

HENDERSON POLICE DEPARTMENT M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 31, 2016

TO: Sgt. A. Branchini

FROM: Use of Force Training & Analysis Unit

SUBJECT: (C.A.L.E.A. 1.3.13) Use of Force Analysis year end 2015
(C.A.L.E.A. 35.1.9(c)) Personnel Early Warning System

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to review and analyze the force used by the members of the Henderson Police Department for year ending December 31, 2015.

Method

The following information and statistics are derived from the information recorded and tracked through the IA Pro Accountability software and reporting system with information entered through Blue Team reporting platform. The numbers reflected in this report include all units on the Police Department and the Corrections Division and reflect the number of actual use of force applications by members of the Henderson Police Department.

2015 Analysis of Arrests and Calls for Service (CFS)

Use of Force Cases per Individual Application of Force		
Police	230	80%
Corrections	56	20%
Total	286	100%

Arrests	Use of Force Cases	% of Use of Force Cases
9,716	286	2.9%

Arrests	Calls for Service	% of Arrests from CFS
9,716	174,848	5.6%

Calls for Service

Citizen Initiated	
Call Source	Total
911*	36,016
Phone	58,269
Total	94,285
Officer Initiated**	
Call Source	Total
Field Initiated	80,563
Total	80,563
GRAND TOTAL	174,848

*Excludes 911 Disconnects

**Excludes MDT initiated CFS

The number of use of force cases compared to the Henderson Police Departments documented number of arrests show that the percentage of use of force is less than 3%. Only 2.9% of arrests involved an actual use of force. This number includes the Corrections Bureau and its documented use of force incidents in addition to all Patrol Divisions. 286 total uses of force, 54 from the Corrections Division (Jail) and 232 generated from all divisions of the PD.

Use of Force Types

Type of Force	2015	2014	Change	% Change
37mm	2	2	0	0%
Baton	2	1	1	100%
Canine	3	3	0	0%
Firearm	2	6	-4	-67%
Handcuffs/Flexcuffs	1	39	-38	-97%
Hands/Fists/Feet	253	284	-31	-11%
Hobble	8	3	5	167%
Pepper Spray	2	8	-6	-75%
Pepperball Gun	0	2	-2	-100%
Restraint Chair	11	26	-15	-58%
Spit Mask	8	13	-5	-38%
Stop Stick	0	1	-1	-100%
Taser	31	31	0	0%
Total	323	419	-96	-23%

*Handcuff reporting protocol changed between 2014/2015

Restraint Chair

The decrease in the use of the restraint chair in this report reflects a change in the reporting process for Blue Team. The use of the restraint chair where a subject is not combative is not tracked statistically through the Blue Team Reporting platform but rather documented in narrative form. This shows a significant decrease in the use of the restraint chair in this report.

Taser

Taser use has remained consistent at a total of 31 uses department wide for the 2015. There is a 57% increase in the ineffective use of the Taser from 2014 to 2015 (11 to 7 uses), which results in the use of Hands/Fists/Feet in most use of force applications where the Taser fails. Another substantial increase is in “Reason for Use of Force” where there was an increase of 14.1% in subjects resisting arrest from 2014 to 2015.

Hobble

During 2014/2015 all officers received refresher training on the proper application and use of hobbles. Many of our newer officers had never received this training prior. Often times the increased use of a tool or technique is observed after training is delivered due to the officers being more comfortable using that tool or technique or remembering they have it available. This factor may partially account for the increased use of Hobbles from 2014 to 2015.

Reason for Use of Force:

Use of Force Reason	2015	2014	Change	% Change
Combative Subject	108	125	17	-14%
Fleeing Subject	28	15	-13	87%
Non-Compliant	72	132	60	-45%
Resisting Arrest	81	71	-10	14%
Legal 2000	5	9	4	-44%
Total	294	352	58	-16%

Note: Reason of force counts will not match the total number of use of force cases. Multiple reasons for use of force may exist under each use of force case.

Personnel Early Warning System (EWS)

The Henderson Police Department utilizes *BlueTeam* accountability software to statistically track Use-of-Force as an integral component of the Department's Use-of-Force, Management and Oversight program. The Activity Review System (ARS) is employed as a part of the Department's EWS. The ARS is used to track trends occurring in Use-of-Force in individual members of the police and corrections divisions. All Use-of-Force incidents reported through the *BlueTeam* reporting platform are reviewed by the Use-of-Force Training and Analysis Unit. Any trends identified through the ARS are addressed through the individual member's chain of command.

The Activity Review System (ARS) and the procedure for the application of the ARS is described in Department Policy DP301, Activity Review System; to include policy objective, activation parameters and reporting procedures.

Statistical analysis for 2015 showed eleven (11) ARS activations for individual members department wide with no associated trends for individual use-of- force identified. Periodic review of DP301, reference activation thresholds and reporting procedures

shows that the current thresholds are effective, based on the analysis of Use-of-Force, and do not need to be adjusted at the time of this report.

Summary

Total use of force cases department wide decreased 18.5% from 351 in 2014 to 286 in 2015. Total arrests for 2015 were 9,716, an increase of 2.8% compared to 9,455 arrests in 2014.

This report shows officers are trained well and use force in accordance with policy as per the range of responses reflected in policy. After training in the reporting parameters of the Blue Team Platform, officers are more articulate in identifying the need to use force and the need to properly report the use of force that rises to the level of statistical analysis.

Recommendations

The Use of Force Training and Analysis Unit has implemented a squad level Critical Incident Review template that allows officers to critique, report, and present a full review of the incident to fellow officers and chain of command when force may have been used. This allows officers to view their own work from an alternative perspective and review and analyze potential lessons learned.

The Henderson Police Department and the Use of Force Training and Analysis Unit's primary objective is to identify lessons learned in use of force incidents that create thoughtful and safer officers.