



SASKATOON _____
POLICE SERVICE

TO: Shirley Greyeyes, Chairperson
Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Dave Haye
Office of the Chief

DATE: 2024 May 05

SUBJECT: 2023 Evade Police Incidents

FILE #: 10,040

ISSUE:

Incidents where an operator of a vehicle flees or drives in a manner to evade police creates a concern for the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) due to the risk to the public, persons, and officers involved. The reasons for a subject to not stop for police can be non-criminal or criminal. Criminal events can vary from violent acts such as home invasions, robberies and assault to property offences including possession of stolen vehicles, as well as impaired driving.

SPS Policy and Procedure establishes that the primary concern for officers involved in an Evade Police Incident is the protection and safety of the public. The Evade Police Review Committee ensures that all Evade Police Incidents are reviewed to ensure that the actions of our members were conducted in a manner that is as safe as possible, lawful and reflective of SPS Policy.

RECOMMENDATION:

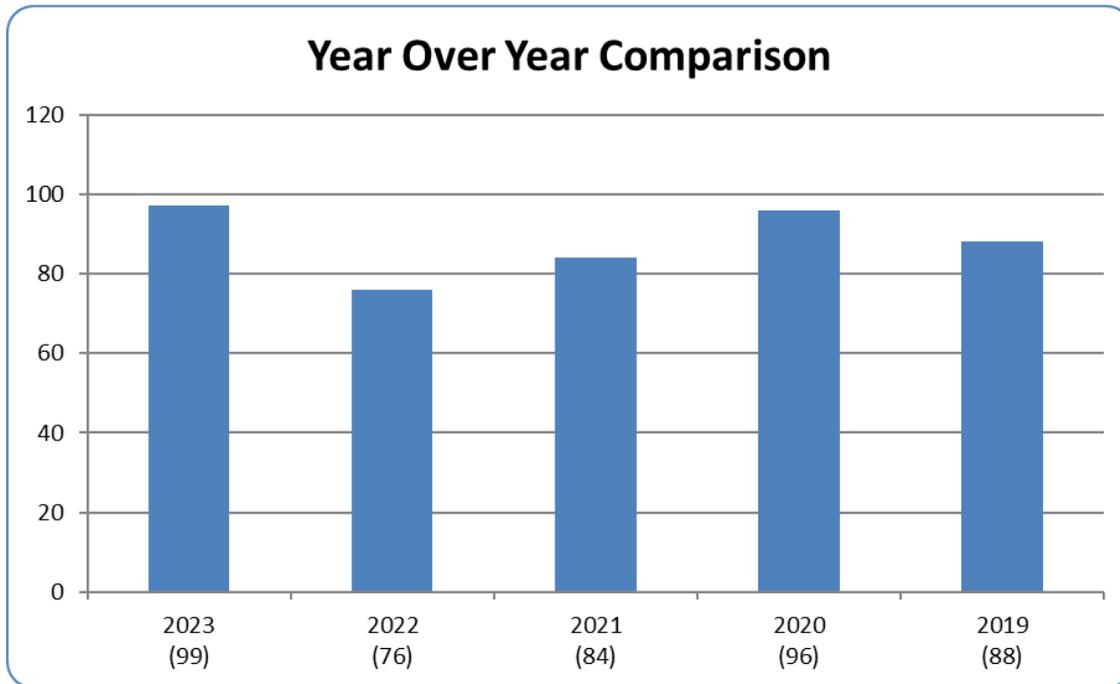
That this report is received as information.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

This report focuses on the core theme of Crime and Safety, with specific attention to maintaining core-policing operations and addresses community concerns that affect public safety.

DISCUSSION:

Evade Police Summary		
Category	2023	2022
Evade Police Incident No Pursuit	70	96
Evade Police Incident With Pursuit	99	76
Evade Police Incident Termination	51	39
Evade Police Incident Air Support Unit Supported	15	26



Key Findings:

- In 2023 the SPS reported 70 incidents where it was perceived by a police officer that a driver was evading police but based on the conditions at the time a continued vehicle pursuit was not warranted. SPS Policy provides members with criteria to assist in making the decision to pursue. These criteria can include but are not limited to risk to the public, manner of driving, weather, road conditions, identification of the driver, criminal or non-criminal event.
- In 2023 the SPS were involved in 99 Evade Police Incidents resulting in a pursuit. The number of pursuits has increased by 32% in comparison to 2022.
- In 2023 over half (52%) of the Evade Police Incidents with pursuit were terminated by the primary officer involved or the Officer in Command. SPS Policy provides members with criteria to assist in making the decision to terminate a pursuit. These criteria can include but are not limited to risk to the public, manner of driving, weather, road conditions, identification of the driver, criminal or non-criminal event.

“PUBLIC AGENDA”

- In 2023 the Air Support Unit has supported 15% of our Evade Police Incidents with pursuit. This is a decrease of 19% in comparison to 2022. In these incidents once the Pilot and Flight Officer have assumed the primary position, ground units terminate their role as a pursuit vehicle with the intent to cause the suspect driver to return to normal driving behaviors.

Evade Police Incident with Pursuit Profile		
Category	2023	2022
Within the City Boundaries	82	68
Average Duration in City Boundaries	3 Minutes, 18 Seconds	2 Minutes, 28 Seconds
Exceed City Boundaries	17	8
Average Duration Exceed City Boundaries	11 Minutes, 16 seconds	34 Minutes, 57 seconds
Stolen Vehicles	62	38

Key Findings:

- In 2023 the majority (83%) of Evade Police Incidents with pursuit remained within the city boundaries. The average duration was 3 minutes and 18 Seconds.
- In the limited cases (16%) where the Evade Police Incident with pursuit exceeded the city boundaries the duration substantially increased to 11 minutes and 16 seconds. As a general rule, evade incidents that leave the city boundaries are terminated or ASU is engaged as the primary unit monitoring the subject vehicle until it has stopped or until the RCMP are in a position to assume responsibility for the incident.
- In 2023 63% of Evade Police Incidents involved a vehicle that had been reported stolen. Annually, the SPS provides messaging and education campaigns to the public, focusing on not leaving keys in vehicles or leaving vehicles running and unattended.

Outcomes		
Category	2023	2022
Evade Police Incidents Subject Arrested	69% (70 Incidents)	66% (50 Incidents)
Youth Arrested	3	10
Adults Arrested	124	88
Subject Vehicle Damaged	48	33

Key Findings:

- In 2023 there were 70 Evade Police Incidents that resulted in the arrest of at least one subject. There were 127 persons who were arrested as a result of an Evade Police Incident.
- The majority of persons involved in Evade Police Incidents were adults (youth accounted for less than 1%).
- In 2023, 48 Evade Police Incidents resulted in the subject vehicle being damaged.
- There were no Evade Police Incidents that resulted in serious injuries and no incidents that resulted in death.

“PUBLIC AGENDA”

CONCLUSION:

In the collective view of the Evade Police Committee, officers are educated and aware of their role and responsibilities during Evade Incidents. The officers are mindful of the high standard and continuous engagement review held by this Committee. The safety of the public, the suspect, as well as members of the SPS will continue to be our highest priority when balancing the need to apprehend offenders.

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