



2023

INTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORT

CITY OF CHARLESTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Professional Standards Division

Office of Internal Affairs

City of Charleston Police Department

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OFFICE OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS



The Charleston Police Department (CPD) Office of Internal Affairs (OIA) is responsible for ensuring the department operates within the boundaries and established guidelines of public trust and confidence. The department is committed to providing the highest standards of integrity and our administrative process plays an integral role in building and maintaining that public trust.

The department's image and reputation greatly depend upon the personal integrity and discipline of all departmental employees. To a large degree, the department's public image is significantly influenced by the prompt and professional response to allegations of misconduct against its employees.

One of the main functions of the Office of Internal Affairs is the investigation, management, and review of both internal and external complaints and allegations of misconduct against department personnel, both civilian and sworn.

The Office of Internal Affairs also manages the reporting of all "Response to Resistance/Aggression" reports, employee-involved vehicle collisions, and all vehicle pursuits. The information and sources of data contained in this report are from CPD General Orders, CPD Records Management System, and IA Pro.

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MISSION/VISION

MISSION:

It is the mission of the Charleston Police Department to serve all people with respect, fairness, and compassion.

Our mission is accomplished through the commitment to:

- The protection of life and property;
- The preservation of peace, order, and safety;
- The enforcement of local, state, and federal laws; and
- The defense of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the Constitution of the United States of America, in a fair and impartial manner.

VISION:

The vision of the Charleston Police Department is to be a world-class law enforcement agency committed to the values of Honor, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, and Teamwork. We demonstrate creativity, challenge our capabilities, and encourage initiative and risk-taking. We hold ourselves to a high standard of excellence and continually improve by solving problems and making decisions that benefit the organization and community. We are dedicated to service, lifelong learning, and professional growth.¹

¹ CPD General Order 1 (1/24/22): Mission and Objectives

CORE VALUES

H.E.A.R.T:

- **HONOR** – We serve with honor through our actions, conduct, and job performance. Performed with integrity, even at personal cost, we constantly strive towards ever-rising standards.
- **EXCELLENCE** – We seek excellence in all that we do and strive for continuous improvement. Our employees are encouraged to be innovative and creative.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY** – We are an organization of employees who do the right thing and are responsible for what we do and say.
- **RESPECT** – We value all citizens, each other and different points of view, regardless of race, gender, appearance, individual beliefs, or lifestyles.
- **TEAMWORK** – We support an environment that recognizes mutual cooperation and group accomplishments while encouraging individual contributions.²

² CPD General Order 1 (1/24/22).

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

This annual report was prepared by the Office of Internal Affairs (OIA) as part of the Charleston Police Department's Professional Standards Division in accordance with CPD's standards of integrity and commitment to building public trust. The report provides an overview of data in the areas of use of force, administrative investigations, vehicular pursuits, and collisions. The information will assist the department in identifying any trends or issues that need to be addressed by the department.

The first part of the report provides background and overview of the data-captured areas, to include findings at-a-glance, use of force in response to resistance and aggression policy, transparency and accountability measures, on-going training efforts, and a geographical overview.

The second part of the report provides statistical information captured by CPD in 2023 in the areas of use of force in response to resistance/aggression, internal affairs investigations, vehicle pursuits, and employee-involved vehicle collisions.

As an agency, the Charleston Police Department is committed to providing the highest quality of police services to those who live, work, and visit the City of Charleston. The Charleston Police Department continues to encourage individuals to relay any concerns or compliments to the department regarding the actions of CPD employees. Any complaint or compliment can be made anonymously.

Citizens may file a complaint or compliment by accessing the following link:

[Office of Internal Affairs | Charleston, SC - Official Website \(charleston-sc.gov\)](http://charleston-sc.gov)

FINDINGS AT-A-GLANCE

The following table offers an at-a-glance view of data collected over a three-year period (2021, 2022, 2023) in the following areas: total estimated public interactions, calls for service, arrests, use of force incidents, collisions involving CPD vehicles, administrative investigations and vehicle pursuits.

The data indicates that in 2023, in comparison with the previous two years, there was a decrease in the number of total estimated public interactions and administrative investigations. There was also an increase in calls for service and arrests. The data in the categories of use of force incidents, collisions involving CPD vehicles and vehicle pursuits varied slightly over the three year period, with a decrease of use of force incidents and collisions involving CPD vehicles, and an increase in vehicle pursuits in year 2023, compared to the previous year.

Specifically, regarding use of force incidents, the data indicates that in 2023, CPD experienced a decrease in the amount of use of force incidents from the prior year, which accounted for only 0.13% of the total estimated public interactions. In 2022 and 2021, use of force incidents occurred in 0.14% and 0.12% of total estimated public interactions, respectively. The comparison indicates that for the overwhelming majority of public interactions, CPD officers rarely use force in response to resistance in the performance of their duties.

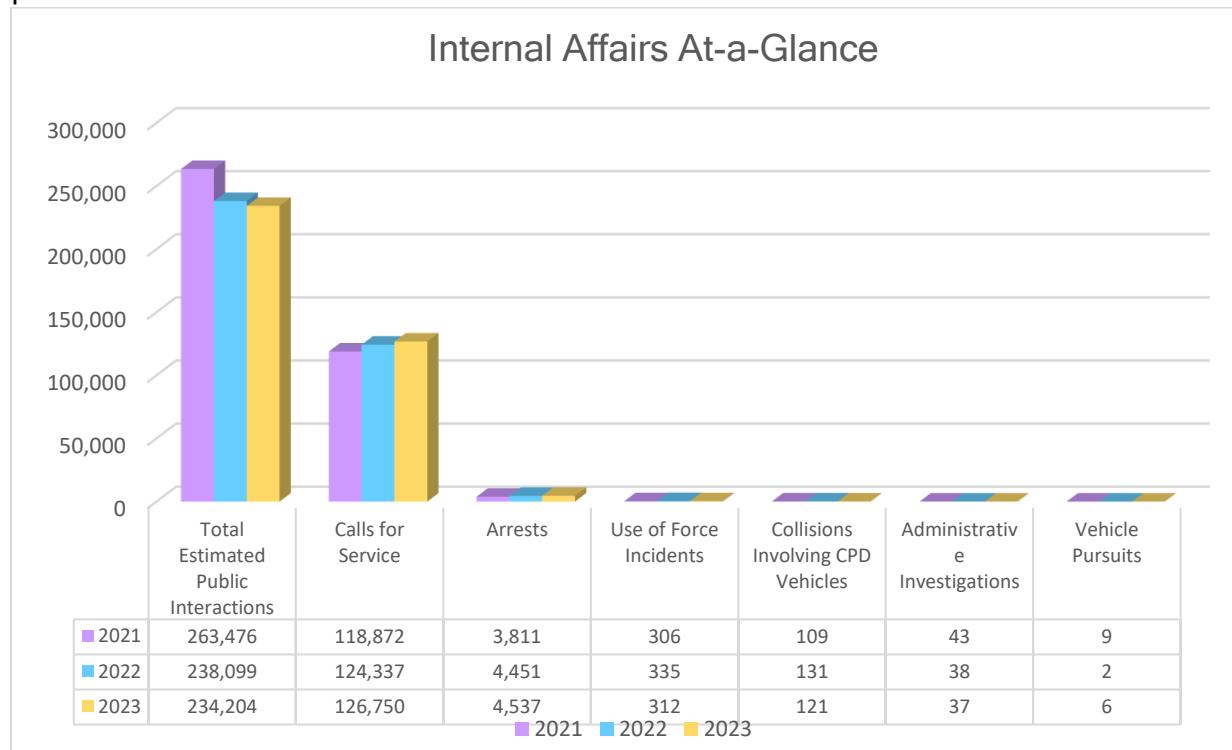


Figure 1: Summary of CPD Public Interactions³, Arrests, and Use of Force Incidents.

³ See Appendix B , CPD Citizen Encounters

USE OF FORCE POLICY

RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE/AGGRESSION POLICY:

The Charleston Police Department (CPD) continually reviews policies and procedures to ensure compliance with changes to state and federal laws and provides officers with guidance based on best practices in policing. The department's Response to Resistance/Aggression and Less-Lethal & Lethal Weapons policies, highlighted below, are carefully reviewed on an annual basis, and updated as warranted.

- *It is the policy of CPD to treat all members of the public with respect and in adherence with the rights afforded by the Constitution, the laws of the State and applicable local laws.*
- *CPD policy recognizes that officers may be confronted with situations where they must respond to resistance or aggression in order to gain the control necessary to effect arrests and to ensure public safety.*
- *Recognizes where an officer must respond to resistance or aggression, only reasonable force will be used; under no circumstances will the force used be greater than necessary to achieve lawful objectives.*
- *Recognizes and respects the sanctity and value of every life.*
- *Establishes a **duty to intervene** to prevent any officer present from use of excessive force.*
- *States officers shall use **de-escalation** techniques to resolve a situation, if circumstances permit.*
- *Establishes that officers may use deadly force only when the officer has a reasonable belief that his/her life or that of another is in immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury.*
- *Requires officers to report any response to resistance and/or aggression through the officer's chain of command at the end of shift.*
- *Establishes responsibility to render medical aid.*
- *Bans neck restraints, except in deadly force situations.*

USE OF FORCE POLICY

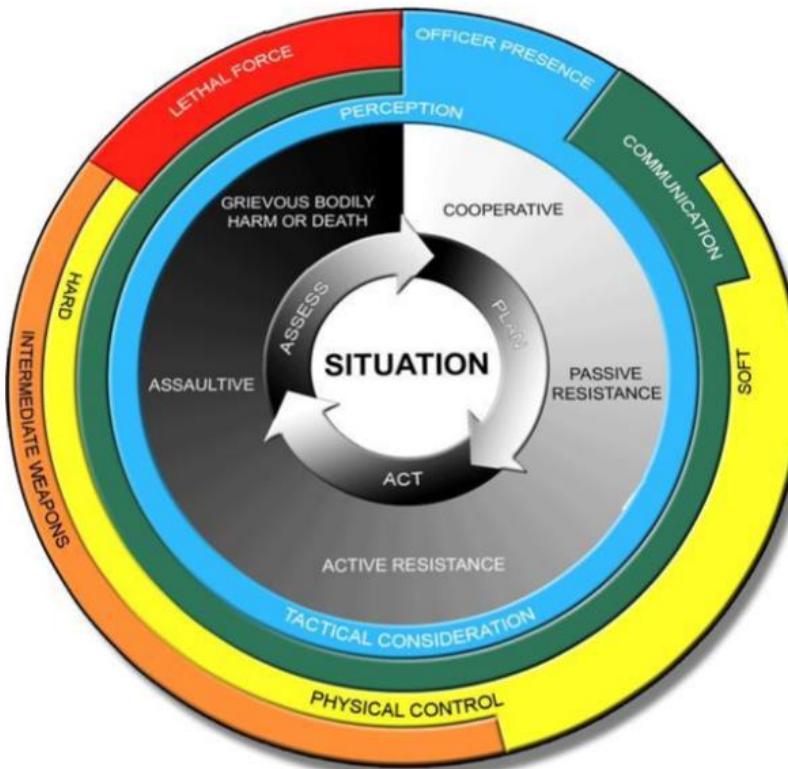


Figure 2: Response to Resistance/Aggression Decision Model.⁴

In a complex urban society, officers are confronted daily with situations where they must respond to resistance or aggression in order to gain the control necessary to effect arrests and to ensure public safety.

The Response to Resistance/Aggression decision model requires selection of the amount of force that is objectively reasonable and necessary relative to the situation. The officer relies upon reasoned discretion in terms of the Response to Resistance/Aggression options. Which option officers use depends on many factors, but the option is generally dictated by the amount of resistance offered by the subject. Depending upon the situation, the officer is trained to select the appropriate force option. If the situation should worsen or improve, then the officer is trained to re-evaluate the situation and select a more appropriate force option based on the officer's knowledge, skills and ability to justify the force used.

⁴ CPD General Order 23 (1/29/21): Response to Resistance/Aggression.

TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

Independent Investigations

If an officer uses deadly force, an independent agency, the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), investigates the incident and presents the completed investigation to the 9th Circuit Solicitor's Office. The Solicitor reviews the lawfulness of the use of deadly force and determines whether the officer should be criminally charged. OIA will conduct an internal affairs investigation to determine whether the officer violated department policy.

Reporting, Tracking and Monitoring Use of Force and Complaint Data

Use of Force in Response to Resistance/Aggression

The department has procured BlueTeam, a software program utilized by CPD since 2008 that improves OIA's ability to track use of force incidents and officer-involved shootings. The BlueTeam software program transitioned to a web-based platform in early 2023 and receives updates on a consistent basis. Officers complete Use of Force/Response to Resistance and Aggression reports for incidents where some type of force was used in response to resistance/aggression. Officers document these incidents utilizing the department's BlueTeam software platform. Each use of force report undergoes a review process by supervisors and command staff at various levels within the department.

