

# Temple Police Department



Response to Resistance Report  
2015



## Background

This document summarizes the essential data points relating to Response to Resistance reporting. Department Policy (General Order 501) Response to Resistance states that:

A police officer's duty is to protect the life and property of citizens and to preserve the peace. To obtain these objectives, the use of force is sometimes required. It is the policy of this department that force only be used to effect the lawful arrest and or/stop the violent behavior of an individual. Officers are authorized to use only the amount of objectively reasonable force which is necessary under the circumstances to successfully accomplish the law enforcement purpose.

Response to Resistance (Use of Force) is defined by the policy as:

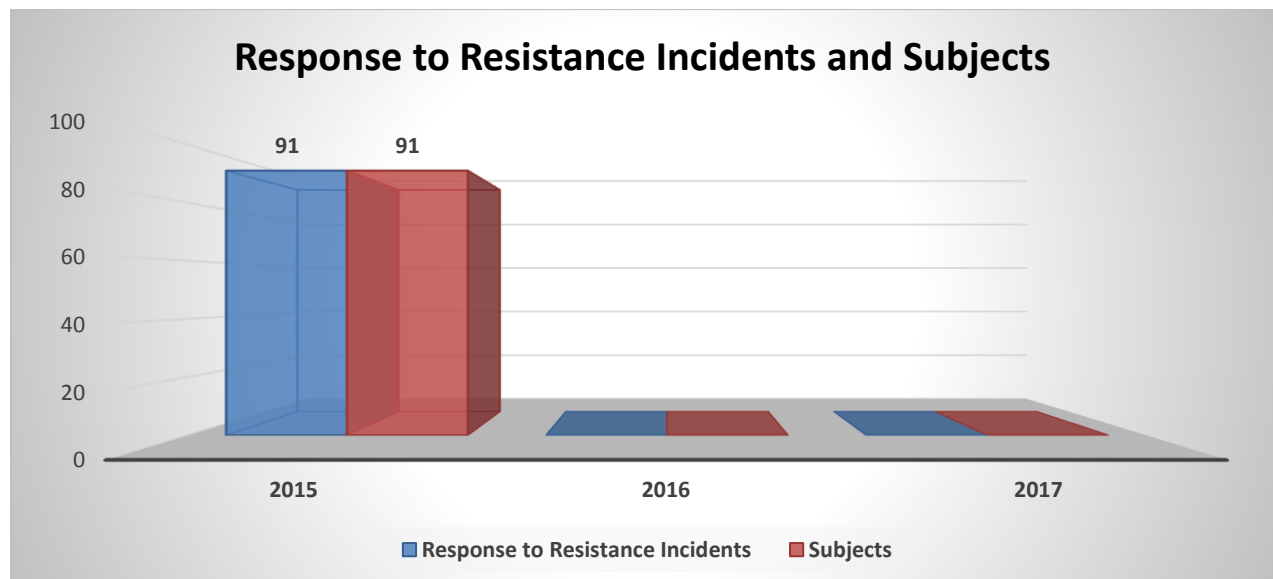
Any physical contact to an individual by an officer using their body, device, object, or weapon, **excluding**; soft empty hand control (escorts, wrist locks, arm bar, non-striking pressure points) or the handcuffing of an individual. Any complaint by an individual that an officer caused pain or an injury shall be documented as a response to resistance incident, **except** for complaints of minor discomfort from physical restraints (handcuffs, leg restraints, flex cuffs).

When officers encounter use of force situations, policy requires that the primary officer complete an offense report and a Response to Resistance report. Assisting officers will also complete a Response to Resistance report if they applied a reportable level of force against the subject. This report includes information on the subject, their level of resistance, and any sustained injuries. Additionally, it will include information on the officers that were involved in the incident, levels of control they applied and any injuries they sustained. Documentation from each incident is reviewed by a supervisor.

The departments "Firearms Discharge Review Board" examines all incidents where a firearm is discharged.

## Number of Response to Resistance Incidents and Subjects

In 2015, there were **91** response to resistance incidents that involved **91** subjects who received various levels of force to gain control.



To provide context, the department tracks the total number of official police contacts with the public (**120,193** in 2015) and the total number of arrests (**5,134** in 2015). Police contacts with the public resulted in **.076%** response to resistance incidents. Of the total arrests, **1.77%** involved resistance by the suspect and force applied by the officer.

	2015	2016	2017
Number of Response to Resistance (use of force) incidents	91		
Number of subjects where force was used	91		
Total number of contacts	120,193		
Total number of arrests	5,134		
% of subjects receiving force compared to the total # of contacts	.076%		
% of subjects receiving force compared to the total # of arrests	1.77%		

The above data shows that **99%** of officer/citizen contacts and **98%** of arrests do not result in Response to Resistance incidents.

