



## COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

TO: CHIEF OF POLICE GEOFF JONES *[Signature]*  
FROM: SGT. SCOTT ALPERS, INTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REF: 2019 ANNUAL ANALYSIS OF USE OF FORCE  
DATE: June 30, 2020

*[Signature]*  
3/15/2020  
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The following report was completed for compliance with CALEA standards (4.2.4) regarding analysis of 2019 Columbia Police Department uses of force. The CALEA standard for analysis of use of force is as follows:

Annually, the agency conducts an analysis of its use of force activities, policies, and practices. The analysis should identify:

- a. Date and time of incident;
- b. Types of encounters resulting in use of force;
- c. Trends or patterns related to race, age, and gender of subjects involved;
- d. Trends or patterns resulting in injury to any person including employees; and
- e. Impact of findings on policies, practices, equipment, and training.

This report collected substantial amounts of data for analysis. Nearly all information required in CALEA standards is being collected in data entry points via Blue Team, with the exception of "types of encounters resulting in use of force" which is usually described in the officer narrative portion of the entry.

### Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to review and analyze incidents involving response to resistance or use of force, hereafter referred to as use of force, by all officers of the Columbia Police Department which occurred in 2019. The analysis will include identification of any patterns, trends, or concerns, if any, which could be indicative of training shortfalls, equipment needs, or policy revision and modification needs.

### Methodology:

This analysis was conducted by reviewing all Columbia Police Department use of force reports entered via Blue Team software as well as any internal or external allegations/complaints of excessive or unreasonable force<sup>1</sup>. Policy 300 Use of Force/Response to Resistance was also reviewed. Due to this department's self-assessment process, Policy 300.16 was revised to include the requirement of an annual

<sup>1</sup> The review analyzed completed entries. A handful of the uses of force entries are pending final chain of command approval. It does not appear they will impact the findings of this report.

analysis of use of force in compliance with CALEA standard 4.2.4. In addition to the inclusion of CALEA standards, Policy 300 underwent other revisions related to reporting requirements as well as updates to wording and language more consistent with United States Supreme Court case law and widely accepted reasonableness standards.

Policy 300.13 outlines the reporting requirements when a use of force or response to resistance occurs. Reporting is required in the following circumstances:

1. Joint Manipulation;
2. Kinetic Energy Impact Device;
3. Armored Personnel Carrier Deployment;
4. Strikes;
5. Canine Display;
6. Canine Bite;
7. Pepper Spray;
8. Handcuffing (in which the person is not subsequently arrested; removed in 2019 revision);
9. Taser Laser/Arc Display;
10. Taser Deployment/Drive Stun;
11. Balance Displacement;
12. Pressure Point Technique;
13. Drawing/Exhibiting Firearm;
14. Firearm Discharge (outside of training or recreational purpose; humane killing of animal removed in 2019 revision and excluded in this report);
15. Other Physical Force.

Several levels of review are in place to ensure proper oversight and evaluation of use of force by officers. Policy 300.13.1 dictates the first level of reporting with required notification to a supervisor if:

- a. The application [of force] caused a visible injury;
- b. A reasonable officer would conclude that the individual may have experienced more than a momentary discomfort;
- c. Subject complained of injury;
- d. The subject indicates intent to pursue litigation;
- e. Application of CEW device or control device;
- f. Application of restraint device other than handcuffs, shackles, or belly chains;
- g. Subject was rendered unconscious;
- h. Strikes or kicks were used;
- i. Subject alleges any of the above.

In the above mentioned instances, supervisors are typically contacted reasonably soon after the applied force and conduct a preliminary use of force investigation. The preliminary investigation can be conducted at the scene, hospital, police department, or jail. The preliminary investigation gathers basic information about the incident, injuries, and circumstances surrounding the use of force from both the officer(s) involved and the subject(s) of the force. Officers report uses of force via Blue Team software. The incident is forwarded through the officer's chain of command for determinations of propriety. If the force applied is deemed reasonable and within policy, no further action is taken. If a member of the chain of command determines the force to be unreasonable, outside of policy, or warrants further review for any reason, the

incident is forwarded to the Internal Affairs Unit for investigation. Citizen allegations of unreasonable or excessive force are forwarded directly to the Internal Affairs Unit.

#### Summary:

In 2019, members of the Columbia Police Department generated 300 Use of Force Reports (Blue Team entries). The 300 reports included incidents with: multiple officers, multiple citizens, and multiple applications of force. The 300 incidents where force was used involved 115 different officers. The department made 6167 arrests in 2019.