Internal Affairs Investigations

When a complaint alleging misconduct is brought to the department's attention, either by an external or internal source, it is forwarded to OIA for review. Internal investigations stem from a complaint made by a CPD employee, while external investigations originate from a member of the public. OIA is responsible for conducting and managing the administrative investigations into allegations of employee misconduct and ensuring that all investigations are conducted in a thorough, fair, unbiased, and timely manner.

OIA is also responsible for capturing, maintaining, and reporting statistical information concerning the complaints received by the department, the allegations made against CPD employees, and the results of all administrative

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investigations, including any disciplinary actions imposed by the Chief of Police. This information is entered in the department's IAPro software platform.

Vehicle Pursuits and Collisions

Charleston Police Department employees are required to document involvement in vehicle pursuits and vehicle collisions. These incidents are recorded in the BlueTeam software platform.

Internal Affairs Dashboard

In June of 2021, the Office of Internal Affairs created a dashboard to provide more transparency with the community. This data dashboard depicts information in relation to internal/external investigations, investigation allegations, investigation dispositions and compliments. The data presented within this dashboard, is from January 1, 2020 to the most recent quarter. In providing this data to the public, CPD is continuing to build its relationship of trust with the community.

<https://pdi-charleston-sc.opendata.arcgis.com/>

Charleston Police Data Initiative (PDI)

As a participant in the White House Police Data Initiative (PDI), created under President Obama, the City of Charleston and the Charleston Police Department are committed to making policing activity data available to the public. The City of Charleston Police Department currently provides raw data on arrests, field contacts, electronic citations, hate bias incidents and calls for service (911), including officer initiated calls on the PDI website. Also, accessible in this database, is the Office of Internal Affairs dashboard.

<https://pdi-charleston-sc.opendata.arcgis.com/>

Early Intervention System

The BlueTeam software also supports an early intervention system, allowing command staff to identify, address and prevent problematic behavior before it escalates to a matter for Internal Affairs. This system is designed to monitor employee behavior by creating an alert if an employee is involved in a certain type of incident (such as vehicle accident, vehicle pursuit, use of force, and/or

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complaint) numerous times within a specified time. The alert allows the department to review the employee behavior in question and determine if there are any underlying issues that need to be addressed or whether some type of intervention (additional training, supervisor counseling session, etc.) can take place.

Accreditation

The Charleston Police Department became the first municipal agency in South Carolina to attain CALEA (*Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies*) accreditation in 1991, and in 2023, the department celebrated being accredited for 32 years. CALEA ensures that accredited agencies identify policy modifications, trends, improve training and officer safety, and provide timely information for the agency to promptly address use of force issues. The CALEA Law Enforcement Accreditation Program is the primary method for a police agency to voluntarily demonstrate their commitment to excellence in law enforcement by conducting an ongoing internal review and assessment of the agency's operations, policies and procedures.

CALEA requires the annual reporting and analysis of department use of force policies, procedures, and a summary of reported complaints filed against department employees.

Furthermore, the department has been recognized by the SCLEA, (*South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation*) having met certain standards regarding its use of force policy as set forth by the Presidential Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities and the U.S. Department of Justice, thereby permitting CPD to be eligible for discretionary federal grants.

Field Contact Card (FCC) Data⁵

The Field Contact Card (FCC) is a document that serves several roles for the department. First, it serves as the primary document to capture an officer's activity in a centralized manner, which allows the department to monitor the activity, actions, and effects of interactions with the public. Designated fields from the FCC are regularly posted to the department public data dashboard for

⁵ See Appendix A, 2023 Field Contact Card (FCC) Data

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increased departmental transparency. Officers will complete a Field Contact Card to document all officer-initiated stops of individuals, including person, bicycle, and motor vehicle stops. There are other situations where an officer may complete a Field Contact card such as a citizen call for service, where a police report was not warranted, and/or when an officer responds to a mental health crisis situation. (The FCC is completed in addition to any citations, warning, or other arrest documentation.)⁶

Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Program

In 2015, the Charleston Police Department implemented its body worn camera (BWC) program. The availability of BWCs enhances documentation of police-public contacts, arrests, and critical incidents, improves public trust, and advances the departmental goal of transparency.

The body worn cameras must be utilized by all uniformed officers, transport officers, animal control officers, and plainclothes officers who have a reasonable expectation that they will interact with the public. CPD's body-worn camera policy requires officers to wear BWCs while on duty and performing any uniformed law enforcement function, as well as any off-duty assignment.⁷

Officers will activate the BWC at the arrival of a call for service or at the initiation of any other law enforcement or investigative encounter with a citizen, unless exigent circumstances exist that make it unsafe, impossible, or impractical to do so. Once the BWC is activated, it will remain on until the incident has reached a conclusion or the officer leaves the scene. Officers have limited discretion, in certain circumstances, to stop recording prior to clearing the call.

Supervisors will view all BWC footage related to a “Response to Resistance/Aggression” report. Additionally, CPD requires supervisors and commanders to randomly select and review BWC videos monthly to ensure that policies and procedures are being adhered to and to address any identified training issues.

⁶ CPD Field Guide – MFR – Field Contact Card (05/18/23).

⁷ CPD General Order 77 (10/1/20): Body Worn Cameras.

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BWC video/audio files are maintained by the department as determined by the retention policy. All complaints are thoroughly investigated and the BWC has proven to be a very useful tool in resolving complaints.

The Office of Compliance and Policy

The Office of Compliance and Policy (OCP) was established in 2020. The mission of the Office of Compliance and Policy is to promote, integrity, accountability, and improvement of CPD personnel, programs, processes, and operations. OCP will serve the public interest through impartial and independent inspections, assessments, and audits by means of transparency and accountability⁸.

The Office of Compliance and Policy conducts several internal audits and inspections of operational and management processes and department entities to ensure compliance with department directives and that the organization is operating effectively and efficiently.

Several reoccurring audit functions performed by the Compliance manager include (but not limited to):

- Monthly Audits of Response to Resistance Reports,
- Monthly Audits of the Random Body Worn Camera Review Program,
- Conducts Staff Peer Inspections of Department Units,
- Inspects the Performance Evaluation Program,
- Annual security inspections of Evidence Facilities, and
- Annual audits of departmental firearms.

⁸ CPD General Order 81 (03/13/2024): Office of Compliance and Policy.

TRAINING & GEOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW

Training

All officers are required to attend training, demonstrate proficiency with all approved lethal and/or less-than-lethal weapons, and review the department's Response to Resistance/Aggression policy at least once every year. Officers also receive training regularly on techniques to reduce use of force incidents, such as conflict resolution, cultural awareness, de-escalation, responding to people with mental health issues and disabilities, and community policing.

In order to be authorized to carry lethal and/or less-than-lethal weapons, police officers must:

- Receive and sign a copy of the department's Response to Resistance Policy;
- Receive instruction on the Response to Resistance Policy;
- Pass the defensive tactics practical application assessment;
- Demonstrate proficiency in the use of all authorized weapons; and
- Undergo annual use of force scenario-based training .

The Department encourages and trains officers to use de-escalation tactics in any situation where the use of force is applicable. With the proper application of de-escalation tactics and techniques, officers can avoid physical confrontations, unless the need to protect themselves or others from harm is immediate. The tactics used are to increase the likelihood of voluntary compliance and cooperation.

The process of de-escalating a situation can allow the officers to further communicate with each other in order to formulate the best plan with the appropriate resources to use the least amount of force necessary (if any) to resolve the situation.

Finally, a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is a police mental health collaborative program designed to help guide interactions between law enforcement and those living with a mental illness. In 2023, forty-eight CPD Officers became CIT certified. To date, there are a total of 213 CPD officers that are CIT certified.

TRAINING & GEOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW

Geographical Overview

Team One

- Patrol Team One serves the area of the Peninsula City on a line north of Calhoun Street to the North Charleston city line between the Cooper River and the Ashley River.

Team Two

- Patrol Team Two serves the area of the Peninsula City on a line south of Calhoun Street between the Cooper River and the Ashley River. Team Two also serves Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor.

Team Three

- Patrol Team Three serves major portions of James Island and some areas of Johns Island, including the Charleston Executive Airport.

Team Four

- Patrol Team Four serves major portions of the St. Andrews / West Ashley areas of the city and extends from the Intercoastal Waterway on Charleston Harbor to Magnolia Gardens on State Highway 61 and on Main Road and U.S. Highway 17, between the Ashley River and the Stono River to Rantowles Creek.

Team Five

- Patrol Team Five was established in January 2002 and serves Daniel Island, Thomas Island, Rodden Island, and portions of Clements Ferry Road (Highway 33), Cainhoy Road (Highway 98), and areas adjacent to Highway 41. The team also patrols approximately five square miles within the Francis Marion Forest, bordered by the Wando River in Berkeley County.

Team Nine (Central Business District)

- The Central Business District consists of the portion of the city that includes the Market along with Upper and Lower King Street. This Team works with the city's business services, zoning, planning and transportation departments to maintain a successful management plan for the city's growing hospitality areas.

USE OF FORCE

2023 USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

CPD policy states that when an officer exercises any response to resistance and/or aggression, takes any action that results in, is alleged to result in, injury or death of another person, applies force through the use of less-lethal or lethal weapons or applies force through any other means identified in the policy, a response to resistance or aggression report will be submitted by the employee using force.⁹

The following graph summarizes the estimated number of public interactions with officers compared to the number of arrests and use of force incidents for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

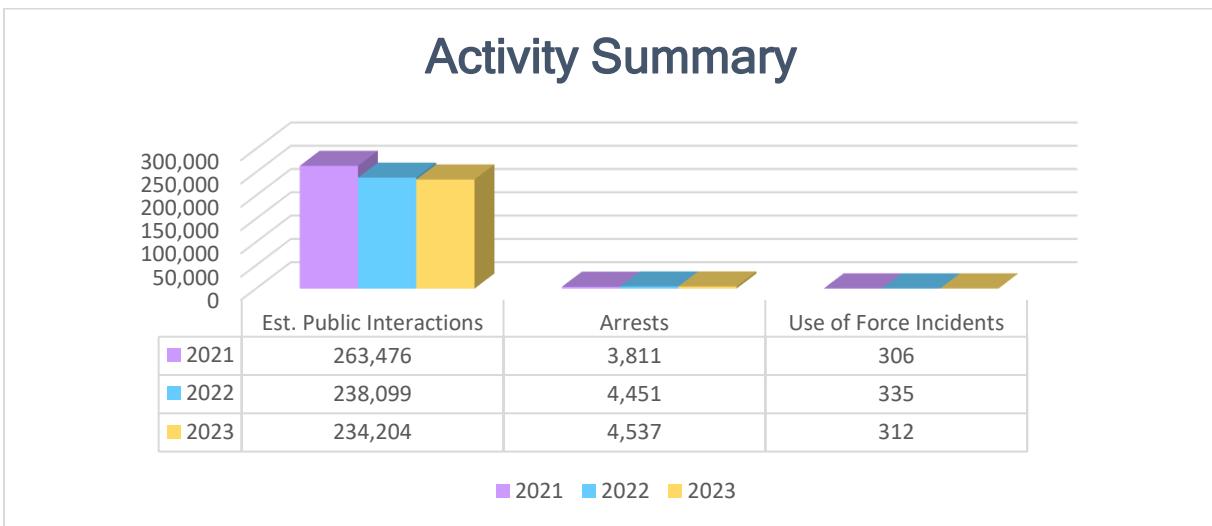


Figure 3: Summary of CPD Public Interactions¹⁰, Arrests, and Use of Force Incidents.

In 2023, the Charleston Police Department recorded 312 use of force incidents, a decrease of 23 incidents (-6.87%), compared to 2022. The data indicates that out of an estimated 234,204 public interactions in 2023, the number of use of force incidents represented approximately 0.13% of citizen encounters with officers (compared to 0.14% in 2022 and 0.12% in 2021). The number of arrests in 2023 represent 1.94% of public interactions (compared to 1.87% in 2022 and 1.45% in 2021). The comparison indicates that for the overwhelming majority of public interactions, officers rarely use force in response to resistance in the performance of their duties.

⁹ CPD General Order 23 (1/29/21): Response to Resistance/Aggression.

