

Police Department
City of Keene, New Hampshire

Date: January 31, 2012
To: Chief Kenneth Meola
From: Lieutenant Shane C. Maxfield
Subject: 2011 Use of Force Audit

During January of 2012 I conducted an audit of all 2011 Use of Force reports filed by Keene Police Officers. I entered the reports into a new database, analyzing them for completeness, developing trends and effectiveness of weapons, techniques and training.

Over the course of 2011 there were a total of 144 incidents (exclusive of "Dispatched Animals") resulting in 216 Use of Force reports filed. These incidents were spread out over AR's, OF's and one FI. Arrest Reports produced 169 UOF filings, while OF's and the lone FI produced the remaining 47 UOF's.

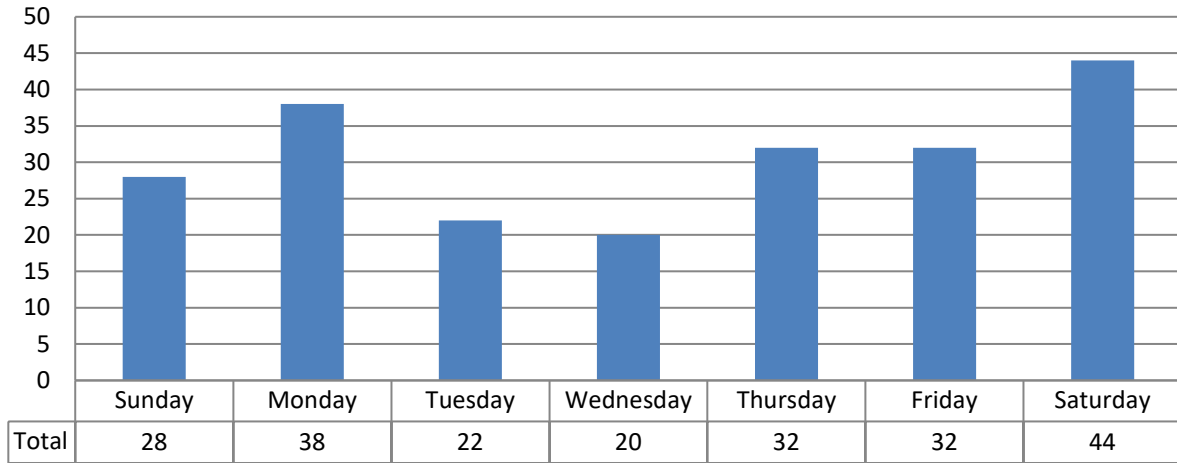
The characteristics of the AR-involved UOF's varied wildly, from pre-arrest foot chases and scuffles to booking room encounters. The OF-related UOF's involved mostly IEA's and "assist other agency" cases. The lone FI involved the SRO handling a student at the high school.

An immediate trend identified during the physical entry of the data was that many of the UOF forms were incomplete. Many forms were missing data vital to the overall analysis, including basic suspect data, involved officers and supervisors etc. This necessitated time-consuming research on my part in order to obtain accurate and complete data. Equally troubling was the fact that every incomplete UOF form was approved by a supervisor. Both ends of this phenomenon will be addressed and re-trained in the upcoming 4-hour Use of Force class.

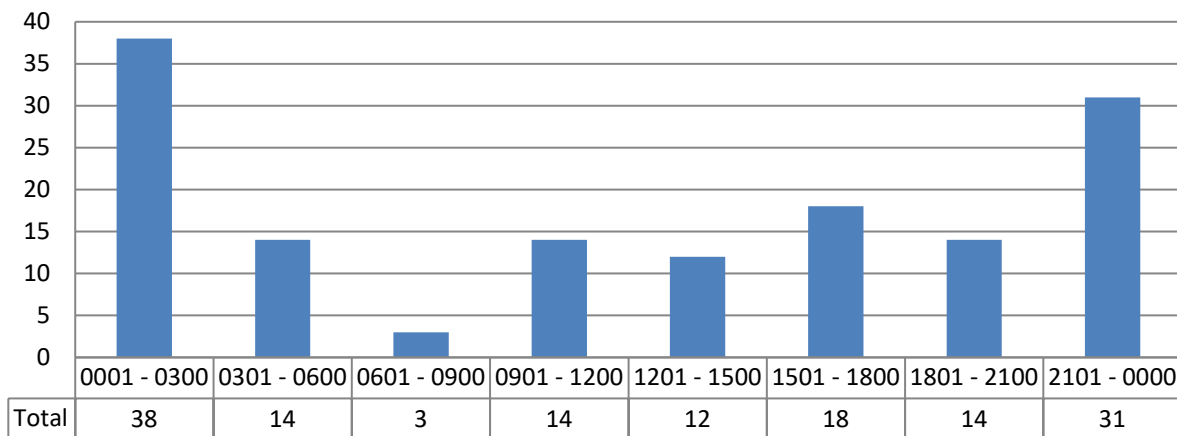
Also noted was a deficiency in the UOF form itself, to wit the lack of a space for explanation accompanying each "Other" choice. Such lines would reduce the need for time-consuming research of what "other" was.

A time analysis of the 144 separate UOF incidents showed the following breakdown by day of week and then by time of day. Predictably, as in years past, the frequency of incidents increases around the weekends and the night time hours, which are generally the days / times for social gatherings and the resultant calls and conflicts.

