

# 2025 USE OF FORCE REPORT

## ALBANY POLICE DEPARTMENT



**Approved by Chief Marcia Harnden**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcia A. Harnden".

Prepared by Accreditation Manager Merab Smith

# INTRODUCTION

The Albany Police Department conducts an annual analysis of its use of force activities every calendar year. This report includes an analysis of department policy and practices as well as a review of assaults on sworn officers as required by CALEA standards 4.2.4 and 4.2.5. The use of force incidents analyzed are officer responses to calls with a display of force requiring a supervisor's review and report per the department's Use of Force Policy 240.

A review of incidents of force may reveal patterns or trends that could indicate training needs, equipment upgrades, policy modifications, and/or disciplinary actions. The process of collecting and reviewing the reports is also critical to this analysis.

This use of force analysis was completed using Albany Police Department data from 2023, 2024, and 2025. The Albany Police Department used force in 200 incidents in 2023, 179 incidents in 2024, and 149 incidents in 2025. Data analyzed for this report include the following:

- Classification of Initiating Call (what officers responded to)
- Breakdown and Comparison by Perceived Gender, Race, and Age
- Resistance Encountered by Officers
- Type of Force Used
- Total Arrests and Calls for Service versus Total Use of Force Incidents
- Mental Health Related Issue and/or Intoxication
- Day and Time of Incident
- Injuries to Any Person Including Officers

# SYNOPSIS

The 2025 Use of Force Report was completed using the Albany Police Department's use of force database. The Albany Police Department (APD) responded to 38,857 calls, resulting in 5,538 arrests, with only 149 incidents requiring use of force as defined by the Albany Police Department. Use of force incidents occurred during 0.38% of all calls for service in 2025 and 2.7% of incidents involving arrests. It is important to note that the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) and many agencies across the country do not include "handgun displayed" as a formal use of force for reporting purposes. The policy language states, "Display of firearm is defined as the pointing of an officer's firearm at a person as a means to gain compliance or in reasonable anticipation of use of deadly force."

Force is counted per event, per officer, per subject, by force type, and number of applications. For example, if there are four subjects in the vehicle during a high-risk stop, and five officers who each display their handgun at the subjects, this one incident results in twenty uses of force.

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. The analysis reveals that sworn officers of the Albany Police Department have effectively responded with physical force in compliance with department policy and legal standards.

# REPORTING

Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely, and accurately in an appropriate report, depending on the nature of the incident. The officer should articulate the factors perceived and why he/she believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances. To collect data for the purposes of training, resource allocation, analysis, and related purposes, the department requires the completion of a Use of Force Report which is reviewed by a supervisor. Once the use of force report is approved by the supervisor as being accurate, the use of force incident is reviewed through the use of force review process. The use of force review process includes review by the sergeant, lieutenant, training coordinator, and captain of each officer's use of force report, incident report, and video/audio recordings including body worn camera footage. The review includes policy adherence, training needs, equipment status, and corrective action.

## **REPORTING DISPLAY AS TYPE OF FORCE USED**

APD officers report any display of a firearm or less lethal weapon as a type of force used. As previously stated, display is defined as the pointing of an officer's weapon at a person as a means to gain compliance or in reasonable anticipation of use of deadly force. Of the 355 force types used during incidents in 2025, 70 of those were display only, which include handgun display, taser display, 40mm display, rifle display, and shotgun display. This accounts for 19.7% of the total use of force incidents reported. It's important to report displays of force for justification of the officers' actions as these incidents can be high-risk and require urgent compliance. Even though the displays of force do not involve any physical force, they are still reported as a use of force due to the risk and liability of displaying a weapon as a means of compliance.

# TRAINING

All sworn personnel receive various use of force instruction during basic police training including case law, defensive tactics, baton, oleoresin capsicum spray (OC), handcuffing, firearms, less lethal, virtual reality, and more. Continuing education for all Albany police sworn personnel on use of force occurs multiple times each year. The formal use of force training during 2025 consisted of:

March 2025	4 hours	Firearms
April 2025	8 hours	Defensive Tactics
May 2025	4 hours	Firearms
July 2025	4 hours	Defensive Tactics
August 2025	4 hours	Firearms
September 2025	4 hours	Emergency Vehicle Operations
October 2025	8 hours	Defensive Tactics/Survival Skills
November 2025	4 hours	Firearms/Night Range

DPSST requires police officers receive a minimum of eight hours of use of force training each year. The Albany Police Department consistently trains more than the minimum required. In 2025, officers received 40 in-person training hours directly related to firearms and use of force which is more than five times the required amount. Sworn officers also received numerous training bulletins on force issues. De-escalation is emphasized during each training event and was included in the eight-hour survival skills training in April, in addition to several training bulletins related to de-escalation.