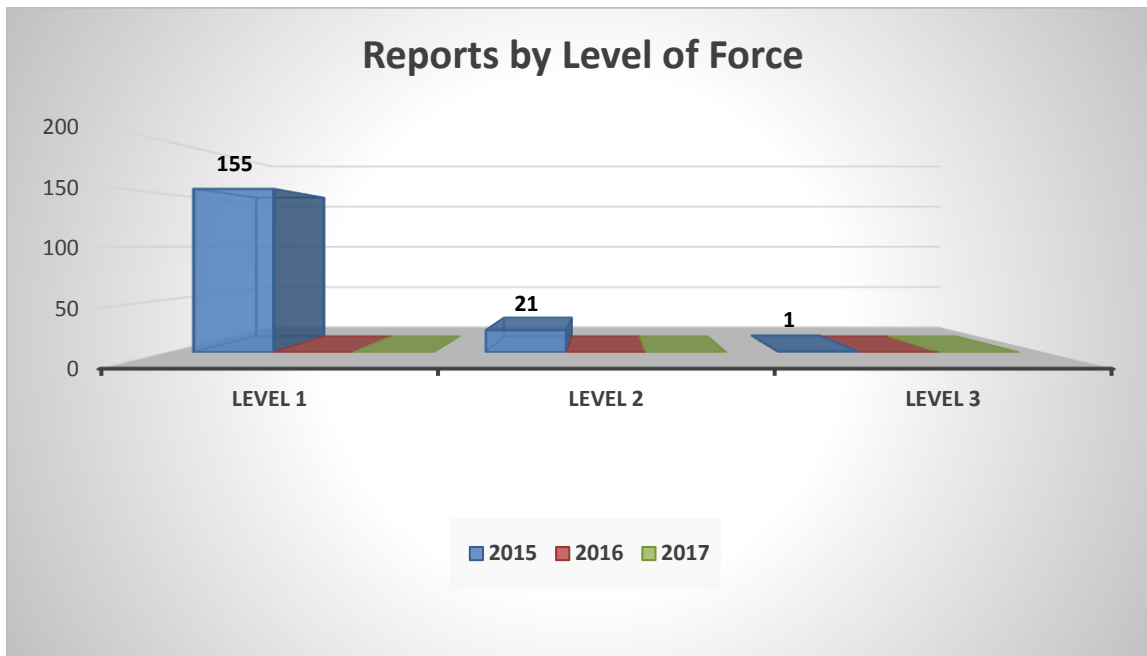
### Reports by Level of Control (force) Used

There are three levels of control that an officer can use to stop resisting subjects. Levels of control are listed from the lowest amount of force (Level 1) to the highest amount of force (Level 3). Each level describes the actions that can be taken by the officer when responding to resistive behavior. When responding to a single use of force incident, and depending on the level of resistance, an officer may have to use more than one type of force to gain control over the subject. In these instances each technique applied is counted separately. This produces a higher number of force applications when compared to the number of reports.

The levels described below are used to determine reporting, investigating and review purposes:

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Soft Empty hand control (escorts, wrist locks, arm bar, non-striking pressure points)</li> <li>▪ Hand/leg strikes to motor points (<i>excluding the head</i>)</li> <li>▪ Takedowns / Grappling</li> <li>▪ Use of chemical agents</li> </ul>
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strikes to the head using empty hand techniques</li> <li>▪ Impact weapon strikes to the motor points in the legs</li> <li>▪ Taser deployments (that strike the subject)</li> <li>▪ Less lethal munition deployments (that strike the subject)</li> <li>▪ K-9 apprehensions (where there is a bite by the K-9)</li> </ul>
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Force resulting in death or substantial risk of death</li> <li>▪ Intentional discharge of a weapon (at a subject, building or object)</li> <li>▪ Unintentional discharge of a weapon (at a subject, building or object)</li> <li>▪ Force resulting in serious bodily injury</li> <li>▪ Use of impact weapon to the head, neck, throat, groin</li> </ul>