2011 UOF's Filed by Day of Week

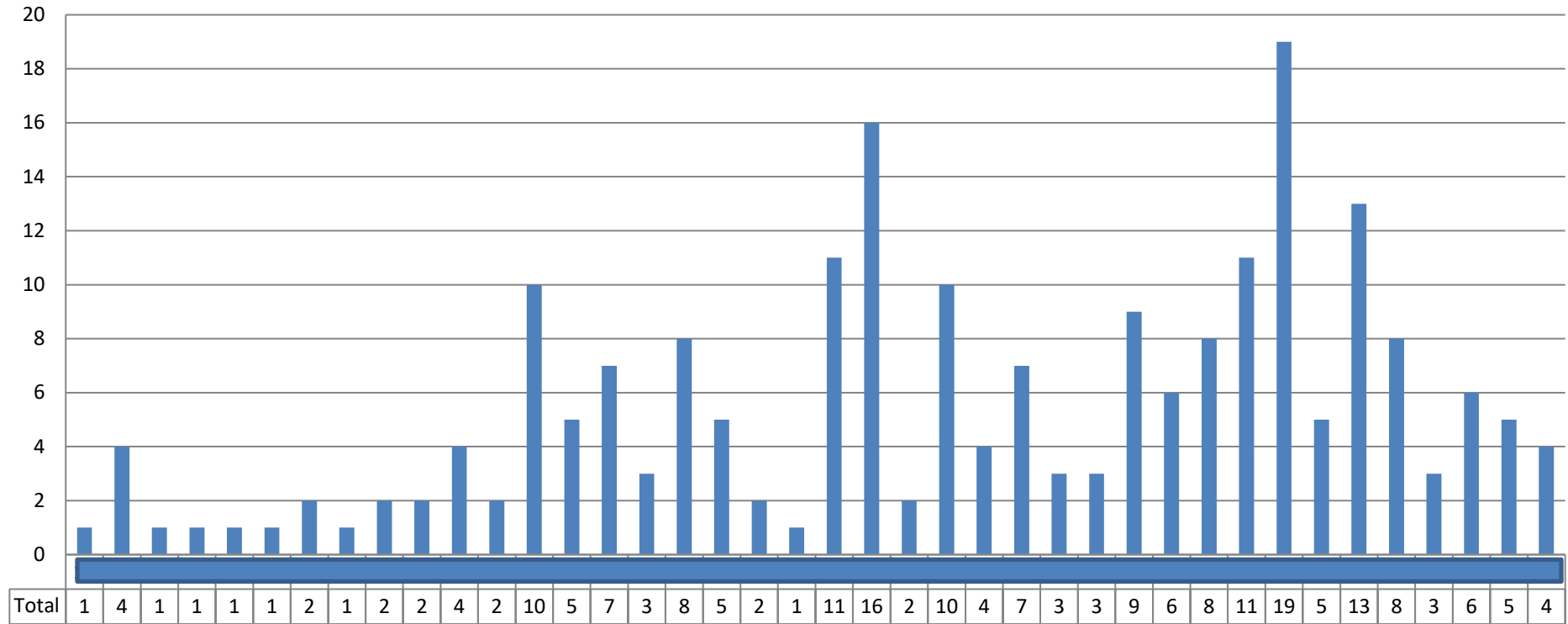


2011 UOF's filed by Time of Day



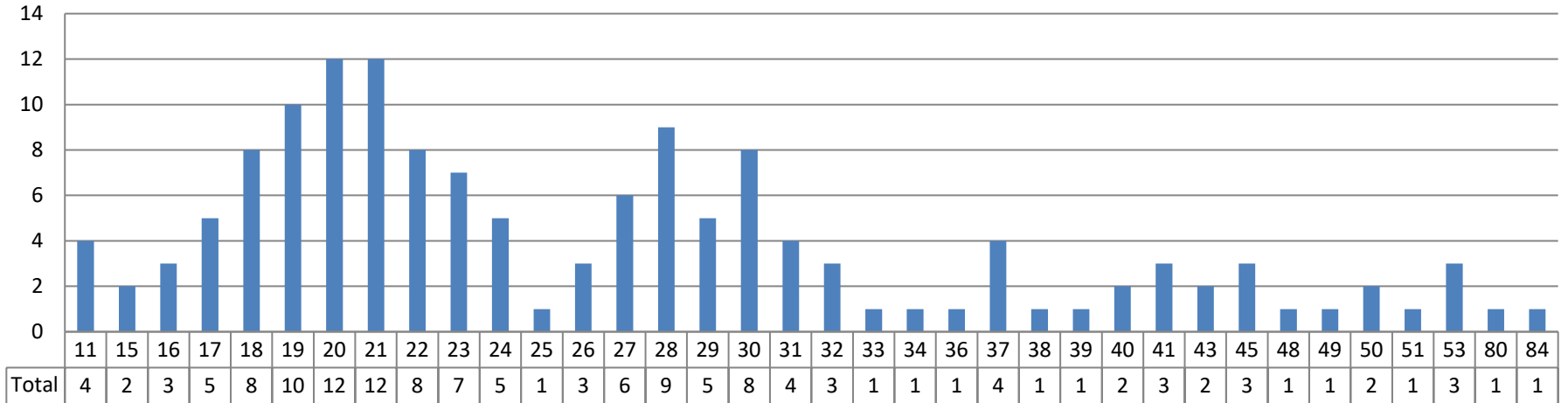
Analysis of the numbers of UOF reports filed by individual officers showed the predictable (and historic) trend that dayshift officers report fewer uses of force than evening or night shift officers. A few night shift officers show significant spikes of UOF's filed. The following graph (rotated for easier examination) illustrates:

2011 UOF's Filed by Officer ID

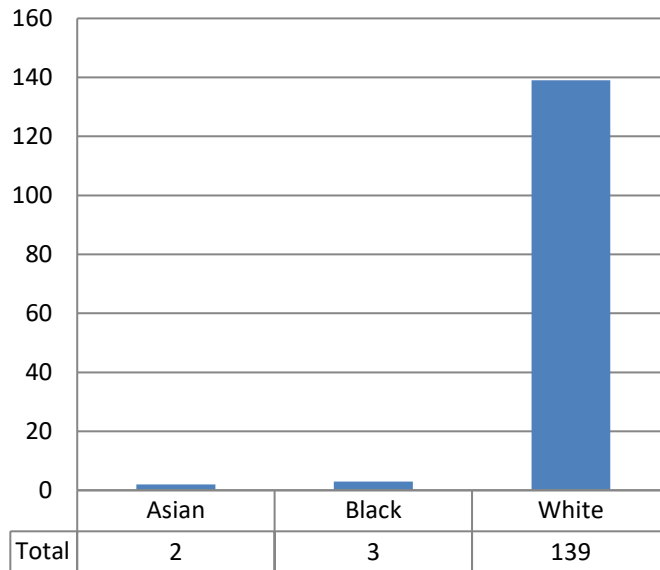


Analysis of the suspects involved showed results similar to past trends, specifically that white male subjects aged thirty and under accounted for the bulk of Use of Force incidents.

