

2015 Use of Force Annual Report

At least annually, NOPD agrees to analyze the year's force data, including the force-related outcome data listed in section XIX.C. below, to determine significant trends; identify and correct deficiencies revealed by this analysis; and document its findings in a public report. [Consent Decree ¶82]

The New Orleans Police Department's policy is to value and preserve human life while exercising lawful authority to use force. New Orleans police officers are required to use the minimum amount of force that an objectively reasonable officer would use in light of the circumstances to effectively bring an incident or person under control, while protecting the lives of the officer and others. Officers are required to perform their work in a manner that avoids unduly jeopardizing their own safety or the safety of others by making appropriate tactical decisions. When feasible based on the circumstances, officers use de-escalation techniques to reduce the need for force and to increase officer and civilian safety. However, officers must sometimes make split-second decisions about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation with limited information and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving. While the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter is to protect the public, police officers are not required to retreat or to be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force. Nevertheless, officers strive, when it is practicable, to first attempt to de-escalate a situation before resorting to force.

A variety of police activities are considered uses of force, including hand-control or escort techniques, vehicle pursuits, deployment of canines. To ensure that the New Orleans Police Department's uses of force are appropriate, comply with Department policies, and reflect the best practices of policing, the New Orleans Police Department tracks, analyzes, and reports data concerning all uses of force. These data enable the Department to identify areas in which policies should be modified, or for which training and discipline may be required. The federal Consent Decree also requires use-of-force data tracking and analysis (see Consent Decree paragraphs 31, 37, 52, 68, 75, and 82).

This year represented a paradigm shift in the New Orleans Police Department's approach to the use of force. The Department's policy and procedures governing the use of force previously were contained in Policy/Procedure No. 300 ("Use of Force"), as well as in various subsidiary policies that governed specific topics such as the use of Conducted Electrical Weapons (CEWs, also known as Tasers). However, the Department revised and updated all of those policies, which were enacted collectively to ensure a seamless transition. For example, Chapter 1.3, "Use of Force," along with Chapter 1.3.6, "Use of Force Reporting," Chapter 1.3.2, "Force Investigation Team," and Chapter 1.3.7, "Use of Force Review Board," became effective on December 6, 2015. Despite their release late in the year, training on these new policies began early in the year to prepare officers for the transition and to familiarize them with the impending changes.

These policies represent significant changes, some of which are reflected in this report's statistics. For example, the Department's new policy on "Use of Force Reporting" requires significantly more

reporting by officers for low-level uses of force, such as pointing a weapon without firing it. As a result, this report shows a substantial increase in the total number of uses of force (when compared with last year's data). In other words, this increase is largely attributable to the fact that officers are reporting uses of force that were previously not reported as uses of force.

The Department's force policies were approved by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Office of the Consent Decree Monitor, in accordance with the federal Consent Decree. The following definitions and policy statements are excerpted from those policies.

Key Definitions

Active Resistance—Resistance exhibited by a suspect that is between passive resistance and aggressive resistance (e.g., attempts to leave the scene, flee, hide from detection, or pull away from the officer's grasp). Verbal statements, bracing, or tensing alone do not constitute active resistance.

Aggravated Resistance—When a subject's actions create an objectively reasonable perception on the part of the officer that the officer or another person is subject to imminent death or serious physical injury as a result of the circumstances and/or nature of an attack. Aggravated resistance represents the least encountered but most serious threat to the safety of law enforcement personnel or another person.

Aggressive Resistance—Is a subject's attempt to attack or an actual attack of an officer. Exhibiting aggressive behavior (e.g., lunging toward the officer, striking the officer with hands, fists, kicks or any instrument that may be perceived as a weapon such as a knife or stick) are examples of aggressive resistance. Neither passive nor active resistance, including fleeing, pulling away, verbal statements, bracing, or tensing, constitute aggressive resistance.

Anatomical Compliance Technique—The act of applying pressure to vulnerable areas, weak points or pressure points of the body. This technique is used to cause immediate compliance by a subject who poses a threat.

Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW)—A weapon designed primarily to discharge electrical impulses into a subject that will cause involuntary muscle contractions and override the subject's voluntary motor responses.

