

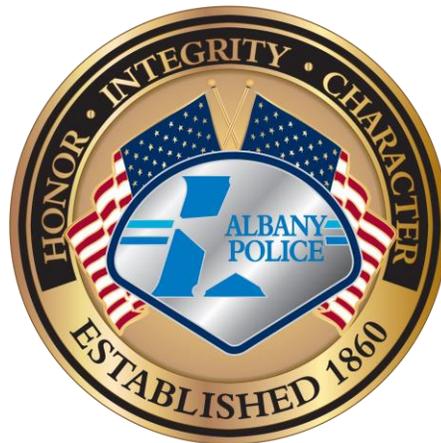
2020

Use of Force

Quarterly Report

2nd Quarter: April 1 – June 30, 2020

Albany Police Department



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Introduction

This is the second quarterly report for Use of Force incidents for the Albany Police Department. Quarterly reports are designed to provide supervisors and training coordinators with information regarding use of force incidents. This information will be utilized to identify patterns or trends that could indicate training needs, equipment upgrades, and/or policy modifications. Each quarterly report will be used as a baseline to compare data with future quarterly report data. The second quarter data is from April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020. There were 46 use of force incidents and 152 uses of force on 50 subjects. There are more total uses of force because many times an officer will use force that may be ineffective thus requiring more than one force technique during an incident or if multiple officers are present and called upon to use force, this accounts for all uses of force during each incident.

Officers are trained to use de minimis force whenever possible. De minimis force is defined as a physical interaction meant to separate, guide, and/or control without the use of formal control techniques, or other techniques that are intended to, or reasonably likely to cause any pain or injury. The use of force requires notification and report when physical force, except de minimis force, is used.

Classification of Initiating Call

The following information outlines the types of calls that initiated the need for use of force by the Albany Police Department. Due to the large number of call types, we have condensed this information into seven categories.

Fight or Disturbance:

Assault, Disorderly Conduct, Interfering, Resisting Arrest, Domestic, Harassment, Menacing, Weapons.

Assist Other

Agency/Warrant: Warrants served by our Department, or with our assistance, for other agencies, Wanted Persons.

Classification of Initiating Call	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q2
Fight or Disturbance	7	13%	19	41%
Assist Other Agency/Warrant	15	31%	10	22%
Traffic	7	13%	2	4%
Property Crime	9	17%	4	9%
Mental Health or Suicidal	3	6%	1	2%
Drug Related	4	8%	2	4%
Other	7	13%	8	17%
Total Responses	52	100%	46	100%

Traffic: Traffic Crime, DUII, Pursuit, Elude, Hit & Run, Careless Driving.

Property Crime: Burglary, Theft, Criminal Mischief, Vandalism, Fraud, Shoplifting, Stolen or Recovered Vehicle.

Mental Health or Suicidal: Emotionally Disabled Person, Suicidal Subject, Police Officer Hold, Welfare Check.

Drug Related: Narcotics warrant or any other incident where drugs were a primary causal factor.

Other: Miscellaneous Crime, Public Indecency, Trespass, Curfew, Exclusion, Restraining Order Violation, Sex Offense, Runaway, Suspicious Person, Suspicious Circumstances, Reckless Endangering, MIP, Robbery, Animal Complaints.

Incident Overview 20-2859

Officers were dispatched to a report of a female suspect who was looking to “find a sheriff to kill.” She was armed with a knife while walking through a neighborhood to locate a house where law enforcement personnel lived. Several officers arrived on-scene. Officers maintained a one block distance from the suspect initially while an officer who had rapport with the suspect attempted to deescalate the situation. The suspect would not speak with the officers and starting sprinting towards one of the officers with the knife in hand. Officers commanded the suspect to stop or they would use force, the suspect did not comply with commands and was hit with one 40mm round from the less lethal blunt impact projectile launcher. The suspect paused for a moment and continued to charge at the officer. The suspect was then tased, which caused the suspect to fall to the ground. The officers quickly gained control of the suspect and insured the knife was out of reach. This incident could have resulted in lethal force used against the suspect due to the life-threatening danger to the officers and other citizens. There was a total of 8 uses of force during this one incident. The suspect was charged with Attempted Assault, Attempted Murder, Assault Public Safety Officer, Menacing, and Unlawful Use of Weapon.