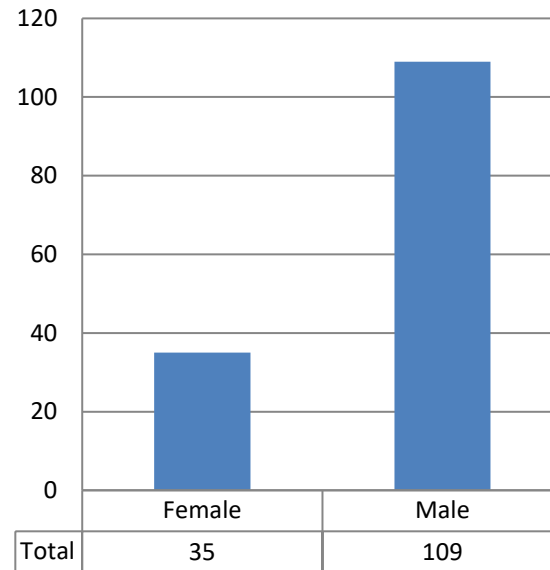
2011 UOF Suspects by Age



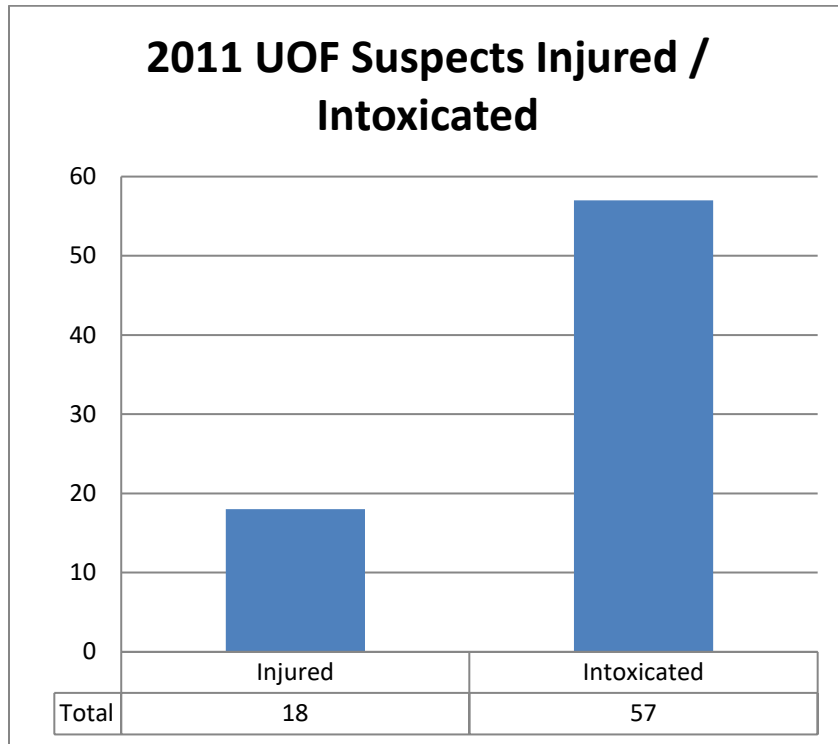
2011 UOF Suspect Races



2011 UOF Suspect Sex

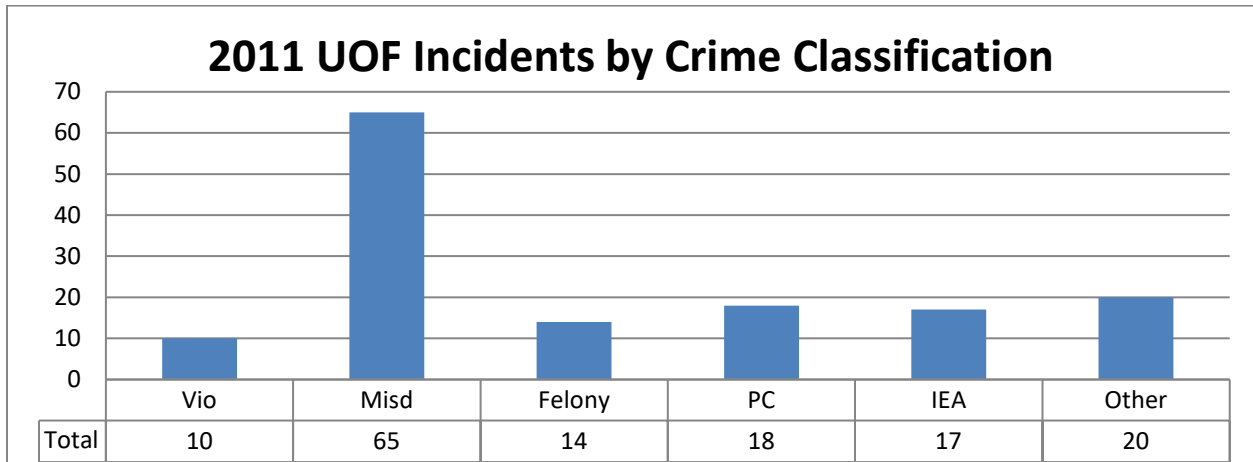


Of the 144 separate UOF encounters, suspects were injured in eighteen of them, and intoxicated in fifty-seven instances, or well over one third.



