

FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTABLE RESPONSE RESISTANCE PROJECT



First Quarter 2021
(January/February/March)

Paco Balderrama
Chief of Police

Final Report

Use of Reportable Response Resistance (Force) Data Collection

Despite Fresno police officers routine use of verbal commands, and attempts to negotiate peaceful solutions when involved in adversarial situations, there are times when physical force is necessary to make an arrest, prevent an escape, overcome resistance, or defend against injury to officers or citizens. Officers use force as a last resort, with the vast majority of confrontations resolved with very little, if any, force applied. On rare occasions, deadly force must be used; however, the public is often unaware of the vast majority of potentially deadly confrontations that are peacefully resolved without resorting to deadly force.

Closely monitoring our officers assures management oversight and helps to build public trust. In order to accomplish this, we require a review of each reportable use of force by field supervisors. Data is collected by the supervisors, forwarded through the department chain of command and reviewed at each level of supervision, to include Deputy Chiefs of Police.

After staff review is complete, the Professional Standards Unit reviews police reports and other force data for comparative analysis and composite reporting. This information is used to determine effectiveness and necessity of the force used, reliability of equipment, training needs, policy modifications, etc.

The Department defines reportable force as any force when:

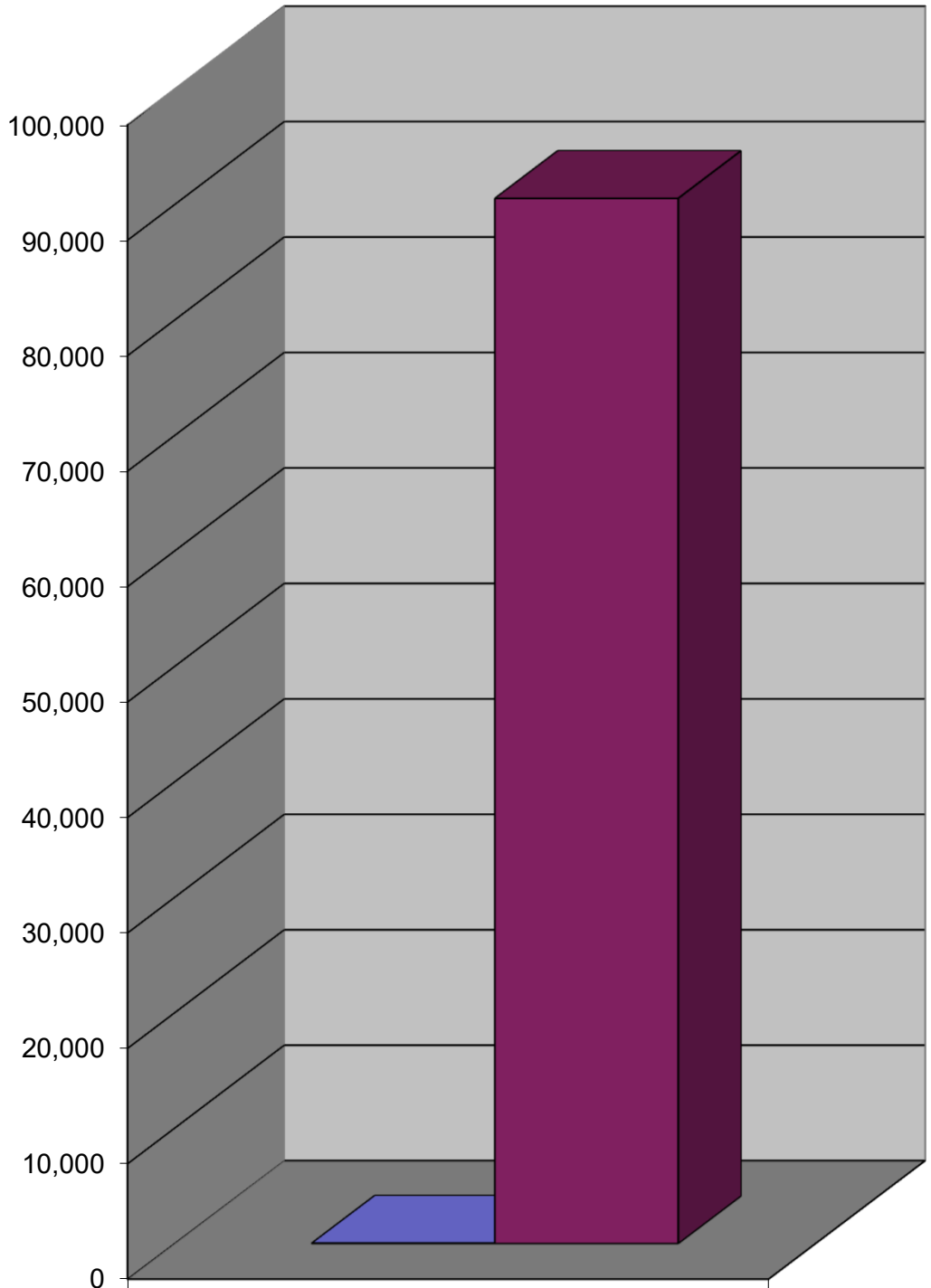
1. Officers (including canines) use force and a person is injured, has expressed a complaint of pain or has been rendered unconscious; or,
2. Officers strike a person with a body part (e.g., fist, foot, elbow, etc.) or any object (e.g., flashlight, clipboard, etc.); or,
3. Officers use (not merely display) a Department issued weapon (e.g., baton, chemical agents, Taser, less lethal, shotgun, firearm, etc.) against another.

Fresno police officers applied force in 34 incidents while responding to 90,540 calls for service (CFS). This equates to officers applying force in 0.038% of all calls for service for this reporting period.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Calls For Service (CFS) vs. Reportable Response Resistance (Force) Incidents	1
Suspect Demographics	2
Daily Crime Bulletin (Wanted Persons) By Race	3
Force Incidents By Day Of Week, City-Wide	4
Force Incidents By Hour Of Day, City-Wide	4
Force Incidents By Policing District	5
All Calls For Service (CFS) By Policing District	5
District Map	6
Force Incidents By Gender Of Suspects	7
Reported Crimes By Age and Race Of Suspects	7
Reportable Force Incidents By Age and Race Of Suspects	8-9
Type Of CFS Resulting In Reportable Force Incidents	10
Suspect's Actions Necessitating The Use of Force	11
Reportable Force Incidents By Type Of CFS and Suspect's Action	11
Suspect's Drug/Alcohol Use With Reportable Force Applied	12
Suspect Weapons With Reportable Force Applied	12
Reportable Force Used By Officers	13
Officer Safety Issues, Weapon Retention	14
Suspect Medical Review After Reportable Force Applied	14
Officers Assaulted	15
Officers Injured	15
Supervisor On Scene When Reportable Force Applied	16

Calls For Service (CFS) vs. Reportable Response Resistance (Force) Incidents



	Total
■ FORCE USED	34
■ CALLS FOR SERVICE	90,540

CFS does not include events handled telephonically.
0.038% of all CFS resulted in the application of reportable force.