This incident overview is an excellent example of how officers attempted to deescalate the situation prior to using force, then using less lethal force to detain the suspect. This example shows how and why multiple uses of force are needed in certain incidents. It also illustrates how each and every use of force is documented and accounted for during every incident where force is used.

Corrections/Adjustments

Some of the data was miscalculated in the first quarterly use of force report. This was our first time reporting on a quarterly basis. The first quarter report did not account for multiple subjects per incident, rather each incident was assumed as one suspect. The data has been corrected in this report to accurately account for each subject. Steps have been taken to accurately review and analyze the data and ensure consistency in future reports.

It was discovered that our taser data was duplicated for most of the incidents involving a taser. Officers have been reporting all steps taken during an incident involving a taser, rather than the end result of the effective use of force. For example, if an officer displayed their taser, then gave a verbal warning and pointed the laser at the subject, this was being reported as three uses of force, when it should only be reported as one taser display. The taser data was recalculated, and it was found that 19 taser incidents were reported as duplicates in quarter one and 36 taser incidents were duplicated in quarter two. To consolidate and avoid future miscalculation, Taser Verbal, Taser Laser and Taser Display will be combined into one use of force method: Taser Display. Additionally, Taser Drive Stun and Taser Deploy will be combined into one use of force method: Taser Deploy. The data has been adjusted and this will continue to be monitored in the future to ensure accuracy.

The first quarterly report inaccurately reported officers using ‘Push/Shove’ as a use of force. The push/shove data was resistance encountered by the officers, not force that they used. This data has been removed from officer use of force and added to resistance encountered.

In reviewing the corrections and adjustments, the decision was made to include all the same data as the annual use of force report. This will help with consistency of analyzing the data each quarter and annually. Categories added to this report in second quarter include: resistance encountered, calls for service vs use of force incidents and arrests vs use of force incidents.

Breakdown and Comparison of Subjects by Gender, Race and Age

Gender	Q1		Q2	
Male	49	84%	39	78%
Female	9	16%	11	22%
Total	58	100%	50	100%

Age	Q1		Q2	
17 and Younger	3	5%	1	2%
18 - 20	1	2%	2	4%
21 - 30	23	40%	17	34%
31 - 40	12	21%	19	38%
41 - 50	13	22%	4	8%
51 - 60	6	10%	6	12%
61 and Older	0	0%	1	2%
Total	58	100%	50	100%

Race	Q1		Q2	
White	44	76%	43	86%
Black	7	12%	0	0%
Hispanic	3	5%	7	14%
Native American	3	5%	0	0%
Unknown	1	2%	0	0%
Total	58	100%	50	100%

Number of Officers Responding to a Use of Force Call

Number of Officers	Q1		Q2	
1 Officer	6	11.5%	8	17.4%
2 Officers	20	38.5%	18	39.1%
3 Officers	12	23.1%	12	26.1%
4 Officers	5	9.6%	4	8.7%
5 Officers	6	11.5%	4	8.7%
6 Officers	3	5.8%	0	0.0%
Total	52	100%	46	100%

Day of Week/Time of Day

Day of Incident	Q1	Q1 %	Q2	Q2 %
Sunday	10	19%	3	7%
Monday	6	12%	6	13%
Tuesday	9	17%	4	9%
Wednesday	7	13%	6	13%
Thursday	7	13%	13	28%
Friday	5	10%	5	11%
Saturday	8	15%	9	20%
Total	52	100%	46	100%

Time of Incident	Q1		Q2	
0001 - 0400	17	33%	10	22%
0401 - 0800	2	4%	5	11%
0801 - 1200	4	8%	7	15%
1201 - 1600	8	15%	9	20%
1601 - 2000	11	21%	5	11%
2001 - 0000	10	19%	10	22%
Total	52	100%	46	100%

