

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 4, 2023

TO: DON HAYES *DC Hayes* 04/04/2023
CHIEF OF POLICE

FROM: CAPTAIN MONICA LISLE *ML*
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

SUBJECT: ANNUAL USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS – CY2022

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the CY2021 Annual Analysis of Departmental Uses of Force. This analysis is required by Police Directive 1.9 Administrative Reports, Appendix A. This analysis was conducted by reviewing all Use of Force (UF) investigations in CY2022.

Definitions:

Incident – a dispatched call for service or other encounter between police and the community.

Force Incident – an encounter between police and subject(s) where force was applied.

Use of Force/Application – the application of a specific force method on a subject by a police officer.

Use of Force Investigation – the investigation into the appropriateness of the application(s) of force by one or more officers against one or more persons in a single incident.

Evaluation Triggers:

Force, especially item/weapon use, is evaluated in all applications, as well as upon complaint of injury (regardless of type of force employed), actual injury (regardless of type of force applied), or complaint of excessive/improper use of force.

Note: Typically, two officers are dispatched to most calls for service, so it is not uncommon for each use of force investigation to involve multiple officers. In CY2022, APD discontinued its practice of tracking use of force cases by the officer(s) involved rather, the department now reports strictly based on incident. It is possible that a single incident can result in multiple force options being deployed by a single officer or by multiple officers on a scene. Use of force investigations completed by APD personnel evaluate all force types used by requiring a comprehensive investigation per incident.

The analysis contained in this memorandum examined all levels of force used during CY2022, to include officers' attempts to use lower levels of force before escalating. For instance, if two officers utilize different types of force to affect a lawful objective, the incident will be categorized as one incident involving two applications of force, capturing the type of force used by officer,

rather than just as one single incident. The reason for this method is to review each individual use of force on its own. During an incident, one officer's application of force may be appropriate while another officer's may be inappropriate.

Table 1 below lists the types of force applied by officers in CY2022 compared to the preceding three years.

Table 1 – Use of Force Classification

Level of Force Deployed, by Officer	CY2019	CY2020	CY2021	CY2022
Firearm	2	3	0	0
Impact Weapon (Baton, Sage Gun, LLM)	0	0	0	0
Canine	3	2	0	7
OC Spray	3	2	1	4
CEW (Taser)	12	9	8	9
Weaponless Force/Injury/Complaint	25	40	13	30
Incidents Where Force Occurred	28	28	16	28
Total Instances of All Force Types	45	50	22	50
Total Officers Using Force	42	56	22	42

* In CY2019, CY2020, CY2021, and CY2022, all levels of force deployed were counted regardless of effectiveness, therefore resulting in what appears to be more force deployed than incidents recorded.

As stated earlier, it is not uncommon for multiple types of force being deployed during a single incident. As a result, during the 28 incidents during which force was applied or incidents where a subject complained of injury, officers utilized varying levels of force 50 times as depicted in the chart above. The largest category of force type deployed during CY2022 was Weaponless Force. This category includes strikes, control holds, and takedowns that resulted in injury or a complaint of injury. The 30 applications of weaponless tactics and control holds accounted for 60% of all applications of force deployed in CY2022. This is attributed to the fact that in most encounters, the officer(s) first attempts weaponless techniques before resorting to higher levels of force.

In CY2022, there were no of uses of any impact weapons. In CY2022, there were four incidents when Conducted Electrical Weapons (CEW) were utilized resulting in nine (9) deployments, a decrease of one (1) deployment over CY2021. In CY2022, the Department had 191 CEWs in operation. OC Spray deployments increased by three in CY2022 to four deployments.

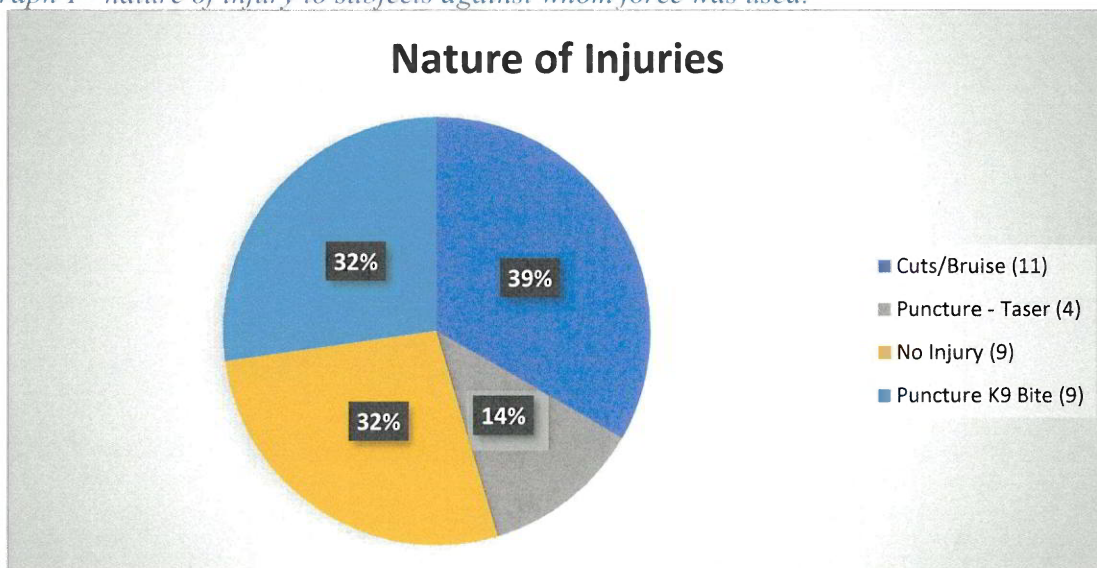
There were seven (7) K9 deployments in CY2022, a significant increase from CY2021. All seven of the K9 deployments were due to high risk, high threat level incidents and/or subjects. Four of the seven K9 deployments were in conjunction with the Special Operations Unit and the Special Investigations Unit, two other deployments were in response to possibly armed individuals, and one deployment was in response to a burglary call where the suspect was in the victim's residence.