¹⁰ See Appendix B , CPD Citizen Encounters

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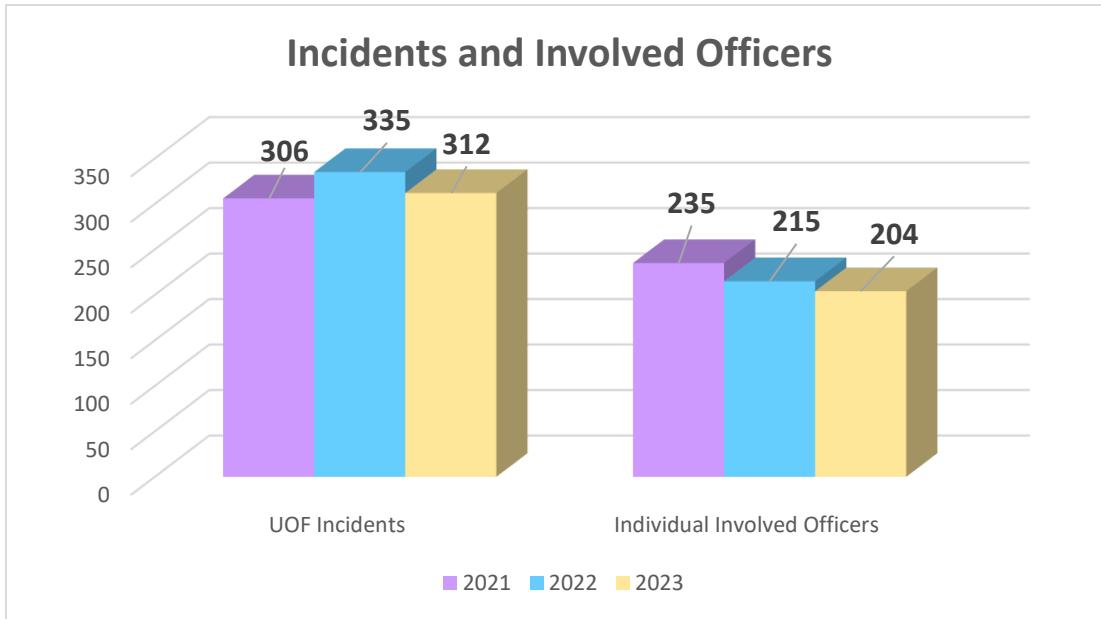


Figure 4: Number of UOF incidents and the number of involved officers.

In 2023, there were a total of 312 use of force incidents that involved 204 individual officers. The data shows a 6.9% decrease in the number of use of force incidents from 2022 to 2023, compared to a 9.5% increase in the number of use of force incidents from 2021 to 2022. The number of individual officers involved decreased by 5.1% from 2022 to 2023, compared to a decrease of 8.5% from 2021 to 2022.

It is important to note that any single use of force incident may include more than one officer and more than one type of force in response to resistance when attempting to make an arrest or control a situation. Many times in response to a call for service, a primary officer is dispatched and at least one additional officer responds as a back-up unit. Thus, in the majority of the circumstances where force is used, more than one officer may be involved.

In 2020, per CNA audit recommendation, CPD began requiring officers involved in use of force incidents to file individual use of force reports in the BlueTeam reporting system, instead of the then-practice of grouping individual reports together under the name of the primary officer on scene. This change in data reporting has assisted CPD in tracking the number of officers involved in use of force incidents, as well as types of weapons used.

Continuing with this recommended practice, in 2023, out of the 312 use of force incidents noted above, 609 individual officer reports were filed, compared to 2022 when out of 335 use of force incidents, 703 reports were filed. This indicates that out of the number of officers involved in use of force incidents, some officers were involved in use of force incidents more than once throughout the year.

USE OF FORCE

Types of Force Used By Officers in Response to Resistance/Aggression

CPD Policy defines “force” as the striking of a person by the use of fist, hand, foot, baton or other object; or the application of any type of irritant or gas; or the application of any kind of hold or grip that results in the breaking of the skin, the swelling of the body or any of the limbs, or is used on a non-compliant subject.¹¹

The data below shows the types of force used by officers in response to resistance/aggression in use of force incidents in 2023. The types of force used are presented in two physical force categories: empty hand control/restraining types and applied force types. Also included in the use of force data are special unit activations. Finally, as CPD requires the reporting of removal and pointing of weapons, that data is included as well.

Empty Hand Control/Restraining

Data from this category consists of physical control techniques utilized by officers in response to resistance or aggression of a non-compliant subject. The category includes empty hand control, restraining a subject, use of restraints and bringing a subject to the ground. The majority of the circumstances when these types of force are used occur when an officer is attempting to achieve compliance with lawful orders or to affect a lawful arrest. Examples of these physical control techniques include bringing a non-compliant suspect to the ground, escorting a disorderly/uncooperative citizen out of a business or to a police cruiser, controlling a subject after a foot pursuit, and restraining a subject who is kicking medical personnel or the arresting officer.

In 2023, there were 194 reports of empty hand control/restraining force types. These force types accounted for approximately 27.2% of *all* force types used in 2023 and approximately 82.9% of *all physical force* types used in 2023. Note that any single use of force incident may have included the use of multiple weapons by one or more officers, which is why the number of weapons used is greater than the number of use of force events.

Specifically within this category, the most common type of force used by officers in 2023 was empty hand control, followed by restraining on floor or wall. In 2021 and 2022, the most common type of physical force used was also empty hand control followed by restraining/restrain on floor or wall.

¹¹ CPD General Order 23 (1/29/21): Response to Resistance/Aggression.

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Applied Force Used by Officers in Response to Resistance/Aggression

The chart below indicates the types of applied force officers used in response to resistance/aggression. The types are categorized as follows: hands/legs, baton, OC spray, CEW (Conducted Energy Weapon), K-9 (no-bite), K-9 (bite) and firearm discharge. The “hands/legs” category includes hand strikes, pressure points, joint locks and knee/leg strikes.

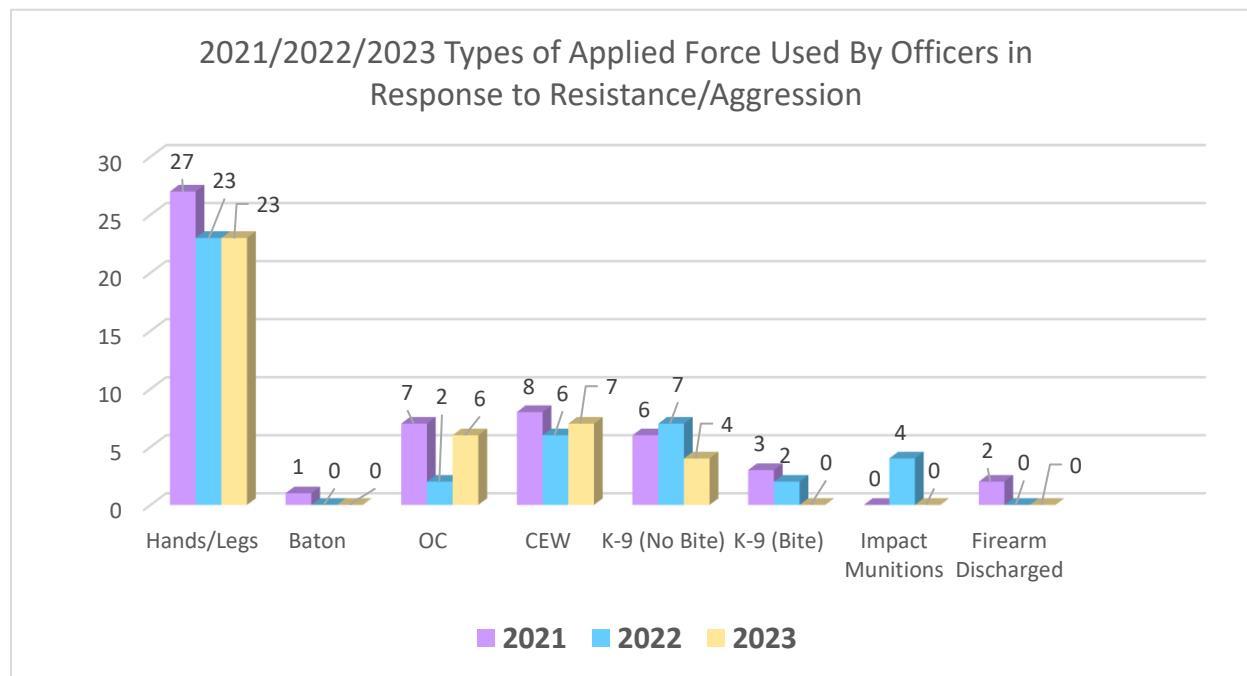


Figure 5: Applied force types used by Officers in use of force incidents.

This graph demonstrates that in 2023, the most commonly used type of applied force in response to resistance/aggression was hands/legs, with 23 uses in 2023 and 2022, and 27 in 2021. The CEW was utilized 7 times in 2023, compared to 6 times in 2022 and 8 times in 2021. OC spray was used 6 times in 2023, compared to 2 times in 2022 and 7 times in 2021.

K-9 no bite was used 4 times in 2023 compared to 7 times in 2022, and 6 times in 2021. The baton was used 0 times in 2023 and 2022, compared to 1 time in 2021. There were 0 K-9 bites in 2023, 2 in 2022, and 3 reported in 2021. Impact Munitions were utilized 0 times in 2023, compared to 4 times in 2022 and 0 times in 2021. 0 officers discharged their service weapons in 2023 and 2022, compared to 2 officers discharging their service weapons in two incidents in 2021.

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Total Physical Force Types

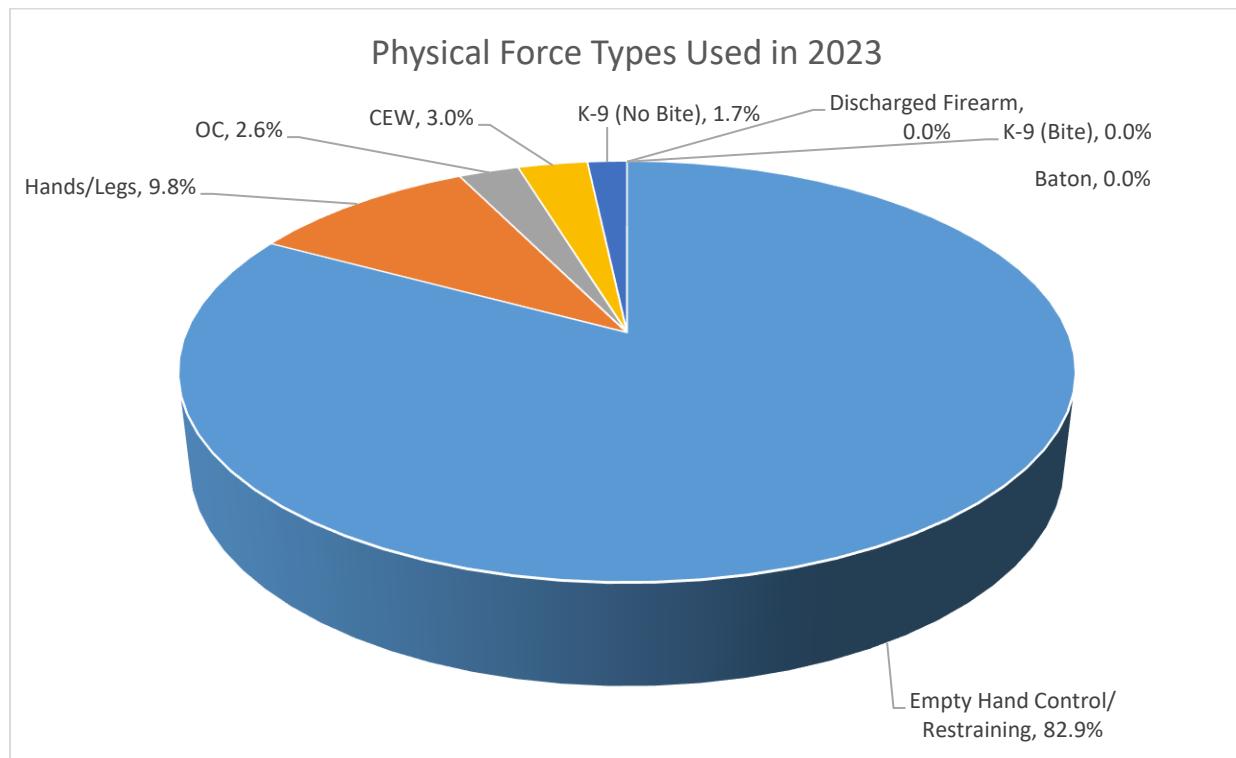


Figure 6: Physical force types used by Officers in 2023 in use of force incidents.

The above chart depicts the total physical force types (empty hand control/restraining and applied force) used by officers in response to resistance/aggression in 2023. Of all the force types, the data shows that the overwhelming type of force utilized in use of force incidents was empty hand control/restraining at 82.9%. The category of hands/feet was 9.8% of the total physical force types used in 2023. The remaining types consist of a total of 7.3% of the total physical force types, which include CEW (3.0%), OC (2.6%), K-9 no-bite (1.7%). There were 0 force types of the categories of Discharged Firearm, K-9 bite, and Baton.

Removal/Pointing of Weapons Reporting Requirement

CPD Policy states that when an officer removes/points a weapon such as a firearm, Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW, commonly referred to as a “Taser”), or Impact Munition during their duties, the officer must complete a written report indicating the circumstances that led to the removal or pointing of the weapon.¹² This category of data is broad and includes times officers remove their firearms to conduct building

¹² General Order 25 (5/13/20): Less-Lethal & Lethal Weapons.

USE OF FORCE

clearances where an individual may not be present, and/or while on a perimeter position during a high-risk situation merely in the view of the public. Thus, the data may include situations where force is not used on an individual. The removal/pointing of weapons consisted of 64.2% of all force types used in 2023.

In 2023, officers removed/pointed their firearms 414 times (461 in 2022 and 345 in 2021), removed/pointed their CEW 43 times (31 times in 2022 and 34 in 2021), and their impact munition 1 time (4 times in 2022 and 2 in 2021).

