



Police Department

Nannette H. Hegerty
Chief of Police

September 7, 2004

The Honorable Common Council
City of Milwaukee
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Council Members:

In accordance with Common Council Ordinance 320-27.3(c), the Milwaukee Police Department Safety Division submits the following 2003 traffic reports as requested by Alderman Terry Witkowski.

- City of Milwaukee Crash Trends (years 1992 through 2003)
- City of Milwaukee Annual Traffic Analysis (years 1922 through 2003)
- City of Milwaukee 2003 Fatal Traffic Accident Summary

In 2003, the City of Milwaukee experienced a decrease of 837 reportable crashes. Total reportable crashes for 2003 were 12,755, compared to 13,592 in 2002. As well, the number of traffic injuries decreased in 2003 by 438, to 4,354 from 2002's total of 4,792. The number of traffic fatalities decreased by 7; in 2003 total traffic fatalities were 28, compared to 35 in 2002. In addition, pedestrian fatalities decreased by 3. The total number of pedestrian crashes for 2003 was 7, compared to 10 in 2002.

The City of Milwaukee Crash Trends report shows that the various types of crashes remained relatively unchanged, with the exception of motorcycle crashes and bicyclists injuries. Motorcycle crashes increased by 38 in 2002. There were 159 motorcycle crashes in 2002, compared to 197 in 2003. Bicyclists injured or killed in 2003 decreased by 87; in 2002 there were 199 injured or killed bicyclists compared to 112 in 2003.

The City of Milwaukee registration rate for 2003 was 0.7%, which is the second lowest rate for the city on record. The registration rate is calculated by the total number of traffic fatalities divided by the number of registered motor vehicles.

To help decrease the number of traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities in the City of Milwaukee, the Milwaukee Police Department continuously enforces traffic violations. In the Police Districts, radar cars are deployed to combat the traffic problems within the communities each serves. The Patrol Support Division staff relentlessly enforces traffic violations citywide for Milwaukee, as part of their duties. In addition, to help with the

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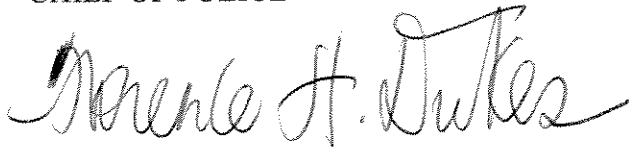
efforts to improve traffic safety in Milwaukee, the Department of Transportation (DOT) awarded the Police Department several enforcement grants.

The grants awarded by DOT focused on pedestrian, bicycle and seat belt enforcement. Although the grants required enforcement to focus on the aforementioned safety issues, the grant did require law enforcement of speed and drunk driving. In addition, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) awarded the Police Department a pedestrian enforcement grant, which is titled *Milwaukee Safe Routes*. This grant is a 2-year pilot project that focus on traffic safety in communities to help encourage more people to walk and reduce the number of motor vehicle trips in their communities, largely to help increase the number of students that walk to and from school. News releases were sent out by the Police Department announcing enforcement efforts.

Education, enforcement and engineering are important components when trying to improve traffic safety; however, most crashes and fatalities occur because of senseless actions beyond any official's control. I do believe efforts are relentlessly taken by the Police Department and other agencies to improve traffic safety in our communities and will continue.

Sincerely,

NANNETTE H. HEGERTY
CHIEF OF POLICE



FLORENCE H. DUKES
SAFETY DIRECTOR

Attachments

cc: D/I Ramon GALAVIZ
Milwaukee Safety Commissioners

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