Deadly Force/Lethal Force—Any force likely to cause death or serious physical injury. The use of a firearm (discharge) is considered deadly force. Neck holds and strikes to the head, neck or throat with a hard object are considered lethal force.

Passive Resistance—Behavior that is unresponsive to police verbal communication or direction (e.g., ignoring or disregarding police attempts at verbal communication or control; going limp; or failing to physically respond or move) and verbal resistance (e.g., verbally rejecting police verbal communication or direction; telling the officer that he or she will not comply with police direction, to leave him or her alone, or not bother him or her). Bracing, tensing, linking arms, or verbally

signaling an intention to avoid or prevent being taken into custody constitutes passive resistance. Passive resistance, including verbal statements, bracing, or tensing alone does not constitute active resistance.

Use of Force—Physical effort to compel compliance by an unwilling subject above unresisted handcuffing, including pointing a firearm at a person.

Use of Force Principles

NOPD officers, regardless of the type of force or weapon used, are required to abide by the following rules:

- Officers shall use verbal advisements, warnings, and persuasion, when possible, before resorting to force.
- Officers are expected to use sound judgment when making a subjective and independent decision regarding the need and appropriateness of the force to be used.
- Under no circumstances will an officer use force solely because another officer is using force.
- Officers will use disengagement; area containment; surveillance; waiting out a subject; summoning reinforcements; and/or calling in specialized units such as mental health professionals or a crisis response team, when feasible, in order to reduce the need for force and increase officer and civilian safety.
- When possible, officers shall allow individuals time to submit to arrest before force is used.

AUTHORITY TO USE REASONABLE FORCE (Louisiana R.S. 14:20 and R.S. 14:22)

Officers may use only necessary and reasonable force:

- To protect themselves from injury;
- To protect others from injury;
- To effect a lawful detention;
- To effect a lawful arrest; or
- To conduct a lawful search.

A use of force is “necessary” when it is reasonably required, considering the totality of facts and circumstances, to carry out one of the above-listed law enforcement objectives.

When practicable, officers will identify themselves as peace officers before using force. If it is not already known by the subject to be detained, arrested, or searched, officers should, if reasonable, make clear their intent to detain, arrest or search the subject.

Pointing a firearm constitutes a use of force. Officers shall not draw or exhibit a firearm unless the circumstances surrounding the incident create an objectively reasonable belief that a situation may escalate to the point at which lethal force would be authorized. Once an officer determines that the use of deadly force is no longer likely, the officer shall re-holster the weapon.

Officers shall not use force to attempt to effect compliance with a command that is unlawful. Any use of force by an officer to subdue an individual resisting arrest or detention is unreasonable when the initial arrest or detention of the individual was unlawful. **(See La. C. Cr. P. Art. 220)**

DEADLY FORCE

Deadly/Lethal force shall be used only when:

- There is an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or another person; or
- To prevent the escape of a fleeing subject if there is probable cause to believe:
 - The subject has committed a felony involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious bodily injury or death; and
 - The escape of the subject would pose an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person.

Officers are not authorized to fire their firearms in order to subdue an escaping suspect who presents no imminent threat of death or serious injury.

Deadly Force may never be used for the protection of property.

FORCE LEVELS

When use of force is needed, officers will assess each incident to determine, based on policy, training and experience, which use of force option is believed to be appropriate for the situation and bring it under control in a safe and prudent manner.

LEVELS OF RESISTANCE

- **Passive Resistance,**
- **Active Resistance,**
- **Aggressive Resistance, and**
- **Aggravated Resistance.**

LEVELS OF CONTROL

There are a variety of controls officers can use to stop the unlawful actions of a subject(s) or to protect a subject(s) from injuring himself/herself/themselves or others. The type of control officers use may vary based upon the facts and circumstances confronting them. Officers shall assess all contacts to determine the appropriate level of control. When possible, officers shall attempt to gain control of subjects by using verbal commands/directives first.

