

PPB Force Data Summary Report

Prepared by: Lieutenant Steven Jones
Inspector, Professional Standards Division

Covering Dates: January 1 - March 31, 2014

Total Force Data Collection Reports written: 249

Total Force Incidents: 194

Precinct / Division / Unit of occurrence:						Total	249
Central	44	18%	Family Services	1	0%		
East	109	44%	Outside Portland	0	0%		
North	77	31%	TOD	7	3%		
K9	5	2%	Traffic	1	0%		
Detectives	0	0%	Transit	3	1%		
DVD	1	0%	Youth Services Division	1	0%		

Type of Force Used:						Total	289
Holds with injury	8	3%	Bean Bag	1	0%		
Takedowns	88	30%	K-9	5	2%		
Hands / Feet	27	9%	Baton	0	0%		
Pepper Spray	6	2%	Taser	13	4%		
Hobble	19	7%	Pointing Firearm	122	42%		

Other Elements Tracked:			
Taser over 2 cycles	0	ME issues flagged	28
Pointing Firearm with other Force	6	Force without custody	43
Number of Persons who had a firearm pointed at them	115	Canine captures	67

Discussion points / Trends

Historical Perspective:	1st Quarter 2013 (last year)	1st Quarter 2014 (this year)	Change +/-
Force Data Collection Reports completed:	256	244	-5%
Total force incidents:	214	191	-11%
Total calls for service:	50,899	48,598	-5%

Notable trends include the 57% decline in Taser use in the 1st quarter of 2014 compared to the 1st quarter of 2013. The number of incidents where more than one Taser cycle was applied also declined dramatically, from 7 to 0 over the same period. The use of Hands/Feet declined from 38 to 27 while the number of Takedowns rose from 77 to 88 over the same period. Members chose the Taser less frequently and opted to attempt to gain control by taking the subject to the ground and physically overpowering their resistance. While not successful (or appropriate) in all circumstances, accomplishing this without a subsequent increase in the use of strikes (reported as Hands/Feet) shows that Takedowns can be an effective force option.

Both Taser and pepper spray force options are, in most circumstances, a single member use, regardless of how many other members are present during the event. Takedowns are not. In most circumstances, multiple members present at an incident where a Takedown is

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used, will participate in the event to some degree. This will generate additional Force Data Collection Reports as members are expected to document their role in the Takedown. While this will not increase the reporting of the total number of people against whom Takedowns are used, it will increase the reported number of times Takedowns were used by members because of the multiple member reporting.

There were five K-9 bites reported during this quarter and in four cases the suspects were wanted for felony crimes including Assault II, Menacing and Domestic Violence-Strangulation. The fifth suspect was wanted for several misdemeanor warrants and was only captured through the work of the K-9 team. All suspects were warned prior to the application of the K-9. We have also started reporting the number of K-9 captures to give context to the number of K-9 bites.

The tracking of "Force without custody" currently captures incidents where some reportable force is used, as documented on Force Data Collection Reports, and no Custody Report is completed. Custody Reports are used by the Bureau to document criminal charges and some juvenile statutory offenses but they are not generally used to document non-criminal custodies of individuals taken into custody for civil holds. These civil holds can include persons intoxicated to a level that they are unable to care for themselves and require transportation to the Detox sobering station. These holds can also include persons who are suffering from a medical condition or mental health crisis who are unable to care for themselves or are a danger to themselves or others. While these people are most certainly in the custody of the Bureau at some point during the incident, that custody is captured in reports other than Custody Reports. The number of incidents where reportable force is used and the subject of that force is not taken into custody, for the purposes of either civil or criminal proceedings, is much lower than the number reported. The analytical team is looking for ways to more accurately track and report the different outcomes after a force event, such as criminal charges, civil holds or medical treatment.

Force Report Definitions

PPB Force Data Summary Report:

Total Force Data Collection Reports Written:

This is the number of force reports (FDCR) written during the time period listed regardless of whether multiple reports were written by different officers concerning the same incident. It is simply the total number of reports entered into our database by PPB Records Division during the stated time period.

Type of Force Used:

This number reflects the total reported uses of force during this time period, listed by category. The Force Data Collection Report (FDCR) that officers file after a force incident include check boxes for the "Force Options Used." This number is larger than the total number of reports written because during any single incident more than one force option may have been used by one or more officers. Further, whenever multiple reports indicate the same force was used in an incident against the same subject, that type of force will be counted multiple times. For example, if Officer A and Officer B check the "Holds Causing Injury" box on their reports for the same incident, there will be two counts of "holds with injury." This differs from, and is greater than, the same type of force listed in the demographics report. The reason is that the demographics report counts only the number of persons who were the subject of force, regardless of whether the type of force was used by more than one officer during the same incident.