2021 USE OF FORCE REPORT

TEMPLE POLICE DEPARTMENT



OFFICER

PROTECTING, SERVING, AND WORKING, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR COMMUNITY, TO PREVENT, REDUCE, AND SOLVE CRIME WITH INTEGRITY, HONOR, AND DEDICATION.

Signature Approval Page

This **Use of Force Report** was prepared by the **Professional Standards Unit**. This report was reviewed by the Administration Bureau Deputy Chief and is recommended for approval.

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Signature: Mil Intal	3-30-22
Unit: Professional Standards Unit	
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Chief of Police	

Policy

The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. Officers are involved daily in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use force in carrying out their duties.

Officers must have an understanding of, and true appreciation for, their authority and limitations. This is especially true with respect to overcoming resistance while engaged in the performance of law enforcement duties.

The Temple Police Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting officers with the authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation, and careful balancing of all interests.

A police officer's duty is to protect the life and property of citizens and to preserve the peace. Officers may use reasonable force to effect an arrest, search, prevent escape, or overcome resistance.

Force is defined as: - The application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents, or weapons to another person. It is not a use of force when a person allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed, or restrained.

Training

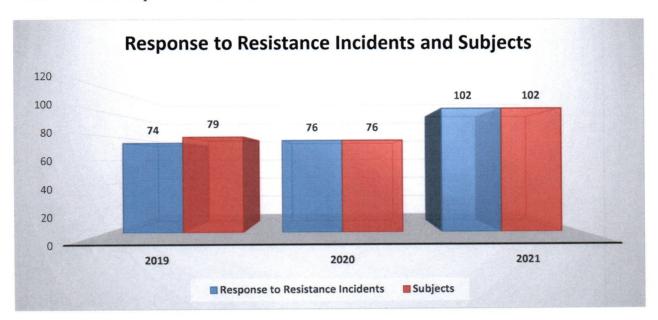
Temple Police Department policy requires officers to receive annual training on this policy and demonstrate their knowledge and understand.

Use of Force Report

This document summarizes the essential data points relating to use of force reporting.

Number of Use of Force Incidents and Subjects

In 2021, there were **102** Use of Force incidents that involved **102** subjects who received various levels of force to stop their resistance.



To provide context, the department tracks the total number of official police contacts with the public (96,998 in 2021), and the total number of arrests (2,560 in 2021). For this reporting period, less than 1% of police contacts with the public resulted in use of force incidents, and 3.98% of the total arrests involved resistance by the suspect and force applied by the officer.

	2019	2020	2021
Number of Use of Force incidents	74	76	102
Number of subjects where force was used	79	76	102
Total number of contacts	108,465	97,931	96,998
Total number of arrests	3,631	2,370	2,560
% of subjects receiving force compared to the total # of contacts	.072%	.078%	.105%
% of subjects receiving force compared to the total # of arrests	2.17%	3.21%	3.98%

The above data shows that 99% of officer/citizen contacts and 96% of arrests do not result in Use of Force incidents.

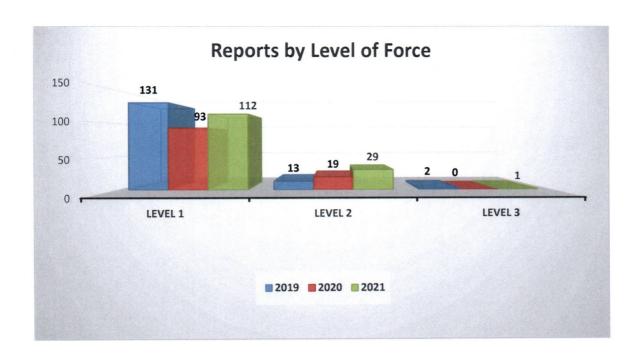
Reports by Level of Control (force) Used

The department identifies four levels of control for reporting purposes that an officer can use to stop resisting subjects. Levels of control are listed from the lowest amount of force (Level 1) to the highest amount of force (Level 4). Each level describes the actions that can be taken by the officer when responding to resistive behavior. When responding to a single use of force incident, and depending on the level of resistance, an officer may have to use more than one type of force to gain control over the subject. In these instances, each technique applied is counted separately. This tracking procedure produces a higher number of force applications when compared to the number of reports.