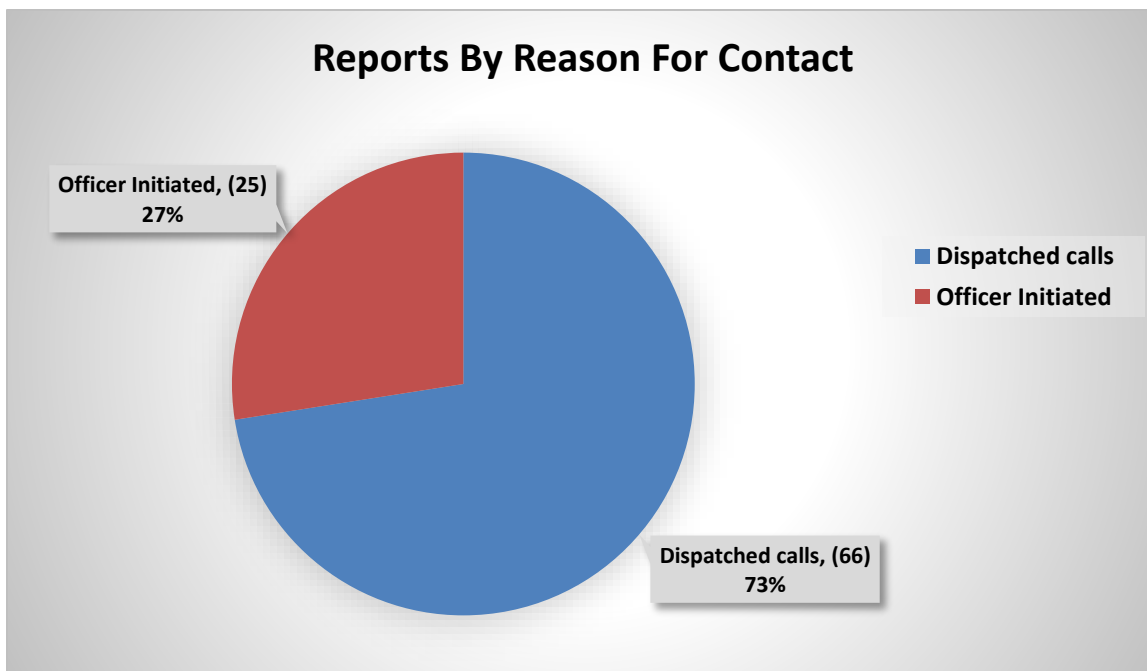
Response to Resistance force applications in 2015 were concentrated in the Level 1 classification, which is the lowest level. Of the 177 use of force applications, officers used Level (1) control methods 87.5% of the time, Level (2) 11.8%, and Level (3), the highest level .0056% of the time. A force application consists of each individual use of force technique applied by the officer to counter a specific level of resistance.



*(Based on 177 Force Applications)*

### Response to Resistance Reports by Reason for Contact

In 2015, 66 of the 91 Response to Resistance reports resulted from dispatched calls for service. Officer initiated activity contacts are made based on the officer observing and responding to suspected criminal activity or a crime in progress, and accounted for 25 reports.



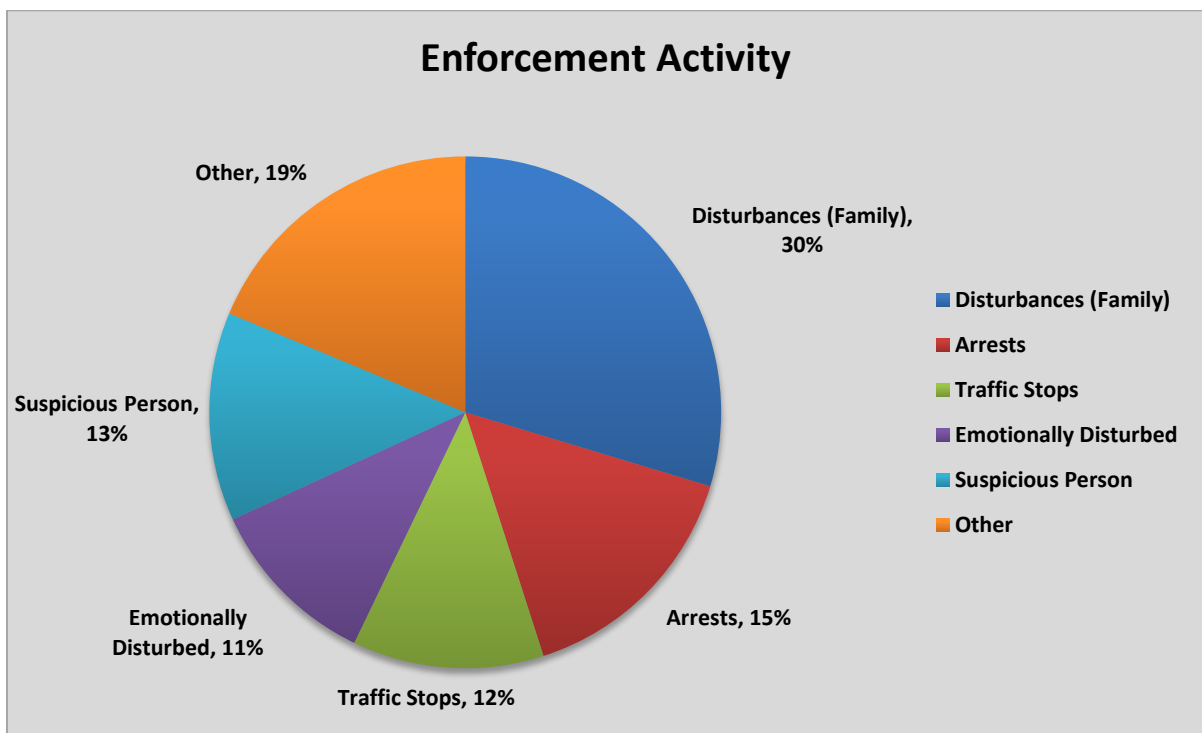
*(Based on 91 Response to Resistance Incidents)*