Training bulletins in 2025 that related to use of force included: de-escalation, active threat, bias-based policing, mental health, foot pursuits, all hazard responses, warrant service, and ethics. APD has two training coordinators: survival skills and firearms. Both training coordinators completed a two-week Use of Force Instructor Training Program hosted by the Albany Police Department and presented by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

# REVIEW

## POLICY REVIEW

Our Use of Force Policy 240 is continuously reviewed for accuracy to ensure our department policy aligns with current best practices and updated laws. The Albany Police Department follows best practices set by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). PERF created the [Guiding Principles on Use of Force](#) in 2016. Our policies and practices reflect PERF's 30 Guiding Principles on Use of Force. Recommended changes are being reviewed. Our department policies are available to the public via our website at <https://www.albanyoregon.gov/police/about/apd-policies>.

## EQUIPMENT REVIEW

Equipment associated with use of force includes firearms, tasers, ASP batons, and other related tools. In 2025, new acquisitions included eighteen rifles, ten less-lethal 40mm launchers, seven tasers, and two rifle rated ballistic shields. Two drones were also purchased, significantly enhancing the timing, planning, and safety of high-risk incidents with a high potential for use of force. No additional equipment concerns were identified during the analysis.

## QUARTERLY REVIEW

Beginning in 2020, APD started compiling quarterly use of force reports. These reports offer much of the same information that the annual report offers. The quarterly reports are designed to provide supervisors and training coordinators with information regarding use of force incidents. This information is utilized to identify patterns or trends that could indicate training needs, equipment upgrades, and/or policy modifications.

*Please note that calls for service and arrest data may slightly differ in the quarterly reports due to reporting changes or errors. The annual report provides the final data for the year.*

# 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 eight categories. During the annual use of force meeting in February 2024, the team decided it was appropriate to separate Assist Other Agency/Warrant into two categories: Assist Other Agency and Wanted Person/Warrant.

**Fight or Disturbance:** Assault, Disorderly Conduct, Disturbance, Interfering, Resisting Arrest, Domestic, Harassment, Menacing, Weapons.

**Assist Other Agency:** Assist Outside Agency.

**Wanted Person/Warrant:** Warrants served by our department, Wanted Persons.

**Traffic:** Traffic Crime, DUI, 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, Person Stop, Transient Complaint.

Classification of Initiating Call	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Fight or Disturbance	58	47	30	29.0%	26.3%	20.1%
Assist Other Agency	12	9	9	6.0%	5.0%	6.0%
Wanted Person/Warrant	26	30	25	13.0%	16.8%	16.8%
Traffic	23	18	14	11.5%	10.1%	9.4%
Property Crime	25	23	14	12.5%	12.8%	9.4%
Mental Health or Suicidal	10	9	3	5.0%	5.0%	2.0%
Drug Related	3	7	1	1.5%	3.9%	0.7%
Other	43	36	53	21.5%	20.1%	35.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## COMPARISON BY PERCEIVED GENDER, RACE, AND AGE

There were 149 total incidents of use of force, but some of those incidents involved multiple subjects. In 2025, there were 154 subjects that had force used against them.

Perceived Gender	2023		2024		2025	
Male	169	80.9%	139	75.1%	120	77.9%
Female	40	19.1%	46	24.9%	34	22.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Use of force incidents have remained relatively consistent regarding race of the subject over the past three years. The most recent U.S Census Bureau demographics information for the City of Albany was reported on July 1, 2024, as: 81.2% White, 15.3% Hispanic, 1.7% Asian/Pacific Islander, 1.1% Native American, and 0.5% Black.

Perceived Race	2023		2024		2025	
White	173	82.8%	157	84.9%	135	87.7%
Black	10	4.8%	6	3.2%	2	1.3%
Hispanic	21	10.0%	20	10.8%	13	8.4%
Native American	0	0.0%	2	1.1%	2	1.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	2.4%	0	0.0%	2	1.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

There were 149 total incidents of use of force, but some of those incidents involved multiple subjects. In 2025, there were 154 subjects that had force used against them.