The levels of force identified below are used for reporting, investigating, and reviewing purposes:

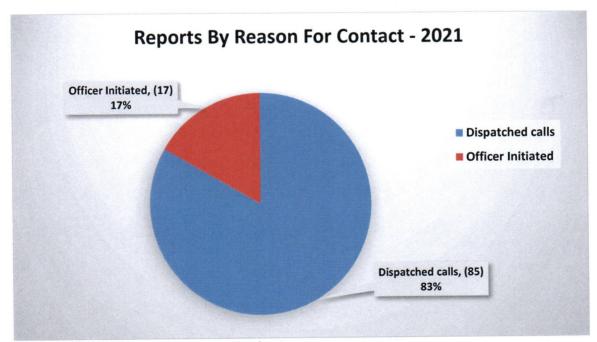
Level 1	 Soft Empty hand control (escorts, wrist locks, arm bar, non-striking pressure
	points)
	 Hand/leg strikes to motor points (excluding the head)
	 Takedowns / Grappling
	 Use of chemical agents
Level 2	 Strikes to the head using empty hand techniques
	 Impact weapon strikes to the motor points in the legs
	 Taser deployments (that strike the subject)
	 Less lethal munition deployments (that strike the subject)
	 K-9 apprehensions (where there is a bite by the K-9)
Level 3	 Force resulting in serious bodily injury
	 Use of impact weapon to the head, neck, throat, groin
Level 4	 Force resulting in death or substantial risk of death
	 Intentional discharge of a weapon (at a subject, building or object)
	 Unintentional discharge of a weapon (at a subject, building or object)

Use of Force applications in 2021 were concentrated in the Level 1 classification, which is the lowest level. Of the 142 use of force applications, officers used Level (1) control methods 79% of the time, Level (2) 20%, Level (3) 0% of the time, and Level (4), the highest level 1% of the time. A force application consists of each individual use of force technique applied by the officer to counter a specific level of resistance. The number 142 is the total combined number of primary officers and secondary officers that used force while dealing with a subject.



Use of Force Reports by Reason for Contact

In 2021, **85** of the **102** (incidents), Use of Force reports resulted from dispatched calls for service. Officer initiated contacts are made based on the officer observing and responding to suspected criminal activity or a crime in progress. Officer initiated contacts accounted for **17** (UOF) reports.



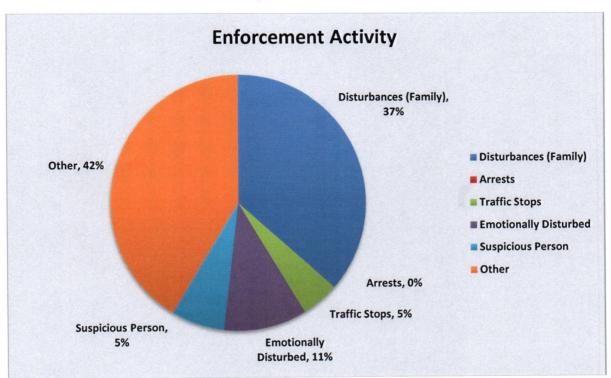
(2021: Based on 102 Response to Resistance Incidents)

Reports by Reason for Contact	2019	% of 2019 Reports	2020	% of 2020 Reports	2021	% of 2021 Reports
Dispatched Calls	49	66%	61	80%	85	83%
Viewed Offense	25	34%	15	20%	17	17%
Total	74	100%	76	100%	102	100%

Use of Force by Activity

The chart and graph below show the types of situations the officer was handling when the resistance occurred. In this reporting period, thirty-seven percent (37%) of Use of Force reports were generated while responding to family disturbance calls.

The "other" category includes activities not listed in one of the below categories such as; *civil disturbances, crimes in progress, prisoner transport, accidents and warrant service.*



(2021 Is Based on 102 Response to Resistance Incidents)

Reports by Officer Activity	2019	% of 2019 Reports	2020	% of 2020 Reports	2021	% of 2021 Reports
Disturbances (family)	25	40%	27	36%	38	37%
Arrest	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%
Traffic stop	9	15%	7	9%	5	5%
Emotionally Disturbed	6	10%	7	9%	11	11%
Suspicious Person	7	6%	7	9%	5	5%
Other	26	27%	28	37%	43	42%
Total	74	100%	76	100%	102	100%