If verbal commands/directives are ineffective or not feasible, officers may utilize other control methods. If force is necessary, officers shall determine which control technique(s), tactics or authorized defensive equipment would best de-escalate the incident and bring it under control in the

safest manner. When it is objectively reasonable, officers may utilize the following skills and techniques when faced with the levels of resistance as outlined in the Use of Force Continuum:

- **Professional Presence**—This includes all symbols of police authority, such as badge, uniform, marked police vehicle, etc., and applies to all levels of control.
- **Verbal Commands**—This level includes fundamental verbal skills and strategies that are available to the trained officer. The mere presence of the officer can be included in this category.
- **Contact Controls**—When confronted with a subject demonstrating minimal resistant behavior, the officer may use low-level anatomical compliance techniques or physical tactics to gain control and cooperation. These tactics can be psychologically manipulative as well as physical, and include additional verbal persuasion skills, pressure point applications, and escort positions.
- **Compliance Techniques**—When a subject becomes resistant (active resistance), the officer may use anatomical compliance techniques or physical control tactics to overcome the level of resistance and remain vigilant for more aggressive behavior from the subject.
- **Conducted Electrical Weapon**—The CEW is used in situations in which a subject exhibits aggressive resistance and in situations in which the subject presents an imminent threat to the officer, himself/herself, or another person. This includes situations in which a suspect is actively fleeing from arrest for a serious offense, but fleeing should not be the sole justification for using a CEW against a suspect. Members should consider the severity of the offense, the suspect's threat level to others, and the risk of serious injury to the subject before deciding to use a CEW on a fleeing suspect.
- **Defensive Tactics**—When a subject attempts to assault the officer or another person (aggressive resistance or aggravated resistance), the officer is justified in taking appropriate physical action to immediately stop the aggressive action and to gain control of the subject. This may include the use of hands, fists and feet.
- **Authorized Impact Weapons**—Those less-than-lethal weapons such as the PR-24 and expandable batons, which, when authorized by the NOPD and utilized in accordance with training, may be used to overcome aggressive and aggravated resistance.
- **Deadly or Lethal Force**—Deadly/Lethal force shall be used only when:
 - There is an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or another person; or
 - To prevent the escape of a fleeing subject if there is probable cause to believe:
 - The subject has committed a felony involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious bodily injury or death; and
 - The escape of the subject would pose an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person.

USE OF FORCE INVESTIGATION

New Orleans Police Department policy requires that all uses of force must be reported, and all use of force reports are reviewed to ensure that each instance of force was reasonable, necessary and within Department policy. Violations of policy or law are addressed through disciplinary action, which may range from counseling to dismissal and criminal prosecution, depending on the seriousness of the violation.

A special unit with the New Orleans Police Department's Public Integrity Bureau, known as the Force Investigation Team (FIT), investigates all serious uses of force by New Orleans police officers; uses of force indicating apparent criminal conduct by an officer; uses of force by New Orleans Police Department personnel of a rank higher than sergeant; deaths that occur when a person in is the custody of New Orleans police; and other cases assigned to the FIT by the Superintendent of Police. When the Force Investigation Team discovers violations of policy or law, it pursues disciplinary investigations and, in some cases, recommends criminal prosecution.

	2014	2015
Arrests	36,122	27,974
Force incidents	409	724
Use of force per arrest	1.1%	2.6%

Type of Force	2014	2015	Percent Change
Firearm Discharge*	10	12	20%
Firearm Exhibited	101	367	263%
Total Firearm Uses	111	379	241%
CEW Discharged*	138	94	-32%
CEW Displayed	73	78	7%
Total Taser Uses	211	172	-18%
Baton	4	1	-75%
Hands	246	316	28%
Feet	0	8	n/a
Takedown	90	154	71%
Strike	5	0	-100%
Canine	35	40	14%
Other**	4	0	-100%
Type of Force total	706	1,070	52%

*Accidental discharges not included

**Other includes Uses of Force not otherwise categorized.

Several of the statistics cited in the tables above appear to demonstrate large increases, but these data must be interpreted in the context of the policy changes referenced in this report's introduction. As noted, the Department has implemented new use of force policies that redefine what constitutes a reportable use of force. The Department's previous use of force policy characterized force in reference to the resistance encountered by a subject. The new policy focuses on actions taken by the officers themselves and categorizes the force by level. The new policy also emphasizes de-escalation as a technique to prevent the need for any use of force, which may result in lower-level uses of force when force is necessary. These changes result in more accurate and comprehensive reporting, but they may yield short-term anomalies in data, such as the increases reflected in comparing 2015 to 2014 statistics.