Age	2023		2024		2025	
17 and Younger	12	5.7%	7	3.8%	13	8.4%
18 - 20	8	3.8%	5	2.7%	5	3.2%
21 - 30	63	30.1%	50	27.0%	31	20.1%
31 - 40	67	32.1%	60	32.4%	53	34.4%
41 - 50	33	15.8%	40	21.6%	24	15.6%
51 - 60	19	9.1%	15	8.1%	18	11.7%
61 and Older	7	3.3%	8	4.3%	10	6.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# RESISTANCE ENCOUNTERED BY OFFICERS

The resistance encountered by officers is broken down into 21 different categories, many of which are seldom encountered. Due to the relatively low number of certain encounters, small differences in data points can sometimes indicate large percentage changes in the data. Changes in the data, positive or negative, are not always an accurate indicator of a trend or a result of officer actions.

Resistance	2023		2024		2025	
Active Resistance	138	14.9%	146	16.0%	130	16.5%
Attempt to Escape	56	6.0%	90	9.9%	78	9.9%
Charging	18	1.9%	18	2.0%	15	1.9%
Elude on Foot/Bicycle	44	4.8%	44	4.8%	33	4.2%
Elude Vehicle	20	2.2%	20	2.2%	5	0.6%
Fighting Stance	48	5.2%	41	4.5%	75	9.5%
Firearm - Handgun	27	2.9%	7	0.8%	2	0.3%
Firearm - Rifle	4	0.4%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Firearm - Shotgun	0	0.0%	3	0.3%	1	0.1%
Hand/Elbow Strike	9	1.0%	10	1.1%	5	0.6%
Hiding/Barricaded	55	5.9%	38	4.2%	24	3.0%
High Risk Subject	174	18.8%	137	15.0%	97	12.3%
Impact Weapon	6	0.6%	3	0.3%	8	1.0%
Leg/Knee/Foot Strike	14	1.5%	24	2.6%	22	2.8%
OC Chemical Spray	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	13	1.4%	15	1.6%	17	2.2%
Passive Resistance	73	7.9%	55	6.0%	54	6.9%
Push/Shove/Pull	82	8.9%	91	10.0%	68	8.6%
Stabbing Instrument	15	1.6%	27	3.0%	21	2.7%
Suicidal	22	2.4%	14	1.5%	18	2.3%
Verbally Aggressive	108	11.7%	127	13.9%	114	14.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# TYPE OF FORCE USED

The type of force used by officers is broken down into 29 different categories. In July 2025, the classifications for K9 use of force were revised to more accurately reflect the type of force applied. The category K9 Display was removed, and a new category, K9 Surrender, was introduced. The updated definitions are as follows:

- **K9 Deploy** - When the K9 handler determines that requisite conditions exist permitting the use of the K9, the K9 handler deploys the K9, and, but for circumstances of the event, the suspect does not surrender because of the K9's presence and the suspect is not bitten.
- **K9 Surrender** - When a K9 is deployed, the suspect is arrested/detained/located, and there is articulable information that because of the K9's involvement, the suspect surrendered to police custody.
- **K9 Bite** - When a K9 bites a suspect, intentionally or unintentionally.

Display of a weapon is defined as the pointing of an officer's firearm or less lethal weapon at a person as a means to gain compliance. Due to the relatively low number of some uses of force, small differences in data points can sometimes indicate large percentage changes in the data. Changes in the data, positive or negative, are not always an accurate indicator of a trend or a result of officer actions.

In 2024, APD's Survival Skills Coordinator began integrating Effective Fitness Combatives (EFC) into the in-service use of force training curriculum. EFC prepares officers to manage the full spectrum of force encounters by combining wrestling, jiu-jitsu, and striking techniques with an emphasis on weapon-based considerations.

Since incorporating this training, APD has seen a 25.5% reduction in use of force incidents from 2023 to 2025. Handgun displays dropped from 93 in 2023 to 27 in 2025. Rifle displays decreased from 16 in 2024 to 1 in 2025. Tackle/takedown applications increased from 30 in 2024 to 56 in 2025.

These trends indicate that officers are increasingly relying on hands-on control tactics rather than force options involving weapons when appropriate for the situation.