The removal/pointing of a weapon reporting requirement, along with empty hand control/restraining physical force types made up approximately 91.32% of all types of force used in the 312 incidents in 2023. The remaining 8.68% force types consisted of the applied force (5.6% of all types of force used, Figure 5: Applied Force Types), along with the special activations and chemical agent deployments (3.08% of all types of force used, see below).

Special Unit Activations

The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team deployed 20 times and the Civil Disturbance Unit (CDU) deployed 0 times throughout 2023. These activations accounted for 2.8% of all force types used in 2023. During two of the activations a chemical agent was deployed, accounting for .28% of all force types in 2023.

SWAT

1. 04.24.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
2. 05.09.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotics Offense)
3. 05.09.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotics Offense)
4. 05.09.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotics Offense)
5. 05.25.2023 --- Barricaded Subject
6. 06.05.2023 --- Residential Search Warrant
7. 06.21.2023 --- Arrest Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
8. 07.04.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
9. 09.13.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotic Offense)
10. 09.20.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotics Offense)
11. 09.27.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotics Offense)
12. 10.11.2023 --- Arrest Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
13. 10.11.2023 --- Dignitary Protection Detail
14. 10.24.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
15. 11.03.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotics Offense)

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16. 12.07.2023 --- Barricaded Subject
17. 12.08.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
18. 12.17.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
19. 12.21.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Violent Crime Offense)
20. 12.27.2023 --- Arrest and Residential Search Warrant Service (Narcotics Offense)

Use of Force Incidents by Geographical Team

When specifically looking at the Response to Resistance/Aggression incidents by geographical team, Teams One and Four led the patrol teams in the number of submissions in 2023 with 132 and 107 incidents, respectively. This is due to the teams having a high call volume and the largest complement of officers of all patrol teams. It is expected that these officers would have more encounters and contacts with the public.

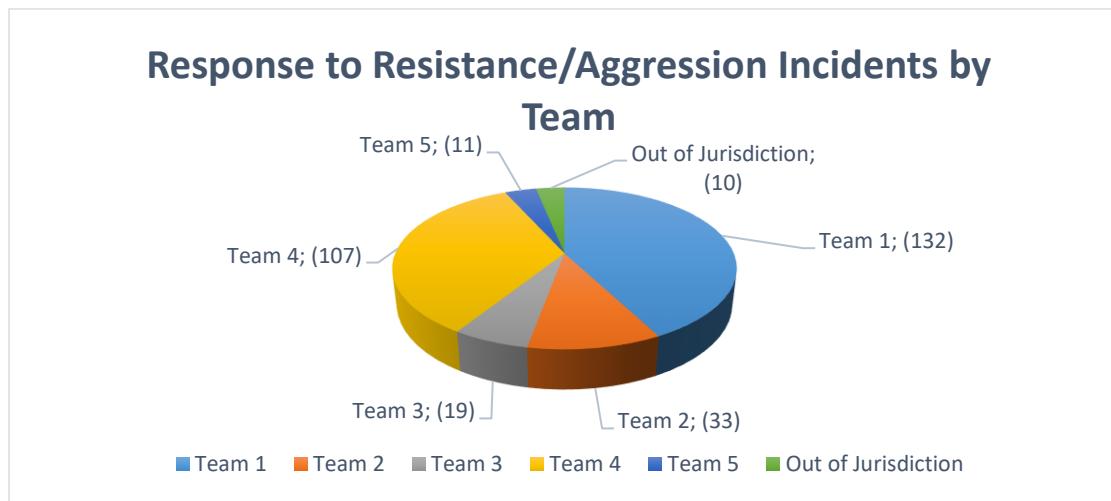


Figure 7: Number of use of force incidents by geographical team in 2023.

Type of Service Rendered

The most common type of service during use of force incidents in 2023 was officer dispatch to a call. The second most frequent type of service was after officers reacted to an offense they viewed. These categories were the same in 2022 and 2021. The data in the chart below reflects the type of service being rendered for each individual use of force submission. As previously stated, multiple officers may have completed a use of force report when responding to the same incident. The “Dispatched to Call” type of service being rendered in 2023 accounted for 51.7% of the use of force submissions in each year. The “On-View Offense” type of service being rendered accounted for 17.6% of total number of use of force reports submitted in 2023.

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Type of Service Being Rendered	2021	2022	2023
Code Enforcement	2	0	0
Collision Inv.	1	2	1
Dispatched to Call	377	416	315
On-View Offense	83	107	107
Foot Pursuit	20	34	42
Traffic Enforcement	39	47	32
Warrant Service	38	56	68
Patrolling / Driving	10	22	37
Field Contact	10	6	4
Follow Up Investigation	9	8	1
Walk and Talk	1	3	0
Transporting	0	2	2
Total	590	703	609

Figure 8: Type of Service being rendered in 2021-2023.

2023 Demographics in Use of Force Incidents

It is very common for one single response to resistance/aggression incident to have involved more than one citizen or more than one officer. For example, one incident can involve a single citizen, but involve several officers, which might be the case in a High-Risk Car Stop. Conversely, a single response to a resistance/aggression incident can involve several citizens and one officer, which might be the case in a large physical disturbance.

The table below shows a breakdown of CPD's Sworn Officer Demographics including race, gender, and age. As of December 31, 2023, there were 396 Sworn Officers employed with the Charleston Police Department.¹³

¹³ For a breakdown of the demographics of CPD's non-sworn employees, see Appendix C.

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Sworn Personnel Demographics Summary

Sworn	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	>=60	Total	%
Unreported	1	-	-	-	-	1	0.25%
Unidentif	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Asian or Pacific Islander	1	-	-	-	-	1	0.25%
Male	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Black	12	14	20	9	-	55	13.89%
Female	1	4	5	4	-	14	
Male	11	10	15	5	-	41	
Hispanic	3	4	4	-	-	11	2.78%
Male	3	4	4	-	-	11	
Other	4	4	2	-	-	10	2.53%
Male	4	4	2	-	-	10	
White	96	121	78	21	2	318	80.30%
Female	18	20	11	1	-	50	
Male	78	101	67	20	2	268	
Total	117	143	104	30	2	396	

Use of Force Officer Demographic Information

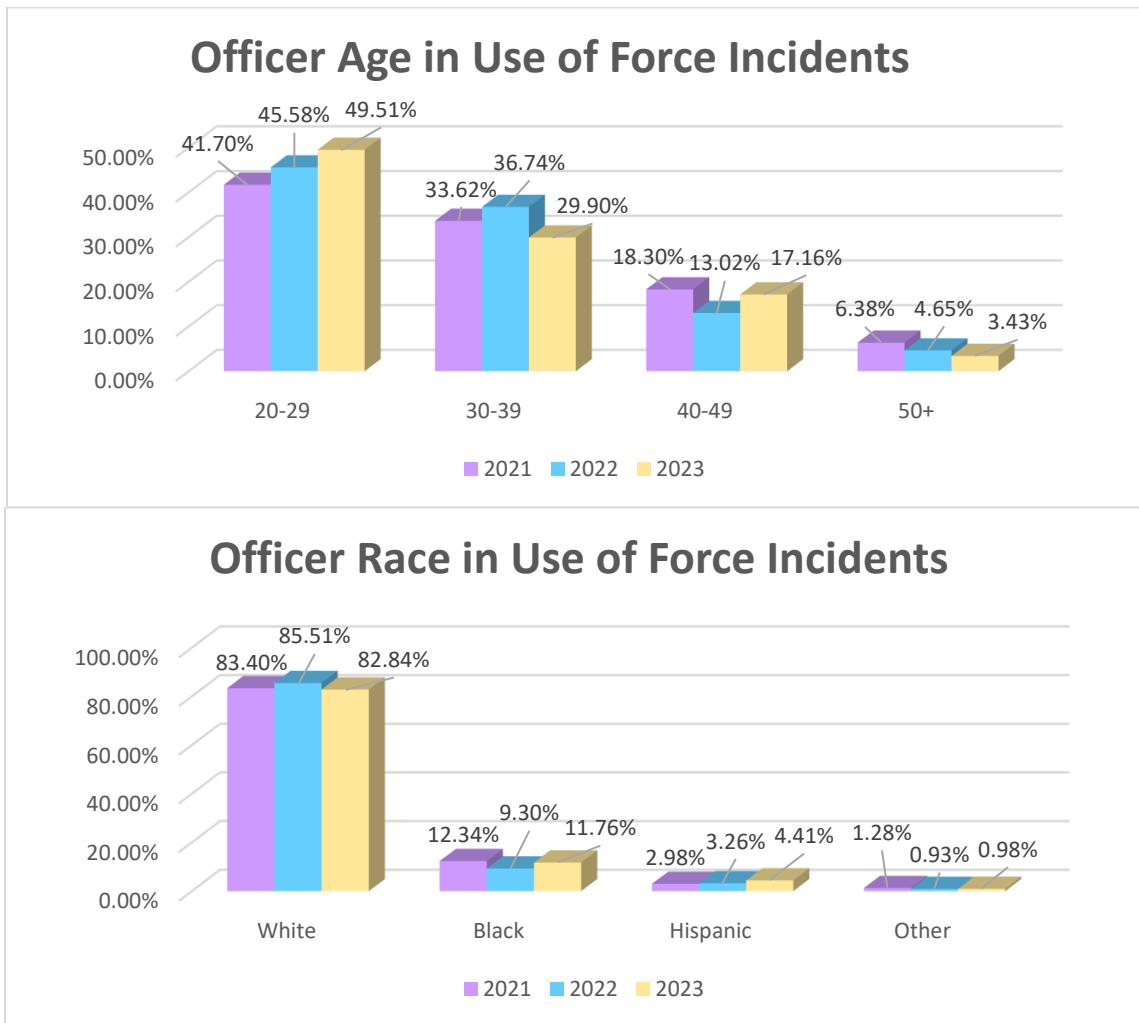
The following table depicts the demographic information with regard to the age, race, and gender of the involved individual officers in the use of force incidents for 2021, 2022, and 2023:

Officer Demographic Information	2021	2022	2023
Total # of Individual Involved Officers	235	215	204
Age of Involved Officers			
20 to 29	41.70%	45.58%	49.51%
30 to 39	33.62%	36.74%	29.90%
40 to 49	18.30%	13.02%	17.16%
50+	6.38%	4.65%	3.43%
Total	100%	100%	100%
Race of Involved Officers			
White	83.40%	85.51%	82.84%
Black	12.34%	9.30%	11.76%
Hispanic	2.98%	3.26%	4.41%
Other	1.28%	0.93%	0.98%
Total	100%	100%	100%
Gender of Involved Officers			
Male	86.81%	88.84%	90.20%
Female	13.19%	11.16%	9.80%
Total	100%	100%	100%

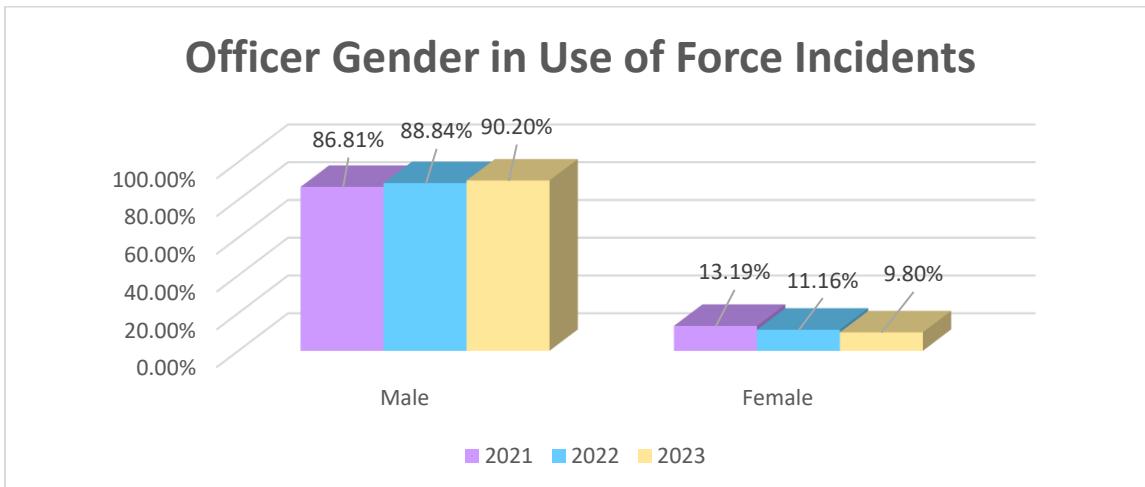
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Figure 9: Officer Demographics based on Age, Race, and Gender in 2021-2023 Use of Force Incidents.

The following charts represent the information in the above table in regard to the age, race, and gender of the involved individual officers in the use of force incidents for 2021-2023:



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Figures 10, 11, 12: Officer Demographics based on Age, Race, and Gender in 2021-2023 Use of Force Incidents.

