



Fire and Police Commission

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Commissioners

July 12, 2012

PRESS RELEASE

MILWAUKEE FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION FINDS POLICE PURSUIT POLICY HAS REDUCED ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, AND PROPERTY DAMAGE

Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director of the FPC stated:

“Our experience shows that the policy changes made in 2010 have cut in half the number of dangerous high-speed vehicle pursuits on our city streets.”

“We are very pleased with the results of the policy change. The community and our officers are safer as a result of these changes. We are still catching the fleeing drivers, only now we are doing it through aggressive follow-up investigations. The policy change has properly balanced the basic dilemma of whether the benefits of potentially apprehending a suspect outweigh the risk of endangering the public.”

“The Fire and Police Commission approved a change to the Milwaukee Police Department vehicle pursuit policy on March 26, 2010. This change was intended to decrease the number of high speed vehicle pursuits on our city streets while allowing officers discretion to capture known felons and interrupt crimes in progress. The number of accidents and personal injuries to suspects, innocent third parties and officers has greatly decreased. In fact, last year for the first year in modern recordkeeping, we had zero officer injuries reported. The cost savings to society and taxpayers in human lives saved and injuries and property damage prevented is truly significant.”

The report will be discussed at the FPC Regular Meeting today in the Rufus King auditorium, 1801 W. Olive Street, at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to participate.

The report is available at <http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/fpc>.

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