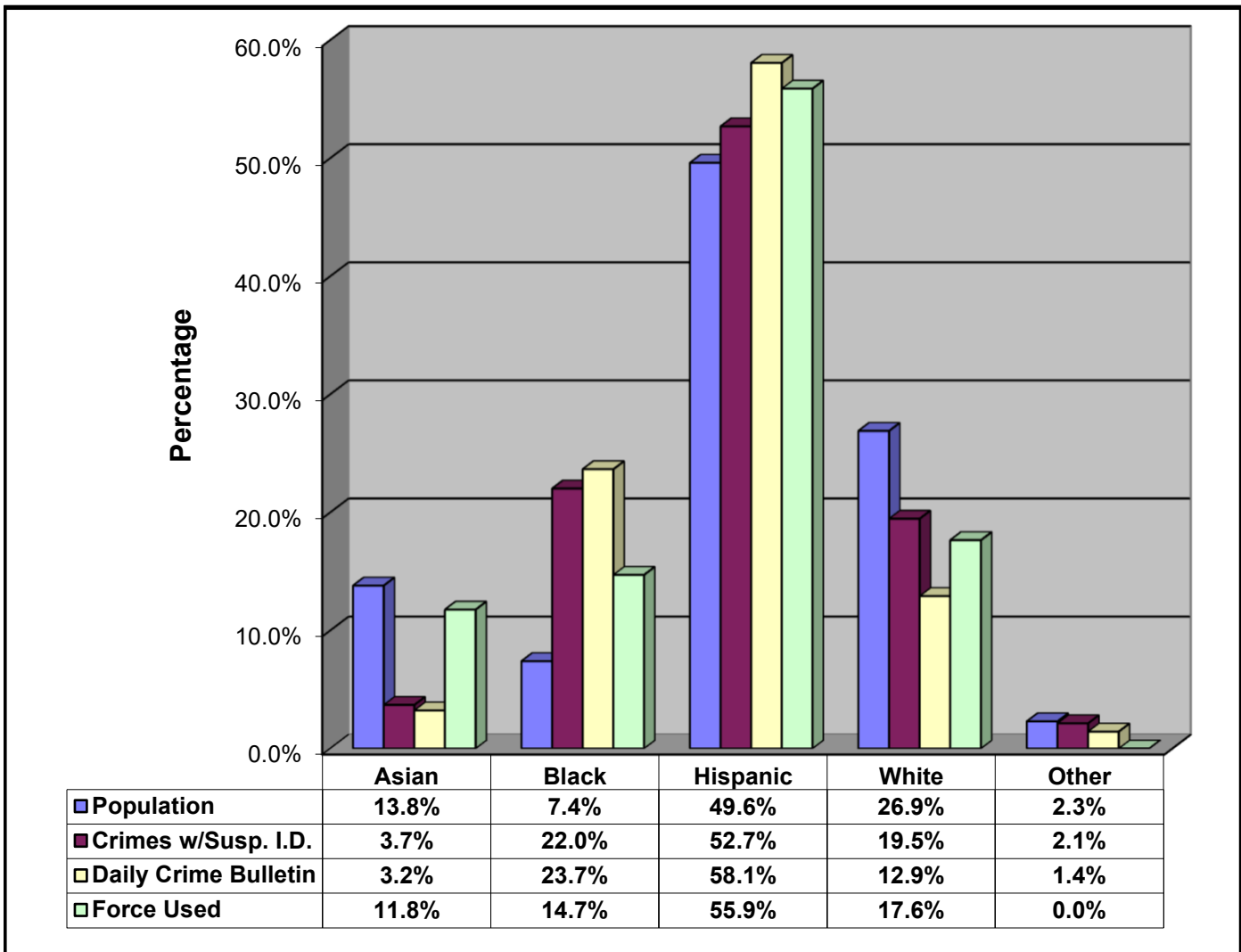
Suspect Demographics

	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other
City of Fresno Pop. (531,573)*	73,357	39,336	263,661	142,993	12,226
Percentage	13.8%	7.4%	49.6%	26.9%	2.3%
Crimes with Suspect's Race/Age Identified (7,444)	275	1,639	3,922	1,449	159
Percentage	3.7%	22.0%	52.7%	19.5%	2.1%
Daily Crime Bulletin Listings (277)**	9	66	162	36	4
Percentage	3.2%	23.7%	58.1%	12.9%	1.4%
Force Applications (34)***	4	5	19	6	0
Percentage	11.8%	14.7%	55.9%	17.6%	0.0%

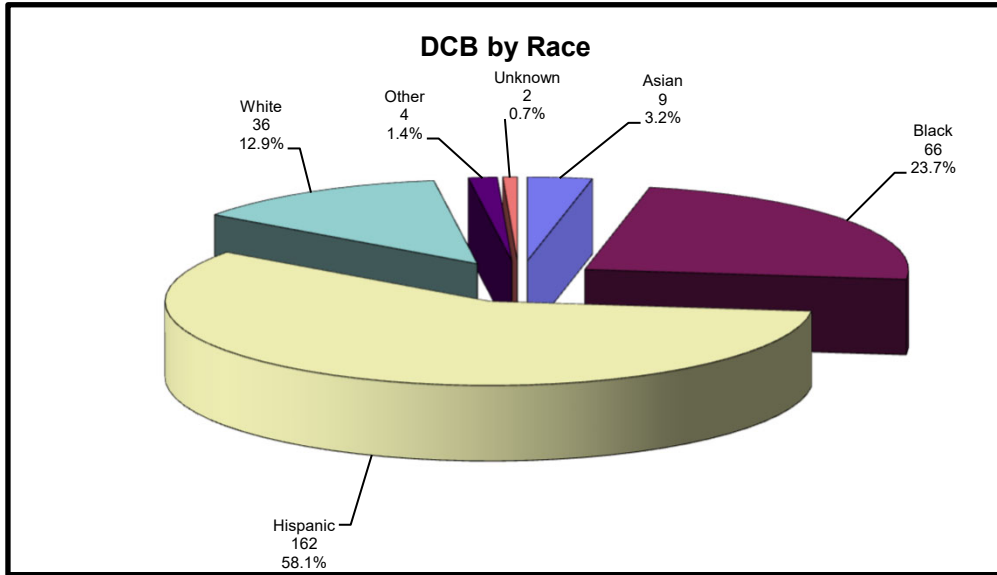
* 2020 Census

** 2 persons or 0.7% were listed as 'unknown' (see page 3 for definition of Daily Crime Bulletin - DCB)

*** Of the 34 reportable force cases, 0 had no age or race data available



DAILY CRIME BULLETIN (WANTED PERSONS) BY RACE LISTINGS – 279

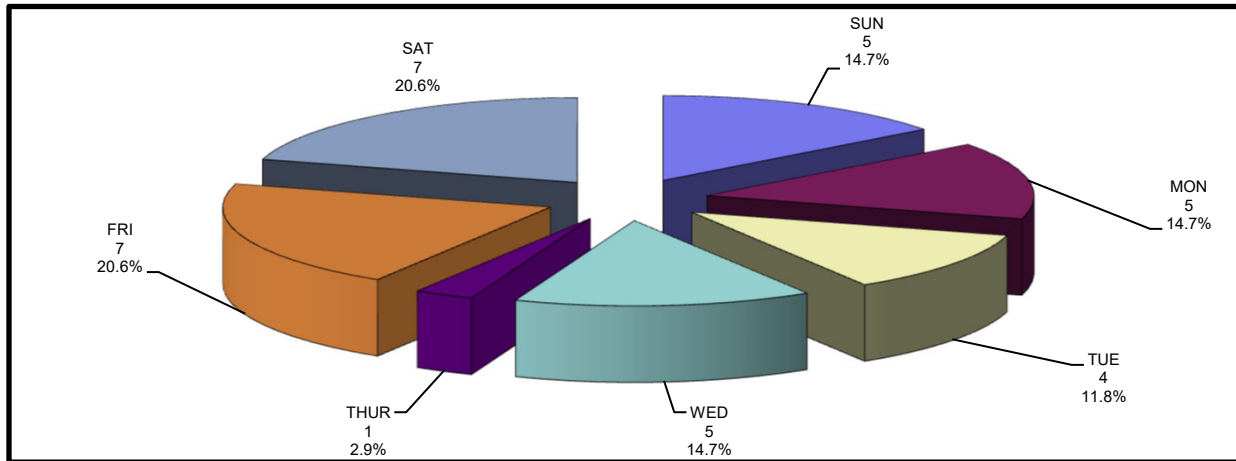


Order by Race:	Hispanic	-	58.1%
	Black	-	23.7%
	White	-	12.9%
	Asian	-	3.2%
	Other	-	1.4%
	Unknown	-	0.7%

The Daily Crime Bulletin (DCB) is a restricted, law enforcement use only document, issued department wide to all sworn personnel and twelve other local/state agencies to assist in locating/arresting suspects and wanted persons. The DCB is issued seven days a week and typically contains the following information:

- 1) Felonies with known, at-large, suspects
- 2) Wanted parolees
- 3) Officer safety information (vehicle occupants in possession of firearms, possible armed subjects, etc.)

