



ODPA Use of Force Forums Session 1 and 2 Questions and Answers

1. Why is BPD Policy 300 “Use of Force” being reviewed?

[BPD Policy Section 300.13](#) mandates an annual review of the department's use of force policy, including a meeting with the Police Accountability Board to review and update the policy. This requirement aligns with [SB 230 \(Caballero\)](#), signed into law in 2021 by Governor Gavin Newsom. SB 230 added [Government Code Section 7286\(b\)\(2\)](#) which requires agencies to regularly review and update their use of force policies to reflect evolving practices and procedures.

2. What percentage of total calls for service result in a Use of Force report and what percentage of those reports result in a complaint of excessive force?

Between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023, there were 51,120 total calls for service. Of these:

- 11,557 (22.6%) were 9-1-1 calls with the top 4 most common call types being:
 - CFS W911 – Wireless 911 (Approx. 2k instances)
 - CFS 415 – Disturbance (Approx. 1.9k instances)
 - CFS A911 – Ascertain 911 (749 instances)
 - CFS 1042 – Welfare Check (694 instances)
- 13,371 (26.2%) were officer-initiated with the 4 most common call types being:
 - CFS SEC – Security Check (Approx. 4.6k instances)
 - CFS T – Traffic Stop (Approx. 3.8k instances)
 - CFS FLAG – Flag Down (967 instances)
 - CFS PRKVIO – Parking Violation (945 instances)
- 26,192 (51.2%) were non-emergency calls with the 4 most common call types being:
 - CFS 1033A – Audible Alarm (Approx. 3.5k instances)
 - CFS 415 – Disturbance (Approx. 2.7k instances)
 - CFS 1042 – Welfare Check (Approx. 1.6k instances)
 - CFS 415 – Noise Disturbance (Approx. 1.5k instances)

During this period, there were 346 unique incidents involving the use of force, which represents approximately 0.7% of total calls for service (346 out of 51,120). However, because certain types of calls for service may be more likely to result in use of force, using the total number of calls as a denominator can distort the understanding of police interactions. Currently, the available data

sets do not support an analysis of calls for service that lead to use of force incidents, nor do they identify the specific types of calls most closely associated with such occurrences.

Within these 346 incidents, officers filed 1,214 individual use of force reports. The four most common uses of force were the following:

- Level 1 – Grab (357 Uses)
- Level 1 – Control Hold PCT (185 Uses)
- Level 2 – Handgun Pointed (144 Uses)
- Level 1 – Body Weight (109 Uses)

Of the total 1,124 uses of force, 68.12% were level 1, 27.59% were level 2, and only 4.28% were Level 3. Of those reports, the BPD and ODPA received 25 allegations of improper use of force. Therefore, **approximately 2.1%** of individual use of force reports (25 out of 1,214) resulted in a complaint of excessive force.

Data sources:

- [Use of Force | Police Transparency \(arcgis.com\)](#)
- [Calls for Service | Police Transparency \(arcgis.com\)](#)
- [PAB-ODPA 2021-2023-Triennial-Report FINAL.pdf \(berkeleyca.gov\)](#) (Page 75)

3. The PAB received policy complaints regarding use of force. Are those policy complaints being considered as part of this review?

Yes, the ODPA will be reviewing those complaints and including an analysis of them as part of this policy review.