Officer Length of Service

In 2023, the length of service for the majority (approximately 73%) of the involved officers in use of force incidents was 5 years or less. In 2022 and 2021, the majority of use of force submissions were also from officers employed 5 years or less (approximately 68% and 53%, respectively).

Use of Force Citizen Demographic Information

In 2023, due to circumstances such as removing a firearm while on a perimeter or the citizen not being apprehended the ages of 18 of the citizens was not documented when completing the use of force reports. There were 51 use of force submissions that did not have a citizen listed, which were primarily submissions with the force type of removal/pointing of a weapon. These include response to situations such as shootings and/or burglaries that required the officer to have a weapon removed in order to render a crime scene safe. In such situations, the removal/pointing of the firearm was not used to gain compliance from a citizen; therefore, an “involved citizen” would not be listed in the use of force report.

The following table depicts the demographic information with regard to the age, race, and gender for the citizens involved in use of force incidents for 2021, 2022, and 2023:

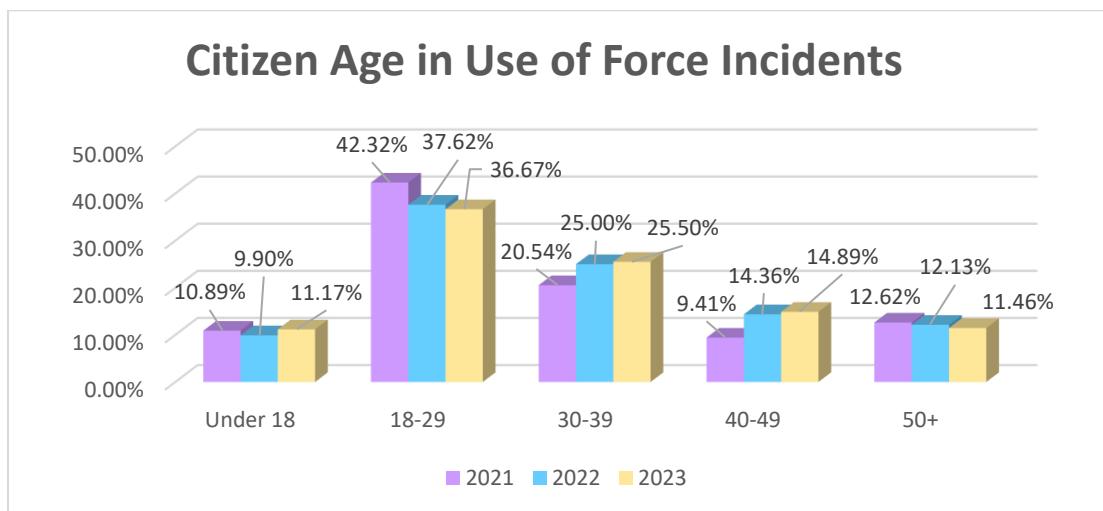
Citizen Demographic Information	2021	2022	2023
Total # of Involved Citizens	404	404	349
Age of Involved Citizens			
Under 18	10.89%	9.90%	11.17%

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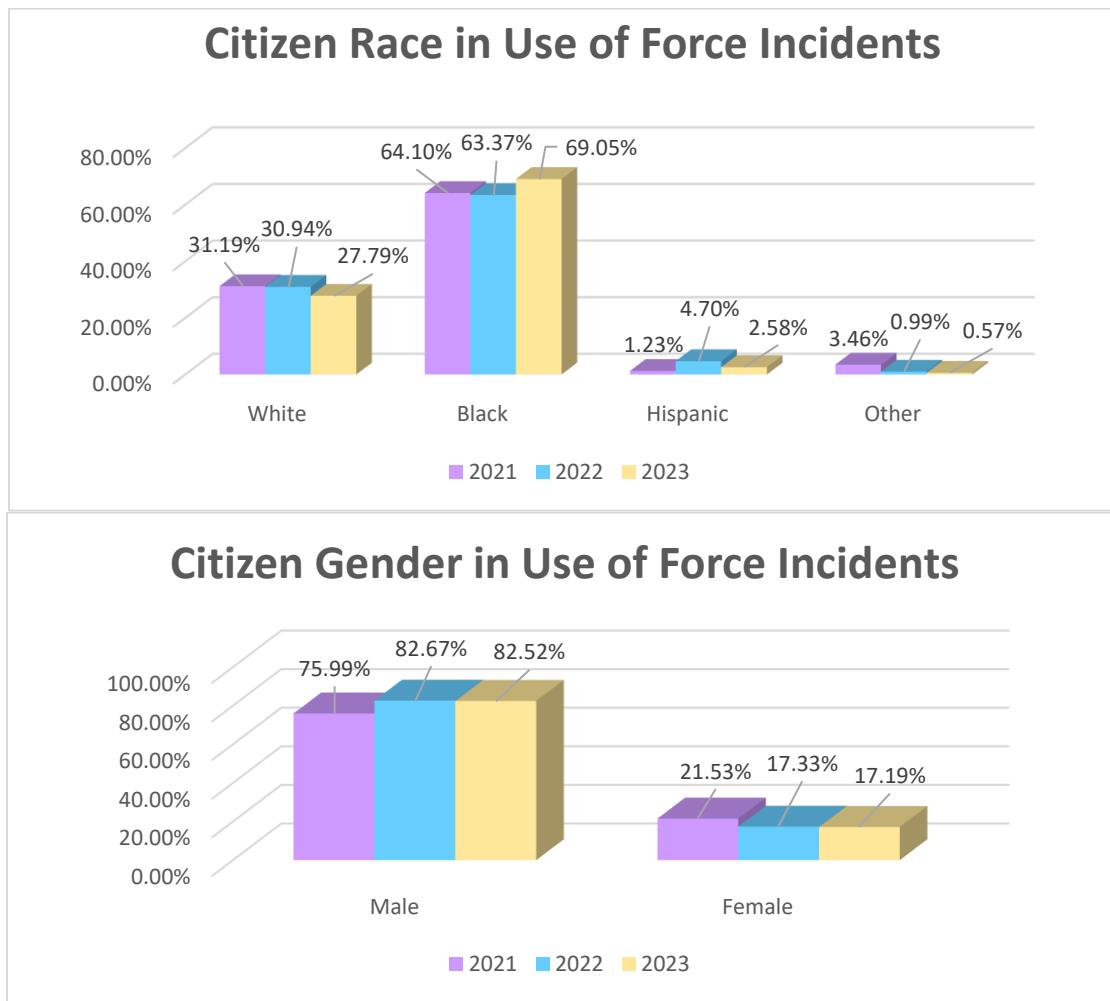
18 to 29	42.32%	37.62%	36.67%
30 to 39	20.54%	25.00%	25.50%
40 to 49	9.41%	14.36%	14.89%
50+	12.62%	12.13%	11.46%
Race of Involved Citizens			
White	31.19%	30.94%	27.79%
Black	64.10%	63.37%	69.05%
Hispanic	1.23%	4.70%	2.58%
Other	3.46%	0.99%	0.57%
Gender of Involved Citizens			
Male	75.99%	82.67%	82.52%
Female	21.53%	17.33%	17.19%

Figures 13: Citizen Demographics by age, race, and gender in 2021-2023 Use of Force Incidents.

The following charts represent the information in the above table in regard to the age, race, and gender of the citizens in the use of force incidents for 2021, 2022, and 2023:



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Figures 14- 16: Citizen Demographics by age, race, and gender in 2021-2023 Use of Force Incidents.

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The following table is the statistical data used to compose the above table and charts in regard to the age, race, and gender of the citizens in the use of force incidents for 2021, 2022, and 2023:

2023 Citizen Demographics: Race and Gender By Age in Use of Force Incidents

	Juvenile	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+	Unknown	Total
Other	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Male	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Black	31	98	62	28	10	12	-	241
Female	9	16	9	4	1	-	-	39
Male	22	82	53	24	9	12	-	202
Hispanic	-	5	3	1	-	-	-	9
Female	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Male	-	5	2	1	-	-	-	8
White	8	25	24	23	12	5	-	97
Female	3	3	6	5	2	1	-	20
Male	5	22	18	18	10	4	-	77
Total	39	128	89	52	23	17	1	349

Figure 17: Citizen Demographics by age, race, and gender in 2021-2023 Use of Force Incidents.

2023 Day of the Week and Time of Day Analysis

The tables and charts below depict the day of the week and the time of day when a use of force in response to resistance/aggression incident occurred between a citizen(s) and officer(s).

An analysis of the use of force in response to resistance/aggression occurrences in 2023 shows the most common day of the week for such incidents was Monday, the second highest occurred on Friday, and the third highest occurred on Saturday. In comparison, 2022 showed the most common day of the week for such incidents on Wednesday and Thursday, the second highest occurred on Tuesday, and the third highest occurred on

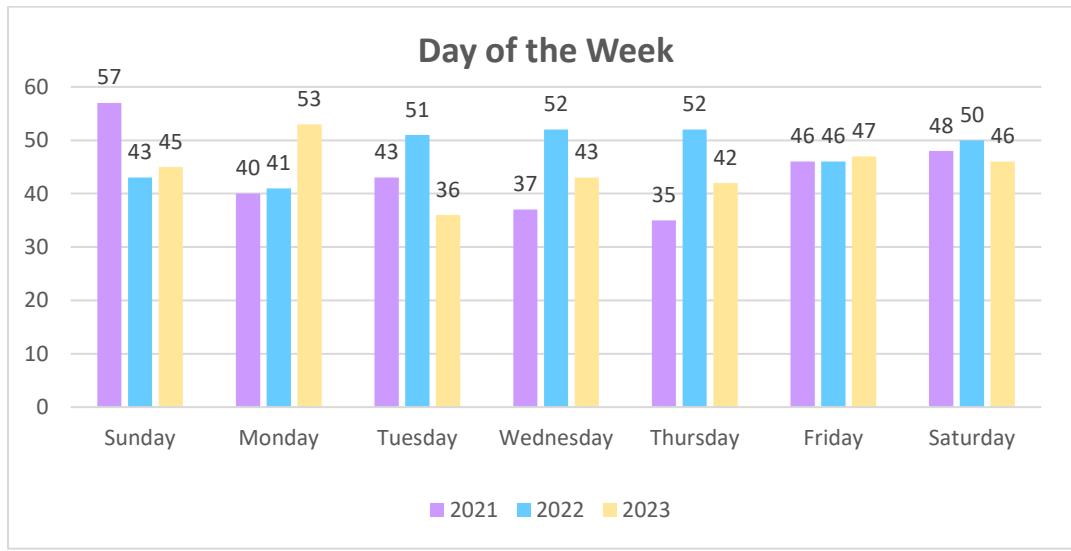
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Saturday . The highest and second highest days of the week are not consistent between the last three years.

The Charleston Police Department experienced the highest average calls for service on Friday (an average of 765 calls for service with an average of 423 of the calls being self-initiated).

Use of Force (Incidents) By Day of the Week

Day of the Week	2021	2022	2023
Sunday	57	43	45
Monday	40	41	53
Tuesday	43	51	36
Wednesday	37	52	43
Thursday	35	52	42
Friday	46	46	47
Saturday	48	50	46



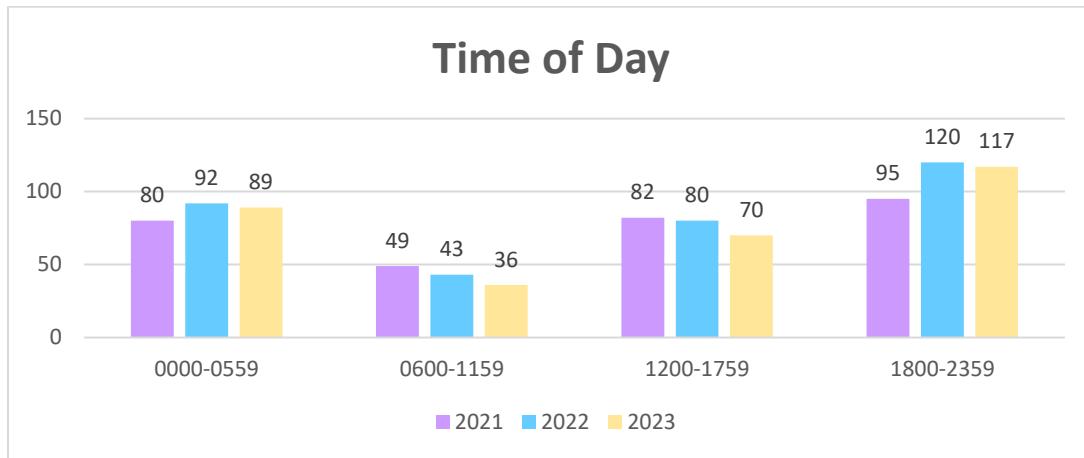
Figures 18-19: Use of Force (Incidents) by Day of the Week for 2021-2023.

An analysis of the use of force incidents in response to resistance/aggression in 2023 shows that the most common time of day for such incidents is between 1800-2359 hours followed by 0000-0559 hours. The time slot of 1800-2359 had the highest number of response to resistance/aggression incidents the past three years. The time slot of 0600-1159 hours had the fewest number of incidents the last three years. The

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increase of criminal activities in the hours of dusk and darkness can lead to a higher number of police responses to in-progress calls for service and self-initiated events.