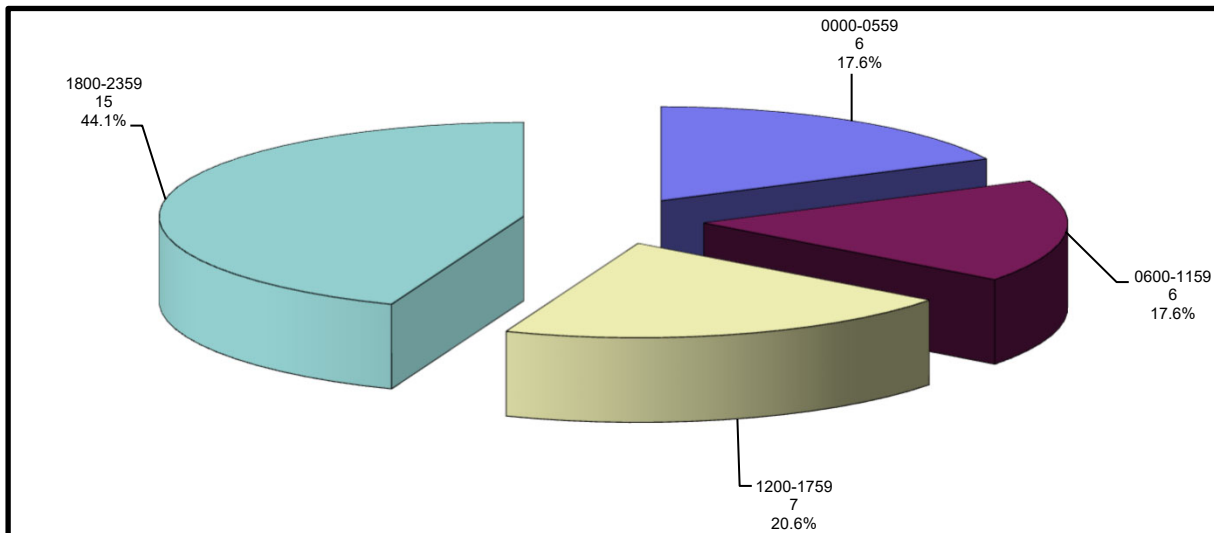
FORCE INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK, CITY-WIDE



Order by Day of the Week:

Friday	-	20.6%
Saturday	-	20.6%
Monday	-	14.7%
Sunday	-	14.7%
Wednesday	-	14.7%
Tuesday	-	11.8%
Thursday	-	2.9%

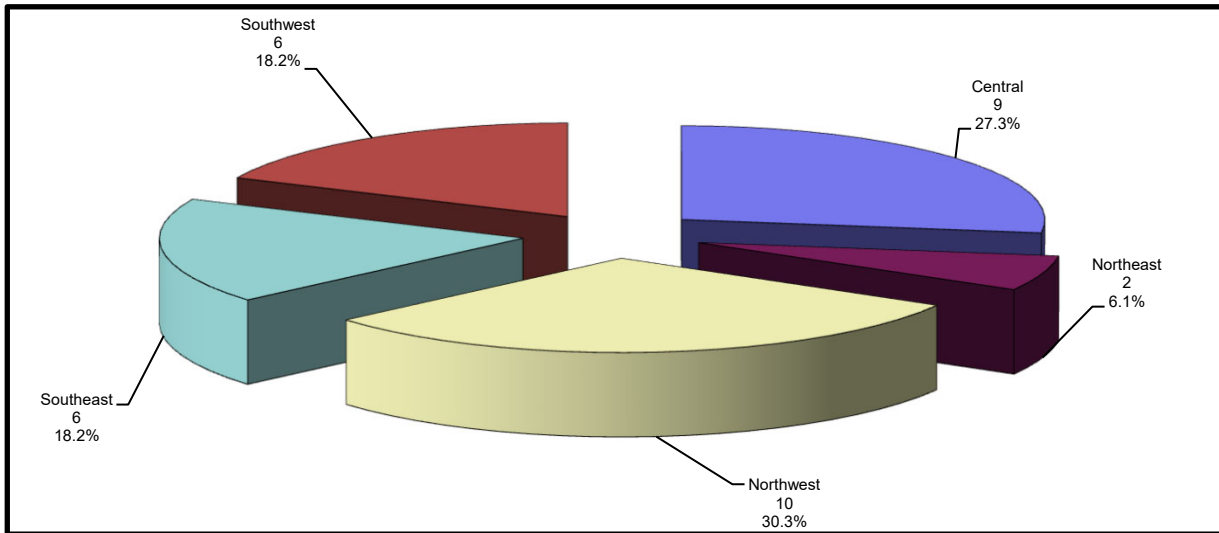
FORCE INCIDENTS BY HOUR OF DAY, CITY-WIDE



Order by Hours of the Day:

1800 to 2359 hrs	-	44.1%
1200 to 1759 hrs	-	20.6%
0000 to 0559 hrs	-	17.6%
0600 to 1159 hrs	-	17.6%

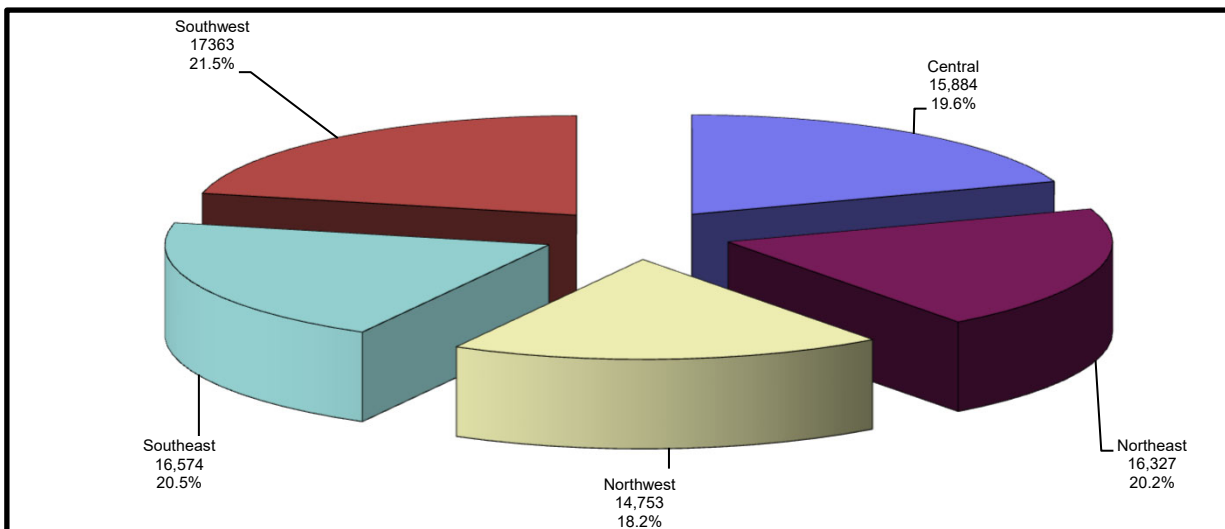
FORCE INCIDENTS BY POLICING DISTRICT*



Of the 34 force incidents, 1 were not assigned to a specific district.

Order by District:	Northwest	-	30.3%
	Central	-	27.3%
	Southeast	-	18.2%
	Southwest	-	18.2%
	Northeast	-	6.1%

ALL CALLS FOR SERVICE (CFS) BY POLICING DISTRICT*



Of the 90,540 CFS, 9,639 were not assigned to a specific district.

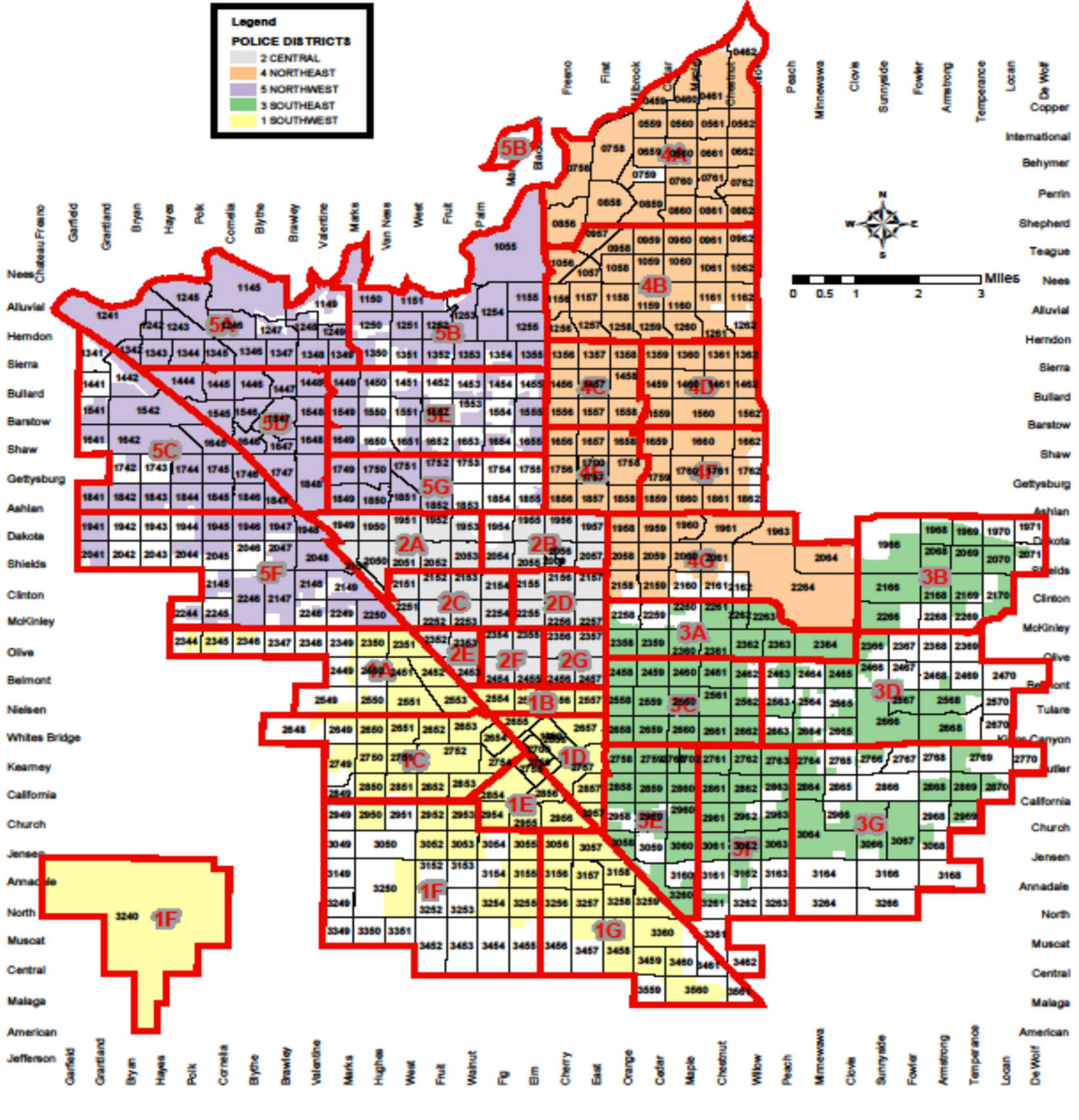
Order by District:	Southwest	-	21.5%
	Southeast	-	20.5%
	Northeast	-	20.2%
	Central	-	19.6%
	Northwest	-	18.2%

