

TIVERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020 USE OF FORCE REVIEW

General Order 390.10 (Updated 12/07/2020) defines a reportable use of force as any incident in which a sworn department member exercises his/her police powers and uses a force option except for those actions set forth below. Reportable uses of force also include:

- a. Drawing and pointing a firearm or ECW at a person for the purpose of obtaining and/or maintaining control of that person.
- b. Taking an action that results in, or is alleged to have resulted in, either injury to or the death of another person.

Exceptions to reportable force include:

- a. Command presence.
- b. Verbal commands.
- c. Physical skills which does not result in injury, the appearance of injury, or the complaint of pain (ex. soft empty-hand control techniques).
- d. Compliance handcuffing which does not result in injury, the appearance of injury, or the complaint of pain.

The Tiverton Police Department recorded eleven (11) use of force incidents between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. The Tiverton Police Department reported six (6) use of force incidents in 2019. This represents a 54.5% increase.

This upward trend in use of force incidents was noted by Planning and Training Sergeant Marco Valzovano in September of 2020. Sgt. Valzovano found that a vast majority of the department's use of force incidents involved "compliance techniques". Sgt. Valzovano devised a training schedule for the end of 2020 and 2021, which would emphasize appropriate response to subject resistance. Four (4) training blocks were scheduled. However, due to the COVID-19 resurgence the training has been postponed.

In addition, as a response to this upward trend department-wide L.E.A.D.S. (Law Enforcement Active De-escalations Strategies & Tactical Options) training was completed on October 19th and 20th, 2020.

Of the eleven (11) use of force incidents, ten (10) resulted in an arrest. One use of force incident resulted in a subject being transported the hospital due to comments regarding suicide. The Tiverton Police Department recorded 568 arrests in 2020. Use of force was used in 1.9% of persons arrested by the Tiverton Police Department.

Per policy, all use of force incidents were reviewed by the officer's supervisor, a Use of Force Instructor (Sergeant Vincent Palumbo) and the Uniform Division Commander (Captain Michael Miguel). All use of force incidents for 2020 were found to be within department policy.

Following is a summary of the eleven (11) use of force incidents reported in 2020:

Day of incidents:

Saturday: 3
Sunday: 3
Monday: 2
Tuesday: 1
Wednesday: 1
Thursday: 0
Friday: 1

Time of incidents:

0000 hrs.- 0800 hrs.: 6
0800 hrs.- 1600 hrs.: 4
1600 hrs.- 0000 hrs.: 1

Location of Incidents:

Residence: 5
Casino: 4
Public/Private Road: 1
Police Station: 1

Subject Age:

18 to 25: 5
26 to 30: 2
31 to 35: 0
36 to 40: 2
41 to 45: 2

Subject Sex:

Male: 6
Female: 5

Subject Race:

White (not of Hispanic origin): 8
Hispanic: 2
Black/African American: 1

Initial Incident/Charge:

Disorderly Conduct: 7
Domestic Violence Charge: 2
Eluding Police: 2
Warrant Arrest: 1
Under the influence of drugs: 1
Mental Health Issue: 1

Reason Force Used (More than one reason may be applied to each incident):

Effect Arrest: 9
Prevent Escape: 2
Defend Another Officer/Person: 8
Defend Self: 10
Handcuff/Restrain: 10
Prevent Violent Felony: 0
Protective Custody/Suspect Safety: 3
Unintentional: 0
Entry Team Operations: 0
Warrant Execution: 0
Other: 0

Suspect Impairment (More than one reason may be applied to each incident):

No Visible Impairment: 0
Under the Influence of Alcohol: 8
Mentally Impaired/Emotionally Disturbed: 1
Under the Influence of Drugs: 2
In Possession of/Threatening Weapon: 0
Other: 0

Officer Presence:

Uniform: 11
Plain Clothes: 0

Force Options Used (More than one reason may be applied to each incident):

Compliance Techniques: 10
OC Spray: 2
ASP/Impact Weapon: 0
Taser/ECD: 0
Firearm Presented: 1
Firearm Discharged: 0
K-9: 0
Other: 0

Subject Injury:

Visible Injury: 1
Complaint of Injury: 4
Fatal Injury: 0
Transported to Hospital: 3

Officer Injury:

Visible Injury: 1
Complaint of Injury: 1
Fatal Injury: 0
Transported to Hospital: 1