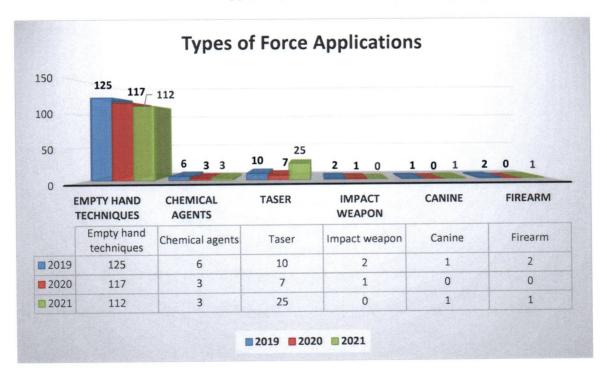
Reports by Type of Force Used

During a single response-to-resistance incident, more than one officer may be involved. As a result, more than one Use of Force report may be generated for each incident, and each report may include more than one type of force used.

Below are the types of force used in order from the lowest level to the highest level.

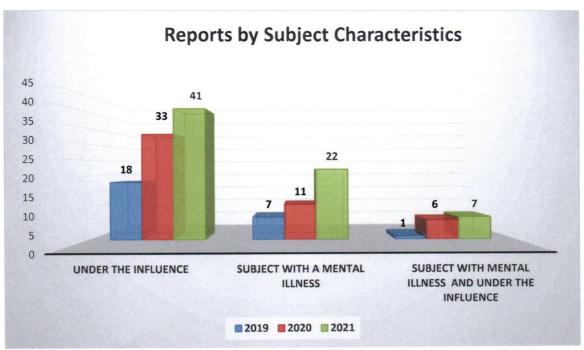
- None: no force was used during the incident.
- Empty hand techniques: includes soft employ hand controls (joint locks, escorts, pressures points) and hard employ hand control (hand and leg strike).
- Chemical agents: OC (pepper spray), CS (Chlorobenzaimalononitrile).
- Taser: a less-lethal device that uses electronic muscular disruption technology that may cause temporary loss of voluntary muscle control.
- Impact weapon: weapon or object that is used to strike the subject such as a straight baton, or less-lethal munitions (bean bag/foam rounds) deployed from a weapon (shotgun/40 MM launcher).
- Canine (K-9): the use of a police dog in an arrest situation and a dog bite occurs.
- Firearm: the intentional or unintentional discharge of a firearm in the direction of an individual.

The below chart shows the number of occasions when force was used in each category. In 2021, the most frequent type of force used was "empty hand techniques." These techniques are the lowest level of force that an officer can apply to gain control over a resisting subject.



Reports by Subject Characteristics

In 2021, 40% of Use of Force reports involved subjects who were under the influence of alcohol and/or narcotics. In 2021, 15% of Use of Force reports involved a person suspected of having a mental illness. In 2021, 5% of Use of Force reports indicated that the subject was under the influence of alcohol and/or narcotics and suffered from mental illness. In 2021, 48% of the UOF reports did not fall into these categories.



(2021 Is Based on 102 Use of Force Reports)

Use of Force by Individual Race/Ethnicity

Response to resistance incidents occur when an officer attempts to make an arrest. In 2021, there were 102 subjects involved in response to resistance incidents. This number equates to 4% of the 2,560 subjects arrested. The data shows that 96% of arrests did not involve resistance or force. The table below shows the distribution of force based on race/ethnicity.

	White				Black			Hispanic		
	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	
2019	1,385	18	1.29%	1,377	43	3.12%	849	17	2.00%	
2020	920	24	2.61%	912	31	3.40%	528	21	3.98%	
2021	996	38	3.82%	972	42	4.32%	580	22	3.79%	

		**Other				
	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests
2019	20	0	0%	3,631	78	2.14%
2020	10	0	0%	2,370	76	3.21%
2021	12	0	0%	2,560	102	3.98%

^{**} Other includes: Native American, Asian, and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

Reports by Subject Actions

In 2021, defensive resistance was the most frequent form of resistance that officers encountered. On some occasion's subjects exhibited more than one type of resistance. In those instances, only the most severe level is identified on the below chart and table. Levels of resistances are defined and listed from lowest to highest. Reportable levels of resistance begin with passive resistance.