* See page 6 for policing district boundaries.

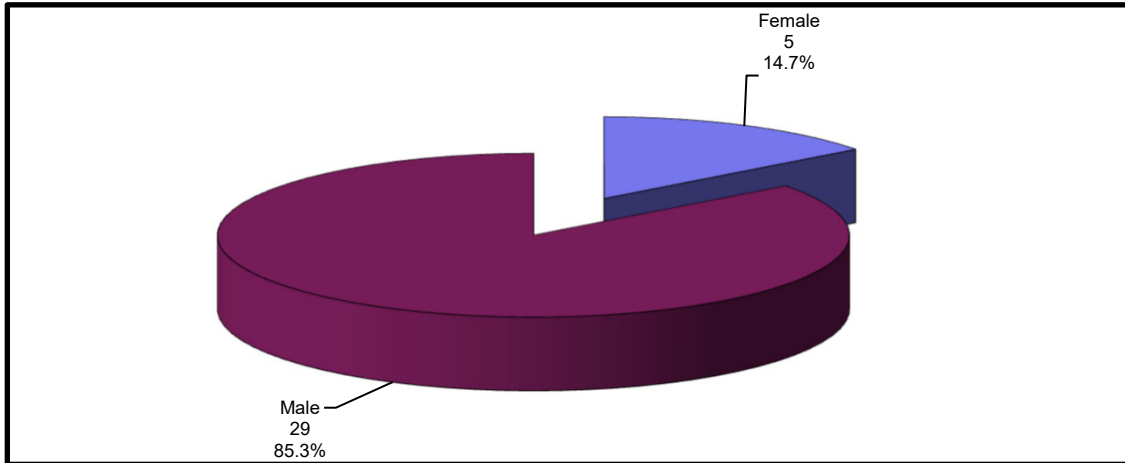
Fresno Police Department

Legend
POLICE DISTRICTS

- 2 CENTRAL
- 4 NORTHEAST
- 5 NORTHWEST
- 3 SOUTHEAST
- 1 SOUTHWEST



FORCE INCIDENTS BY GENDER OF SUSPECTS



Of the 34 force incidents, 0 had no gender data available.

REPORTED CRIMES BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS

Age Group	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	TOTAL
12-17	4	78	141	49	4	276
18-23	38	320	748	148	35	1,289
24-29	54	382	890	267	29	1,622
30-35	70	306	809	289	33	1,507
36-41	54	199	588	258	21	1,120
42-47	30	133	357	181	16	717
48-53	12	102	187	110	12	423
54-59	5	63	123	75	5	271
60-65	4	42	51	46	3	146
66 and Over	4	14	28	26	1	73
Total	275	1,639	3,922	1,449	159	7,444

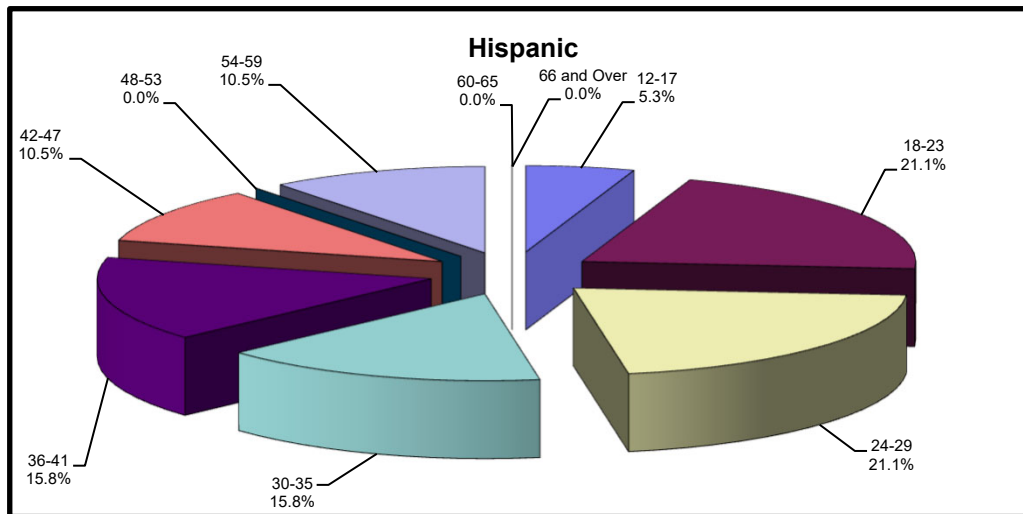
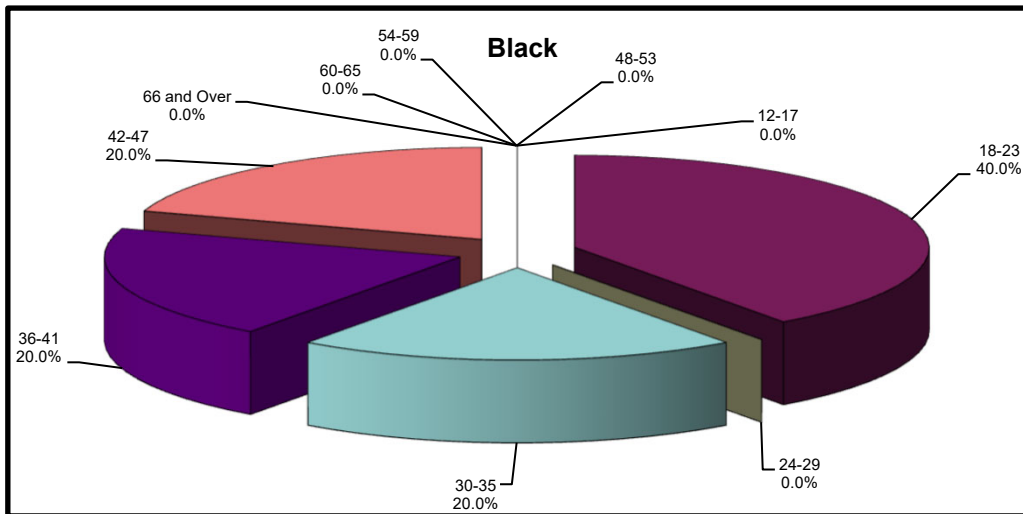
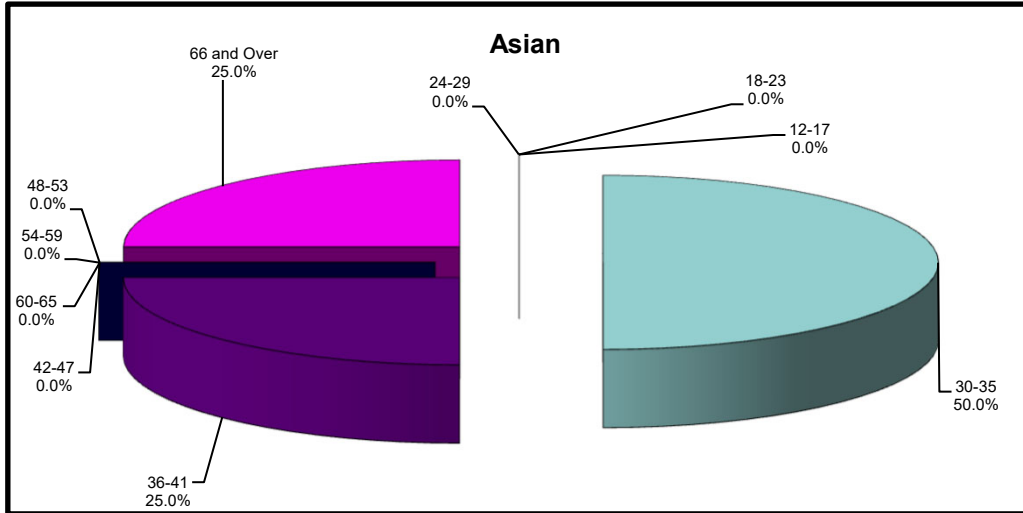
Of the 14,956 reported crime suspects, 7,444 had both age and race data.