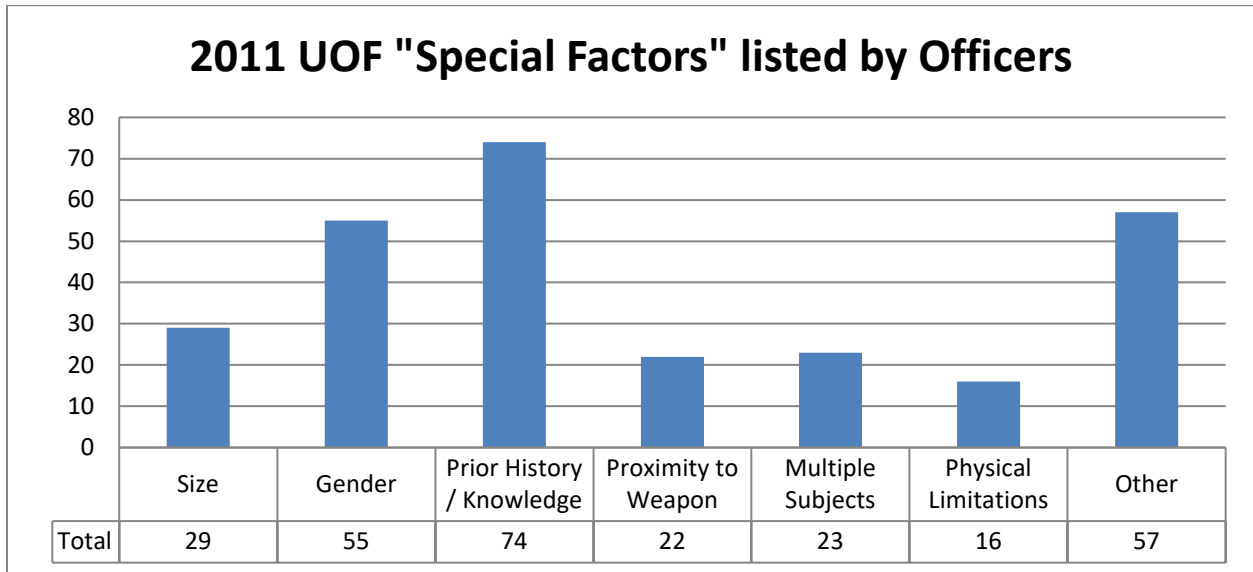
This translates to a 12.5% injury rate and a 40% intoxication rate for 2011. Comparable data for 2010 showed a 20% injury rate and a 51% intoxication rate.

Analysis of the encounters themselves showed that the vast majority of them resulted in (or stemmed from) misdemeanor charges for the suspects. Other level charges and dispositions were far below, averaging between ten and twenty each.



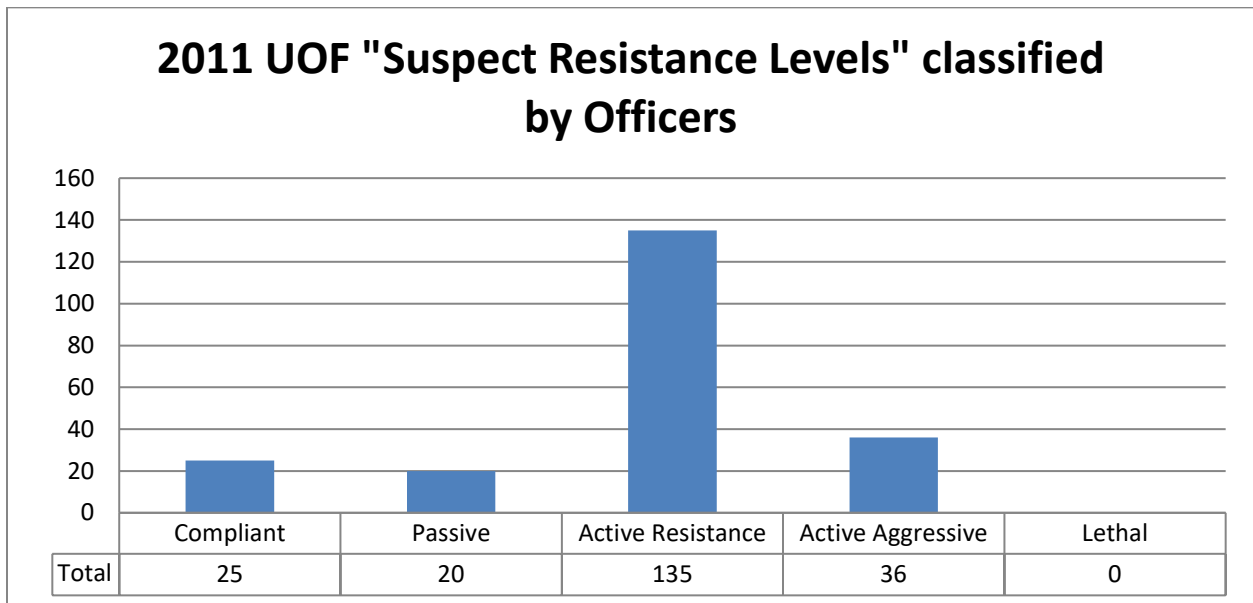
A comparison of 2011 UOF by Crime Classification to the same categories from 2010 showed violations for 2011 at 7%, 2010 at 6%. Misdemeanors for 2011 were at 45% of total, 2010 were at 31%. Felonies for 2011 were at 10% of total, 2010 were at 23%. Protective Custodies for 2011 were at 12% of total, while 2010 PC's were at 23%.

