable cause for Driving Under the Influence (DUI). Officer N. Sanelli and Officer Russell initiated a pursuit of the vehicle, as Officer Crealock stayed behind to talk to possible witnesses.

Using Google Maps, the pursuit was determined to last about 7.5 miles, and according to the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) notes, it lasted about 4 minutes.

Reason for the Pursuit:

Based on the facts and the totality of the circumstances, the officers had probable cause to believe that the driver was driving under the influence of drugs and or alcohol. The officers attempted to stop the driver before he could endanger the community, but their attempt was not successful.

The officers were dressed in their full patrol uniforms, including Bothell Police Department shoulder patches, external vests with police patches and badges displayed. While attempting to stop the suspect driver, they also verbally identified themselves, so it seems reasonable that the suspect driver should have know they were police officers.

Supervision:

MPO J. Wilson was the on-duty supervisor that night.

Authorized Pursuit Units:

As the suspect vehicle took off from the initial scene, Officer Crealock came over the air and stated that he had probable cause for DUI. MPO Wilson approved, Officers Sanelli and Russell to pursue the suspect vehicle, which took off for I-405. The officers stated that the suspect got onto northbound I-405, crossed over all lanes to travel and sped up to about 90 mph. As they were approaching the offramp to SR 525, MPO Wilson ordered them to terminate the pursuit. The officers complied and the suspect was last seen taking the I-405 to Alderwood Parkway offramp.

Recommendation:

I reviewed all case reports and CAD for this incident (attached). I found that the Officer's and supervisor's actions were reasonable and in compliance with Bothell Police Department Policy BPD-0212. I recommend no further action be taken.

This report is submitted for your perusal.

Kendall Smith / Acting Captain
Bothell Police Department / Operations