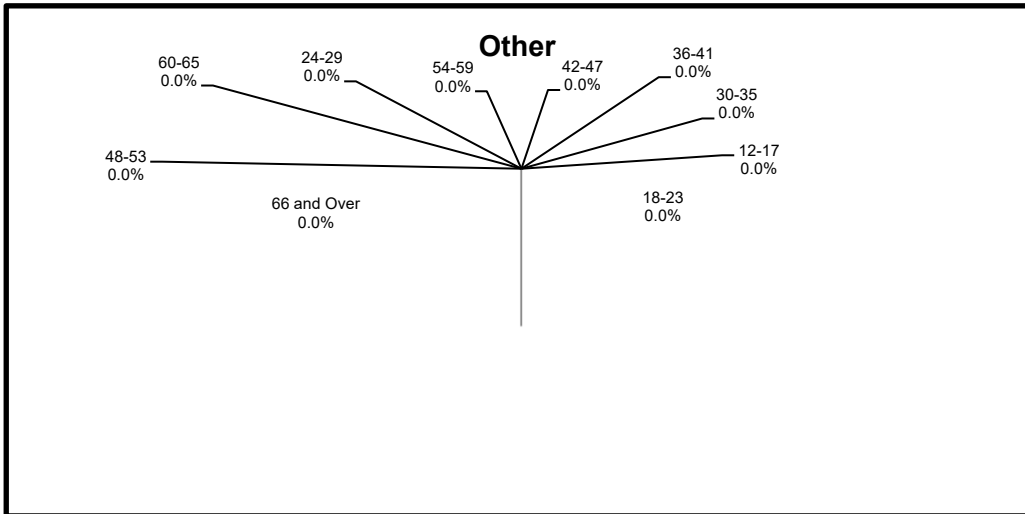
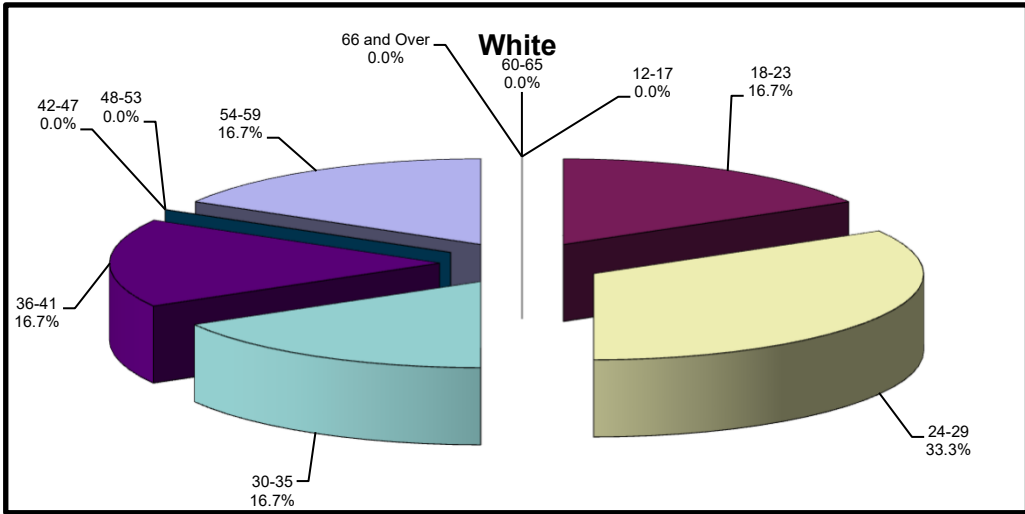
REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS

Age Group	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	TOTAL
12-17			1			1
18-23		2	4	1		7
24-29			4	2		6
30-35	2	1	3	1		7
36-41	1	1	3	1		6
42-47		1	2			3
48-53						0
54-59			2	1		3
60-65						0
66 and Over	1					1
Total	4	5	19	6	0	34

Of the 34 force incidents, 34 had both age and race data.

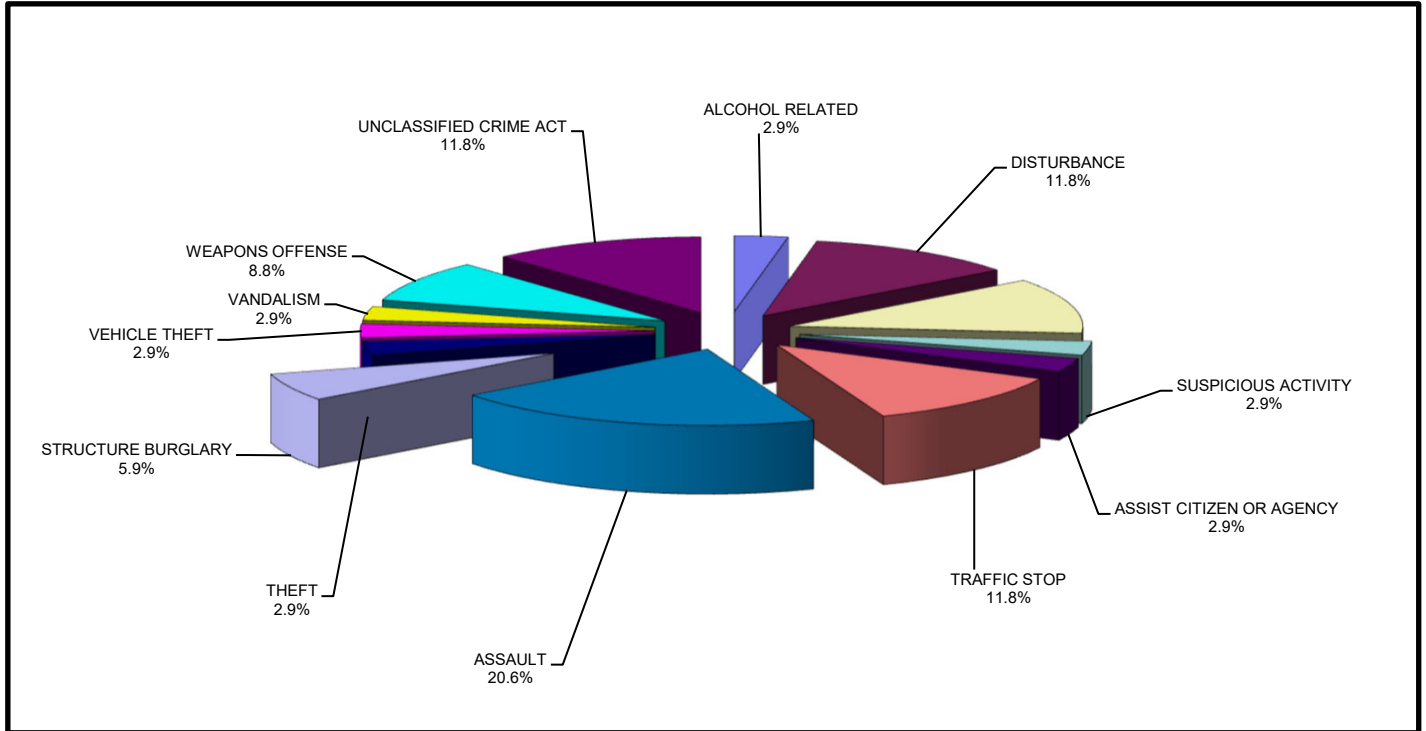
REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS





"Other" refers to persons whose race is not defined as Asian, Black, Hispanic or White, i.e. persons from the Pacific Islands or American Indian.