Understanding that an officers perception of their opponent plays a big part in their choice of tactics to deal with them, I noted that the majority of UOF's filed listed "Special Factors" relating to either the choice to employ force or the choice of tactic.:



Note the high numbers for "Prior History / Knowledge," which belies multiple encounters with the same suspects, or in some cases effective dispatchers conveying information more than the minimum.

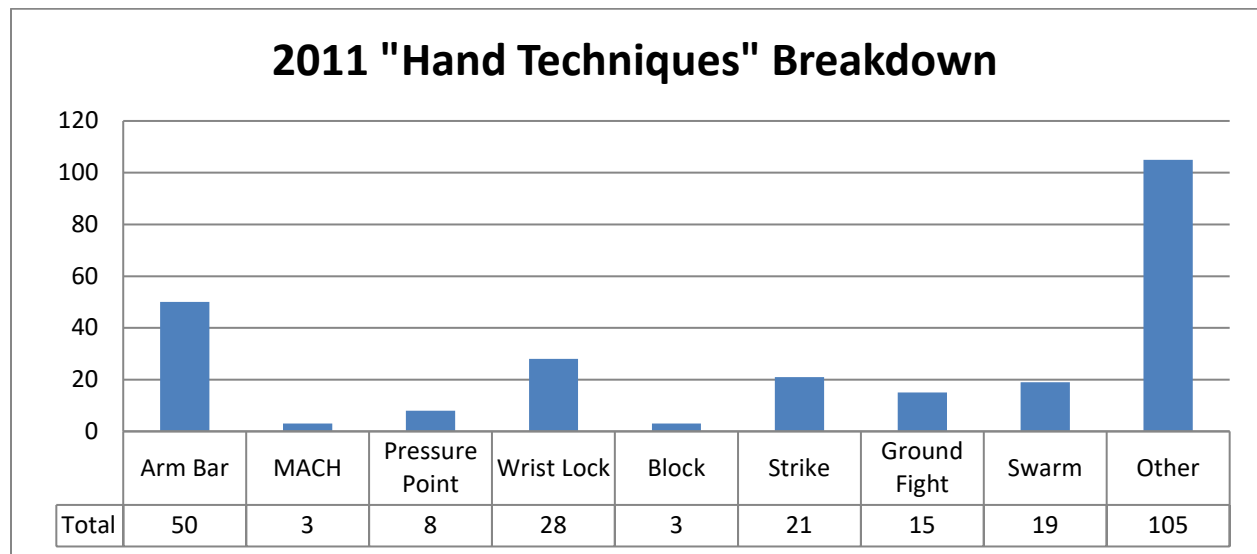
Also pertaining to officers' perception of opponents is the level of resistance encountered. Similar to historic data, "Active Resistance" by far outnumbers other levels of resistance, as illustrated here:



Officers used “Hand Techniques” most often (252 uses), which makes sense historically and practically given that’s the “weapon system” we have ready most of the time. Next common was “Firearms or Special Weapons” (34 uses, all “displayed only”), then “OC Spray” (18 uses), “Baton” (13 uses), then “K9” (3 displays only). The Tactical Team accounted for no UOF’s in 2011.

Multiple techniques were utilized about 36% of the time, with “Hand Techniques” almost always used as one of the techniques.

Given the commonplace use of “Hand Techniques” I charted that category to aid in training planning with the UOF / Defensive Tactics team. Of note here is the lack of explanation of what “Other” is, especially given it’s the most common category chosen. Plans have been developed to correct this deficiency, to include verbal instructions during the upcoming 2012 4-hour UOF class as well as a possible form modification.



Most available weapons made a showing in the “Firearms and Special Weapons” section, including the Glock, the 40mm launcher, the M4-style rifle and the 12ga shotgun, in that order. Again, none were fired, all were displayed.

Regarding the OC use, in all instances except one it was effective, usually highly so. Regarding the “exception,” in that case the spray was inserted under a door and did, eventually, make the barricaded man exit the room.

Baton use consisted of eight “locks” and half that many “strikes.” Once instance showed the officer drawing the baton and displaying it only.

The total number of officers listed as “Injured” was six (6). I researched each case and found no specific preventative remedy for any of them, given the information available:

11-520-AR Dog bite while arresting a woman. Didn’t break the skin, seemed unavoidable.

11-856-AR Wrestling with a suspect, attempting to handcuff and defending against a punch. This officer did a great job given the circumstances, and the injury seemed a fluke.

11-1528-AR (x3) This report was wholly lacking in explaining about any injuries.

11-755-OF A mutual aid dog call, the officer ended up tumbling down an embankment and striking his head on a rock.

The 216 Use of Force reports filed in 2011 shows a 25% increase over the 172 filed in 2010. It would be difficult at this juncture to determine specific reasons for this disparity, whether it be that officers are using force more, in general, are using acceptable force options more often due to increased confidence through training, or are just reporting it more carefully. The approximately sixteen hours of non-firearms related Use of Force training provided by the agency in 2011 has stressed the importance of accurate reporting and individual accountability, as well as providing high-quality instruction in useful techniques, possibly contributing to the statistical increase.

This agency continues to research the viability of acquiring and deploying Tasers. The fielding of these systems would appear to offer benefits in the form of fewer physical engagements through their mere display, as well as reduced chance for injury to officers and others when properly activated against an aggressive suspect.

The UOF team is expanding its capabilities through new instructor certifications. Officers have been instructed on how to fill the UOF forms out with more information when necessary, and Supervisors have been reminded to ensure that this happens. Coordination is ongoing with the UOF staff to ensure that future UOF training is pertinent and effective, as well as the continual review of equipment, techniques and policy, to support the officers in the field in keeping with the Department mission and values.

Police Department
City of Keene, New Hampshire

Date: February 8, 2013
To: Kenneth J. Meola, Police Chief
From: Shane C. Maxfield, Lieutenant
Subject: 2012 Use of Force Audit

During January of 2013 I conducted an audit of all 2012 Use of Force (UOF) reports filed by Keene Police Officers. Analysis them completeness, developing trends and effectiveness of weapons, techniques and training was completed.