While there were 28 incidents where force was applied or when there was a complaint of an injury in CY2022, there were two incidents where both officers involved deployed their CEW (taser). In another incident, two (2) different force types were applied, one K9 deployment and a CEW deployment.

The 28 use of force investigations initiated in CY2022 involved 42 different officers. Of those 42 officers, six (6) officers used some type of reportable force more than once in CY2022. Two canine handlers accounted for the seven K9 deployments. All but four of the officers involved were members of the Field Operations Bureau. Three were members of the Investigations Bureau and one was assigned to the Administrative Services Bureau.

As depicted on the graph below, 32% of these encounters resulted in no visible injury to the subject against whom force was used. The use of Conducted Electrical Weapons (CEW) results in small punctures at the site where the probes contact the subjects.

Graph 1 - nature of injury to subjects against whom force was used.



Of the 28 incidents and 42 officers involved, two officers sustained cuts and bruises, another sustained a puncture injury from a bite, and another sustained a knee injury.

The following table provides the types of encounters that officers were engaged in which led to their application of force:

Table 2 – Types of Encounters

Type of Encounter	Encounter Resulting in Force	% of Force Used
Calls for service	24	85.7%
Open warrants	3	10.7%
Terry stops ¹	1	3.6%
Total	28	100%

¹Terry stops - <https://definitions.uslegal.com/t/terry-stop/>

All of the 28 incidents resulted in criminal arrests or Temporary Detention Orders (TDO) for mental health evaluation. In CY2022, APD personnel were dispatched to 54,202 calls that resulted in 4,100 criminal arrests (TDOs not included). Of the 4,100 arrests made in CY2022, only 28 involved the application of a reportable level of force. This means that in CY2022, force was deployed only 0.68% of the time when an arrest was made. In each situation, the force used by

officers was deemed to be proper, and the need for custody or capture of the subject(s) was legally justified.

Below is a statistical breakdown of the race and gender of our sworn staff in CY2022.

Table 3 – All Department Sworn Staff Demographics

RACE/GENDER	Count	% Sworn	Using Force	% Using Force
White Male/Non-Hispanic	150	48.5%	20	64.5%
White Female/Non-Hispanic	39	12.7%	1	3.2%
Black Male/Non-Hispanic	41	13.6%	2	6.5%
Black Female/Non-Hispanic	11	3.6%	1	3.2%
Asian Male/Non-Hispanic	15	4.9%	2	6.5%
Asian Female/Non-Hispanic	2	0.6%	0	0%
White Male/Hispanic	28	9.1%	4	12.9%
White Female/Hispanic	12	3.9%	0	0%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	0.3%	1	3.2%
Other	8	2.6%	0	0%
Total	308	100%	31	100%

Below is a statistical breakdown of the race and gender of those against whom force was used in CY2022:

Table 4 – Race & Gender of Subjects Involved

RACE/GENDER	Count	% Use of Force Against
Black Male/Non-Hispanic	14	50.0%
White Male/Non-Hispanic	7	25.0%
White Male/Hispanic	6	21.4%
Black Female/Non-Hispanic	1	3.6%
American Indian Male	0	0.0%
Asian Male	0	0.0%
Undisclosed/Male	0	0.0%
Total	28	100%

Below is a statistical breakdown of the ages of those against whom force was used in CY2022:

Table 5 – Ages of Subjects Involved

AGE	Count	% Use of Force Against
Under 20	4	14.3%
20-29	9	32.14%
30-39	11	39.3%
40-49	2	7.14
50 and up	2	7.14
Total	28	100%

Table 6 below provides a breakdown during which these force encounters occurred. In CY2022, most (46.4%) of the force encounters occurred between noon and 1800 hours. Conversely, only four (14.4%) occurred between midnight and 0600 hours.

Table 6 – Use of Force Breakdown by Time of Day

Time of Encounter	Force Applications	% Force Applications
0001-0600	4	14.4%
0601-1200	5	17.8%
1201-1800	13	46.4%
1801-2400	6	21.4%
Total	28	100%

In CY2022, OPR began capturing data related to the use of spit sock, hobble, humane (soft) restraints, and violent prisoner restraints. The table below indicates data of the use of these less than lethal tools:

Table 7 – Type of Restraint Used

Less Lethal Restraint Used	Count
Hobble	28
Violent Prisoner Restraint (VPR)	16
Spit Sock	12
Humane (soft) Restraints	18
Total	74

A review of the information available for CY2022 does not reveal any specific needs or trends in our use of force situations. All 28 incidents where force was used by APD officers, were investigated and reviewed by multiple people through the involved officer’s chain of command to include the Chief of Police. In each instance, the force utilized by APD officers was deemed to be within policy guidelines.

Should you have any questions regarding the content of this memorandum, please contact me at 703-746-6835.