



Timothy K. Cameron  
SHERIFF

# Office of the Sheriff

St. Mary's County, Maryland

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An Internationally  
Accredited Agency

January 31, 2022

TO: Sheriff Timothy K. Cameron

SUBJECT: Analysis of Officer Use of Force for 2021

The following is an analysis of the use of force reported by deputy sheriffs of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office during the period of January 1 through December 31, 2021. Data for the analysis was derived from the collection of the Use of Force reports completed by law enforcement officers and reviewed by the officer's chain of command. Once the reports are reviewed and approved, they are forwarded to the Office of Professional Responsibilities (OPR) for additional review and entered into the IAPRo database.

Sheriff's Office policy requires, all instances of the use of firearms (with the exception of dispatching an animal), FN-303, TASER discharges, chemical agents, pressure point control tactics, impact weapons, physical force other than routine handcuffing, deputies complete a Use of Force Report via Blue Team. In addition, supervisors are required to complete a supervisory review of all instances of use of force when able to do so.

In 2021, the Sheriff's Office handled 66,825 calls for service and there were 264 calls for service where force was utilized. This includes Show of Force incidents where the officer pointed a firearm or Taser at a person without discharging the device and the person complied with the deputy's commands and was taken into custody. The above data equates to force being utilized once for every 253 calls for service or .04%.

The percentages of the total Use of Force Incidents showing the most common reasons for officers using force are as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
• Effect an Arrest	63%	49%	50%
• Emergency Petition	34%	22%	28%

The percentages of the total Use of Force Incidents showing if the citizen or officer was injured are as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
• Citizens Injured	16%	30%	25%
• Officer Injured	10%	8%	6%

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There was one (1) instance in 2021 of a K-9 deployment (released from their lead) in an attempt to apprehend a suspect however the K-9 did not bite the citizen or an officer. Compared to 2020 when there was also one (1) instance where a K-9 was released from their lead during building searches and zero (0) instances of a K-9 biting a citizen or officer.

The following statistics indicate the percentage of the total uses of force compared to the demographic breakdown of the citizens when force was applied by the officers:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
• White Males	26%	26%	36%
• White Females	17%	12%	13%
• Black Males	36%	41%	34%
• Black Females	18%	11%	13%
• Hispanic Males	2%	7%	1%
• Hispanic Females	<1%	0%	1%
• Other Males	<1%	3%	1%
• Other Females	0%	0%	1%

There were 849 applications of force reported by officers in 2021. The following indicates the number and percentage of each type of force used by officers. Note: Each incident (Call for Service) may include more than one type of force used and more than one officer using force:

<b>Force Type</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent of Total</b>
Arm Bar	30	3.5%
Arm bar take down	24	2.8%
<b>Arm Control</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>28.6%</b>
Asp/Baton	1	<1%
Carry	20	2.4%
Common Peroneal	1	<1%
Elbow Strike	1	<1%
Emergency Response Belt	1	<1%
<b>Escort hold</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
Forearm Strike	1	<1%
Grab – Below Neckline	1	<1%
Hand push	37	4.4%
Hand restrain	35	4.1%
Hand strike	2	<1%
<b>Handgun Pointed Only</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
Head Control	13	1.5%
Kick	1	<1%
Knee Strike	7	<1%
Leg Sweep	10	1.2%
OC Spray	4	<1%
Other	28	3.3%
Palm Heel Strike	1	<1%
Pressure Point	16	1.9%

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Punch	1	<1%
Restraint/Shoulders	19	2.2%
Rifle Pointed Only	6	<1%
Sage	1	<1%
Secured Legs	45	5.3%
Secured wrist	49	5.8%
Take Down	42	4.9%
Taser	22	2.6%
Taser Pointed Only	9	1.1%
Vehicle extraction	5	<1%
<b>Wrist Lock</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>6.5%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>849</b>	

Arm Control, Escort Holds, Handgun Pointed Only and Wrist Locks were the most common types of force used in 2021 and the Taser was deployed twenty-two (22) times. Compared to 2020, the most common types of force used were Arm Control, Handgun Pointed Only, Take Down and Arm Bar. The Taser was deployed twenty (20) times in 2020.

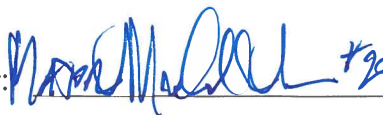


Clayton O. Safford  
Lieutenant  
Office of Professional Responsibilities

Agree

Yes ( ) No, see indorsement.

Major:



Date

2-2-22

Yes ( ) No, see indorsement.

Sheriff:



Date

2-2-22