#### OFFICER DEMOGRAPHICS:

- The Columbia Police Department had 168 officers.<sup>2</sup>
- The average age of all officers at the Columbia Police Department is 36.3 years old.<sup>2</sup>
- Race and Sex
  - Race
    - 2 officers (1.19%) are Asian
    - 11 officers (6.55%) are Black.
    - 155 officers (92.26%) are White.
  - Sex
    - 21 Female (12.50%)
      - 1 Black (4.76%)
      - 20 White (95.24%)
    - 147 Male (87.50%)
      - 2 Asian (1.36%)
      - 10 Black (6.80%)
      - 135 White (91.84%)
- Years of total service varies from 30.9 years to no experience. The average experience of all officers at the Columbia Police Department is 10.4 years. The following is a breakdown of years of service for officers at the Columbia Police Department;
  - 29 officers (17.26%) had 20 years of more of total experience.
  - 22 officers (13.10%) had 15-20 years of total experience.
  - 25 officers (14.88%) had 10-15 years of total experience.
  - 35 officers (20.83%) had 5-10 years of total experience.
  - 57 officers (33.93%) had 5 years or less of total experience.
    - Of the 57 officers who fell into the category of having 5 years or less of total experience, 43 of them had 3 years or less of total experience.
- The age breakdown of officers who used force in 2019 is as follows: Officers between the ages of 21-29, used force 217 times. Officers between the ages of 30-39, used force 223 times. Officers between the ages of 40-49, used force 49 times. Officers older than 50, used force 14 times.
- Of the officers who used force in 2019, eighty-six (86) were involved in 1-5 incidents, nineteen (19) were involved in 6-10, six (6) were involved 11-15 incidents, two (2) in 16-20 incidents, and two (2) officers used force more than 20 times.

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<sup>2</sup>Averages based on all sworn personnel with active status on December 31, 2019.

#### CITIZEN DEMOGRAPHICS:

- In 2019, officers arrested 6167 individuals and were dispatched to 87,785 calls and self-initiated 41,096 calls. Officers used force during 300 incidents, involving 360 citizens. Force was used during 5.84% of arrest situations. Force was used 0.2843% of the time during calls for service and self-initiated calls.
- In 2019, 360 citizens had force used against them.
- The average age of a citizen involved in a use of force was 32.3 years old.
- The youngest involved citizen was 10.6 years old and the oldest was 80.2 years old.
- Of the 300 use of force reports, 287 citizens were male, 72 citizens were female and 1 was unknown.
- The race of the citizens that had force used against them are as follows;
  - Asian – 2 or 0.56%
  - Black – 183 or 50.83%
  - Hispanic – 3 or 0.83%
  - Unknown – 5 or 1.39%
  - White – 167 or 46.39%

#### INJURIES:

- Injuries are categorized into three categories, Complaint of injury, no injuries noted or visible or observable injury. The following is the breakdown of injuries during 2019;
  - Non Injuries Noted or Visible – Three hundred fifteen (314) or 87.22%
  - Complaint of injury – five (5) or 1.39%
    - Sex
      - Male – Three (3) or 60.00%
      - Female – Two (2) or 40.00%
    - Race
      - Black – Four (4) or 80.00%
      - White – One (1) or 20.00%
  - Observable Injury – Forty-one (41) or 11.39%
    - Sex
      - Male – Thirty-five (35) or 85.37%
      - Female – Six (6) or 14.63%
    - Race
      - Black – Nineteen (19) or 46.34%
      - Hispanic – Two (2) or 4.88%
      - White – Twenty (20) or 48.78%

#### LOCATION:

- Location of occurrence was broken down by beats. The beats are: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 70D, 80, and 99 for outside the city limits. The following list indicates the beat and number of uses of force in order of largest to smallest numbers of force used.
  - 40 Beat – Forty-eight (48) uses of force or 16.00%
  - 80 Beat – Forty-three (43) uses of force or 14.33%
  - 20 Beat – Forty-one (41) uses of force or 13.67%
  - 30 Beat – Forty (40) uses of force or 13.33%
  - 70D Beat – Thirty-five (35) uses of force or 11.67%
  - 10 Beat – Thirty-one (31) uses of force or 10.33%

