



MASON COUNTY SHERIFF

Sheriff Ryan Spurling

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To: Lt. Severance
From: Cpl. M.A. Sargent #1334
Date: 2-6-23
RE: 2022 Pursuit Review

The following is a breakdown and summation of vehicle pursuits conducted by the Mason County Sheriff's Office between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022.

2022 is the 1st full year of RCW 10.116.060 Vehicular Pursuit law as established in 2021. Due to the law implementation the overall pursuit rate has dramatically decreases in the State of Washington and within Mason County as well.

In 2022 the sheriff's office also moved away from pursuit tracking in the "pursuit log" spreadsheet and moved to documentation of pursuits through the BlueTeam/IA Pro software. This software collected different elements of the pursuit then had previously been captured.

Due to the drastic changes in data collection and new law implementation in 2021 it is difficult to do year to year comparisons and trend analysis of previous years. This report will address trends when appropriate and provide raw data when trends can not be determined.

It is also important to note, that in the years prior to 2021 "failure to yield stops" were documented with an "elude" in Spillman and documented in the pursuit log. Now only true "pursuits" that meet the RCW definition are documented in the pursuit log within BlueTeam/IA pro and "failure to yield" stops are done in Spillman under a failure to yield code.



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In 2022 a total of 9 incidents were reviewed and ultimately labeled as pursuits/elude incidents. (All data comes from IAPRO – report name: Vehicle pursuit stats (Improved in 5.6), Dates Jan 1, 2022, and Dec 31, 2022)

- 22 % (2 of 9) of pursuits were not in compliance with WA state Law and MCSO policy.
- 33% (3 of 9) of pursuits occurred during typical hours of darkness (1800-0600 hours) – a drop of 35%
- 44% (4 of 9) of the pursuits lasted less than 2 miles.
- 66% (6 of 9) of the pursuits were terminated for public safety.
- 0 % of incidents had a collision involved – a reduction of 20%
- 11 % of the incidents had a pursuit intervention involved – reduction by 25%
- 0 Incidents led to a Deputy Injury
- 0 Incidents led to suspects with an injury.
- 0 Incidents led to an injury of a citizen/witness.

Items of note are:

- Data, reflecting arrest is not captured Blue Team
- Pursuit data in BlueTeam is done through supervisor entry of details, unlike use of force data that is entered by the deputy.
- Pursuit laws changed in July 2021 that prohibit most pursuits by law enforcement agencies. RCW 10.116.060
- In both pursuits that were in violation of RCW and Policy remedial training was provided by the immediate supervisor.

Items to address:

- Review on 2021 law changes will occur again in 2022.
- 2023 Legislators are addressing RCW 10.116.060 and may again make changes.
- A methodology to collect “fail to yield” data – 22 Failure to yields, were documented in Spillman by Deputies during 2022.