The Department's use of force policy defines a low-level use of force as "pointing a firearm or CEW (Conducted Electrical Weapon, or Taser) at a person and hand control or escort techniques" such as an elbow grip, wrist grip, or shoulder grip, when "applied as pressure-point compliance techniques or that result in injury or complaint of injury." This definition has resulted in a greater number of force incidents reported for the use of hands and exhibition of firearms.

Year-to-year comparison shows an increase in the number of "takedowns," a term that is not defined in the use of force policy. The lack of definition for this action likely contributed to the apparent increase as officers over-reported takedowns or misclassified other actions (such as anatomical compliance techniques) as takedowns. The Department is drafting a definition that, when included in a revised policy, will result in more accurate reporting in this category.

During 2015, the Department restructured its force-tracking database, changing the data-field categories in IAPro used to record force statistics. The Department also implemented a new force-reporting mechanism, which enabled officers to report force digitally, using electronic forms ("Blue Team"). Previously, all use of force reporting was accomplished through paper forms that were approved, through chain of command, to the Force Investigation Team at the Public Integrity Bureau. The switch to digital reporting cut the time for processing and data collection, and it has improved supervision. At the same time, it has increased the accuracy of force reporting and yielded more force reports. This also has resulted in greater number of force incidents reported in 2015.

As the Department implemented its new use of force policies, training officers throughout the year, NOPD has emphasized the duty of supervisors to investigate uses of force by their subordinates as well as to require force reporting and to review those reports. This emphasis on supervisory responsibility, through policy implementation, training, and discipline, has also yielded a greater number of force incidents reported in 2015.

Consequently, the number of force incidents and types of force used appear to have increased significantly from 2014 to 2015. However, these increases are largely attributable to the changes in policy, protocol, and data collection outlined above. These increases should not be interpreted to mean that NOPD officers are using more force, especially because other key indicators demonstrate an overall decrease. For example, the number of complaints by citizens of excessive or unauthorized

force went down 42 percent, from 45 in 2014 to 26 in 2015 (see table below). The number of CEW discharges also went down, from 138 in 2014 to 94 in 2015, a 32 percent decrease. Baton strikes decreased from four in 2014 to one in 2015. Although the number of intentional firearm discharges increased 20 percent, the number rose by only two, from 10 in 2014 to 12 in 2015. The jump in total uses of force is mostly accounted for by a large increase in the number of times a firearm was exhibited (but not fired), the number of “takedowns,” and the number of times officers used their hands to restrain, escort, or control a subject. The fact that these key indicators decreased at a time when other overall force numbers rose demonstrates that NOPD officers are using less force and lower levels of force.

Force Complaints

In 2015, 26 complaints of excessive or unauthorized force were filed against New Orleans police officers. Of those, only one has been sustained. In addition, in 2015, zero officers violated force policy more than once. All of these data compare favorably to 2014, when 45 complaints of excessive or unauthorized force were filed, and five were sustained.

Disposition type	Complaints	Percent
Sustained (violated policy)	1	4%
Exonerated	3	12%
Unfounded	8	31%
Not sustained	5	19%
No formal investigation merited	1	4%
Pending	8	31%
Total	26	100%

Vehicle Pursuits

A vehicle pursuit is defined as an event involving one or more police officers attempting to apprehend a suspect who is trying to avoid arrest while operating a motor vehicle. This may include using high speed or other evasive tactics, such as disregarding traffic warning signs, stop signs, and red lights, driving off a roadway, turning suddenly or driving in a legal manner but willfully failing to yield to an officer's signal to stop.

New Orleans police officers engaged in 49 vehicle pursuits in 2015, the same number of vehicle pursuits the Department had in 2014. None resulted in any criminal or civil legal actions or charges against the officers, the Police Department, or the City.

Property damage	2014	2015
Light	11	5
Moderate	2	5
Heavy	1	2

Of the 2015 pursuits, 12 resulted in property damage, including two instances of heavy damage, five instances of moderate damage, and five instances of light damage. This compares favorably to 2014, when 14 pursuits resulted in damage. Of the 2015 pursuits, one pursuit resulted in injury to an officer, and two pursuits resulted in an injury to a suspect. Five pursuits resulted in injuries to bystanders.