- 50 Beat – Twenty-two (22) uses of force or 7.33%
- 60 Beat – Nineteen (19) uses of force or 6.33%
- 70 Beat – Fifteen (15) uses of force or 5.00%
- 99 Beat (Outside City Limits) – Six (6) uses of force or 2.00%
- The month count for use of force incidents most frequently occurred on:
  - January – Thirty-six (36) or 12.00%
  - April – Thirty-two (32) or 10.67%
  - March – Twenty-nine (29) or 9.67%
  - June – Twenty-nine (29) or 9.67%
  - May – Twenty-eight (28) or 9.33%
  - August – Twenty-six (26) or 8.67%
  - December – Twenty-three (23) or 7.67%
  - November – Twenty-two (22) or 7.33%
  - July – Twenty-one (21) or 7.00%
  - February – Eighteen (18) or 6.00%
  - September – Eighteen (18) or 6.00%
  - October – Eighteen (18) or 6.00%
- The day of the week count for use of force incidents occurred most frequently on:
  - Wednesday – Fifty-two (52) or 17.33%
  - Tuesday – Fifty-one (51) or 17.00%
  - Monday – Forty-six (46) or 15.33%
  - Sunday – Forty (40) or 13.33%
  - Saturday – Thirty-nine (39) or 13.00%
  - Friday – Thirty-nine (39) or 13.00%
  - Thursday – Thirty-three (33) or 11.00%
- Time of day count for use of force incidents most frequently occurred on:
  - 0000-0559 – Seventy-five (75) or 25.00%
  - 0600-1159 – Twenty-eight (28) or 9.33%
  - 1200-1759 – Seventy-seven (77) or 25.67%
  - 1800-2359 – One-hundred-twenty (120) or 40.00%

#### NATURE OF CALL AND REASON FOR FORCE:

- Nature
  - The use of force is tracked in the IAPro software by “Service being rendered” or the type of call an officer responded to and subsequently used force. The following is the breakdown of types of calls and number of applications of force used in 2019:
    - Accident Investigation – One (1)
    - Active Assailant – one (1)
    - Assault – one (1)
    - Burglary – nine (9)
    - Citizen Contact – six (6)
    - Civil Commitment – nine (9)
    - Disorderly Conduct – nine (9)

- Disturbance – fifty-two (52)
- DWI – five (5)
- Foot Pursuit – five (5)
- Inmate Contact – six (6)
- Medical Call – three (3)
- Off Duty – two (2)
- Robbery – four (4)
- Shoplifting – seven (7)
- Stolen Vehicle – six (6)
- Suicidal Subject – eight (8)
- Suspicious Person – twenty-five (25)
- Theft – one (1)
- Traffic Stop – fifty-eight (58)
- Trespass – twenty (20)
- Vehicle Pursuit – seven (7)
- Warrant Service – twenty eight (28)
- Weapons Offense – twenty seven (27)

**FORCE TYPE:**

- Type of force breakdown:
  - Drawing / Exhibit Firearm – Two hundred four (205)
  - Balance Displacement – One hundred fifty (150)
  - Joint Manipulation – Seventy-three (73)
  - Handcuffing – Fifty-nine (59)
  - Other Physical Force – Forty-eight (48)
  - Taser Laser / Arc Display – Thirty (30)
  - Taser Deploy / Drive Stun – Twenty-four (24)
  - Strikes – Nineteen (19)
  - Pepper Spray – fourteen (14)
  - Pressure Point Technique – Six (6)
  - Chemical Gas – One (1)
  - Canine Display – Two (2)
  - Impact Weapon Other – Two (2)
  - Firearm Discharge at Person – Zero (0)
  - Canine Bite – Zero (0)
  - Kinetic Energy Impact – Zero (0)
  - Armored Personnel Carrier – Zero (0)

## FINDINGS / RECCOMENDATIONS:

In 2019, several changes were made within the Internal Affairs unit in how use of force statistics were tracked and what information was gathered. The Internal Affairs unit stopped tracking handcuffing, humane killing of animals and the deployment of the Armored Personnel Carrier (BearCat) within the IAPro software. Tracking the use of handcuffing and humane killing of animals is now tracked in the department's RMS system. Prior to 2019, handcuffing was tracked as a use of force. However, handcuffing is not a type of force, but a temporary deprivation of a person's freedom and movements.

Another change to the information gathered and tracked for use of force was "Service being rendered" as discussed above. This change will give better insight into what types of calls officers are using force.

Officers of the Columbia Police Department used force 5.84% of the 6167 arrests made. Officers used force 0.2843% of the 126,648 total calls for service and self-initiated calls. Part of the use of force analysis included the number of uses of force based on age, sex, race, injuries, day of the week, month of the year, time of day and police beat.