## TYPE OF FORCE USED CONTINUED

Type of Force Used	2023 Times Used		2024 Times Used		2025 Times Used	
40mm LL Display	10	1.9%	5	1.1%	2	0.6%
40mm LL Fired	3	0.6%	4	0.9%	5	1.4%
Arm Bar/Takedown	13	2.5%	17	3.7%	9	2.5%
ASP Baton Deploy	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.3%
ASP Baton Display	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Bent Wrist Lock	28	5.4%	28	6.1%	7	2.0%
Escort Hold	35	6.7%	31	6.7%	22	6.2%
Focused Blow	12	2.3%	11	2.4%	5	1.4%
Hair Hold Takedown	2	0.4%	2	0.4%	2	0.6%
Handgun Display	93	17.9%	45	9.7%	27	7.6%
Handgun Fired	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
K-9 Bite	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	1	0.3%
K-9 Deploy	10	1.9%	13	2.8%	6	1.7%
K-9 Display	3	0.6%	3	0.6%	0	0.0%
K-9 Surrender	-		-		0	0.0%
Leg Sweep	13	2.5%	20	4.3%	7	2.0%
Pressure Point	2	0.4%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%
O.C. Spray Deploy	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%
O.C. Spray Display	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	17	3.3%	10	2.2%	13	3.7%
Push/Pull/Shove	78	15.0%	96	20.8%	86	24.2%
Rifle Display	14	2.7%	16	3.5%	1	0.3%
Rifle Fired	2	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Shotgun Display	2	0.4%	7	1.5%	0	0.0%
Shoulder Lock	10	1.9%	3	0.6%	8	2.3%
Tackle/Takedown	38	7.3%	30	6.5%	56	15.8%
Taser Deploy	19	3.7%	21	4.5%	27	7.6%
Taser Display	76	14.6%	57	12.3%	40	11.3%
Wrap Restraint	19	3.7%	28	6.1%	16	4.5%
Lateral Recovery Restraint	20	3.8%	12	2.6%	10	2.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## TOTAL ARRESTS VERSUS TOTAL USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

Arrests have increased by 11.5% over the past three years, while use of force incidents have decreased by 25.5%.

Arrests vs. Incidents	2023	2024	2025
Arrests	4,965	5,147	5,538
Use of Force Incidents	200	179	149
<b>Total Percentage</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>

## TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE VERSUS TOTAL USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

Calls for service remained similar in 2023 and 2024 and increased by 7% in 2025, while use of force incidents decreased by 25.5%. Refer to [APD's 2025 Annual Crime Analysis Report](#) for more details regarding calls for service.

Calls for Service vs. Incidents	2023	2024	2025
Calls for Service	36,305	36,213	38,857
Use of Force Incidents	200	179	149
<b>Total Percentage</b>	<b>0.55%</b>	<b>0.49%</b>	<b>0.38%</b>

## MENTAL HEALTH RELATED ISSUE AND/OR INTOXICATION FACTORS

In 2021, we began tracking whether the use of force incident involved a mental health issue and if the subject was under the influence of alcohol or drugs based on the perceptions of the officers involved. In 2025, 59.7% of subjects involved in a use of force incident were either intoxicated, experiencing a mental health issue, or both.

Other Factors	2023		2024		2025	
Intoxicated	83	39.7%	47	25.4%	28	18.2%
Mental Health Crisis	41	19.6%	34	18.4%	35	22.7%
Both	17	8.1%	23	12.4%	29	18.8%
<b>Subjects Involved in UOF Incident</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>67.5%</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>56.2%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>59.7%</b>

## TIME OF DAY

The Albany Police Department use of force incidents by day of week in 2025 ranged from 21 to 30 incidents. Fridays saw the most incidents in 2025 (19.5%), while Mondays dropped to the lowest share (8.1%). Sundays and Saturdays remained consistently high across all years.

Day of Incident	2023		2024		2025	
Sunday	44	22.0%	26	14.5%	24	16.1%
Monday	34	17.0%	21	11.7%	12	8.1%
Tuesday	23	11.5%	30	16.8%	21	14.1%
Wednesday	17	8.5%	20	11.2%	22	14.8%
Thursday	24	12.0%	25	14.0%	17	11.4%
Friday	23	11.5%	27	15.1%	29	19.5%
Saturday	35	17.5%	30	16.8%	24	16.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## DAY OF WEEK

Use of force incidents by time of day are broken down in four-hour increments beginning at midnight. Most use of force incidents occurred between 1201 hours and 1600 hours at 22.8%, and the least between 0401 hours and 0800 hours at 8.1%.