Reports by Reason for Contact	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2015 Reports	2017	% of 2015 Reports
Dispatched Calls	66	73%				
Viewed Offense	25	27%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100%</b>				

### Response to Resistance by Activity

The chart and graph below shows the type of situation the officer was handling when the resistance occurred. Approximately 1/3 of Response to Resistance reports were generated while responding to family disturbance calls.

The “other” category includes activities not listed in one of the below categories such as; *civil disturbances, crimes in progress, prisoner transport, accidents and warrant service.*



(Based on 91 Response to Resistance Reports)

Reports by Officer Activity	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2015 Reports	2017	% of 2015 Reports
Disturbances (family)	27	30%				
Arrests	14	15%				
Traffic stop	11	12%				
Emotionally Disturbed	10	11%				
Suspicious Person	12	13%				
Other	17	19%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100%</b>				

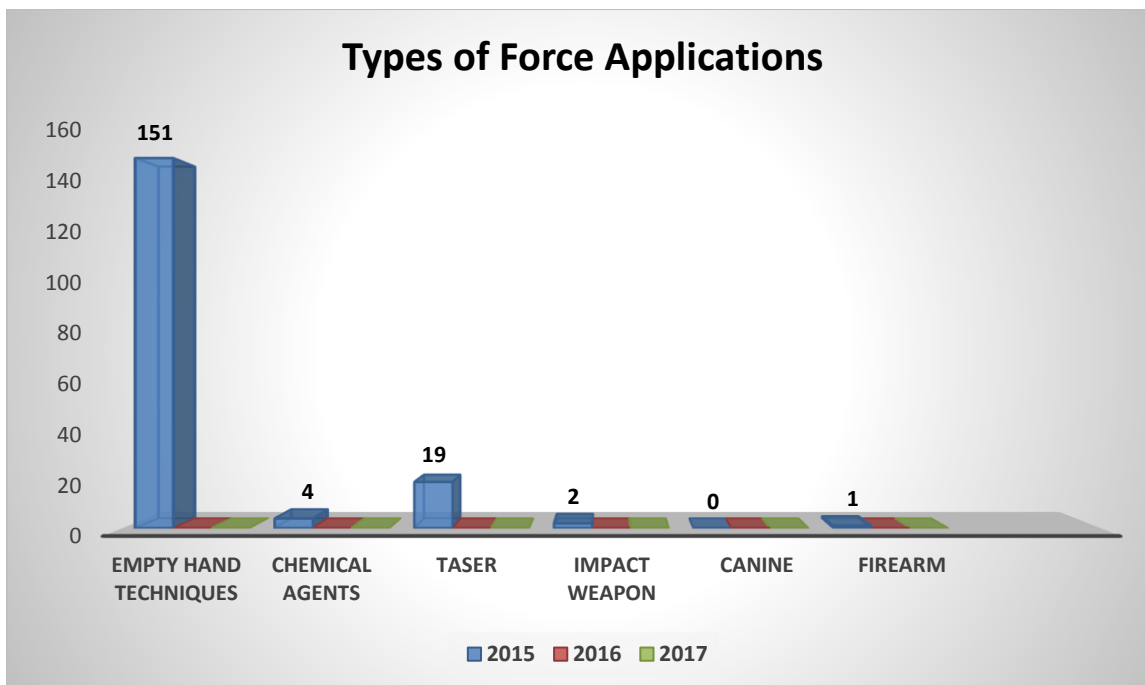
## Reports by Type of Force Used

During a single response to resistance incident more than one officer may be involved. As a result more than one Response to Resistance report may be generated, and each report may include more than one type of force used.

Below are the types of force used in order from the lowest level to the highest level.