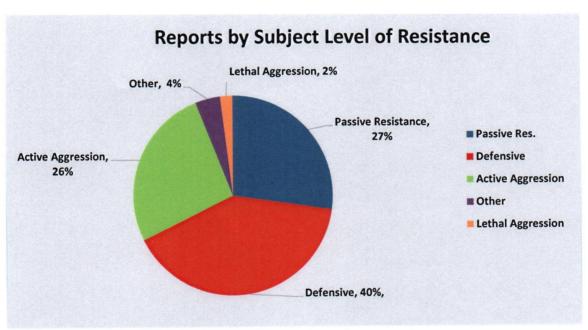
Passive Resistance- Any type of resistance during which the subject does not attempt to defeat the officer's attempt to touch or control him/her, but he/she still will not voluntarily comply with verbal and physical attempts of control.

Defensive Resistance - Any action by a subject that is an attempt to prevent an officer from gaining control of the subject (e.g., pulling/pushing away to defeat the escort position, running away). It is not an attack on the officer, but a physical act designed to prevent the officer from gaining control.

Active Aggression - A level of resistance that includes physical actions/assaults against the officer, or another person, with less than deadly force (e.g., advancing, challenging, punching, kicking, grabbing, wrestling. etc.).

Deadly force - Force reasonably anticipated and intended to create a substantial likelihood of causing death or very serious injury.

Other – Offenses that do not meet the above criteria such as vehicle pursuit or a mental subject holding a weapon on themselves.



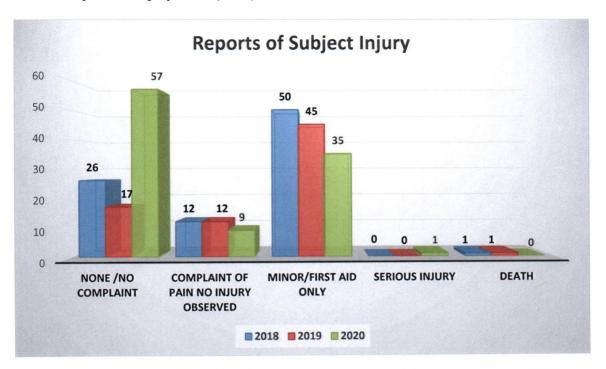
(2021 Is Based on 102 Acts of Resistance)

Reports by Subject Resistance	2019	% of 2019 Reports	2020	% of 2020 Reports	2021	% of 2021 Reports
Passive Resistance	14	30%	21	28%	28	27%
Defensive Resistance	41	36%	36	47%	41	40%
Active Aggression	19	33%	14	18%	27	26%
Lethal Aggression	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%
Other	0	0%	5	7%	4	4%
Total	74	100%	76	100%	102	*99%

^{*}NOTE: Does not equal 100% due to rounding percentages in 2021 data.

Report by Subject Injury

In 2021, the most frequent category of subject injury was no complaint of injury at 57 (56%), followed by minor injury at 35 (34%).



Reports by Subject Injury	2019	% of 2019 Reports	2020	% of 2020 Reports	2021	% of 2021 Reports
None/ No Complaint	17	23%	39	51%	'57	56%
Comp of pain no injury	12	16%	0	0%	9	9%
Minor injury/first aid	45	60%	36	47%	35	34%
Serious Injury	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%
Death	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	75	100%	76	*99%	102	100%

*NOTE: Does not equal 100% due to rounding percentages in 2020 data.

- None/ No Complaint- Subject makes no verbal complaint of pain and or injury.
- Complaint of pain observed no injury- Subject complains of pain but there are no signs of a visible injury.
- Minor injury/first aid only- Subject sustained a minor injury during the event that requires no medical treatment or receives first aid on the scene (scratches, bruising, small lacerations, normal effects of chemical agent, Taser probes). The subject may or may be transported to a hospital.
- Serious injury-Subject sustained an injury that is not considered minor and requires hospital treatment. (broken bones, large altercations, an injury that requires surgery).
- Death- Subject died as a result of the force applied.

Report by Officer Injury

In 2021, the most frequent category of officer injury was no complaint of pain at 109 (77%) followed by minor injury at 23 (16%).



