

2023

Use of Force

Quarterly Report

4th Quarter: October 1 – December 31, 2023

Albany Police Department



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Introduction

This is the fourth quarterly report for Use of Force incidents for the Albany Police Department in 2023. Quarterly reports are designed to provide supervisors and training coordinators with information regarding use of force incidents. The Albany Police Department started compiling quarterly use of force data in January 2020. This report will compare the past three years' quarterly data. This information will be utilized to identify patterns or trends that could indicate training needs, equipment upgrades, and/or policy modifications. The third quarter data ranges from October 1 to December 31, 2023. There were 55 use of force incidents and 130 uses of force on 56 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 each application of force to each subject during each incident.

Officers 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 7 categories.

Classification of Initiating Call	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
Fight or Disturbance	9	30.0%	13	33.3%	14	25.5%
Assist Other Agency/Warrant	4	13.3%	6	15.4%	14	25.5%
Traffic	1	3.3%	3	7.7%	5	9.1%
Property Crime	5	16.7%	8	20.5%	7	12.7%
Mental Health or Suicidal	4	13.3%	1	2.6%	0	0.0%
Drug Related	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	7	23.3%	8	20.5%	15	27.3%
Total Responses	30	100.0%	39	100.0%	55	100.0%

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.

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 Disturbed 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.

Breakdown and Comparison of Subjects by Gender, Age, and Race

Perceived Gender	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
Male	28	80.0%	33	84.6%	47	83.9%
Female	7	20.0%	6	15.4%	9	16.1%
Total	35	100.0%	39	100.0%	56	100.0%

Age	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
17 and Younger	2	5.7%	1	2.6%	3	5.4%
18 - 20	2	5.7%	0	0.0%	2	3.6%
21 - 30	8	22.9%	14	35.9%	19	33.9%
31 - 40	11	31.4%	18	46.2%	16	28.6%
41 - 50	3	8.6%	4	10.3%	10	17.9%
51 - 60	7	20.0%	2	5.1%	4	7.1%
61 and Older	2	5.7%	0	0.0%	2	3.6%
Total	35	100.0%	39	100.0%	56	100.0%

Perceived Race	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
White	32	91.4%	33	84.6%	46	82.1%
Black	1	2.9%	2	5.1%	4	7.1%
Hispanic	2	5.7%	4	10.3%	5	8.9%
Native American	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.8%
Total	35	100.0%	39	100.0%	56	100.0%

Other Factors

In 2021, we began tracking whether the use of force incident involved a mental health crisis and if the subject was under the influence of alcohol or drugs based on the perceptions of the officers involved. The “both” category includes subjects that were perceived as under the influence of intoxicants and experiencing a mental health crisis.

Other Factors	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
Intoxicated	13	33.3%	19	48.7%	24	42.9%
Mental Health Crisis	10	25.6%	11	28.2%	8	14.3%
Both	2	5.1%	9	23.1%	3	5.4%
Subjects Involved in UOF Incident	35		39		56	

Day of Week/Time of Day

Day of Incident	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
Sunday	3	10.0%	5	12.8%	15	27.3%
Monday	2	6.7%	8	20.5%	9	16.4%
Tuesday	8	26.7%	7	17.9%	6	10.9%
Wednesday	4	13.3%	4	10.3%	8	14.5%
Thursday	4	13.3%	5	12.8%	6	10.9%
Friday	4	13.3%	5	12.8%	5	9.1%
Saturday	5	16.7%	5	12.8%	6	10.9%
Total	30	100.0%	39	100.0%	55	100.0%

Time of Incident	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
0001 - 0400	2	6.7%	5	12.8%	6	10.9%
0401 - 0800	3	10.0%	1	2.6%	2	3.6%
0801 - 1200	4	13.3%	3	7.7%	9	16.4%
1201 - 1600	4	13.3%	10	25.6%	4	7.3%
1601 - 2000	6	20.0%	8	20.5%	16	29.1%
2001 - 0000	11	36.7%	12	30.8%	18	32.7%
Total	30	100.0%	39	100.0%	55	100.0%

Resistance Encountered

We changed our reporting software to Guardian Tracking in May 2021. During this time our department use of force coordinators assessed our reporting categories and added active resistance and high-risk subjects. Guardian Tracking allows for each officer to report on the resistance they encountered during the use of force incident. Previously, resistance was only reported for the overall incident rather than what each officer encountered. This creates more reporting, which increased the number of resistance data being reported. During our quarterly use of force meeting in July 2022, it was determined that “charging” needed to be added as a category of resistance encountered as this was often reported in the “other” category.