Resistance Encountered

Resistance Encountered by Officers

Resistance	Q1		Q2	
Verbally Aggressive	37	20.6%	22	16.3%
Push/Shove/Pull	26	14.4%	18	13.3%
Fighting Stance	10	5.6%	16	11.9%
Passive Resistance	25	13.9%	16	11.9%
Attempt to Escape	20	11.1%	13	9.6%
Other	14	7.8%	13	9.6%
Hiding/Barricaded	4	2.2%	9	6.7%
Elude on Foot/Bicycle	15	8.3%	6	4.4%
Leg/Knee/Foot Strike	3	1.7%	6	4.4%
Hand/Elbow Strike	1	0.6%	6	4.4%
Stabbing Instrument	2	1.1%	5	3.7%
Elude Vehicle	10	5.6%	2	1.5%
Suicidal	8	4.4%	2	1.5%
Firearm - Handgun	3	1.7%	1	0.7%
Impact Weapon	1	0.6%	0	0.0%
Firearm - Shotgun	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Firearm - Rifle	1	0.6%	0	0.0%
OC Chemical Spray	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	180	100%	135	100%

Level of Force Used

During the second quarter an incident occurred that caused the patrol sergeants to rethink the way our department was utilizing the tools available to officers. The decision was made to have all tools placed in patrol vehicles at the beginning of the shift rather than having them available at the department. This change made the less lethal 40mm more available and accessible to officers while out on patrol. It is an effective less lethal tool that was utilized more during the second quarter due to its availability. There was a reduction in handgun display per officer during the second quarter, which could have been due to the availability of the 40mm in some of the incidents.

To consolidate the various methods of use of force and few adjustments to data reporting have been made. Arm Bar and Arm Bar Takedown have been combined into one category: Arm Bar/Takedown. Hand/Elbow Strike, Front Kick, Leg/Knee/Foot Strike, Palm Heel Strike, Punch and Focused Blow have been combined into one category: Focused Blow. Taser Drive Stun and Taser Deploy have been combined into: Taser Deploy. Taser Laser, Taser Verbal and Taser Display have been combined into: Taser Display.

Level of Force Used	Q1 Times Used	Q1 %	Q2 Times Used	Q2 %
40mm LL Display	1	0.8%	7	5.7%
40mm LL Deploy	0	0.0%	1	0.8%
Arm Bar/Takedown	15	12.7%	9	7.3%
ASP Baton Deploy	0	0.0%	1	0.8%
ASP Baton Display	1	0.8%	0	0.0%
Bent Wrist Lock	8	6.8%	10	8.1%
Carbine Display	3	2.5%	5	4.1%
Escort Hold	3	2.5%	6	4.9%
Focused Blow	3	2.5%	8	6.5%
Hair Hold Takedown	1	0.8%	0	0.0%
Handgun Display	21	17.8%	12	9.8%
Handgun Fired	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
K-9 Bite	1	0.8%	2	1.6%
K-9 Deploy	2	1.7%	2	1.6%
K-9 Display	1	0.8%	2	1.6%
Leg Sweep	4	3.4%	5	4.1%
Mandibular Pressure Point	1	0.8%	1	0.8%
O.C. Deploy	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
O.C. Spray Display	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	5	4.2%	6	4.9%
Push/Shove	0	0.0%	4	3.3%
Shotgun Display	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Subclavian/Shoulder Lock	1	0.8%	0	0.0%
Tackle/Takedown	4	3.4%	4	3.3%
Taser Deploy	15	12.7%	12	9.8%
Taser Display	14	11.9%	18	14.6%
Wrap Restraint	14	11.9%	8	6.5%
TOTAL	118	100%	123	100%

Total Arrests Versus Total Use of Force Incidents

Percentage of Arrests Requiring Use of Force

Arrests vs. Incidents	Q1	Q2
Arrests	1,736	1,276
Use of Force Incidents	52	46
Total Percentage	3.0%	3.6%

Total Calls for Service Versus Total Use of Force Incidents

Percentage of Calls for Service Requiring Use of Force

Calls for Service vs. Incidents	Q1	Q2
Calls for Service	9,424	9,246
Use of Force Incidents	52	46
Total Percentage	0.55%	0.50%

Officer Injuries

Officer Injuries During Use of Force	Q1		Q2	
No Injury	79	97.5%	56	94.9%
Minor - No Medical Attention	1	1.2%	3	5.1%
Minor - Medical Attention	1	1.2%	0	0.0%
Hospital	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Fatality	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	81	100%	59	100%