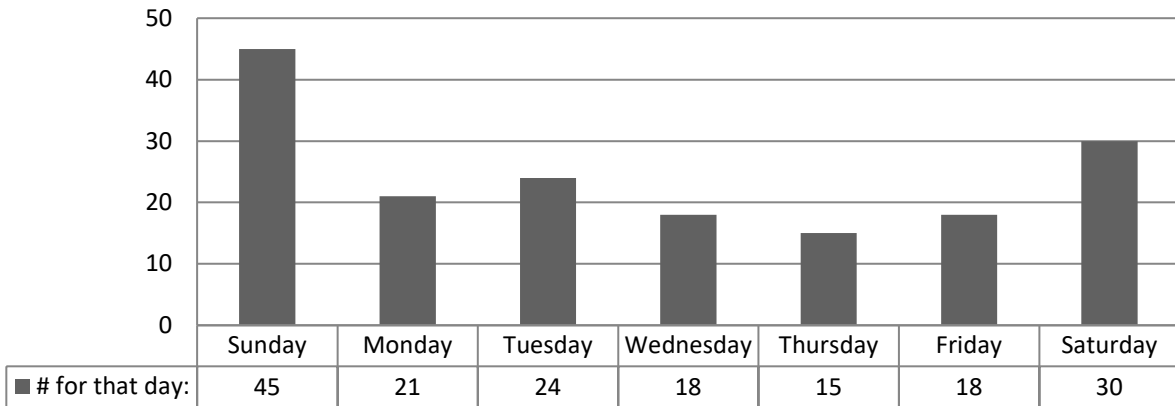
Over the course of 2012 there were a total of 110 incidents (83 AR's, 27 OF's, exclusive of "Dispatched Animals") resulting in 171 Use of Force reports filed. These incidents were spread out over AR's and OF's. Arrest Reports produced 132 UOF filings, while OF's produced the remaining 39 UOF's. Two of the OF's involved riot-type incidents with multiple suspects, and are not included in charts below detailing suspect demographics.

The characteristics of the AR-involved UOF's were varied, as expected, and included pre-arrest UOF's to booking room UOF's. The OF-related UOF's involved mostly IEA's, "assist other agency" cases and a few crowd control instances from the Pumpkin Festival.

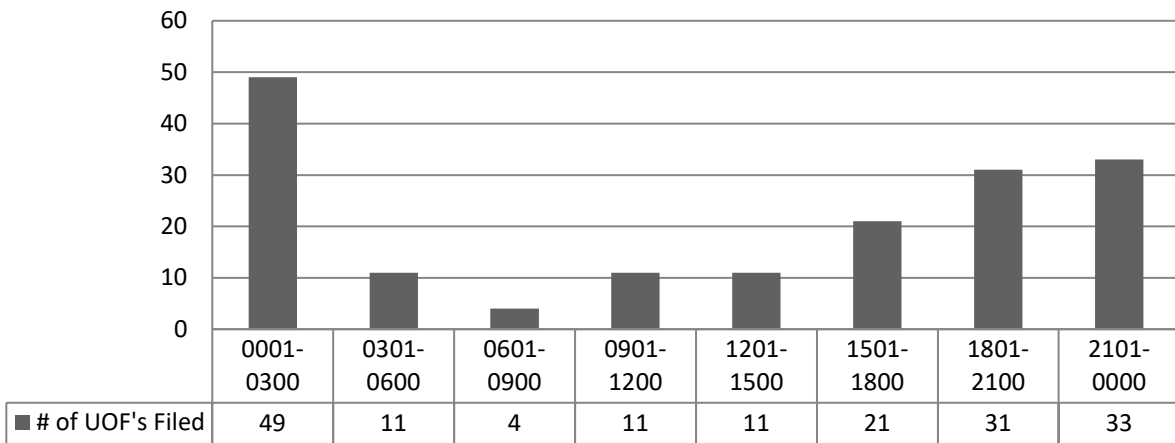
We have noted that there were substantially fewer incomplete or incorrectly filled-out UOF forms this year, a clear indication that officers are taking more care in completing them and Supervisors are screening them better.

A time analysis of the 171 separate UOF reports filed showed the following breakdown by day of week and then by time of day. Predictably, as in years past, the frequency of incidents increases around the weekends and the night time hours, which are generally the days / times for social gatherings and the resultant calls and conflicts.