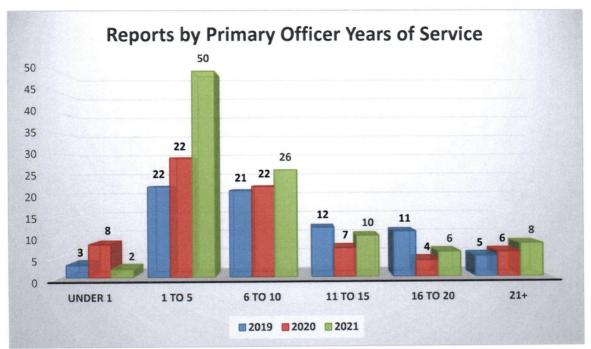
(2021 Is Based on 150 Officer Involvements)

Reports by Officer Injury	2019	% of Officer Involvements	2020	% of Officer Involvements	2021	% of Officer Involvements
None/ No Complaint	89	88%	105	94%	109	81%
Comp of pain no injury	4	4%	0	0%	9	6%
Minor injury/first aid	12	7%	7	6%	23	12%
Serious Injury	0	1%	0	0%	1	1%
Death	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	105	100%	112	100%	142	100%

- None/ No Complaint- Subject makes no verbal complaint of pain and or injury
- Complaint of pain no injury observed Subject complains of pain but there are no signs of a visible injury.
- Minor injury/first aid only- Subject sustained a minor injury during the event that requires no medical treatment, or receives first aid on scene (scratches, bruising, small lacerations, normal effects of chemical agent, Taser probes). Officer may or may not be transported to a hospital.
- Serious injury-Subject sustained an injury that is not considered minor and requires hospital treatment. (broken bones, large altercations, injury that requires surgery).
- Death- Subject died as a result of the force applied.

Reports by Officer Years of Experience

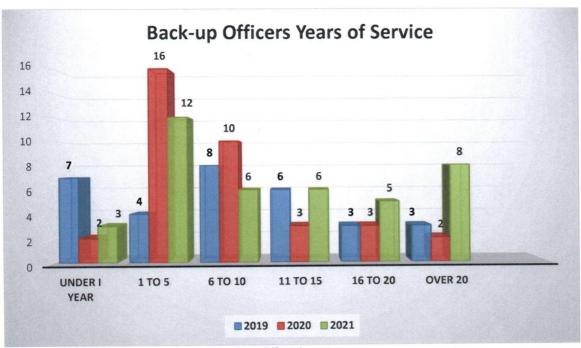
In 2021, there were **142** officers involved in response to resistance incidents, **102** were primary officers and **40** served as back-up. Officers with one to five years of service turned in the most Use of Force Reports with **50 (49%)** Use of Force Reports. Officers with six to ten years of service had **26 (25%)** Use of Force Reports. Officers with less than ten years of service accounted for **78 (76%)** of the total number of reports submitted. The graph and chart below show the years of service of the primary officers (initial officer on scene) involved in the use of force incident.



(2021 Based on 102 Incident)

Primary Officers Years of Service	2019 Reports	% of 2019 Reports	2020 Reports	% of 2020 Reports	2021 Reports	% of 2021 Reports
Under 1 years	3	3%	8	11%	2	2%
1 to 5 years	22	47%	29	38%	50	49%
6 to 10 years	21	16%	22	29%	26	25%
11 to 15 years	12	9%	7	9%	10	10%
16 to 20 years	11	12%	4	5%	6	6%
Over 20 years	5	13%	6	8%	8	8%
Total	74	100%	76	100%	102	100%

The chart on page 13 and graph shows the years of service of the back-up officers assisting with controlling a resisting subject. In this chart, officers with one to five years of service make up the largest group with 12 (30%).



(2021 Based on 102 Incidents, Involving 46 Back-up Officers)

Reports by Back-up Officer Years of Service	2019 Reports	2020 Reports	2021 Reports
Under 1 years	7	2	3
1 to 5 years	4	15	12
6 to 10 years	8	10	6
11 to 15 years	6	3	6
16 to 20 years	3	2	5
Over 20 years	3	3	8
Total	31	35	40

To provide perspective, the majority of use of force reports are submitted by patrol officers. The department's patrol officer population is primarily comprised of officers with less than 10 years of experience. The patrol officer's primary responsibility is to respond to calls for service which makes up 83% of the Use of Force Report reports.