Vehicle pursuit injuries	2014	2015
Officers injured	2	1
Suspects injured	1	2
Bystanders injured	1	5

The following table lists: the violation that prompted the pursuit; the officer(s) involved in the pursuit; the supervisor who approved the pursuit; the outcome of the pursuit; and resultant property damage.

Violation	Drivers	Passengers	Supervisor Approval	Pursuit Outcome	Damage to Vehicle
Felony	K. Elsensohn	W. Mullaly	Sgt. Roberts	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Felony	V. Gant	D. Pazon	Sgt. Bax	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Felony	K. Watson, L. Coleman		Lt. Imbraguglio	NOPD terminates pursuit	Light
Felony	D. Ashmore, D. Jones	R. Walton	Sgt. Boudreaux	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Stolen vehicle	A. Cronk		Sgt. Charles	Pursued vehicle in collision	Light
Felony	N. Davis	B. Coleman	Lt. Lewis-Williams	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Traffic	R. Rousseve	M. Morrison	Sgt. Edengield	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	Medium
Traffic	D. Ashmore	D. Jones	Sgt. Herrick	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	Heavy
Hit & run	J. Bridges	S. LeBoeuf	Sgt. Gillard	Pursued vehicle in collision/NOPD terminates pursuit	Unknown
Traffic	K. Doucette	B. Coleman	Sgt. Young	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Murder suspect	J. Diesburg, J. Winston	C. Lacey	Lt. Williams	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Traffic	D. Aranda, B. Frank	D. McFarland, E. Cooper	Sgt. Anderson	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	Unknown
Felony	W. Williams		Sgt. Brazley	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Traffic	T. Hillard, J. Winston	M. McNeil	Sgt. Bowser	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Traffic	G. James, K. Harper		Sgt. Young	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Hit & run	B. Bevley		Sgt. Williams	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Traffic	B. Ashe		N/A	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Felony	E. Thompson	J. Weir	Sgt. O'Brien	NOPD vehicle in collision	None
Traffic	M. Sam		Sgt. Davillier	Pursued vehicle in collision	None

Traffic	J. Newsome, R. Rousseve	J. Kjellin	Sgt. Cronk	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	Medium
Stolen vehicle	M. Guasco, D. Burmaster		Sgt. Nero	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	Light
Stolen vehicle	J. Davis	G. Hewitt	Sgt. Francis Lt.	Pursued vehicle in collision	Light
Traffic	W. Bowser	D. Millon	Tollefson	Pursued vehicle in collision	Light
Traffic	N. Davis		Lt. Mulla	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Stolen vehicle	R. Young		Lt. Mulla	Pursued vehicle in collision	Medium
Traffic	J. Young		Sgt. Dupart	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Narcotics	T. Jones	R. Rousseve	Sgt. Welch	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Hit & run	J. Senanayake	J. McIver	Sgt. Bax	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Stolen vehicle	K. Balancier, K. Watson		Lt. Lewis-Williams	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Felony	G. Olivier, M. Guasco		Lt. Haney	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Domestic disturbance	B. Tollefson		Sgt. Young	Pursued vehicle in collision	None
Traffic	M. Washington & R. Garrison		Sgt. Johnson	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Stolen vehicle	M. Boyle, C. Lawrence		Sgt. Smith	Pursued vehicle evades	None
Felony	K. Gill		Lt. Tollefson	Pursued vehicle evades	Medium
Traffic	D. Millon	D. Warter	Sgt. Jones	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Traffic	S. McGee & D. Warter	T. Johnson	Lt. Lewis-Williams	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Traffic	D. Harris, J. Imbergano, W. Johnson	M. Labeaud	Sgt. Robinson	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Traffic	D. DeSalvo		Sgt. Gillard	Pursued vehicle in collision	None