- Age: The average age of a citizen that had force used against them was 32.3 years old.
- Sex: Of the 360 citizens that force was used against, 287 were male, 72 were female and 1 was unknown.
- Race: Of the 360 citizens that force was used against, Two (2) were Asian, 183 were Black, three (3) were Hispanic, Five (5) were unknown and 167 were White.
  - Asian, Black and Hispanic members of the community had force used against them a total of 188 times. Asian, Black and Hispanic members of the community had forced used against them 11.83% more than White members of the community.
- Injuries: Citizens who had force used against them complained of an injury five (5) times (1.39%), had an observable injury 41 times (11.39%) and had no injuries occur 314 (87.22%) times.
  - Complaint of Injury
    - Three (3) males and two (2) females.
    - Four (4) Black and one (1) white.
  - Observable Injury
    - 35 males and six (6) females.
    - 19 Black, two (2) Hispanic and 20 White.
- Day of Week: Wednesday yielded the highest number of uses of force with 52, or 17.33% of the total number of uses of force. Thursday's had the least number of uses of force with 33, or 11.00% of the total number of uses of force. Wednesday's are "All-squad day." All-squad day is generally staffed with all patrol officers from each squad and shift, with the exception of those officers who were approved off for the day. All-squad days will generally have more officer-citizen interactions.
- Month: January yielded the highest amount of uses of force with 36, or 12.00% of the total number of uses of force. February, September and October had the least amount of uses of force with 18, or 6.00% of the total number of uses of force. While reviewing the number of uses of force broken down by month, there appears to be no reasoning as to why January had the highest amount of uses of force. Spring and early summer months have the highest concentration of uses of force whereas fall and winter months have the lowest concentration of uses of force.
- Time of Day: The highest number of uses of force came during the 1800-2359 hrs (6pm-1159pm) time period with 120 uses of force or 40.00% of the total. The least number of uses of force came

during the 0600-1159 hrs (6am-1159am) time period with 28 uses of force or 9.33% of the total. Analyzing these numbers, it appears as though officers are using force during the peak hours of contacts with citizens and calls for service.

- Police Beat: The highest number of uses of force came from beat 40. Officers used force 48 times or 16.00% of the total. The lowest number of uses of force for a beat was beat 70. Data reviewed included calls for service, self-initiated activity and arrests in each beat. However, the data collected from the RMS software combined two beats, 70 and 70D and produced data that did not have a CPD beat but occurred in Boone County or MUPD jurisdiction.
  - Correlation can be made to the number of self-initiated activity calls compared to the total number of uses of force. 70/70D carried the highest number of self-initiated activity calls, but as mentioned above, the numbers are combined. After 70/70D, the four highest number of self-initiated activity calls per beat are 40, 80, 20 and 30. Which mirrors the top four beats for total number of uses of force.

Overall, officers with the Columbia Police Department use force on a minimal basis. Officers used force a little more than one quarter of a percent during all calls for service. Officers are using good judgement in what type of force is reasonable during rapidly evolving circumstances. During the 126,648 total calls for service and 6167 arrests, Columbia Police Officers did not fire their firearm at a human. Overall, uses of force are down 25.65% from 2018. In analyzing the number of types of force used in 2019, there were nine (9) types of force that decreased, four (4) types of force that increased and two (2) types of force with no change:

- Decreases
  - Joint Manipulation down 36.52% from 2018
    - 2018 - 115 2019 - 73
  - Canine Bite down 100.00% from 2018
    - 2018 - 2 2019 - 0
  - Pepper Spray down 41.67% from 2018
    - 2018 - 24 2019 - 14
  - Taser Laser/Arc Display down 26.83% from 2018
    - 2018 - 41 2019 - 30
  - Balance Displacement down 15.73% from 2018
    - 2018 - 178 2019 - 150
  - Drawing/Exhibiting Firearm down 19.61% from 2018
    - 2018 - 255 2019 - 205
  - Pressure Point Technique down 66.67% from 2018
    - 2018 - 18 2019 - 6
  - Other Physical Force down 51.52% from 2018
    - 2018 - 99 2019 - 48
  - Kinetic Energy Impact down 100.00% from 2018
    - 2018 - 1 2019 - 0
- Increases
  - Strikes up 26.67% from 2018
    - 2018 - 15 2019 - 19
  - Impact Weapon Other up 100.00% from 2018
    - 2018 - 0 2019 - 2



- Chemical Gas up 100.00% from 2018
  - 2018 - 0 2019 - 1
- Taser Deploy/Drive Stun up 9.09% from 2018
  - 2018 - 22 2019 – 24
- No Changes
  - Canine Display
    - 2018 - 2 2019 – 2
  - Firearm Discharge at Person
    - 2018 - 0 2019 – 0

It is my opinion that there are two items that need to be reviewed further; the number of uses of force in certain beats and its correlation to self-initiated activity and the ratio of force used against Asian, Black and Hispanic members of the community compared to white members of the community.

