



Barre City Police Department

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Larry E. Eastman, Jr.
Deputy Chief of Police

MEMORANDUM

To: File

From: Chief Braedon S. Vail

CC:

Date: January 2, 2024

Re: 2023 Analysis of Pursuits and Roadblocks

A review of the 2023 vehicle pursuits involving the Barre City Police Department has been completed with the following analysis:

Incident 23BA000067: Officer observed vehicle with no visible registration plate and attempted to conduct a traffic stop at which time the vehicle accelerated and traveled into the Town of Barre on various roads at speeds between 61-80 mph with officer pursuing. The pursuit was terminated by a supervisor. Total length of pursuit was approximately 4.2 miles. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA001040: Officer responds to a complaint of an operator passed out behind the wheel of a vehicle at an intersection. Upon arrival, officer attempts to awaken operator who is known to the officer. Upon awakening, operator accelerates and takes off. Officer pursues vehicle and was able to successfully stop the operator. Total length of pursuit was approximately 311 meters. The operator was subsequently charged with eluding, operating on a suspended license and negligent operation. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA003135: Officer observed a vehicle with a registration violation and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle failed to stop and was pursued by the officer at speeds between 61-80 mph along various city and town streets. The vehicle subsequently went off the road into a ditch. Total length of pursuit was approximately 1.8 miles. The operator was subsequently charged with eluding and reckless endangerment as well as

being ticketed for other motor vehicle violations. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA006165: Officer observed a vehicle speeding and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle subsequently fled, operating at high rates of speed. The officer quickly lost sight of the vehicle, which successfully evaded. Total length of pursuit was approximately .1 miles. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA006242: Officer responded to complaint of vehicle operating at high rate of speed. Officer located vehicle and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle failed to stop and officer pursued. The vehicle turned its lights off and appeared to be stopping, then took off again. The vehicle eventually pulled into a commercial parking lot and stopped. Total length of pursuit was approximately 1.1 miles. The operator was subsequently taken into custody and charged with eluding, operating after suspension, DUI, negligent operation, excessive speed and possession of a regulated drug. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA006920: Officer responded to a complaint for assistance to another agency investigating a complaint of an operator passed out in a vehicle and the vehicle had subsequently fled. Officer located vehicle and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle failed to stop and the officer pursued. The vehicle successfully evaded officer. Total length of pursuit was approximately 1.3 miles. The operator was known to officer and later charged with eluding. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA007193: Officer observed operator known to have an arrest warrant and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle continued operating and did not stop. The vehicle then subsequently stopped, provided the officer with a false name, and then took off again with officer pursuing. Another agency officer joined the pursuit. The vehicle subsequently entered the interstate and accelerated at a high rate of speed. Pursuit was terminated by a supervisor. Total length of pursuit was approximately 7.7 miles. The operator was later charged with eluding and negligent operation. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA008144: Officer observed suspicious activity and followed vehicle. Officer later observes same vehicle and follows, observing a moving violation and attempts to conduct a traffic stop but vehicle fails to stop. Due to conditions, officer abandons pursuit. Total length of pursuit was approximately 1 mile. The operator was later identified and charged with eluding, negligent operating and operating after suspension. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA008191: Officer observed a vehicle speeding and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The vehicle fled with the officer pursuing. Due to traffic conditions and operator actions, officer abandons pursuit. Total length of pursuit was approximately 1 mile.

Incident 23BA009281: Officer responded in assistance to another agency with a traffic stop on a stolen vehicle where vehicle fled. After various speeds and operation into other towns, officer abandons pursuit. Total length of pursuit was approximately 15 miles. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA009377: Officer observed vehicle with operator appearing to disguise himself. Vehicle subsequently confirmed as stolen. Officer attempted a traffic stop but vehicle flees. The vehicle accelerated at high rates of speed and eluded the officer. The officer discontinues pursuit. Total length of pursuit was approximately 5 miles. Officer later learns of crashed vehicle in another town matching description and responds. The operator fled on foot with passenger staying on scene and identifying operator. The subject was later located and charged with eluding, negligent operation, and reckless endangerment. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA009753: Off duty officer calls in stolen vehicle being observed with two suspects at a convenience store in neighboring jurisdiction. Officer headed that way on unrelated matter when vehicle passes in opposite direction. Officer turns around and attempts traffic stop but vehicle flees. Officer loses sight of vehicle and discontinues pursuit. Total length of pursuit was approximately 9 miles. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

Incident 23BA010179: Officer observed suspicious activity and subsequently followed and attempted to stop a motorcycle as a result. The motorcycle failed to stop and eluded. Supervisor subsequently terminated pursuit. Total length of pursuit was approximately 4.5 miles. The operator was later identified and charged with eluding, negligent operation, and excessive speed, as well as being ticketed for license and moving violations. A Vehicle Pursuit Report and subsequent administrative review is on file.

During calendar year 2023 the following initiating events resulted in pursuits, succeeded by respective terminating events and speed of police and violator:

Initiating Event	Number
Suspected DUI	3 cases
Minor Traffic Violation	6 cases
Misdemeanor Suspect	4 cases
Felony Suspect	2 cases
TOTALS	13 cases

Terminating Event	Number
Evaded/Officer Abandon	4 cases
Supervisor Terminated	6 cases
Voluntary Stop	2 cases
Suspect Fled on Foot	1 case
Collision	1 case
TOTALS	13 cases

Speeds	20-40	41-60	61-80	81-100	101+
Police	1	2	9	1	
Violator	1		3	8	1

During calendar year 2023 the suspect's reasons for evading are depicted as follows:

Reason for Evading	Percentage of total cases
Alcohol/Drugs Involved	23%
Driver License Violations	31%
Wanted (Felony)	15%
Wanted (Misdemeanor)	15%
Stolen Vehicle	23%
Unknown	23%

There was a 64% increase in stolen vehicles being the reason for evasion over 2022. Driver license violations as a reason remained relatively consistent; however, alcohol/drug violations being the reason has increased 15% over 2022.

There appears to be a pattern of vehicle pursuit incidents as to occurring midweek (i.e., Tuesday/Wednesday) with almost half of the incidents occurring during this time, differing from 2022 whereas weekends saw the most. Likewise, almost half (46%) of the pursuits occurred during the evening hours; 38% occurred during the overnight hours, with the remaining occurring in the morning hours. 46% of the pursuits occurred in the fall months, also a change from 2022 whereas more than half occurred during the summer months.

Day: Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun **Time:** 00-06 06-12 12-18 18-24
 2 4 3 2 1 1 5 2 6

Month: Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 1 1 1 3 1 2 3 1

Analysis of the 2023 Vehicle Pursuits revealed there were thirteen (13) pursuits in calendar year 2023, down from sixteen (16) in 2022. All thirteen (13) pursuits were conducted within the guidelines established under Barre City Police Department Operational Policy *Vehicle Pursuit/Emergency Vehicle Operation*. Supervisor termination of pursuits in 2023 rose drastically over 2022 with six (6) incidents being terminated by a supervisor as opposed to only one (1) in 2022.

No pursuit required forcible stopping techniques. No pursuit required unique procedures, as all thirteen (13) pursuits were conducted with marked patrol vehicles utilizing appropriate audible and visual emergency equipment.