Time of Day	2021	2022	2023
0000-0559	80	92	89
0600-1159	49	43	36
1200-1759	82	80	70
1800-2359	95	120	117



Figures 20-21: Use of Force (Incidents) by Time of Day for 2021-2023.

2023 Injuries During Response to Resistance/Aggression Incidents

Out of the 312 use of force in response to resistance/aggression incidents reported in 2023, 24 officers were injured during 21 incidents. There were 35 citizens injured during the 312 use of force incidents, most were minor injuries described as scrapes, abrasions, and/or swelling.

A more in-depth look into the 24 officers injured during 21 response to resistance/aggression incidents revealed that all were minor injuries, such as lacerations, abrasions, minor bite, and/or scratches. Additionally, 10 officer injuries of the 24 reported injuries were a direct result of being assaulted by an offender. These occurred in 7 incidents. After taking a closer look into these 7 incidents, there does not appear to be a common theme in terms of the officer involved or the type of incident that lead to the citizen assaulting the officer, other than the assaults occurring when the officer attempted to detain the citizen.

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Officer Involved Shooting Incidents

Deadly force is defined as the degree of force likely to cause death or great bodily harm. An officer may employ deadly force when the officer has a reasonable belief that his/her life or that of another is in immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury. This is based on the totality of the circumstances known to the officer at the time he/she employs the deadly force.¹⁴ All incidents that involve the use of deadly force or in-custody deaths are investigated by an independent investigative agency, typically the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED).

In 2023, there were 0 officer involved shooting incidents, compared to 0 officer involved shooting incidents in 2022 and 2 officer involved shooting incidents involving 2 officers in 2021.

Response to Resistance/Aggression Investigations

There were nine complaints that alleged excessive or unreasonable force throughout the year of 2023. All nine complaints were investigated through the Office of Internal Affairs or through the officers' chain of command. The nine allegations resulted in the officer being exonerated.

Summary

A review was conducted of the 312 response to resistance/aggression incidents in 2023. Based on the review, it was determined that there was a slight decrease of approximately 6.9% in the number of use of force incidents and a slight decrease of 5.1% in the number of individual involved officers. The number of use of force incidents in Teams 3 and 4 decreased, while the number of use of force incidents in Teams 2 and 5 increased.

In regard to the types of force used, the pointing/removal of weapons has remained the majority of all force types for the past three years. There was an increase in OC deployments from 2 to 6 from 2022 to 2023. In the majority of these incidents a large group of citizens were actively fighting with each other and not cooperating with officer commands.

¹⁴ CPD General Order 23 (1/29/21): Response to Resistance/Aggression.

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There was a decrease in K-9 (bite) from 2 to 0 and impact munitions from 4 to zero (2022 to 2023, respectfully). There were no significant increases or decreases in the number of the following: type of service being rendered, the age, race and gender of the involved officers, the age, race, gender of the involved citizen, and the time of day. The highest two days of the week of use of force incidents were not consistent between the last two years.

There was an increase in the number of reported injuries to the involved officers. The data showed an increase of 60% from 2022 (15 officers injured in 2022 compared to 24 officers injured in 2023), as well as in the number of injuries as a direct result of being assaulted by an offender (5 injuries in 2022 and 10 in 2023 as a direct assault) . The number of injuries to citizens slightly increased from 33 from 2022 to 35 in 2023.

The review assists the Department in accommodating requests for statistical information regarding response to resistance/aggression events and implementing training objectives and scenarios that are derived from real data from events that occur in our jurisdiction.

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Office of Internal Affairs – Complaints and Investigations

The department has a well-established process for receiving, investigating, and adjudicating complaints made by citizens, co-workers, and supervisors regarding allegations of employees' misconduct.

It is the mission of the Office of Internal Affairs (OIA), within the Professional Standards Division, to ensure public confidence in the department through objective and thorough investigations of all allegations of employee offenses.

It is the policy of the Charleston Police Department to accept and appropriately investigate all complaints, including anonymous complaints, against department employees, both internally and externally, to equitably determine the validity of any allegation.¹⁵

OIA currently has a staff of one lieutenant and two sergeants, and the members of the OIA report to the Captain of Professional Standards, who in turn, reports directly to the Chief of Police.

Making a Complaint

Complaints against CPD Employees can originate externally (from a citizen) or internally (from an employee of CPD). A complaint can be submitted in a variety of ways, including anonymously:

- **Online** – email the OIA at InternalAffairs@charleston-sc.gov
- **In-Person** – file a written or in-person complaint at CPD headquarters or any team office
- **Mail** – Send a letter to: Charleston Police Department
Professional Standards Office
180 Lockwood Boulevard
Charleston, SC 29403
- **Phone** – Call the OIA at 843-720-2447.

¹⁵ General Order 10 (2/23/22): Office of Internal Affairs

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Investigations

A complaint is defined as an expression of discontent, dissatisfaction, or accusation made in a written or verbal form that alleges illegal activity, misconduct, or a violation of rules or regulations of the police department and/or the policies of the City of Charleston.

A complaint is reviewed and then assigned to either the chain of command of the involved employee or an investigator in the OIA. The nature of the complaint determines the investigating entity; however, all cases are centrally recorded, tracked, and managed by the OIA within the Professional Standards Office, to ensure timely completion and consistency.

While all allegations of misconduct are considered important to the department, the Office of Internal Affairs investigates allegations of misconduct that generally carry more serious consequences for the employee, the department, or community confidence in the police; while supervisors investigate those with less serious consequences. For example, OIA would investigate complaints of excessive force or unbecoming conduct in the form of an Administrative Investigation, while an employee's unit supervisor would investigate allegations of rudeness or speeding in the form of a Supervisor Complaint Intake (SCI).

Types of Dispositions

Complaint dispositions are classified as one of the following:

- **Exonerated** – Incident occurred, but the employee's actions were proper;
- **Sustained** – There is SUFFICIENT evidence to prove the allegation;
- **Not Sustained** - There is INSUFFICIENT evidence to prove or disprove the allegation.
- **Unfounded** - Allegation is proven to be false; and
- **Policy Review** - Employee's actions were within policy, but the consequences of the policy need to be addressed with the employee. If a finding indicates a review of the policy with the employee is necessary, then the employee should be exonerated. A policy may need to be reviewed and updated as well.

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Once an investigation is complete, the complainant will be notified of the disposition. In matters where a violation was deemed sustained, the complainant will be notified that appropriate action has been taken by the department.

Discipline Procedures

The investigator handling any Administrative Investigation will recommend a finding. The case will then begin the command review process, which is when the employee's chain of command reviews the case and agrees or disagrees with the recommended finding. During the review for corrective action, all information associated with the investigation must be reviewed by the employee's chain of command. The Captain/Manager dispensing corrective or disciplinary actions for sustained allegations will review the employee's discipline history and consult the discipline matrix. This will maintain consistency with the amount and type of discipline that the employee may receive. The action to be taken will be determined by the disciplinary matrix. It will be commensurate with the circumstances surrounding the incident while considering the employee's service record and any prior sustained complaints. The matrix is considered a guideline and the Chief of Police has the discretion to deviate from the matrix as conditions and circumstances warrant. Corrective action and disciplinary action should serve to encourage the employee to perform at an acceptable level in the future.

Types of Discipline

- Mediation
- Verbal or Written Counseling
- Employee Assistance Program
- Remedial Training
- Written Reprimand
- Suspension
- Demotion
- Termination

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

2023 Administrative Investigations and Dispositions



Figure 22: Administrative Investigations generated in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

As indicated in the graph above, the Office of Internal Affairs documented, managed, or handled 37 administrative investigations throughout the calendar year of 2023 stemming from internal and external complaints. There was a decrease of 11.63% in administrative investigations from 2021 to 2022 (43 to 38, respectfully), and a decrease of 2.63% from 2022 to 2023 (38 to 37, respectfully). It should be noted that investigations may contain multiple allegations and involve multiple officers.

Of the 37 investigations in 2023, 10 were a result of external complaints. The external complaints saw an increase of 37.5% from 2021 to 2022 and a decrease of 9.1% from 2022 to 2023. Of the 37 investigations, 27 were a result of internal department complaints. The internal complaints decreased by 22.9% from 2021 to 2022 and there was no change from 2022 to 2023. Thus, the data indicates that the majority of investigations in 2023 stemmed from complaints inside the department.

When possible issues or policy violations present themselves, they were identified, reported, and subsequently dealt with in an appropriate manner. Of the internally generated administrative investigations, 23 of the cases were sustained. Of the 10 externally generated investigations filed in 2023, all 10 cases were sustained.

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

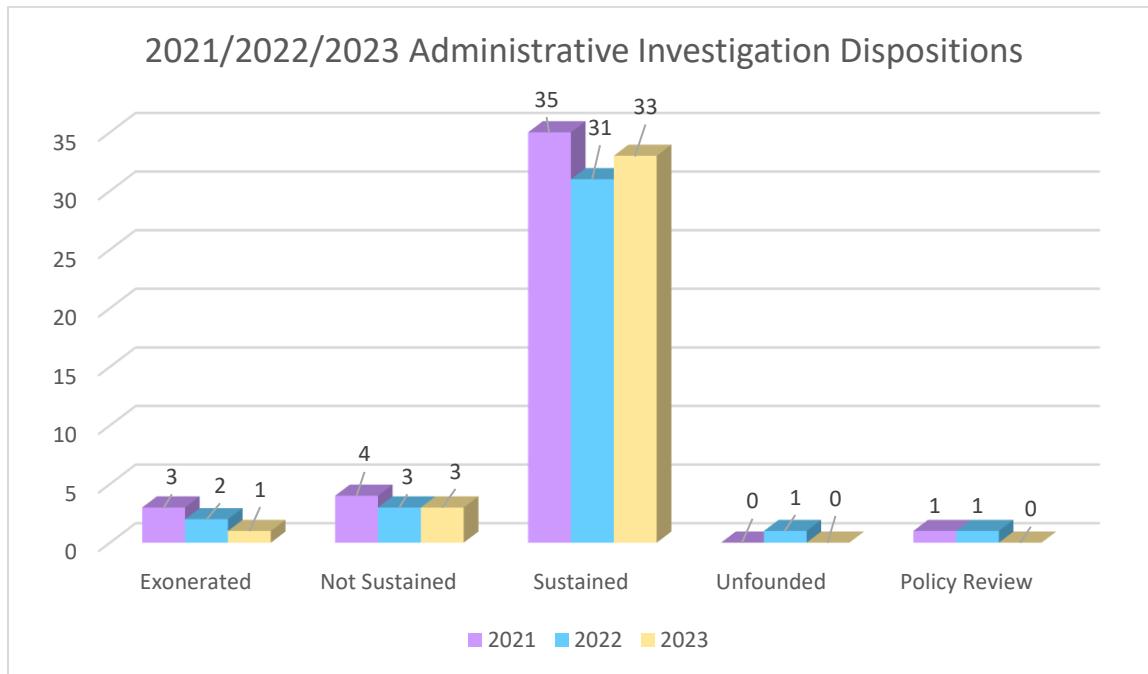


Figure 23: 2021-2023 Dispositions of Administrative Investigations.

In 2023 there were 33 investigations, which resulted in a sustained disposition. These investigations resulted in 45 sustained individual allegations and totaled 48 actions taken. It is important to note that for some of the allegations, more than one action was taken. For example, an officer may have received a written reprimand and remedial training for one allegation. There may be circumstances where an officer may have had three sustained allegations, but only one action taken to cover all three allegations. There are also administrative investigations that may involve more than one employee. The chart below depicts disciplinary actions taken during 2023 administrative investigations that resulted in sustained allegations.

Actions Taken from Sustained Allegations

Sustained Allegations - 2023	
Actions Taken	Number
Counseling	1
Verbal Counseling	2
Written Reprimand	18
Dismissal	4

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Off-Duty Privileges Revoked	3
Performance Plan	1
Policy Review	1
Remedial Training	2
Resigned While Under Investigation	1
Take Home Vehicle Privileges Revoked	1
Suspension	14
TOTAL	48

Figure 24: 2023 Actions Taken as a result of sustained allegations in Administrative Investigations.

As a requirement by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and Law Enforcement Training Council, the Charleston Police Department reports incidents involving a suspension, officer misconduct, and anytime there is a separation of employment of an officer. This could be in lieu of a resignation, retirement, or termination.

Demographic Information-Externally Generated Administrative Investigations

Officer Demographic Information from Externally Generated Administrative Investigations

There were 11 employees linked to the 10 externally generated administrative investigations in 2023. There were 13 employees linked to the 11 externally generated administrative investigations in 2022 and 11 employees linked to the employees linked to the externally generated administrative investigations in 2021.

The demographic information with regard to race and gender for the employees in these administrative investigations for 2021, 2022, and 2023 is depicted in the table below.