Time of Incident	2023		2024		2025	
0001 - 0400	26	13.0%	38	21.2%	18	12.1%
0401 - 0800	14	7.0%	11	6.1%	12	8.1%
0801 - 1200	33	16.5%	21	11.7%	26	17.4%
1201 - 1600	26	13.0%	30	16.8%	34	22.8%
1601 - 2000	46	23.0%	39	21.8%	27	18.1%
2001 - 0000	55	27.5%	40	22.3%	32	21.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

There is nothing within the day of week or time of day data which indicates a concerning pattern or recurrence.

# INJURIES

## OFFICER INJURIES

In 2025, most use of force incidents (93.6%) were resolved with no injury to an officer. Of the 235 officers involved in use of force incidents, 15 (6.4%) resulted in an injury to the officer. Minor injuries that did not require medical attention include injuries such as a scratch, bruise, or complaint of pain.

Officer Injuries During Use of Force	2023		2024		2025	
No Injury	322	95.0%	265	92.0%	220	93.6%
Minor - No Medical Attention	15	4.4%	17	5.9%	15	6.4%
Minor - Medical Attention	1	0.3%	2	0.7%	0	0.0%
Hospital	1	0.3%	4	1.4%	0	0.0%
Fatality	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## OTHER PERSONS INJURIES

Most use of force incidents (79.9%) were resolved with no injury to any person. Of the 154 subjects involved in use of force incidents, 15 (9.7%) resulted in injury to the subject requiring medical attention on scene or at the hospital. Minor injuries that did not require medical attention include injuries such as a scratch, bruise, or complaint of pain.

Person Injuries During Use of Force	2023		2024		2025	
No Injury	178	85.2%	154	83.2%	123	79.9%
Minor - No Medical Attention	14	6.7%	17	9.2%	16	10.4%
Minor - Medical Attention	15	7.2%	13	7.0%	11	7.1%
Hospital	1	0.5%	1	0.5%	4	2.6%
Fatality	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

It is important to provide transparency regarding incidents in which a subject receives medical care for a significant injury associated with a use-of-force event. The following summaries describe the four incidents during the year in which an individual was transported to the hospital for treatment of related injuries.

## **INCIDENT 25-02822**

On May 16, 2025, officers responded to a littering violation involving one neighbor dumping items onto the other neighbor's property. In addition, the reporting neighbor had a no-contact order against the violating neighbor. When the neighbor in violation was contacted by two officers, the male denied throwing items onto his neighbors' property. When the officers placed the subject under arrest, he resisted arrest by retreating into his garage and pushing one officer away. The subject and two officers struggled, which led them to the ground. The male continued to resist, officers called for additional back-up but were able to gain control of the subject and place him in handcuffs prior to additional officers arriving. The subject had a laceration to his forehead during the struggle. Medics arrived on scene and provided care. Officers transported him to the hospital to be treated for the laceration. The subject was charged with Offensive Littering and Resisting Arrest.

## **INCIDENT 25-02842**

On May 17, 2025, officers were dispatched to an assault in which one neighbor reportedly head-butted another in the face. Officers confirmed the assault with the victim and contacted the male suspect on his front porch. When officers attempted to place him under arrest, the suspect retreated into his residence and began actively resisting. Two officers attempted to gain control as the suspect punched and kicked them. The struggle continued for nearly two minutes. Officers used knee strikes, hair pulling, ASP baton strikes, and close-quarters ground-control tactics to overcome the resistance. They were ultimately able to handcuff the suspect, and once additional officers arrived, he was placed in a WRAP restraint. One officer sustained multiple abrasions, minor bleeding cuts, and muscle strain. The second officer suffered punctured skin from being bitten. Medics responded and transported the suspect to the hospital, where he was treated for a dislocated shoulder. He was later charged with Assault IV, Resisting Arrest, and two counts of Assault on a Public Safety Officer.