Stolen vehicle	D. DeSalvo, L. Dace		Sgt. Gillard	Pursued vehicle voluntarily stops	None
Other	D. Aranda	S. Davis	Sgt. Anderson	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Narcotics	T. Jones	R. Rousseve	Sgt. Welch	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Stolen vehicle	T. Bean		Sgt. Allen	NOPD terminates pursuit	None
Felony	M. Guasco, D. Burmaster		Lt. Allison	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Traffic	A. Harrelson	R. Morgan	Sgt. Robinson	Pursued vehicle in collision	Medium
Traffic	B. Coleman, K. Cloud	N. Davis & C. Littleton	Sgt. Love	Pursued vehicle evades	None
Stolen vehicle	C. Barre, S. McGee	T. Davis & C. Williams	Lt. Lewis-Williams	Pursued vehicle stops; driver flees on foot	None
Traffic	D. Davis, G. Torregano	J. Winston	Sgt. Glover	Pursued vehicle evades	None
Traffic	M. Stalbert, C. Love		Sgt. Torregano	Pursued vehicle evades	None
Traffic	J. Deutsch, D. Millon	G. Desanto & M. McNeil	Sgt. Glover	Pursued vehicle in collision	Heavy

Use of Firearms

Only authorized personnel who have met all Louisiana State Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requirements and have been commissioned by the Superintendent of Police have the privilege to carry a firearm, as a police officer, both on-duty and off-duty (La. R.S. 40:2405). All critical firearms discharges are required to be reported to, and investigated by, the Public Integrity Bureau's Force Investigation Team. This is defined as a discharge of a firearm by an NOPD officer, including discharges when no person or animal is struck. Range and training firings, humane destruction of animals, and off-duty hunting discharges when no person is struck are not critical firearms discharges.

As outlined above, New Orleans police officers reported exhibited their firearms, without discharging them, 367 times during 2015. They reported intentionally discharging their firearms 12 times. Additionally, one accidental discharge occurred, bringing the total number of critical firearms discharges in 2015 to 13. This is an increase of only two critical discharges, as 11 were reported in 2014.

Firearm Uses	2014	2015
Intentional discharges	10	12
Accidental discharges	1	1
Total critical discharges	11	13

Canines

The use of canines requires adherence to procedures that control their use of force potential and that direct their specialized capabilities into legally acceptable crime detection, prevention, and control activities. A police dog used to apprehend is an instrumentality of force and can only be used consistent with the Police Department's policies. Officers are required to use the minimum amount of force that the objectively reasonable officer would use in light of the circumstances to effectively bring an incident or person under control, while protecting the lives of the member or others.

The New Orleans Police Department requires every canine deployment to be reported to the Public Integrity Bureau's Force Investigation Team, and NOPD tracks every canine deployment as well as bites resulting from a deployment. Canines are deployed for a variety of reasons, including patrols and to search for narcotics, and may be used without attempting to apprehend a suspect.

Canine Apprehensions	2014	2015
Without Bite	23	32
With Bite	12	10
Total Apprehensions	35	42
Canine Bite Ratio	34%	24%

As the above table illustrates, the total number of apprehensions increased 20 percent from 2014, when 35 were reported, to 42 in 2015. Although the number of apprehensions went up, the number of bites went down, decreasing 20 percent from 12 in 2014 to 10 in 2015. As a result, the canine bite ratio decreased from 34 percent in 2014 to 24 percent in 2015.

Conducted Electrical Weapons

The appropriate use of a CEW should result in fewer serious injuries to officers and suspects. Officers are required to use CEWs only when such force is necessary to protect the officer, the subject, or another party from physical harm, and other less intrusive means would be ineffective. CEWs are authorized to control a violent suspect when attempts to subdue the suspect by other tactics have been, or are likely to be, ineffective, and there is a reasonable expectation that it will be unsafe for officers to approach the suspect within physical contact range. CEWs are intended to control a violent or potentially violent individual while minimizing the risk of serious injury.

As the table below shows, the total number of CEW (Taser) discharges fell by 28 percent from 2014, when 172 were reported, to 2015, when 124 were reported. The use of CEWs decreased for purposeful discharges (from 138 in 2014 to 94 in 2015) as well as accidental discharges (from 34 in 2014 to 30 in 2015).

CEW Discharges	2014	2015
CEW Uses	138	94
CEW Accidental Discharges	34	30
Total Discharges	172	124

SWAT Deployments

The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) teams are part of the Crisis Response Unit, which was established to provide specialized support in handling critical field operations in which intense negotiations and/or special tactical deployment methods appear to be necessary. The Special Operations Division's tactical platoons (SWAT teams) are limited to providing specialized response to critical situations in which a tactical response is required, such as hostage rescue, barricaded subjects, high-risk warrant service, high-risk apprehension, and terrorism response. The SWAT teams have the primary responsibility for execution of high-risk warrants utilizing tactical team officers equipped with special equipment, training, and weapons.