Officer Demographic Information	2021	2022	2023
Total # of Involved Employees	11	13	11
Race of Involved Employees			
White	91%	100%	100%
Black	9%	0%	0%
Hispanic	0%	0%	0%
Asian	0%	0%	0%
Other	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Gender of Involved Employees			
Male	100%	100%	100%
Female	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Figure 25: Officer Demographic Information from 2021-2023 externally generated administrative investigations.

Complainant Demographic Information from Externally Generated Administrative Investigations

There were 9 complainants linked to the 10 externally generated administrative investigations in 2023. The one other complainant in 2023 was a business that manages off-duty employment. There were 10 complainants linked to the 11 externally generated administrative investigations in 2022 and 7 complainants linked to the 8 externally generated administrative investigations in 2021.

The demographic information with regard to the race and gender of the complainants for these administrative investigations for 2021 through 2023 is depicted in the table below.

Complainant Demographic Information	2021	2022	2023
Total # of Involved Complainants	7	10	9
Race of Involved Complainants			
White	42.85%	30.00%	55.55%
Black	57.15%	60.00%	33.33%
Hispanic	0%	10.00%	0%
Asian	0%	0%	0%
Middle Eastern	0%	0%	11.11%
Total	100%	100%	100%
Gender of Involved Complainants			
Male	71.42%	80.00%	66.66%
Female	28.57%	20.00%	33.33%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Figure 26: Citizen Demographic Information from 2021-2023 externally generated administrative investigations.

Supervisor Complaint Intakes

Supervisor Complaint Intakes (SCIs) were created at the beginning of 2019. A Supervisor Complaint Intake is an entry in BlueTeam designed to document complaints taken by supervisors or the OIA to address and document any concern or question about a possible policy violation, the procedure used, or action taken by any employee of the Department. Supervisory Complaint Intakes are forwarded to the OIA for entry into the

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

IAPro system. This module was created to establish a method to field and document complaints in CPD's internal system.

Should a supervisor develop or receive information that a Department employee is suspected of a Class "A" Offense, that supervisor will report the violation to their Chain of Command and in turn, the OIA will be notified. A Class "A" Offense is categorized as a more serious complaint. It will be the responsibility of the OIA to record all Class "A" complaints in IAPro as an Investigation.

Any supervisor receiving a Class "B" Offense complaint will complete a BlueTeam "Supervisory Complaint Intake" and forward it through the employee's chain of command. A Class "B" Offense is categorized as an allegation of a less serious infraction. If the supervisor can investigate the complaint at the time it was reported, it will be noted in the intake along with how the complaint was resolved and their findings. If the complaint cannot be resolved, or if the supervisor requests the complaint be opened as an administrative investigation, then the OIA will generate an Administrative Investigation.

In 2023, 217 complaints were generated and logged into the system as Supervisor Complaint Intakes (SCIs) and 154 of these were external complaints. This is compared to a total of 193 complaints being generated and logged as Supervisor Complaint Intakes (SCIs) with 127 of these being external in 2022.

The table below shows the manner in which the complaints were resolved.

Disposition	2021	2022	2023
Exonerated	25	35	53
Unfounded	75	52	41
Not Sustained	21	28	25
Sustained	69	68	91
Policy Review	1	0	1
Referred for Investigation	5	10	6
Total	196	193	217

Figure 27: Dispositions of Supervisor Complaint Intakes from 2021-2023.

In 2023, 91 SCIs resulted in a complaint being sustained against the accused officer(s). The actions taken in these supervisor complaint intakes were either verbal counseling/reprimand, remedial training, or an employee feedback form. Out of the 217 SCIs, 6 were referred to an administrative investigation conducted by the OIA or the employee's chain of command.

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

An employee's discipline history can be a factor when determining if an SCI needs to be referred to an investigation (Example: A citizen files a complaint about an officer speeding. If this specific officer has had a prior sustained SCI pertaining to driving issues, then a referral to an investigation is warranted). Supervisor Complaint Intakes that result in a finding of exonerated, not sustained or unfounded will be purged from IA PRO, forty-two (42) months after the date of findings in the initial Supervisor Complaint Intake.¹⁶

Compliments

CPD received a total of 166 compliments from the public and internally through the department for their good deeds during 2023. The compliments are documented in CPD's BlueTeam software platform. The compliments ranged from comments praising the professionalism, empathy and compassion displayed by officers to gratitude for specific actions of officers. Highlights of the specific actions taken by officers include developing rapport with a mental health patient, changing a flat tire, applying life saving measures to aggravated assault victims, providing gifts to a child for his birthday, the apprehension of criminals, and intervening and saving the lives of individuals who attempt to commit suicide.

¹⁶ General Order 10 (2/23/22): Office of Internal Affairs

VEHICLE PURSUITS & COLLISIONS

Vehicle Pursuits – Policy and Practice

Vehicular pursuit of fleeing suspects presents a danger to the lives of the public, officers, and suspects involved in the pursuit. The primary goal of the department is the protection of life and property. It is the policy of this department to protect all persons' lives to the fullest extent possible when enforcing the law. To effect these obligations, it is the policy of the department to strictly regulate the manner in which a vehicular pursuit is undertaken and performed. Officers involved in pursuits are permitted to exceed the speed limit and travel through traffic control devices, BUT ONLY WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE SAFETY OF OTHER PERSONS. Officers must understand the laws of the state of South Carolina and any questions that arise must be immediately directed to a supervisor. Officers are reminded that in the security of their patrol cars, they may not naturally focus on the risks that their driving and the driving of the offender's car create, but such attention is critical. In addition, it is the responsibility of the department to assist officers in the safe performance of their duties.¹⁷

Statistics from Vehicle Pursuits

CPD Pursuits	2021	2022	2023
Total Pursuits	9	2	6
Officers involved	25	5	15
Terminated by Supervisor	0	0	3
Terminated by Officer	1	1	1
Terminated by Suspect Action	8	1	2
Policy Compliant	7	1	5
Policy Non-compliant	2	1	1
Injuries:			
Officer	0	0	0
Suspect(s)	0	0	2
Third Party	0	0	1
Reason Initiated:			
Traffic Offense	0	0	0
Criminal Offense	8	1	6
Suspicious Behavior	1	1	0

¹⁷ CPD General Order 27 (1/12/21): Vehicle Pursuit.

VEHICLE PURSUITS & COLLISIONS

Offenses Initiating a Pursuit	2021	2022	2023
Aggravated Assault	4	1	5
Larceny of a Vehicle	1	0	1
Robbery – Armed	3	0	0
Suspicious Behavior	1	1	0
Total Pursuits	9	2	6

Figure 28: Vehicle Pursuit Statistical Data from 2021-2023.

There was a decrease of 7 in vehicle pursuits from 2021 to 2022. From 2022 to 2023, the number of vehicle pursuits increased by 4, totaling 6 vehicle pursuits in 2023. In regard to the 2023 vehicle pursuits, they all occurred during evening or nighttime hours; however, there were no other distinct patterns concerning the month of the year or the day of the week the vehicle pursuits took place.

One of the two pursuits originated in another jurisdiction and involved officers from different teams due to the pursuit encompassing different areas of the city. Four (4) pursuits occurred in Team 4, one (1) pursuit occurred in Team 1 and one (1) pursuit occurred in Team 2. No pursuits occurred in Teams 3 or 5. One of the six pursuits were deemed to be not within CPD policy. There were no fatalities resulting from a pursuit initiated by an officer. There were also two citizens in a suspect vehicle and one citizen in an uninvolved vehicle that sustained minor injuries as a result of an accident that occurred during a pursuit.

VEHICLE PURSUITS & COLLISIONS

Employee (Sworn and Professional Staff) Motor Vehicle Collisions

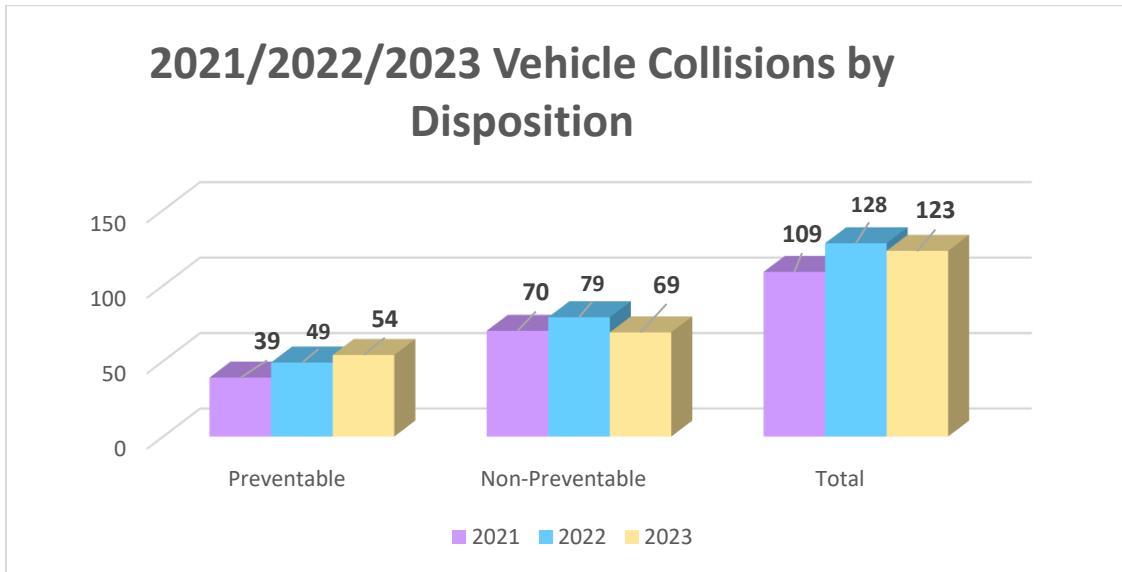


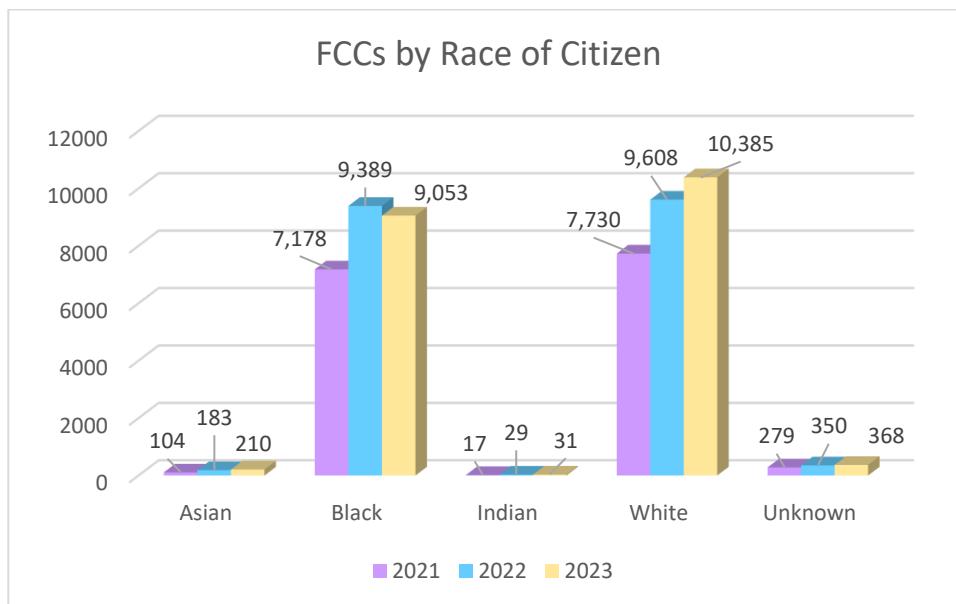
Figure 29: 2021/2022/2023 Dispositions of Vehicle Collisions.

From 2022 to 2023, the number of collisions decreased from 128 to 123, which is a 3.9% decrease. The total number of collisions increased from 109 to 128 from 2021 to 2022, a 17.4% increase. A vehicle collision can include an employee backing a vehicle into an object or vehicle, as well as a collision with another vehicle or object on the roadway. The collisions deemed preventable represented 35.8% in 2021, 38.3% in 2022, and 43.9% in 2023 of the total vehicle collisions for the respective year. There are currently 428 CPD employees assigned a city vehicle, with the majority of the vehicles being assigned to patrol officers who patrol the City of Charleston during all hours of the day.