2012 UOF's by Day of Week

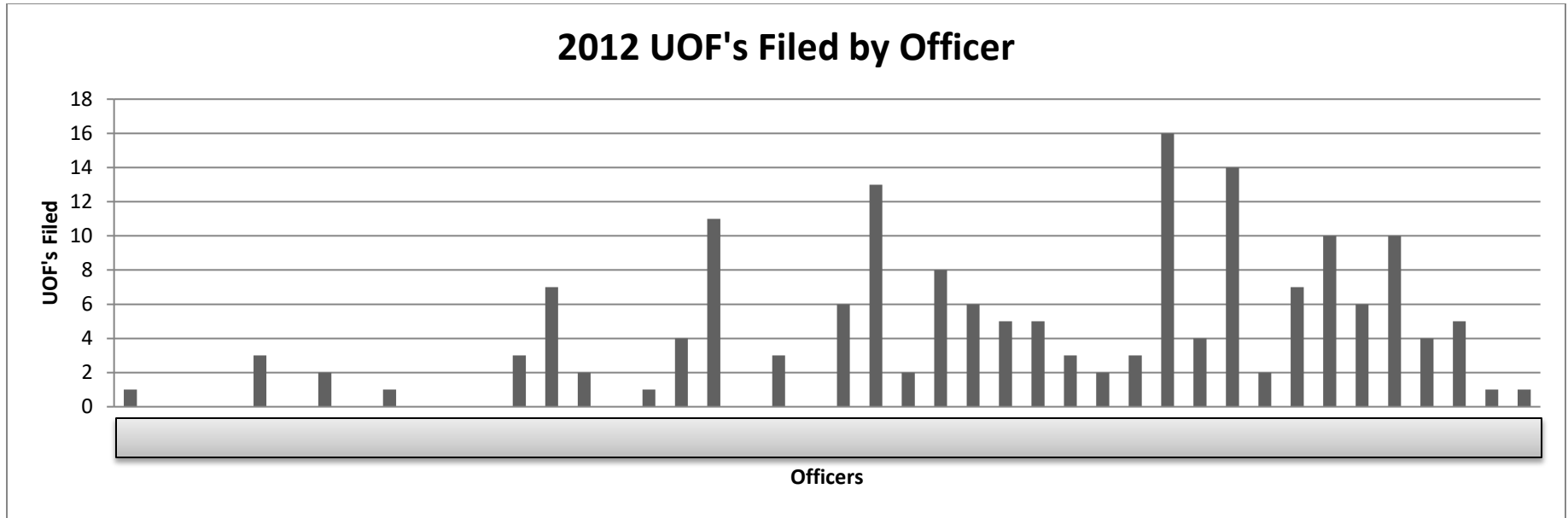


2012 # of UOF's Filed by Time of Day



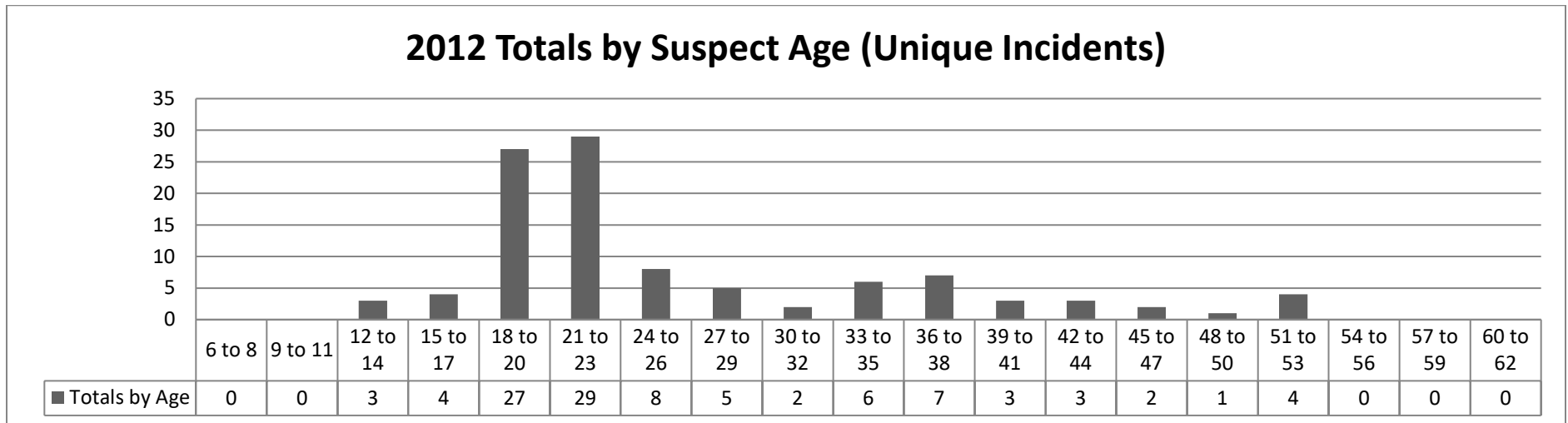
Analysis of the numbers of UOF reports filed by individual officers showed the predictable (and historic) trend that dayshift officers report fewer uses of force than evening or night shift officers. A few night shift officers show significant spikes of UOF's filed. The following graph (rotated for easier examination) illustrates:

2012 UOF's Filed by Officer

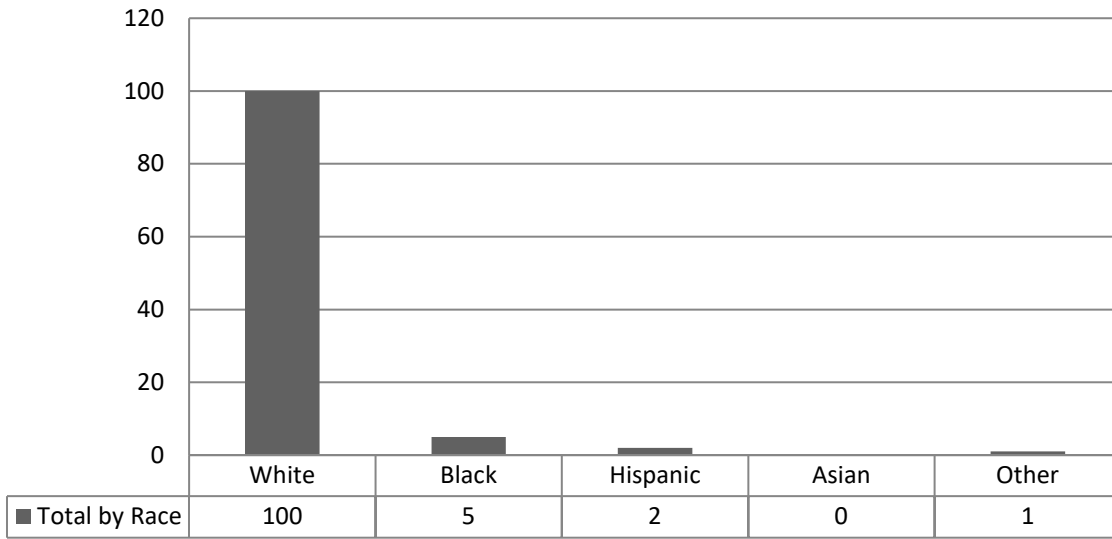


Analysis of the suspects involved showed the bulk of UOF's applied on white males in their late teens to mid-twenties, with another slight spike for suspects in their thirties.