TYPE OF CFS RESULTING IN REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS

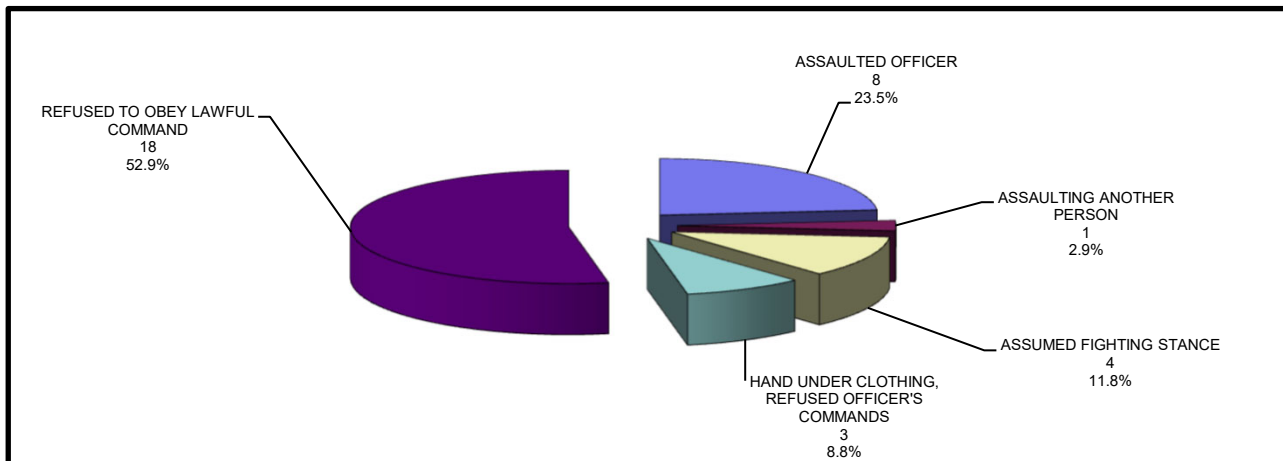


Order by Force Incident Clearance Code:

Force Incident Clearance Code	Force Incidents:	CFS Total:
ASSAULT	- 7	804
DISTURBANCE	- 4	15136
HEALTH/SUICIDE	- 4	5736
TRAFFIC STOP	- 4	11774
UNCLASSIFIED CRIME ACT	- 4	145
WEAPONS OFFENSE	- 3	1869
STRUCTURE BURGLARY	- 2	4369
ALCOHOL RELATED	- 1	128
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	- 1	13282
ASSIST CITIZEN OR AGENCY	- 1	2315
THEFT	- 1	1991
VEHICLE THEFT	- 1	2233
VANDALISM	- 1	592
TOTAL	34 *	

* 0 force incidents had wrong or no clearance codes.

SUSPECT'S ACTIONS NECESSITATING THE USE OF FORCE



Order by Action:

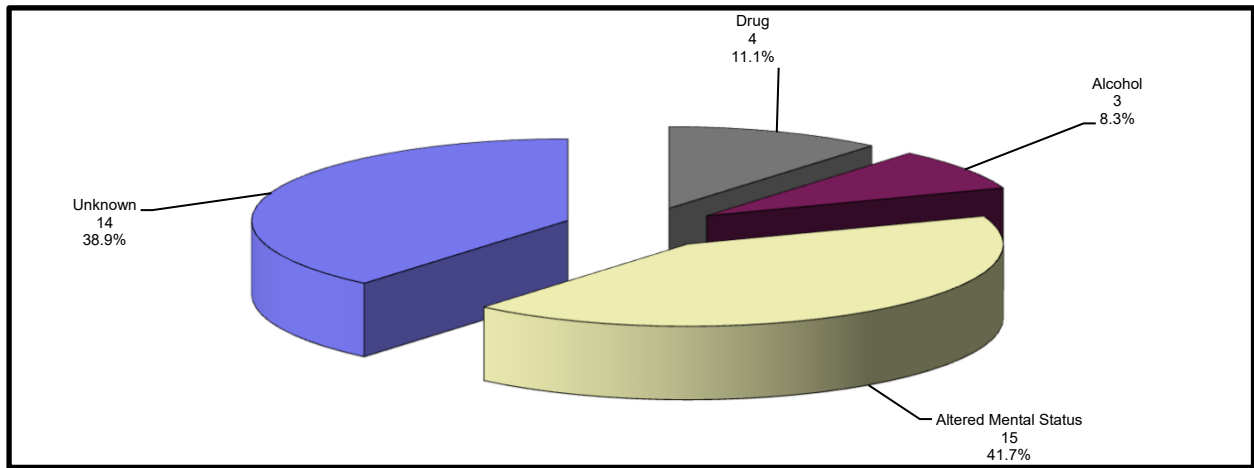
REFUSED TO OBEY LAWFUL COMMAND	-	52.9%
ASSAULTED OFFICER	-	23.5%
ASSUMED FIGHTING STANCE	-	11.8%
HAND UNDER CLOTHING, REFUSED OFFICER'S COMMANDS	-	8.8%
ASSAULTING ANOTHER PERSON	-	2.9%

REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY TYPE OF CFS AND SUSPECT'S ACTION

TYPE OF CFS	ASSAULTED OFFICER	ASSAULTING ANOTHER PERSON	ASSUMED FIGHTING STANCE	ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	HAND UNDER CLOTHING, REFUSED OFFICER'S COMMANDS	REFUSED TO OBEY LAWFUL COMMAND
ALCOHOL RELATED	0	0	0	0	0	1
DISTURBANCE	0	0	1	0	0	3
HEALTH/SUICIDE	2	0	1	0	0	1
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	0	0	0	0	0	1
ASSIST CITIZEN OR AGENCY	0	0	0	0	0	1
TRAFFIC STOP	0	0	0	0	1	3
ASSAULT	2	1	2	0	1	1
STRUCTURE BURGLARY	0	0	0	0	1	1
THEFT	0	0	0	0	0	1
VEHICLE THEFT	0	0	0	0	0	1
VANDALISM	1	0	0	0	0	0
WEAPONS OFFENSE	0	0	0	0	0	3
UNCLASSIFIED CRIME ACT	3	0	0	0	0	1
Total	8	1	4	0	3	18

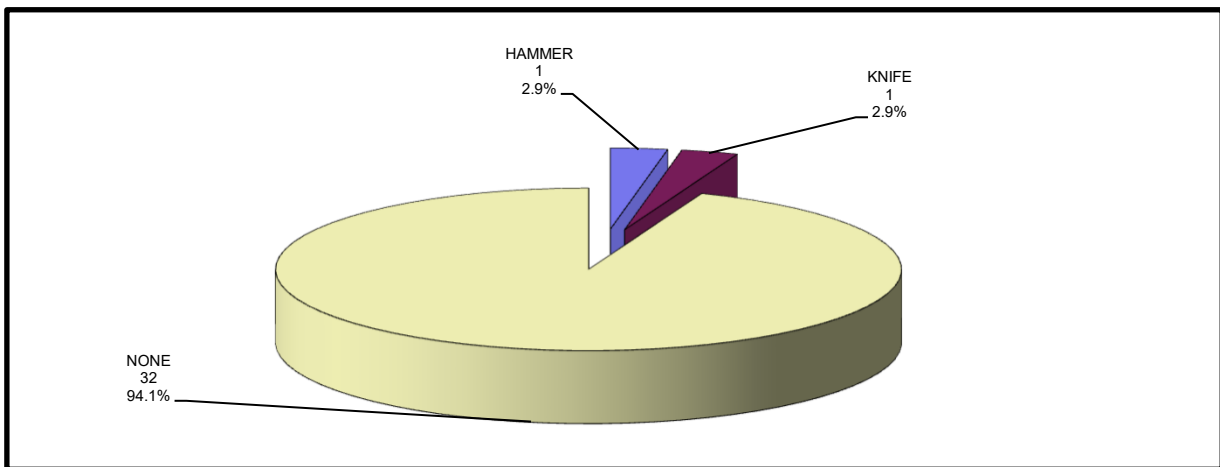
* 0 force incidents had wrong or no clearance codes.

