

GEORGETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

USE OF FORCE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED BY:

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USE OF FORCE

2022 Annual Report

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

For 2022, the Georgetown Police Department (GPD) had 17 events where Police Officers utilized force in accordance with Policy 300 Use of Force. Total incidents may exceed events because an event may have resulted in the application of more than one type of force during the event. The following chart highlights the types of force utilized by GPD officers during 2022 as compared to the previous two years:

USE OF FORCE INCIDENT TYPE	2020	2021	2022
Incidents Involving Escort Compliance Techniques	2	0	0
Incidents Involving Soft Empty Hand Control	13	19	12
Incidents Involving OC Spray	0	0	0
Incidents Involving Pepperball / FN303 (Non- Impact)	0	1	0
Incidents Involving Chemical Munitions	0	0	0
Incidents Involving Hard Empty Hand Control (Strikes)	4	0	1
Incidents Involving Batons	0	0	0
Incidents Involving the Taser	3	2	3
Incidents Involving Batons	0	0	0
Incidents Involving Impact Munitions	0	1	1
Carotid Control Hold	0	1	0
Incidents Involving Firearms	1	0	1
Total Incidents	23	23	18
Total Use of Force Events	19	19	17

This annual report will highlight the following use of force information for the Georgetown Police Department in 2022:

- Statistical Analysis
- Trends
- Opportunities for Improvement & Recommendations
- Summary

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The below is a summary analysis of statistical data compiled from the use of force incidents by GPD officers in 2022:

- In 2022 the Georgetown Police Department responded to 33864 calls for service, made 6213 traffic stops, and made 1111 arrests. With 17 use of force events, this means that force was used in only 0.050% of the calls for service and 0.042% of calls for service and traffic stops. The 1111 arrests would be part of the 33864 calls for service and the 6213 traffic stops.
- Uses of force by the Central Texas Regional SWAT (CTRS) are included in this report if the Officer that used force is part of this agency. They are a multi-jurisdictional team that incorporates officers from 4 different agencies operating in multiple jurisdictions. Those officers will report uses of force within their own representative agency.
- There was two use of force event in January, two in February, two in April, two in June, three in July, one in August, one in October, one in November and three in December.
- There were at minimum 52 police officers involved in use of force incidents for 2022 and of that number 2 of the primary reporting officers were female. It should be noted that on at least two of these scene, CTRS was completely or partially on scene making the total number of officers on scene difficult to calculate.
- Of the 17 suspects involved in use of force incidents, 12 were male and five were female. Six suspects were Hispanic males, three were White males and three White females, three were Black males and one Black female, and one Asian female.
- Soft empty hand control techniques were used 12 times in the 17 events. Soft empty hand control techniques include strength techniques, joint locks, pressure points, and proportional force knee strikes or other distraction techniques.
- The Taser was used three times in the 17 events.
- Hard empty hand control techniques were used one time in the 17 events. Hard empty hand control techniques include the use of defensive counter strikes such as punches, kicks, hard knee strikes, and stuns.
- Carotid Control Hold was not used in the 17 events. The use of a carotid control hold is limited to those circumstances where deadly force is authorized and is subject to the following (Tex. Code of Crim. Pro. Art. 2.33)
- Pepperball (Non-Impact / Impact) and FN 303 (CTRS) had no uses in the 17 events.
- Firearms were used one time in the 17 events. The suspect in this case was not struck.
- In the 17 events, OC spray, chemical munitions, and batons were not used.
- In the 17 events, a direct impact round used by a launcher was used one time.
- Three subjects sustained minor injuries (taser probe impact marks, bruising, and lacerations). One suspect was deceased as part of a Use of Force with CTRS where an Impact round was used. (The impact round was used post lethal force being used by an officer from another agency).
- Seven officers received minor injuries (Scrapes and scratches).
- An analysis of the Taser deployments was conducted with the following noted:
 - One Taser Deployment was not effective due to heavy clothing (dart mode).

- One Taser deployment occurred as a drive stun and it was effective.
- One Taser deployment occurred in dart mode and was effective.
- The Taser was effective in the two of the three deployments.

TRENDS

The following are trends identified during the annual review of the use of force incidents by GPD officers in 2022.

- GPD experienced 17 use of force events in 2022 compared to 21 in 2021, a decrease of 19.1%.
- Of all the use of force events in 2022, 17.6% involved the use of the Taser compared to 8.6% in 2021 and 15.7% in 2020.
- Baton strikes and OC spray were not used. This trend has been seen for multiple years.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

The following are opportunities for improvement and recommendations in use of force incidents:

- It is recommended that Lexipol updates and TPCA best practices updates continue to be incorporated into the use of force policy.
- It is recommended that all use of force instructors review this report to better assist them in evaluating the effectiveness of their training methods as they apply to actual applications of force in real world environments.

SUMMARY

The Georgetown Police Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting officers with the authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation, and a careful balancing of all interests.

Cory Tchida
Chief of Police

Date