## **INCIDENT 25-03767**

On June 30, 2025, an officer observed a vehicle he recognized to be related to a subject with outstanding warrants. After confirming the warrants, the officer requested backup and approached the male subject who had gotten out of the vehicle at this point. When informed he was under arrest, the subject immediately resisted and fled on foot. The officer chased the subject, issuing warnings that a Taser would be deployed if he did not stop. When the subject continued to run, the officer deployed the Taser, causing him to fall to the ground, where he was taken into custody and handcuffed. The fall resulted in minor lacerations to the subject's head, eyebrow, and big toe. The officers requested medics respond to the scene to evaluate the subject for his injuries. The subject complained of breathing issues to the medics and was transported to the hospital for further assessment. After being treated and released, he was taken to jail and charged with Resisting Arrest and lodged for multiple warrants in Marion County, Polk County, and Linn County.

## **INCIDENT 25-04534**

On August 6, 2025, officers responded to a domestic disturbance involving a restraining order violation. The subject had reportedly threatened individuals in the home with kitchen scissors. When officers arrived, he had already fled but was located hiding in nearby bushes. Officers issued commands for him to get on the ground as he was in violation of a restraining order. The subject became verbally aggressive, threatened officers, and actively resisted arrest. A Taser was deployed, allowing officers to gain control and place him in handcuffs. He was transported to the hospital for evaluation of the Taser probe sites. After being medically cleared, he was taken to jail and charged with Contempt (Violation of a Restraining Order), Unlawful Use of a Weapon, and Menacing.

# ASSAULT ON OFFICER REVIEW

During 2025, there were 23 reported assaults or attempted assaults on officers. These incidents were charged under Assault of a Public Safety Officer, Attempted Assault of a Public Safety Officer, and Aggravated Harassment. Because assaults on law enforcement personnel represent significant threats to officer safety and operational readiness, the agency conducts an annual review to identify trends, contributing factors, and opportunities for improvement.

Analysis of the 2025 incidents shows several notable patterns. Assaults on officers occurred in 12.8% of all use-of-force events during the year, underscoring the inherent risks associated with physical encounters. A majority of the incidents (65.2%) involved subjects who were intoxicated or experiencing a mental health crisis, highlighting the continued need for training and resources related to crisis response and de-escalation. Physical aggression varied, with 21.7% of incidents involving subjects kicking at officers and 43.5% involving subjects striking or fighting with officers. Female subjects were involved in 34.8% of the reported assaults. Additionally, four of the 23 incidents (17.4%) did not involve officers using force, demonstrating that assaults can occur even in situations where officers are not applying physical control techniques.

## TRENDS AND PATTERNS

- Assaults on officers occurred in 12.8% of the 149 use of force incidents in 2025.
- Fifteen incidents (65.2%) involved subjects who were intoxicated or experiencing a mental health issue.
- Five incidents (21.7%) involved the subject kicking at the officer(s).
- Ten incidents (43.5%) involved the subject striking/fighting the officer(s).
- Eight incidents (34.8%) involved female subjects.
- Four of the 23 incidents (17.4%) did not involve officers using force.

# CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The review of use of force incidents during 2025 found that the actions taken by Albany Police Department personnel were justified and consistent with department policy. In each case, the force used reasonably appeared necessary to bring the situation under control based on the facts and circumstances perceived by the involved officers at the time.

Throughout 2025, the department continued to prioritize training in de-escalation and critical incident recognition. Currently, ninety percent of sworn officers are certified in the 40-hour Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) program, with the remaining six officers scheduled to complete the training within the next year. Tactical communication training also remains a core component of in-service instruction and is integrated with defensive tactics and de-escalation practices.

The department remains committed to balancing de-escalation techniques, physical force, and control devices in a manner that supports safe and effective outcomes. Officers participated in scenario-based training during 2025 that emphasized distance, communication, approach strategies, resource utilization, and reasonable force options. These training opportunities provided officers with practical tools to manage potentially hostile or rapidly evolving situations. Future use of force training will continue to reinforce de-escalation, control holds, proper use of control devices, duty to intercede, and de minimis tactics.

In addition to these core competencies, officers are trained to render first aid or otherwise provide medical assistance following a use of force incident when it is safe to do so. This expectation is reflected throughout the suspect injury summaries and remains a key principle of professional policing. The department recognizes that providing timely care is an essential component of safeguarding life and maintaining public trust.

The department recognizes and respects the inherent value and dignity of all human life. Granting officers the authority to use reasonable force in the interest of public safety requires ongoing monitoring, evaluation, and thoughtful balancing of community expectations, officer safety, and individual rights.