- None: no force was used during the incident
- Empty hand techniques: includes soft employ hand controls (joint locks, escorts, pressures points) and hard employ hand control (hand and leg strikes)
- Chemical agents: OC (pepper spray), CS (Othro Chlorobenzaimalononitrile)
- Taser: a less lethal device that uses electronic muscular disruption technology that may temporarily cause the loss of voluntary muscle control.
- Impact weapon: weapon or object that is used to strike the subject such as a straight baton, PR24, or less lethal munitions (bean bag/foam rounds) deployed from a weapon (shotgun/40 MM launcher)
- Canine: the use of a police dog in an arrest situation and a dog bite occurs
- Firearm: the intentional or unintentional discharge of a firearm in the direction of an individual

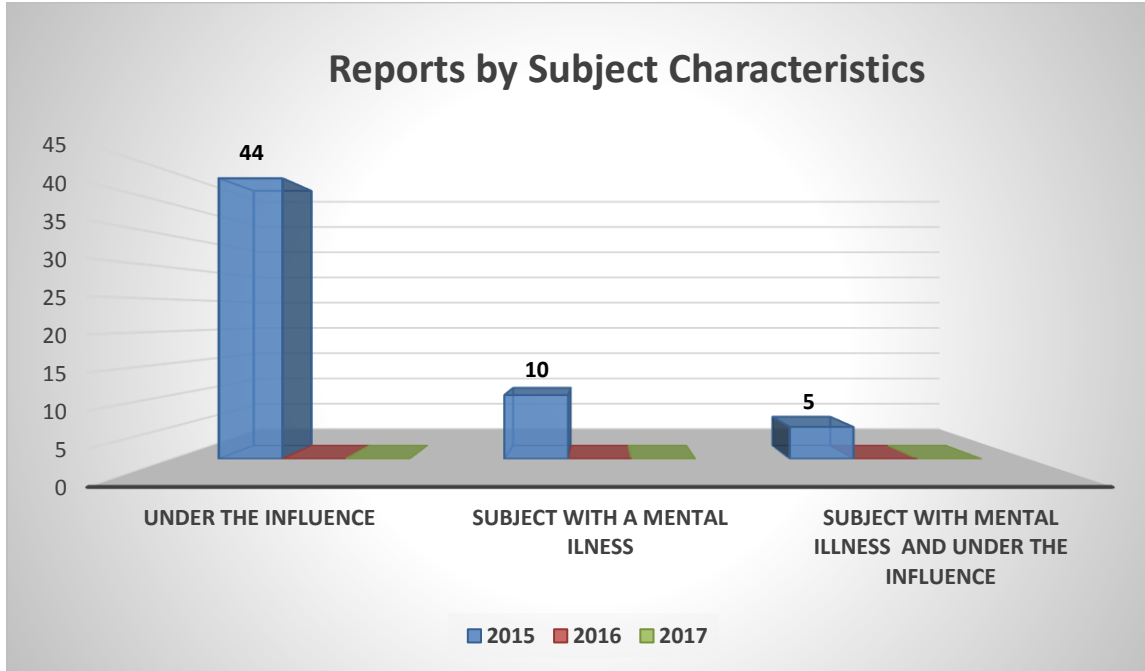
The below chart shows the number of occasions when force was used in each category. In 2015, the most frequent type of force used was “empty hand techniques.” These techniques are the lowest level of force that an officer can apply to gain control over a resisting subject.



*(Based on 177 Force Applications)*

## Reports by Subject Characteristics

In 2015, **65%** of Response to Resistance reports involved subjects who were under the influence (alcohol or narcotics) or involved a person suspected of having a mental illness. **48%** of Response to Resistance reports indicated that the subject was under the influence. **11%** were suspected of being a person with a mental illness and **6%** were suspected of having a mental illness and being under the influence. **35%** of reports did not fall into any of these categories



(Based on 91 Response to Resistance Reports)

## Use of Force by Individual Race/Ethnicity

The majority of response to resistance incidents occur when an officer makes an arrest. In 2015, there were **91** subjects involved in response to resistance incidents. This number equates to **1.77%** of the **5,134** subjects arrested. The data shows that **98%** of arrests did not involve resistance or force. The table below shows the distribution of force based on race/ethnicity.

	White			Black			Hispanic		
	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests
<b>2015</b>	2,033	30	1.47%	1,967	39	1.98%	1,114	22	1.97%
<b>2016</b>									
<b>2017</b>									

