



City of Middletown Police Department



Memorandum

Date: 1/1/2021
 To: Chief John Ewanciw
 From: Lieutenant Jeffry Thoelen
 Subject: 2020 Year End Statistical Report

Chief Ewanciw:

I recently completed an in-depth review of the City of Middletown Police Department’s use of force incidents, officer involved motor vehicle accidents, vehicle pursuits, exposure incidents, and disciplinary action for the year ending December 31, 2020. My analysis has revealed that the police department was involved in 52 use of force incidents in which non-lethal physical force was utilized, and 1 incident where deadly physical force was used, but the defendant did survive. During these use of force incidents, 7 officers and 12 defendants received injuries. No officers were exposed to bodily fluids or bloodborne pathogens during any of the incidents. Below is a statistical breakdown of our agency’s use of force for 2020, and a comparison of those to statistics to our 2019 data. (Please note that our agency now collects demographic data on defendants and officers, in accordance with the use of force standards promulgated by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.)

	2020	2019			
Use of Force Incidents	52	58		Force Took Place:	2020 2019
Officer Injured	7	7		Inside	16 13
Officer Exposure	0	2		Outside	33 40
Defendant Injured	12	12		Both	3 5
Type of Force Utilized				Force Utilized by Shift	2020 2019
OC Spray Used	4	1		12a – 8a	8 7
OC Spray Effective	2	1		8a – 4 p	21 21
Baton Used	1	1		4p – 12a	23 30
Taser Brandished	22	N/A			
Taser Used	7	17		Defendant Information:	2020 2019
Taser Effective	17	12		Male	48 N/A
Impact Projectile Used	1	0		Female	13 N/A
Hands/Physical Strikes	87	94		Black	27 N/A
K9 Apprehensions	0	0		White	34 N/A
Firearm Brandished	60	29		Hispanic	26 N/A
Firearm Used	1	0		Non-Hispanic	34 N/A
Other	0	3			

In addition to use of force incidents, during 2020, officers from our agency were involved in 7 on-duty

motor vehicle accidents, 7 vehicle pursuits, and there were no work-related incidents that resulted in formal disciplinary action being taken against an employee. Verbal counseling and personnel evaluations were conducted to address other performance related concerns. Supervisors initiated 22 investigations into incidents such as use of force related injuries, motor vehicle accidents, and equipment damage. Our agency also noted a substantial increase in the number of work-related exposure incidents as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, logging 55 separate employee exposures. All of the necessary documentation has been completed to log each of these events, in accordance with existing department policies and procedures.

Respectfully submitted,

Lieutenant Jeffry R. Thoelen
Bureau Commander of Operations