Summary of Officer Injuries

20-2742 - No Medical Attention

A male reported being assaulted, officers responded and waited for medics to arrive and transport the man to the hospital. A male officer responded to the hospital to take a statement from the reporting male. The male subject asked for a female officer to talk with and the male officer explained that was not an option at the time. The subject became agitated and threatened to assault the officer. The subject then attempted to assault the officer. The officer held the subject down on the hospital bed and called for additional officers to respond. Additional officers arrived and they were able to handcuff the subject and escorted him outside. The subject kned a patrol vehicle causing a large dent and attempted to slam his head into the window. Officers attempted to gain further control of the subject to avoid injury to the subject. During the struggle one officer sustained a sprained wrist. The officer did not seek medical attention.

20-3188 - No Medical Attention

Officers responded to a disturbance call. Several officers arrived on scene and detained one male subject. The subject resisted arrest and became aggressive towards the officers. As two officers attempted to take the subject to the ground, one officer twisted his ankle during the struggle. The subject was restrained and arrested for harassment, menacing, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

20-4199 - No Medical Attention

Officers responded to a report of disorderly conduct of a naked person sitting in the middle of the street blocking traffic just prior to 3am. While one officer was handcuffing the subject, the subject attempted to flee. The officer and subject engaged in a struggle, where the subject attempted to grab the officer's weapons. The subject was successfully handcuffed. The officer noticed a puncture to his finger from the incident.

Other Persons Injured

Person Injuries During Use of Force	Q1		Q2	
No Injury	47	81.0%	32	64.0%
Minor - No Medical Attention	2	3.4%	7	14.0%
Minor - Medical Attention	7	12.1%	7	14.0%
Hospital	2	3.4%	4	8.0%
Total	58	100.0%	50	100.0%

Summary of Hospitalizations

20-2822

Officers responded to a report of a robbery where victim had been stabbed. Officers tended to the victim, while other officers searched for the suspect. One officer located the suspect and ordered the suspect to the ground while pointing a taser at the suspect. Two more officers arrived and assisted with detaining the subject. The officers struggled to detain the subject as the subject resisted arrest. The subject sustained injury to the face and medics were called to the scene. The subject also had cuts to the arm that were injuries prior to officers arriving. The subject was transported to the hospital for further medical care.

20-2946

An officer was flagged down just after 11pm by a person stating that two subjects were throwing bottles at vehicles and walking in the street. Officers began looking for the suspects. Once officers located the suspects and attempted to detain them. One subject was uncooperative and failed to comply with commands. The subject was tased and eventually placed in handcuffs after fighting with two officers for almost two minutes. The subject was transported to the hospital, rather than waiting for medics to arrive on scene. When a person is tased it is standard practice that they are evaluated by medical personnel. The hospital medically cleared the subject and was transported to jail for disorderly conduct.

20-3015

An on-duty officer observed what appeared to be a theft of a motor vehicle in progress. The officer approached the subject and attempted to obtain further information regarding the subject's suspicious activity. The subject started running from the officer, the officer deployed his K9 and yelled multiple warnings for the subject to stop or they would be bit by the K9. The subject laid down in a surrender position and the officer commanded the K9 into a down position. A second officer started giving commands to the subject and the two officers attempted to handcuff the subject. The K9 officer attempted to gain physical control of the K9, the K9 lunged toward the subject and bit the subject's shoulder. The officers placed handcuffs on the subject and released the K9 from its bite. The K9 bite was not commanded by the K9 handler. The K9 bite was investigated and training was adjusted to correct the behavior. The subject was transported to the hospital and treated for the K9 bite. The subject was medically cleared from the hospital and cited for possession of burglary tools and false information to police.

20-3045

Officers responded to a mental health regarding a subject yelling and waving his fists. Officers located the subject who was sweaty, anxious, and appeared to be paranoid. The officers attempted to detain the subject with handcuffs when the subject kicked one officer and pulled away from the other officer. One of the officers tased the subject in the back of the leg causing the subject to fall face first on the ground. The subject was handcuffed and properly restrained. The subject was transported to the hospital to be treated for the face laceration and mental health evaluation. The subject was charged with harassment, disorderly conduct, criminal trespass, and menacing.