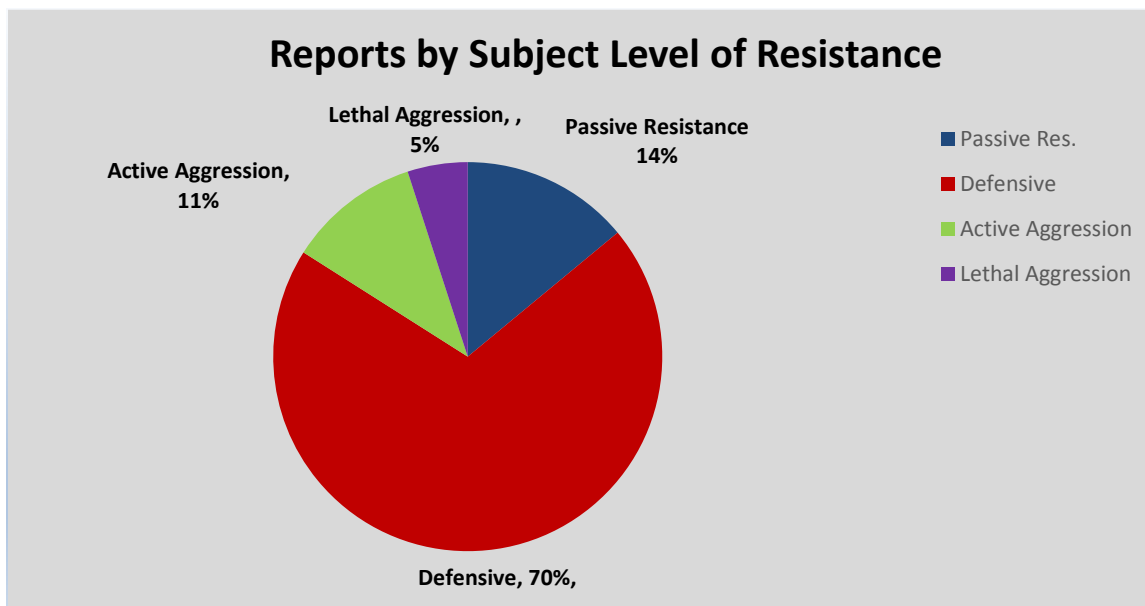
	Other			Total		
	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests	Arrests	Force Used	% of Arrests
<b>2015</b>	20	0	0	5,134	91	1.77 %
<b>2016</b>						
<b>2017</b>						

\*\* Other includes; Native American, Asian, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern

## Reports by Subject Actions

In 2015, defensive resistance was the most frequent form of resistance that officers encountered. On some occasions subjects exhibited more than one type of resistance. In those instances, only the most severe level is identified on the below chart and table. Levels of resistances are defined and listed from lowest to highest. Reportable levels of resistance begin with passive resistance.

- **Passive Resistance:** Subject resists through passive actions such as; dead weight, locking arms, gripping onto a stationary object.
- **Defensive Resistance:** Suspect physically resists the officer's attempts to control him with overt, defensive physical actions such as; pulling or pushing away from the officer, attempting to flee, not allowing the officer to gain control over them.
- **Active Aggression:** A physical assault on the officer such as; strikes, punches, kicks, grabs/holds by the suspect which may cause injury to the officer or others.
- **Lethal Aggression:** A level of force against the officer which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or death and can include; Firearms, edged weapons, strikes to lethal areas of the body, choke holds, or objects to assault the officer.



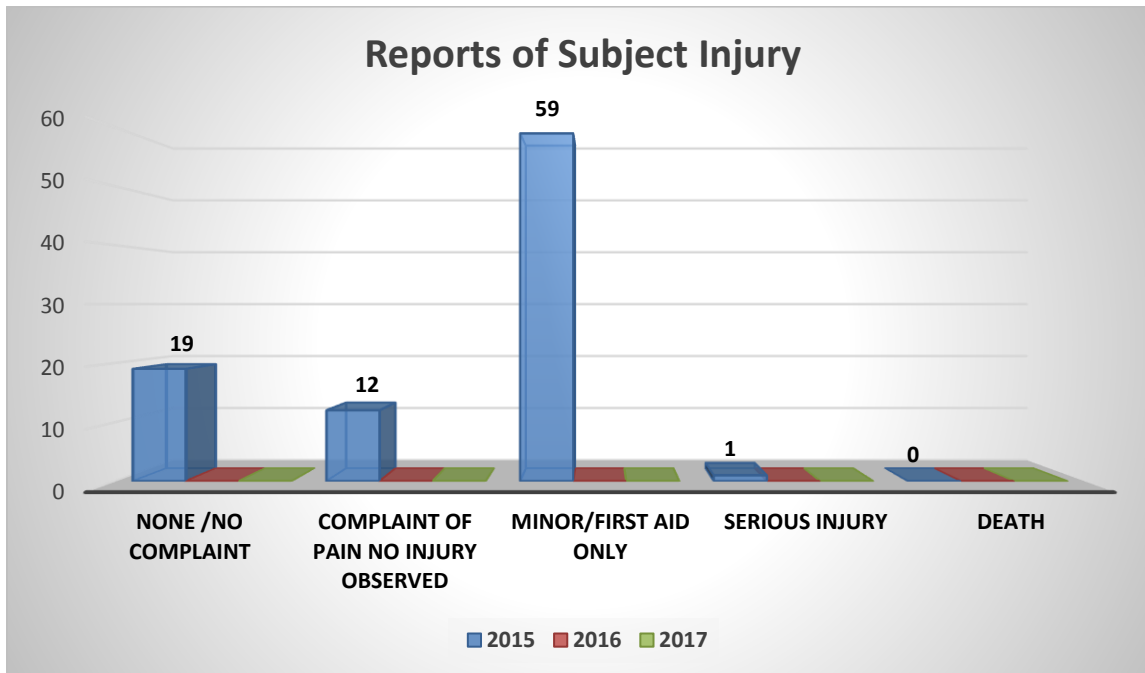
Reports by Subject Resistance	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2016 Reports	2017	% of 2017 Reports
Passive Resistance	14	14%				
Defensive Resistance	69	70%				
Active Aggression	11	11%				
Lethal Aggression	5	5%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100%</b>				