SUSPECT'S CONDITION AT TIME REPORTABLE FORCE APLIED



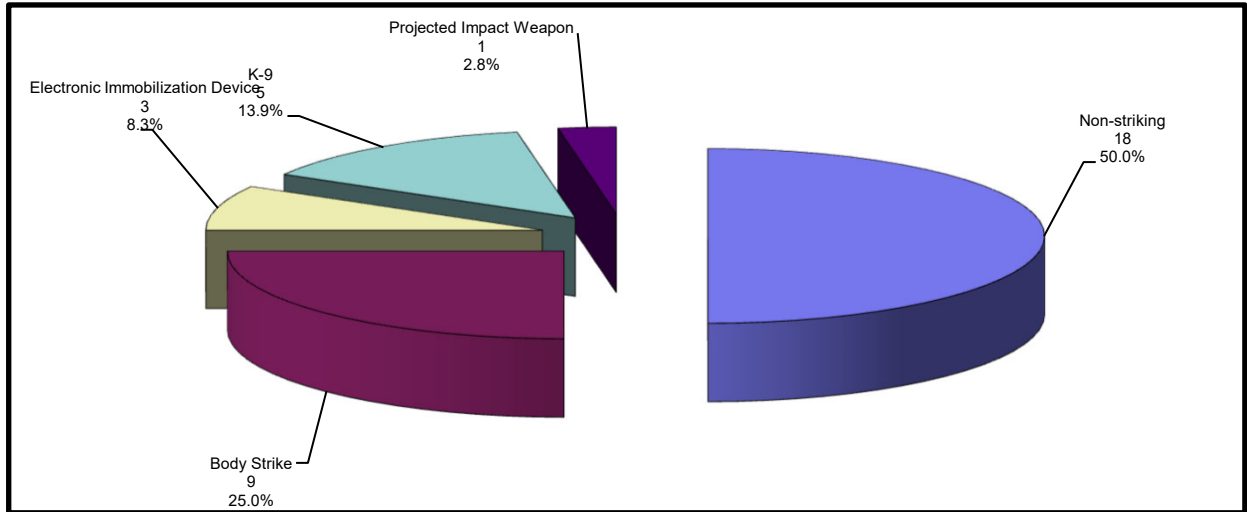
Some suspects had more than one condition.

SUSPECT WEAPONS WITH REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



Order by Weapon:	NONE	-	94.1%
	HAMMER	-	2.9%
	KNIFE	-	2.9%

REPORTABLE FORCE USED BY OFFICERS



Some incidents require multiple applications of force to take a suspect into custody or stop an unlawful attack.

Order by Force:

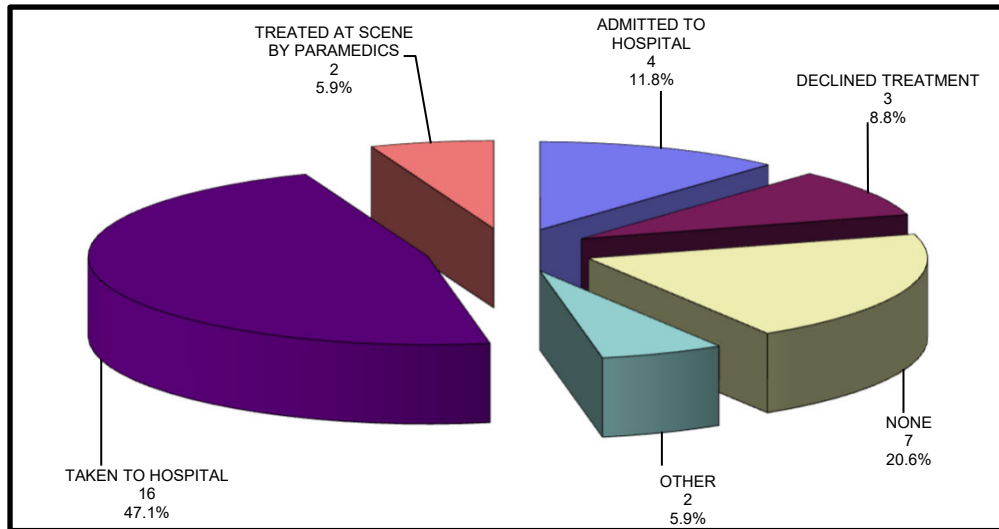
Non-striking	-	50.0%
Body Strike	-	25.0%
K-9	-	13.9%
Electronic Immobilization Device	-	8.3%
Projected Impact Weapon	-	2.8%

Note: Electronic Immobilization Device is also referred to as a Taser.

OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES, WEAPON RETENTION

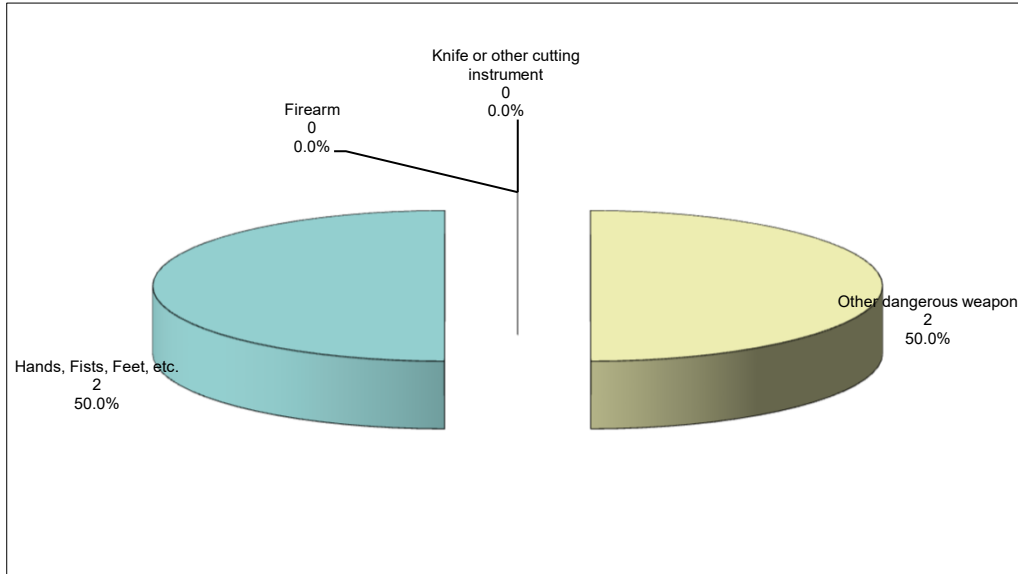
* No incidents occurred this quarter whereby a suspect attempted to remove, or removed, an officer's weapon.

SUSPECT MEDICAL REVIEW AFTER REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



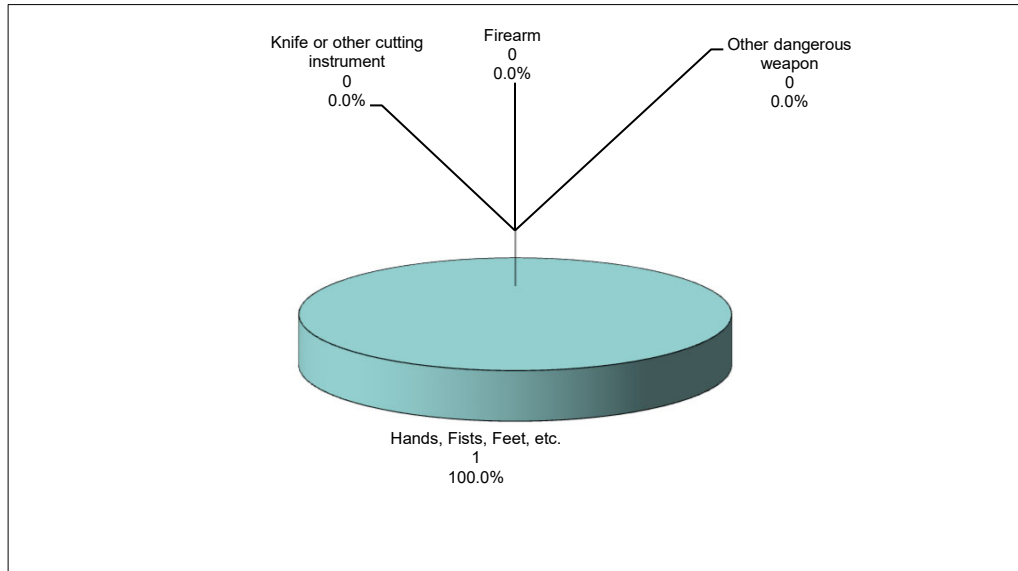
Not all suspects who received medical review were injured. Per Department policy, any person subjected to a chemical agent/mace, electronic immobilizing device (taser), less lethal impact projectile, or any force which causes injury or renders temporary disability to an arrestable subject, is automatically provided medical care by on-scene medical personnel or at a hospital.

OFFICER'S ASSAULTED *



4 officers were assaulted.

