

Cedar Hill Police Department **2011 Vehicle Pursuit Analysis**

This analysis is being submitted in order to comply with Cedar Hill Police Department General Order 506.00 as well as to meet the standards for the Texas Police Chief's Association Best Practices State Recognition Program section 7.14.1, Annual Report of Agency Pursuits.

Cedar Hill Police Department General Order 506.11 requires the on-scene/controlling supervisor at the time of a vehicle pursuit to complete a Pursuit Report as soon as possible. The report is required to contain a critique of the pursuit and is forwarded to the Field Operations Bureau Assistant Chief, through the chain of command, for review. The final report is also reviewed by the Chief of Police. The reports are maintained by Police Administration.

The analysis for this report was generated directly from the completed pursuit reports. There were four (4) vehicle pursuits in 2011. All were initiated by Field Operations Bureau personnel.

Pursuit Initiation

- Felony - 3
- Class A Misdemeanor – 1

Pursuit Termination

- **Felony (1)** – completed which resulted in the arrest of all three suspects after the suspect vehicle crashed into a house after failing to control the vehicle. The crash occurred at the end of the pursuit.
- **Felony (2)** – completed when the suspect intentionally crashed his vehicle into the rear of a semi-truck that resulted in the death of the suspect driver.
- **Felony (3)** – completed when the suspect stopped his vehicle and fled on foot. An officer from an assisting agency had to utilize deadly force when the suspect charged at him with a large knife. The suspect was killed at the scene.
- **Class A Misdemeanor** – Pursuit was terminated by a patrol supervisor due to the nature of the offense for stolen property only.

Property Damage

There were two (3) pursuits which resulted in property damage due to crashes or intentional acts by suspects. There was not any damage sustained to any of the police vehicles. No police vehicles were damaged due to suspects intentionally ramming them.

Four suspects were treated for injuries as a result of the crashes. There were no police officers injured and two third parties were involved due to the suspect's actions.

- 11-000461 – Officers were pursuing three suspects for a residential burglary in-progress offense. The pursuit ended when the suspect lost control of his vehicle and crashed into a house causing property damage. All suspects were arrested at the scene.
- 11-0001847 – Officers were pursuing an individual that had committed an in-progress family violence assault and kidnapping offense. The pursuit ended when the suspect intentionally crashed into the rear of a semi-truck that resulted in the death of the suspect driver.
- 11-0005114 – Officers were pursuing an armed bank robbery in-progress suspect driving south on a highway. The pursuit ended when the suspect vehicle ran over some objects and fled from the vehicle on foot. Fortunately, the only property damage was to his vehicle.

Pursuit Policy

There were no changes made to the pursuit policy during 2011.

There were no major policy violations noted in 2011. Supervisors terminated the pursuits when needed. It is evident that supervisors are doing an excellent job in monitoring pursuits, asking appropriate questions during the pursuits, terminating the pursuits when necessary, and critiquing the pursuits as required. Minor issues such as officers communicating quicker and more effectively were also noted.

Policy Violations

During the review of pursuits from 2011, there were no policy violations during the pursuits.

Recommendations

There does not appear to be a need to address the Cedar Hill Police Department General Order concerning vehicle pursuits. No significant policy change considerations were identified during this evaluation period. It is evident that the policy is clear in its purpose and directives. This is evidenced by the lack of policy violations and property damage noted during the 4 vehicle pursuits in 2011. Officers and Supervisors appear to have a firm grasp and comprehension of the pursuit general order as evidenced by the supervisor's findings and recommendations. We did not initiate any pursuits involving motorcycles. We did not experience any damage to police vehicles during the pursuits. We did not have any officers injured during the pursuits. It is recommended that refresher training be conducted on all shifts in the area of the pursuit

general order in addition to safe driving practices annually in order to keep both officers and supervisors aware of specific requirements in these two directives. This refresher training could easily be conducted via roll call training by shift supervisors. We did identify a communications issue during one of the longer pursuits. This resulted in the replacement of the vehicle antennas with ones that had a greater range. An interesting observation was 75% of the pursuits occurred between the hours of 1200-1800. We did not have any pursuits for fine only traffic offenses.

Vehicle Pursuit Review 2011

Profile of Pursuits between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011

Total Number of Pursuits: 4

Total Number of Officers Involved: 13

Pursuit distance:

Distance	Count	Percent of total
< 1 mile	0	0.0
1 to 3 miles	1	25.0
4 to 10 miles	0	0.0
11 to 20 miles	1	25.0
>20 miles	2	50.0

Reason initiated:

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Felony	3	75.0
Class A Misdemeanor	1	25.0

Time of day:

Time	Count	Percent of total
0000-0100	1	25.0
0100-0600	0	0.0
0600-1200	0	0.0
1200-1800	3	75.0
1800-2400	0	0.0

Type of vehicle pursued:

Type	Count	Percent of total
Automobile	2	50.0
Van	1	25.0
Truck	1	25.0

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The pursuit was aborted:

	Count	Percent of total
No	3	75.0
Yes	1	25.0

A crash occurred during the pursuit:

	Count	Percent of total
No	2	50.0
Yes	2	50.0

Respectfully submitted,

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Field Operations Bureau