*(Based on 99 Acts of Resistance)*



## Report by Subject Injury

In 2015, the most frequent category of subject injury was minor injury at **65%**, followed by no injury or complaint of injury **21%**, and complaint of pain but no injury observed **13%**. Serious injury made up **1%** and death was **0%**. Of the reported injuries **99%** consisted of less than serious injury.



Reports by Subject Injury	2015	% of 2015 Reports	2016	% of 2016 Reports	2017	% of 2017 Reports
None/ No Complaint	19	21%				
Comp of pain no injury	12	13%				
Minor injury/first aid	59	65%				
Serious Injury	1	1%				
Death	0	0%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100%</b>				

*(Based on 91 Response to Resistance Reports)*

- **None/ No Complaint-** Subject makes no verbal complaint of pain and or injury
- **Complaint of pain observed no injury-** Subject complains of pain but there are no signs of a visible injury.
- **Minor injury/first aid only-** Subject sustained a minor injury during the event that requires no medical treatment, or receives first aid on scene (scratches, bruising, small lacerations, normal effects of chemical agent, Taser probes).
- **Serious injury-**Subject sustained an injury that is not considered minor and requires hospital treatment. (broken bones, large altercations, injury that requires surgery).
- **Death-** Subject died as a result of the force applied.

## Report by Officer Injury

In 2015, the most frequent category of officer injury was minor injury (16) at 11%, followed by serious injury (1) at less than 1%. There were 135 officers (89%) who reported no injury.



(Based on 152 officers)

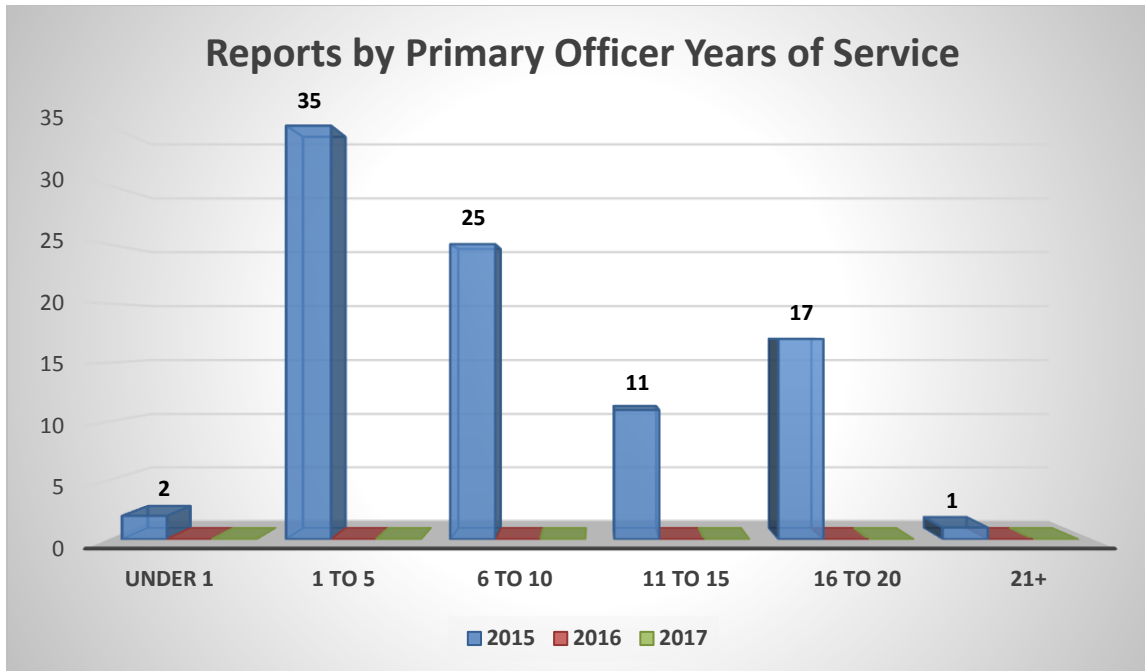
Reports by Officer Injury	2015	% of Officer Involvements	2016	% of Officer Involvements	2017	% of Officer Involvements
None/ No Complaint	135	89%				
Comp of pain no injury	0	0%				
Minor injury/first aid	16	11%				
Serious Injury	1	<1%				
Death	0	0%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100%</b>				

- **None/ No Complaint-** Subject makes no verbal complaint of pain and or injury
- **Complaint of pain observed no injury-** Subject complains of pain but there are no signs of a visible injury.
- **Minor injury/first aid only-** Subject sustained a minor injury during the event that requires no medical treatment, or receives first aid on scene (scratches, bruising, small lacerations, normal effects of chemical agent, Taser probes).
- **Serious injury-**Subject sustained an injury that is not considered minor and requires hospital treatment. (broken bones, large altercations, injury that requires surgery).
- **Death-** Subject died as a result of the force applied.