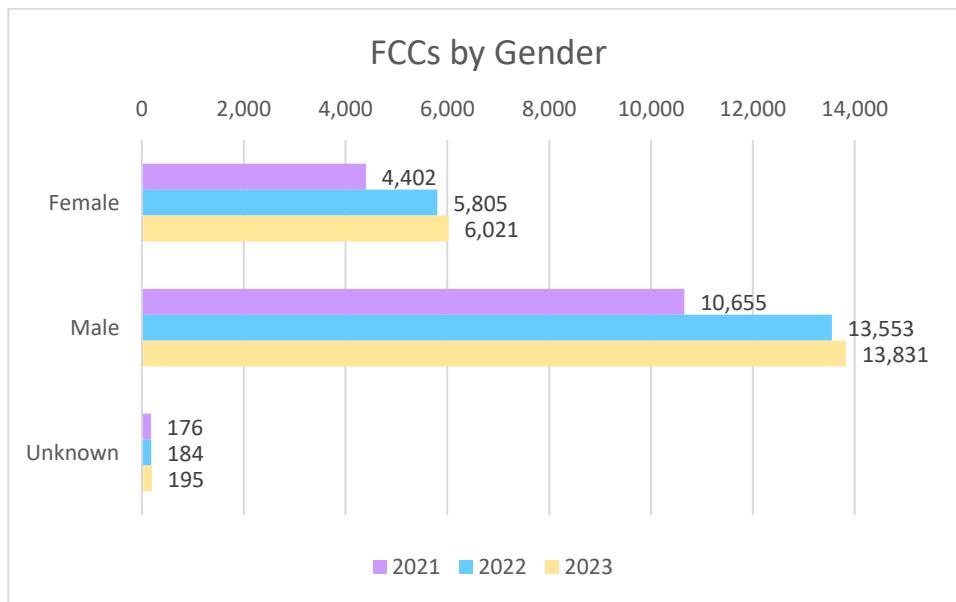
APPENDIX A

2023 Field Contact Card Data

Field Contact Cards by Race of Citizen

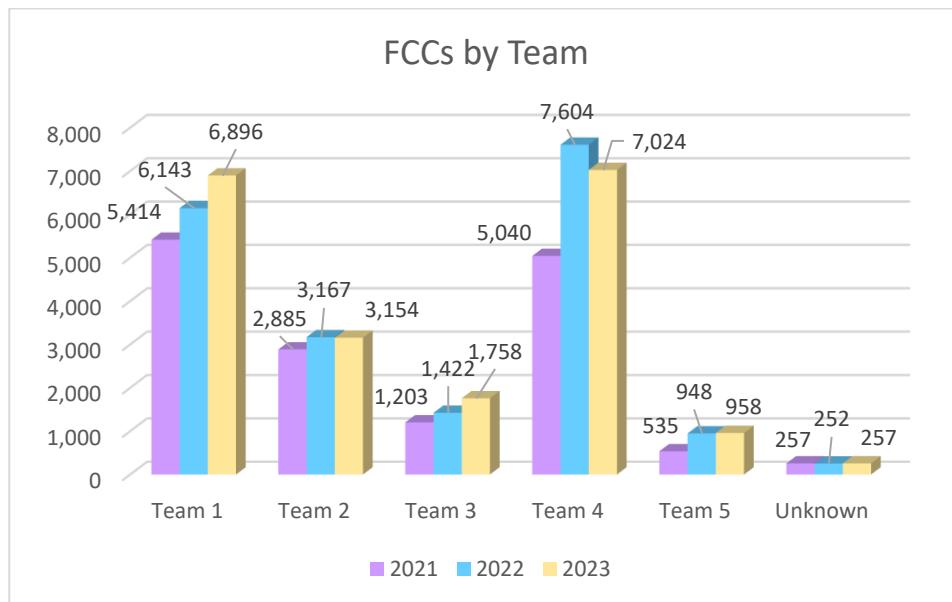


Field Contact Cards by Gender

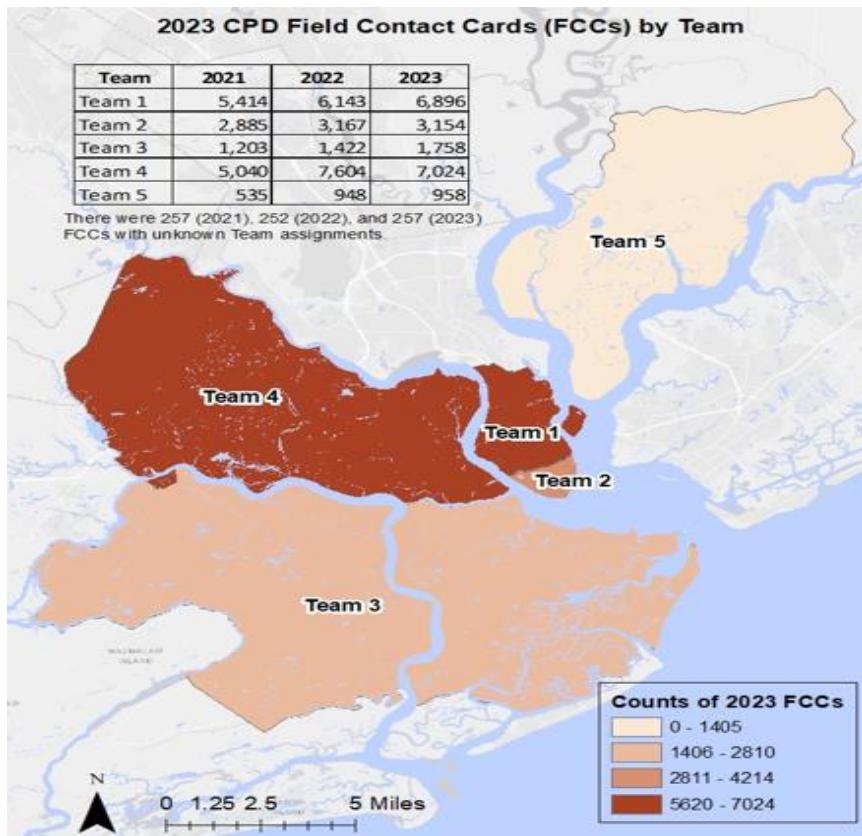


APPENDIX A

Field Contact Cards by Patrol Teams

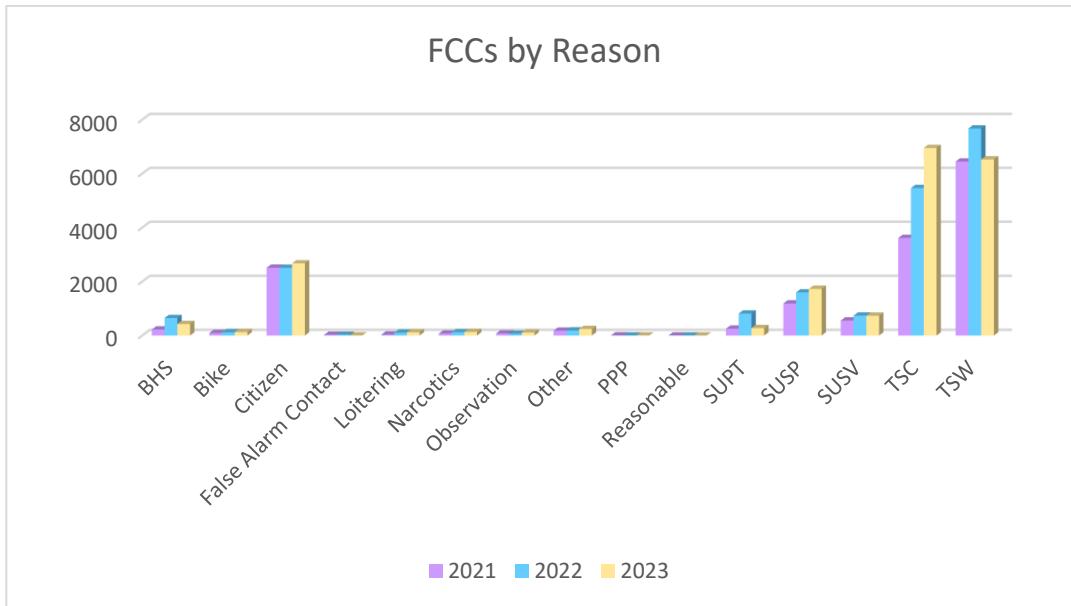


Map of Field Contact Cards by Patrol Teams



APPENDIX A

Field Contact Cards by Reason



FCC Reasons Defined¹⁸

- **BHS – Behavioral Health Subject:** This reason is utilized to document a call for service or officer observation of someone suffering from possible mental health or substance abuse issues. When selecting this reason, officers should consider the following factors:
 - Self-report (person calls on themselves)
 - Information provided to dispatch anonymously, by a witness or family member, etc., referencing previous interactions
 - Direct observation including, but not limited to, behaviors consistent with psychiatric diagnoses, such as disorientation/confusion, unusual behavior/appearance (neglect of self-care), hearing voices/hallucinating, anxiety/excitement/agitation, depressed mood, crying, paranoia or suspicion, self-harm, and/or threatening violence towards others.
- **BIKE – Bicycle Stop:** Officer's reason for field contact is due to a violation of law by a person on a bicycle.
- **CITZ – Citizen Complaint:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off a call for service generated by a citizen not law enforcement.
- **FAC – False Alarm Contact:** Officer conducts follow up with a resident or business due to a false alarm to document a warning or citation being issued. MFR Field Guide – Field Contact Card 6
- **LOIT – Loitering:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off of a subject loitering or prowling in a place, at a time or in a manner not usual for law abiding individuals under circumstances that warrant alarm for the safety of persons or property in the vicinity.

¹⁸ CPD Field Guide – MFR – Field Contact Card (05/18/23).

APPENDIX A

- **NARC – Possible Narcotic Activity:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off his or her witnessing a narcotic transaction or related behavior that would provide the officer with reasonable suspicion to conduct a Terry Stop.
- **OBS – Observation Only:** Officer's reason for field contact is he or she witnesses some type of activity that is deemed important for possible investigative follow-up, but physical contact is not needed or could jeopardize the investigation.
- **OTHR – Other:** Officer's reason for field contact does not meet any of the other described categories and is deemed important for possible investigative purposes.
- **PPP – PPP Stop/Search:** Officer's reason for field contact is to document a PPP Stop/Search when he or she either discovers that the subject is a PPP candidate or has intimate knowledge of the subject and knows that they meet the requirements for PPP Stop/Search.
- **SUPT – Possible Subject/Match Description:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off information received that would tend to lead a trained officer to believe that the person being stopped could be a possible subject in a freshly committed crime or an investigation that is actively being pursued.
- **SUSP – Suspicious Person:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off the actions of a subject that is deemed suspicious in nature and/or the behavior is not normal for that respective area.
- **SUSV – Suspicious Vehicle:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off the actions of a vehicle that is deemed suspicious in nature and/or the behavior is not normal for that respective area.
- **TSC – Traffic Stop Citation Issued:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off the completion of a lawful motor vehicle stop where a citation(s) was issued.
- **TSW – Traffic Stop Warning Issued:** Officer's reason for field contact is based off the completion of a lawful motor vehicle stop where a warning was issued.

APPENDIX B

CPD 2023 Citizen Encounters

2023 CPD Citizen Encounters

Source: OSSi RMS, TriTech CAD

Prepared by CIU (2709) on 01/16/2024

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total YTD
Calls to CCCD	31,309	34,962	32,417	28,062	126,750
Self-Initiated	28,604	25,280	23,921	26,603	104,408
Investigations	739	785	808	714	3,046
Est. Interactions	60,652	61,027	57,146	55,379	234,204
Traffic Stops	3,540	2,544	2,991	3,259	12,334
Field Contacts	5,112	3,993	4,626	4,591	18,322
Arrests	1,228	1,082	1,143	1,084	4,537

2022 CPD Citizen Encounters

Source: OSSi RMS, TriTech CAD

Prepared by CIU (2709) on January 12, 2023

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total YTD
Calls to CCCD	26,864	32,280	33,942	31,251	124,337
Self-Initiated	33,949	27,424	24,561	24,849	110,783
Investigations	668	695	851	765	2,979
Est. Interactions	61,481	60,399	59,354	56,865	238,099
Traffic Stops	3,580	3,290	3,382	3,625	13,877
Field Contacts	5,060	4,724	4,797	4,898	19,479
Arrests	1,000	1,099	1,156	1,196	4,451

2021 CPD Citizen Encounters

Source: OSSi RMS, TriTech CAD

Prepared by CIU (1950) on January 5, 2022

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total YTD
Calls to CCCD	28,262	31,206	30,757	28,647	118,872
Self-Initiated	40,465	32,757	33,220	35,071	141,513
Investigations	766	756	847	722	3,091
Est. Interactions	69,493	64,719	64,824	64,440	263,476
Traffic Stops	2,465	2,754	2,660	2,882	10,761
Field Contacts	3,579	3,758	3,725	4,188	15,250
Arrests	921	965	996	929	3,811

APPENDIX C

Non-Sworn Personnel Demographics Summary

Non-Sworn: 87 (as of December 31, 2023)

Male: 29 White: 52

Female: 57 Minority: 34

Non-Sworn Personnel Demographics Summary

Non-Sworn	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	>=60	Total	%
Black	5	5	7	9	4	30	34.48%
Female	3	4	6	7	4	24	
Male	2	1	1	2	-	6	
American Indiana/Alaskan Native	-	1	-	-	-	1	1.15%
Female	-	1	-	-	-	1	
Other	-	-	1	-	1	2	2.30%
Female	-	-	1	-	1	2	
White	10	18	7	9	8	52	59.77%
Unreported	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Female	8	10	4	5	2	29	
Male	1	8	3	4	6	22	
Hispanic	1	1	-	-	-	2	2.30%
Female	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Male	-	1	-	-	-	1	
Total	16	25	15	18	13	87	