



## BELLINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Chief Almer  
FROM: Lieutenant A. Fountain  
SUBJECT: 2022 Pursuit data  
DATE: March 23, 2023

The Pursuit review for 2022 has been completed and the collected data is attached for your review.

The review indicated that any policy, equipment, or training issues that arose during 2022 were promptly examined and handled; officer discipline resulting from any incidents in 2022 consisted of remedial training and "coach/counseling."

At the bottom of this memorandum is a signature line for Chief Mertzig, and upon her acknowledgement, this report will be added to the Bellingham Police Accreditation File (WASPC Standard 4.3) to show our agency's proof of compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A. Fountain".

Lieutenant A. Fountain

The 2022 Bellingham Police Pursuit data has been reviewed and accepted.

Accepted by me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of MARCH 2023.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "MERTZIG".  
Chief of Police

*Bellingham*

**POLICE**

Seth Fleetwood, Mayor  
Rebecca Mertzig, Chief of Police

To: Chief Mertzig  
From: Deputy Chief Almer  
Date: March 23, 2023  
Subject: 2022 Vehicle Pursuit Analysis

This memorandum is for informative purposes and serves as notification that an analysis of 2022 vehicle pursuit incidents has occurred.

Analysis included: recent legislative factors and components, agency application, policy, training, and statistical information provided by Lieutenant Fountain in her 2022 Pursuit data memorandum.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Almer  
Deputy Chief of Operations

## Profile of Vehicle Pursuit Incidents received between Jan 01, 2022 and Dec 31, 2022

**Total number of vehicle pursuit incidents: 9**

**Total number of employees involved: 29**

### Reason initiated:

	Count	Percent of total
Felony - Person Crime	3	33%
Traffic - Criminal	6	67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

### Time of day:

	Count	Percent of total
0001-0200	3	33%
0201-0400	1	11%
1401-1600	1	11%
1601-1800	1	11%
2201-2400	3	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

### Initial violation:

	Count	Percent of total
Felony - Person crime	2	22%
Misdemeanor - Person crime	1	11%
Traffic - Criminal	6	67%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

### Weather condition:

	Count	Percent of total
Clear/Overcast/Cloudy	7	78%
Rain	2	22%

**Pursuit distance:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
1 to 2 miles	2	22%
2.1 to 5 miles	2	22%
5.1 to 10 miles	2	22%
Beyond 10 miles	2	22%
Less than 1 mile	1	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Type of vehicle pursued:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Automobile	7	78%
Other	1	11%
Truck	1	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Pursuit beginning location:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Arterial street	4	44%
Highway	3	33%
Interstate	1	11%
Parking lot	1	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Pursuit ending location:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Arterial street	6	67%
Highway	1	11%
Interstate	1	11%

Parking lot	1	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Agency initiating pursuit:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Bellingham Police Department	6	67%
Outside agency	3	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Agency ending pursuit:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Bellingham Police Department	6	67%
Outside agency	3	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Event that concluded the pursuit:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Handed over to another agency	1	11%
Officer Terminated	1	11%
PIT	3	33%
Supervisor Terminated	2	22%
Suspect stopped vehicle	1	11%
Suspect vehicle crashed	1	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Driving under the influence factors:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
Alcohol	1	11%
Alcohol and drugs	1	11%
Drugs	4	44%
None detected	3	33%

<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>
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**In-car camera available:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	9	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**In-car camera used:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	9	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**The pursuit was aborted:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	4	44%
Yes	5	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**An accident occurred during the pursuit:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	5	56%
Yes	4	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Driver being pursued was arrested for DUI:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	5	56%
Yes	4	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Aerial vehicle was available to assist:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	8	89%
Yes	1	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Aerial vehicle was used to assist:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	8	89%
Yes	1	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Stop device was used:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	4	44%
Yes	5	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Type of stop device that was used:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
[No Entry]	4	44%
PIT	3	33%
Stop sticks	2	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Liability claim filed:**

	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of total</b>
No	9	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Pursuit justified:**

	Count	Percent of total
Yes	9	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Pursuit within policy:**

	Count	Percent of total
Yes	9	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Citizen injury tally:**

	Count	Percent of total
Claimed - not visible	1	25%
EMS Evaluation	1	25%
No injuries noted or visible	2	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	

**Employee injury tally:**

	Count	Percent of total
No injuries noted or visible	8	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	

Report date range criteria: Received between Jan 01, 2022 and Dec 31, 2022

**Report name: Vehicle pursuit stats (Improved in 5.6)**

**Report run on: Mar 23, 2023 at 11:29 by Lieutenant Jay Hart**