Resistance	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
Verbally Aggressive	13	11.7%	13	8.9%	22	9.2%
Push/Shove/Pull	10	9.0%	17	11.6%	20	8.4%
Fighting Stance	11	9.9%	5	3.4%	15	6.3%
Passive Resistance	8	7.2%	15	10.3%	16	6.7%
Attempt to Escape	8	7.2%	12	8.2%	19	7.9%
Other	3	2.7%	1	0.7%	5	2.1%
Hiding/Barricaded	3	2.7%	8	5.5%	15	6.3%
Elude on Foot/Bicycle	8	7.2%	10	6.8%	19	7.9%
Leg/Knee/Foot Strike	1	0.9%	2	1.4%	4	1.7%
Hand/Elbow Strike	0	0.0%	1	0.7%	3	1.3%
Stabbing Instrument	5	4.5%	0	0.0%	3	1.3%
Elude Vehicle	0	0.0%	11	7.5%	0	0.0%
Suicidal	2	1.8%	1	0.7%	2	0.8%
Firearm - Handgun	2	1.8%	0	0.0%	3	1.3%
Impact Weapon	1	0.9%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Firearm - Shotgun	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Firearm - Rifle	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%
OC Chemical Spray	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
High Risk Subject	15	13.5%	21	14.4%	47	19.7%
Active Resistance	21	18.9%	27	18.5%	32	13.4%
Charging			2	1.4%	11	4.6%
Total	111	100.0%	146	100.0%	239	100.0%

Type of Force Used

During our quarterly use of force meeting in July 2022, it was decided to add “lateral recovery restraint” as a category of type of force used. The lateral recovery restraint allows officers to gain control of the subject without restricting their airway.

Type of Force Used	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
40mm LL Display	1	1.2%	1	1.0%	5	3.8%
40mm LL Fired	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Arm Bar/Takedown	7	8.3%	4	3.9%	3	2.3%
ASP Baton Display	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
ASP Baton Deploy	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Bent Wrist Lock	6	7.1%	6	5.8%	4	3.1%
Rifle Display	0	0.0%	2	1.9%	3	2.3%
Rifle Fired	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Escort Hold	3	3.6%	8	7.8%	8	6.2%
Focused Blow	2	2.4%	0	0.0%	5	3.8%
Hair Hold Takedown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.8%
Handgun Display	19	22.6%	16	15.5%	16	12.3%
Handgun Fired	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
K-9 Bite	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
K-9 Deploy	2	2.4%	1	1.0%	5	3.8%
K-9 Display	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.8%
Leg Sweep	0	0.0%	4	3.9%	5	3.8%
Mandibular Pressure Point	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
O.C. Spray Display	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
O.C. Spray Deploy	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	7	5.4%
Push/Shove/Pull	6	7.1%	21	20.4%	19	14.6%
Shotgun Display	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Subclavian/Shoulder Lock	5	6.0%	5	4.9%	1	0.8%
Tackle/Takedown	9	10.7%	13	12.6%	9	6.9%
Taser Deploy	6	7.1%	4	3.9%	9	6.9%
Taser Display	7	8.3%	11	10.7%	19	14.6%
Wrap Restraint	8	9.5%	4	3.9%	4	3.1%
Lateral Recovery Restraint			2	1.9%	6	4.6%
TOTAL	84	100.0%	103	100.0%	130	100.0%

Total Arrests Versus Total Use of Force Incidents

Arrests vs. Incidents	Q4 2021	Q4 2022	Q4 2023
Arrests	1,162	1,195	1,164
Use of Force Incidents	30	39	55
Total Percentage	2.6%	3.3%	4.7%

Total Calls for Service Versus Total Use of Force Incidents

Calls for Service vs. Incidents	Q4 2021	Q4 2022	Q4 2023
Calls for Service	7,180	8,008	8,972
Use of Force Incidents	30	39	55
Total Percentage	0.42%	0.49%	0.61%

Officer Injuries

Officer Injuries During Use of Force	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
No Injury	51	92.7%	60	98.4%	84	97.7%
Minor - No Medical Attention	3	5.5%	1	1.6%	2	2.3%
Minor - Medical Attention	1	1.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hospital	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Fatality	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	55	100.0%	61	100.0%	86	100.0%

Other Persons Injured

Person Injuries During Use of Force	Q4 2021		Q4 2022		Q4 2023	
No Injury	29	82.9%	31	79.5%	48	85.7%
Minor - No Medical Attention	3	8.6%	3	7.7%	3	5.4%
Minor - Medical Attention	2	5.7%	5	12.8%	5	8.9%
Hospital	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Fatality	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	35	100.0%	39	100.0%	56	100.0%