



Background

The Chandler Police Department recognizes the current Arizona statutory law dictating that “no unnecessary or unreasonable force shall be used in making an arrest, and the person arrested shall not be subjected to any greater restraint than necessary for his detention. The Chandler Police Department stipulates that officers must adhere to their training unless the situation justifies a deviation from that training.

The Chandler Police Department began to utilize the Use of Force Review Board in 2008 to ensure the proper documentation of all applications of force, to evaluate those applications for adherence to established policy, and to determine any additional training needs. The board meets monthly to evaluate the prior month’s incidents, and quarterly reviews are prepared in order to share information and findings with the Citizen Review Panel.

This analysis contains use of force statistics for the third quarter of 2020 in order to identify prevalent trends or deficiencies per the current CALEA standard. In addition to an internal comparative analysis, this report will illustrate training issues that have emerged throughout the quarter, as well as the number and general nature of injuries sustained by personnel and suspects.

2020 Third Quarter Review

The Chandler Police Department logged 1529 arrests during the third quarter of 2020, averaging approximately seventeen (17) arrests a day. The third quarter of 2020 yielded a total of twenty-eight (28) incidents resulting in the utilization of force by Chandler Law Enforcement Officers to affect an arrest or detain a subject under reasonable suspicion or probable cause.

The reportable incidents were reviewed by the Use of Force Review Board. This board meets monthly to determine if the applications of force are justified in accordance with the policies of the Chandler Police Department.

The following tables document the twenty-eight (28) incidents reviewed by the board for the months of July, August, and September of 2020. It includes the types of force used and dispositions. In some incidents there were multiple applications of force used by various officers. For this reason, there were thirty-nine (39) distinctive applications of force. This report will deliver the summaries of the twenty-eight (28) reviewed incidents.

Type of Force Used Third Quarter 2020

| Force Used | Applications | Additional Details |
|--------------------|--------------|---|
| Low Level Force | 28 | Take downs, pressure points, Hard hands, etc. |
| Intermediate Force | 11 | K9 Bite, fist strikes, Knee strikes, Kicks, Less lethal, CEW, Impact push, etc. |
| Total | 39 | |

Total Force Used Third Quarter 2020

| Total Arrests | Force Used | Percentage |
|---------------|------------|------------|
| 1529 | 39 | 2.6% |

Use of Force Demographics by Race/Gender/Age

| Number | Race | Gender | Age Range | Average Age | % |
|--------|-----------------|--------|-----------|-------------|-----|
| 8 | White | Male | 15-64 | 34 | 29% |
| 3 | White | Female | 15-35 | 25 | 11% |
| 2 | Black | Male | 33-36 | 34.5 | 7% |
| 6 | Hispanic | Male | 17-49 | 33 | 21% |
| 3 | Hispanic | Female | 29-40 | 36 | 11% |
| 6 | Native American | Male | 18-39 | 31 | 21% |

(28 total subjects in the use of force incidents)

Policy Violations/Reviews

In the third quarter of 2020 there were no use of force incidents referred to Internal Affairs.

Training Issues

There was seven (7) training issue identified by the Use of Force Board. The training issues were related to developing better reasonable suspicion (1), and failing to active body worn cameras (6). The training issue has been handled by the individual officer's chain of command.

Injuries

In the third quarter of 2020, eight (8) officers were injured during use of force incidents. The injuries sustained by officers were mostly minor in nature, generally consisting of sprains, abrasions, cuts, or bruising. The majority of the officers' injuries appeared to stem from body-to-body contact, takedown techniques, and struggling to handcuff suspects on hard surfaces or from direct assaults on the officers themselves.

Twenty-seven (27) suspects were injured or complained of injury during the use of force incidents. The majority of these injuries were minor in nature, consisting of lacerations, abrasions, contusions, complaints of pain, and CEW puncture wounds.

The officer, the suspect, or both received medical attention in the use of force incidents with injury when requested. Medical treatment was either provided on scene by fire department personnel or at a hospital for more extensive care or evaluation.

Total Injuries When Forced Used Third Quarter 2020

| Suspects/Detainees | Officers | Total |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 27 | 8 | 35 |

Emotionally Disturbed/Impaired

Twenty-three (23) subjects involved in use of force incidents were found to be emotionally disturbed, under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or a combination of impairments.

Conclusion

The reported types of use of force incidents during the third quarter of 2020 indicate officers used the appropriate level of force to affect the arrest of suspects. This illustrates the use of force policy, defensive tactics training, board reviews, and overall departmental philosophy are aligned with established case law, statutory regulations, and the principles of community-oriented policing.