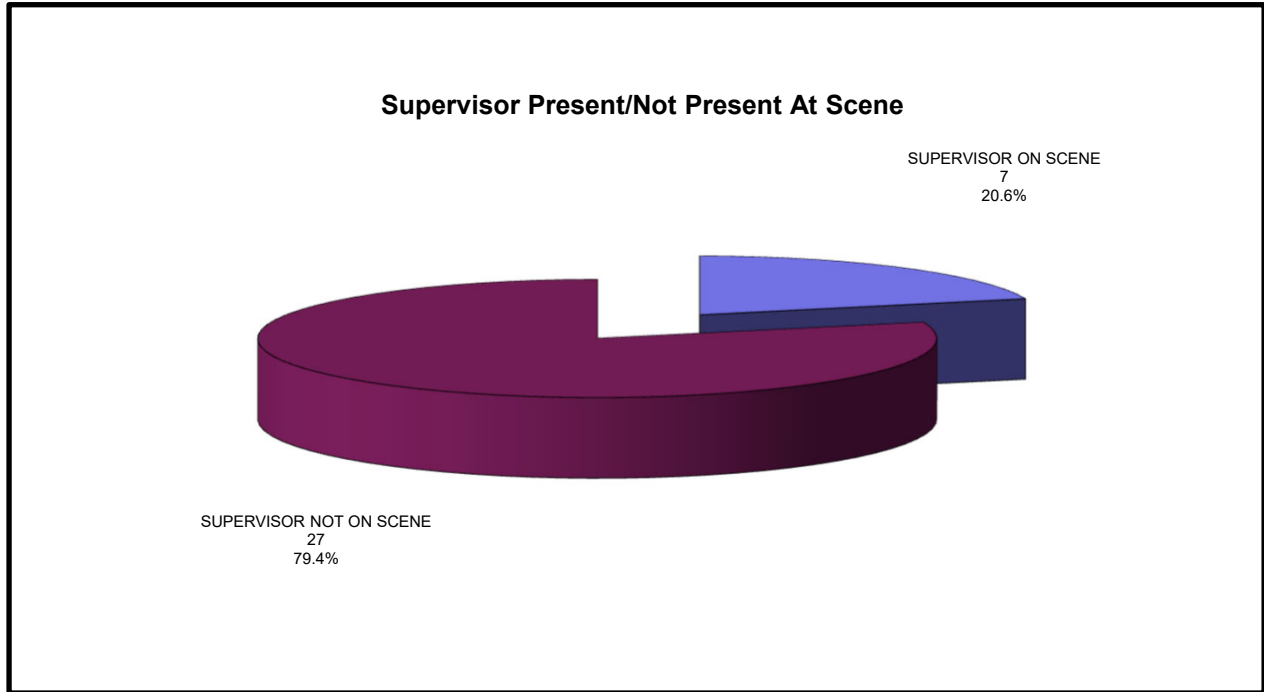
OFFICER'S INJURED *



1 officers were injured requiring immediate medical treatment.

* Data based on the 1st Qtr 2021 LEOKA (Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted) report. Not all incidents, where an officer was injured, involved a use of reportable force, i.e. the suspect gives up after injuring an officer.

SUPERVISOR ON SCENE WHEN REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



A supervisor may be enroute to assist an officer on a call; however, the officer may be required to use reportable force prior to the supervisor's arrival. In these circumstances, the supervisor would be considered "not on scene."



MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 9, 2021

TO: Paco Balderrama, Chief of Police
Office of the Chief

THROUGH: Phillip Cooley, Deputy Police Chief
Administrative Division

Jennifer Horsford, Lieutenant
Personnel Bureau Commander

FROM: Alfonso Castillo, Sergeant
Audits & Inspections Unit

SUBJECT: 2021 FIRST QUARTER-REPORTABLE RESPONSE TO
RESISTANCE PROJECT

The first quarter 2021 reportable force data has been analyzed and compared with the first quarter 2020 reportable force data. In 2017, the types of force categories were modified to track the use of the carotid restraint and clarify the use of physical force. In previous years, all physical force was classified as body strike force. The category of non-striking force was added to differentiate between physical force that involved an officer striking a person with a body part (i.e. fist, foot, elbow, etc.) and physical force used to control a person (i.e. control hold, tackle, body weight to hold suspect down, etc.).

Recently, the State of California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 1196 which prohibits the use of the carotid restraint. AB 1196 added Section 7286.5 to the Government Code which states:

“A law enforcement agency shall not authorize the use of a carotid restraint or choke hold by any peace officer employed by that agency.”

The Fresno Police Department has modified our policy to comply with Government Code 7286.5. This law was not in effect during the first quarter of 2020.

The following is a summarized comparison between the 2020 and the 2021 first quarter reportable force and related data:

Calls for Service:

Officers responded to 90,540 calls for service (CFS) during the first quarter of 2021 compared to 96,676 in the first quarter of 2020. This is a decrease of less than 1%. Of these CFS, there were 33 reportable force incidents in 2021 compared to 90 in 2020. A decrease of 66%.

Assaults:

According to the Department's official LEOKA report, 4 officers were assaulted during the first quarter of 2021, compared to 96 officers in the first quarter of 2020, a decrease of 96%. Of these officers assaulted, 1 officer was injured in 2021, compared to 16 officers who were injured in 2020: a decrease of 93%. The Fresno Police Department is transitioning to a new method to track all LEOKA information, the information included in this report is the most accurate to date.

Type of Force:

Officers most frequently applied method of force was non-striking force in the first quarter of 2021 at 48.6%, followed by body strikes at 25.7%, K-9 applications at 14.3%, electronic immobilization device at 8.6%, projected impact weapon 2.9%.

In the first quarter of 2020, the most frequently applied methods of force were non-striking force at 49%, followed by body strikes at 15.7%, K-9 applications at 14.7%, electronic immobilization device at 13.7%, firearm at 2%, pepper spray at 1% and the carotid restraint at 1%.

Actions Prior to Force:

In the first quarter of 2021, the leading cause of necessitating the use of force was the suspect refusing to obey a lawful command at 54.5%, followed by suspects assaulting officers at 21.2%. In the first quarter of 2020, the leading cause of necessitating the use of force was the suspect refusing to obey a lawful command at 56.7%, followed by suspects assaulting officers at 23.3%. In 2021, two suspects were in possession of a knife or weapon compared to three in 2020.

Of the individuals who required officers to use reportable force in first quarter 2021, 40% had an altered mental state, 11.4% were under the influence of drugs, 8.6% were under the influence of alcohol, and 40% had an unknown type of condition. Some suspects had more than one condition.

Reportable force incidents occurred most frequently on Friday and Saturday in the first quarter of 2021 compared to Sundays in 2020. In 2021, the Northwest District had the highest percentage of use of force incidents at 31.3%, followed by Central at 28.1%, Southeast at 18.8%, Southwest at 15.6% and Northeast at 6.3%. In comparison to the first quarter of 2020 where the Southeast District had the highest percentage at 24.4%, followed by Northwest at 23.3%, Northeast at 21.21%, Central at 15.6% and Southwest at 15.6%.

In the first quarter of 2021, the Southwest Policing District had 21.5% of the City's total calls for service, followed by Southeast at 20.5%, Northeast at 20.2%, Central at 19.6% and Northwest at 18.2%.

In the first quarter of 2021, a supervisor was on scene 21.2% of the time officers used reportable force. In 2020, this number was 31.1% of the time.

Examples of Officer Restraint:

During the first quarter of 2021, there were several incidents that involved circumstances under which deadly force could have been considered but was not. Below are some examples.

Armed Robbery:

Officers responded to a local grocery store for a robbery that had just occurred. The suspect was captured on video surveillance armed with a hammer and stealing money from the store after threatening the staff. Officers nearby spotted the suspect who was still waving the hammer over his head. As officers attempted to make verbal contact with the suspect, the suspect raised the hammer over his head in a striking position and ran at an un-involved nearby citizen. When the suspect got within feet of the citizen, an officer used a less than lethal impact weapon which disarmed the suspect. The suspect was arrested and treated at the hospital for minor injuries.

Subject Armed with a Knife:

A sergeant was dispatched to a call of an active disturbance. A citizen was reporting that a male subject was following them and attempting to stab them. When the sergeant arrived, the male subject approached the sergeant with the knife still in their possession. The suspect approached the sergeant and refused to comply with commands to drop their weapon. Once the subject approached within arms' distance, the sergeant pointed his firearm at the suspect. This caused the suspect to throw the knife away. With assisting officers' help, the suspect was subdued and received minimal injuries. The suspect was transported to a medical center for a mental health evaluation. No other citizens were injured during this incident.

Assisting Paramedics call:

Officers were sent to a residence to assist paramedics who were giving aid to a person having a mental emergency. The patient became violent and began threatening to harm the paramedics, who were already inside the patient's home. The person had a makeshift weapon which was a broomstick with a large kitchen knife affixed to one end. Officers had previously been at this home and had already confiscated several firearms from the person on a prior mental emergency call. The person attacked the officer pushing them to the ground and running toward the makeshift weapon. Another officer was able to tackle the person before they could reach the makeshift weapon and/or any other firearms. The officer suffered minor injuries from the fall. The person was taken to a medical facility for a mental evaluation.