The following table lists the location of each SWAT deployment; the number of arrests made; the type of evidence or property seized; whether a forcible entry was required; whether a weapon was discharged by a SWAT team member; and whether a person or domestic animal was killed or injured:

Warrants

Location	Arrests made	Evidence seized	Forcible entry required	Weapon discharged	Death/Injury
3700 blk Texas Dr.	0	None	Yes	None	None
8000 blk Trapier St.	1	Drugs	Yes	None	None
2200 blk Grg N. Connor Dr.	0	None	Yes	None	None
3000 blk N. Rocheblave St.	0	None	Yes	None	None
2000 blk LaSalle St.	0	None	Yes	None	None
2800 blk Dryades St.	0	None	Yes	None	None
2100 blk Painters St.	0	None	Yes	None	None
1400 blk N. Roman St.	0	Drugs	Yes	None	None
4500 blk Dodt St.	7	Drugs, gun, cash	Yes	None	None
4900 blk Pauger St.	1	None	No	None	None
1900 blk Marigny St.	2	Drugs, guns	Yes	None	None
8700 blk Gervais St.	2	Drugs, gun	No	None	None
1100 blk N. Miro St.	0	None	Yes	None	None
7900 blk Bass St.	0	None	Yes	None	None
4900 blk Nottingham Dr.	0	None	Yes	None	None
2500 blk Peace Ct.	0	None	Yes	None	None
3400 blk New Orleans St.	0	None	Yes	None	None
1800 blk Old Roman St.	2	Drugs, guns	Yes	None	None
4400 blk Gawain St.	1	None	Yes	None	None

8500 blk I-10 Service Road	1	None	No	None	None
9300 blk Airline Hwy.	1	None	Yes	None	None
1600 blk JoAnn Pl.	1	Drugs, guns, cash	Yes	None	None
2000 blk Hope St.	2	None	Yes	None	None
700 blk Hendee St.	5	None	Yes	None	None
2400 blk Third St.	1	Drugs	Yes	None	None
2500 blk Freret St.	2	Drugs, gun, paraphernalia	Yes	None	None
9000 blk Olive St.	2	Drugs, cash	No	None	None
2100 blk Leonidas St.	1	Drugs, synthetic drugs	Yes	None	None
1300 blk Seville St.	2	None	Yes	None	None
1600 blk Farragut St.	2	Drugs, cash, equipment	Yes	None	None
900 blk Wagner St.	1	Drugs, gun, cash	Yes	None	None
6100 blk N. Rampart St.	0	None	No	None	None
1800 blk Old Roman St.	1	Ammo, phones, drugs	Yes	None	None
900 blk Leboeuf St.	2	Drugs	No	None	None
5600 blk Tullis Dr.	1	Gun	Yes	None	None
4200 blk Reynes St.	1	Drugs	Yes	None	None
2200 blk Annette St.	2	Drugs, paraphernalia, cash	Yes	None	None
4500 blk Plum Orchard Ave.	0	None	Yes	None	None
3700 blk Washington Ave.	1	Drugs	Yes	None	None

SWAT Rolls

Location	Arrests made	Evidence seized	Forcible entry required	Weapon discharged	Death/ Injury
1300 blk Esplanade Ave.	0	None	None	None	None
7800 blk Chef Menteur Hwy.	0	None	Yes	None	None
2200 blk Westbend Pkwy.	1	Gun box, ammo box	None	None	None
1700 blk Palmer Ave.	0	Gun, ammo	None	None	None
4400 blk Woodland Dr.	0	Gun, ammo	None	None	None
10600 blk Chef Menteur Hwy.	3	Video, audio recordings	None	None	None
5000 blk Chef Menteur Hwy.	1	Gun	Yes	Taser	Person (suicide)
6900 blk Yorktown Dr.	1	None	None	None	None
7200 blk Chef Menteur Hwy.	1	Gun, magazine, clothing	Yes	None	None