## Reports by Officer Years of Experience

In 2015, there were **152** officers involved in response to resistance incidents, **91** were primary officers and **61** served as back-up. Officers with less than 5 years of service turned in the majority of the Response to Resistance reports (**37**). Followed by officers with 6-10 years of service (**25**). Officers with less than ten years of service accounted for **62** reports (**68%**) of the total number of reports submitted.

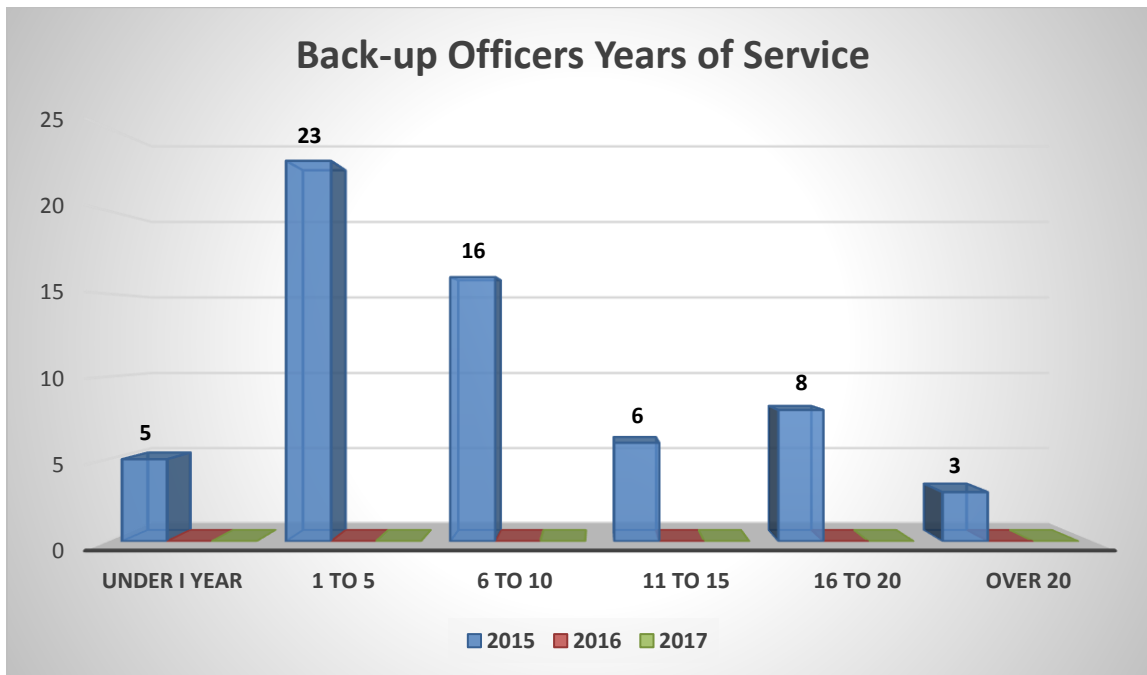
The graph and chart below represent the years of service of the primary officers (initial officer on scene) involved in the response to resistance incident.



*(Primary Officers Based on 91 Incidents)*

Reports by Primary Officer Years of Service	2015 Reports	% of 2015 Reports	2016 Reports	% of 2016 Reports	2017 Reports	% of 2017 Reports
Under 1 years	2	2%				
1 to 5 years	35	38%				
6 to 10 years	25	28%				
11 to 15 years	11	12%				
16 to 20 years	17	19%				
Over 20 years	1	1%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100%</b>				

The below chart and graph shows the years of service of the back-up officers assisting with controlling the resisting subject. As with the previous chart those with 1 to 10 years of service make up the largest group (44), followed by the over 10 year groups (17).



(Based on 61 Back-up Officers)

Reports by Back-up Officer Years of Service	2015 Reports	2016 Reports	2017 Reports
Under 1 years	5		
1 to 5 years	23		
6 to 10 years	16		
11 to 15 years	6		
16 to 20 years	8		
Over 20 years	3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>		

To provide perspective, the majority of response to resistance reports are submitted by patrol officers. The departments patrol officer population is primarily concentrated in the 1-5 year range of experience and the 6-10 year range of experience. The patrol officer's primary responsibility is to respond to calls for service which makes up **73%** of the Response to Resistance reports.