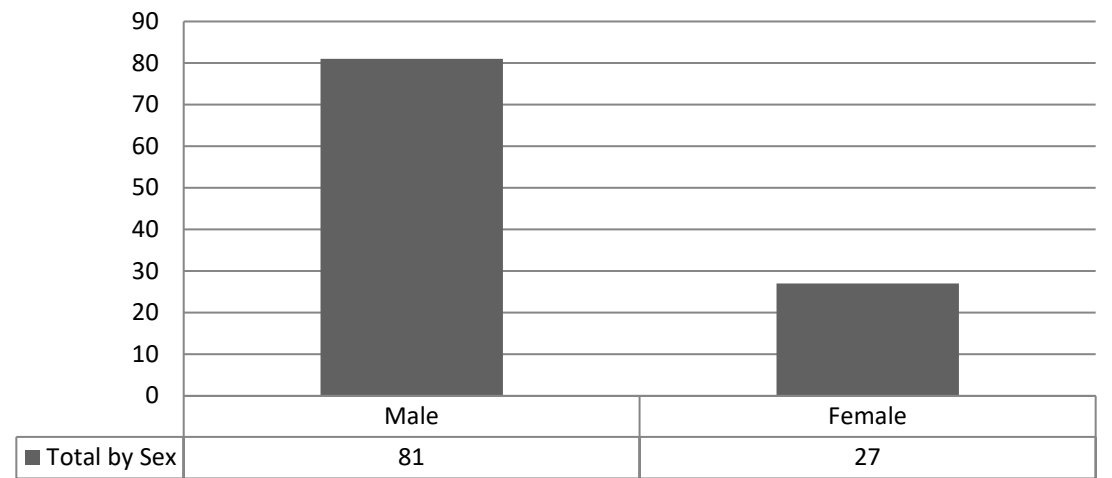
2012 Totals by Suspect Age (Unique Incidents)



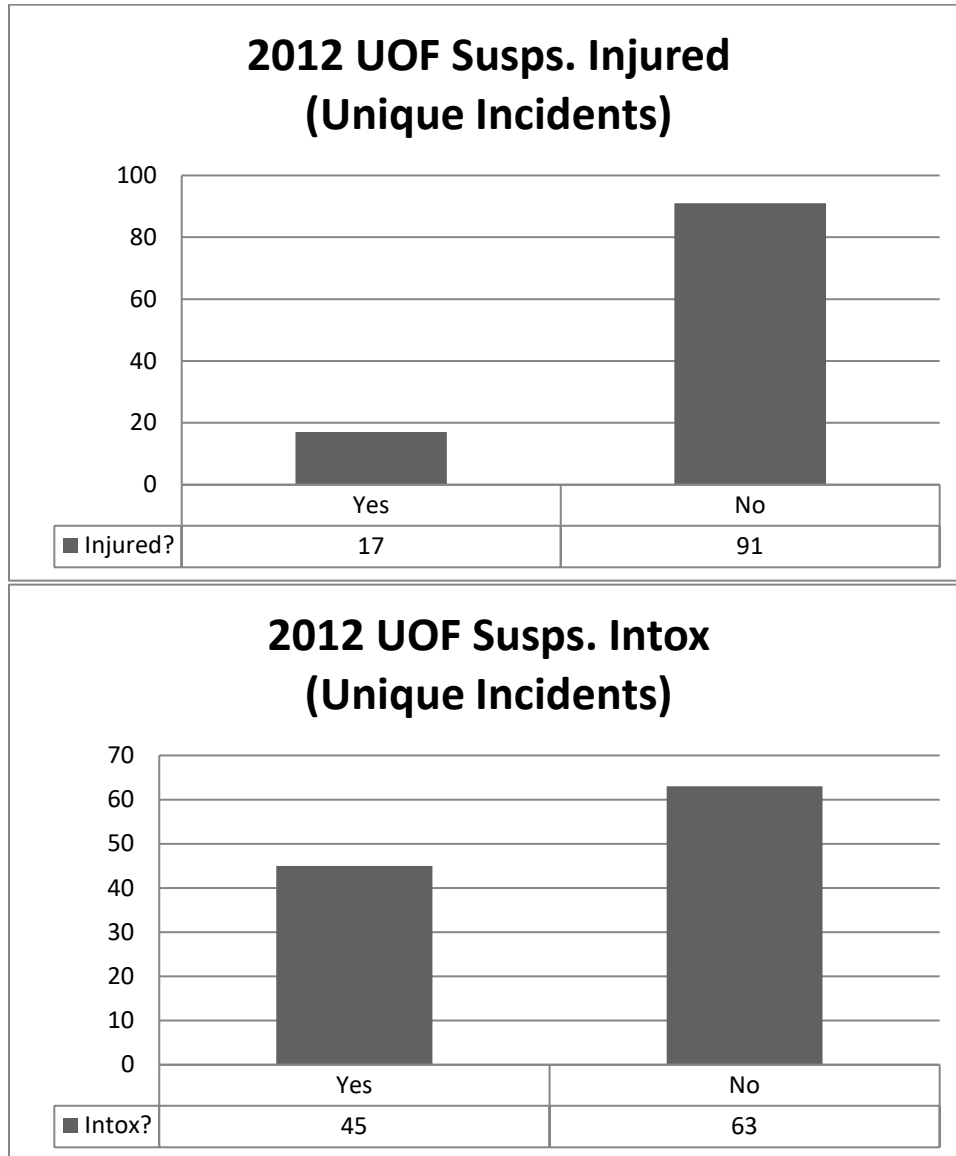
2012 UOF by Suspect Race (Unique Incidents)



2012 UOF by Suspect Gender (Unique Incidents)



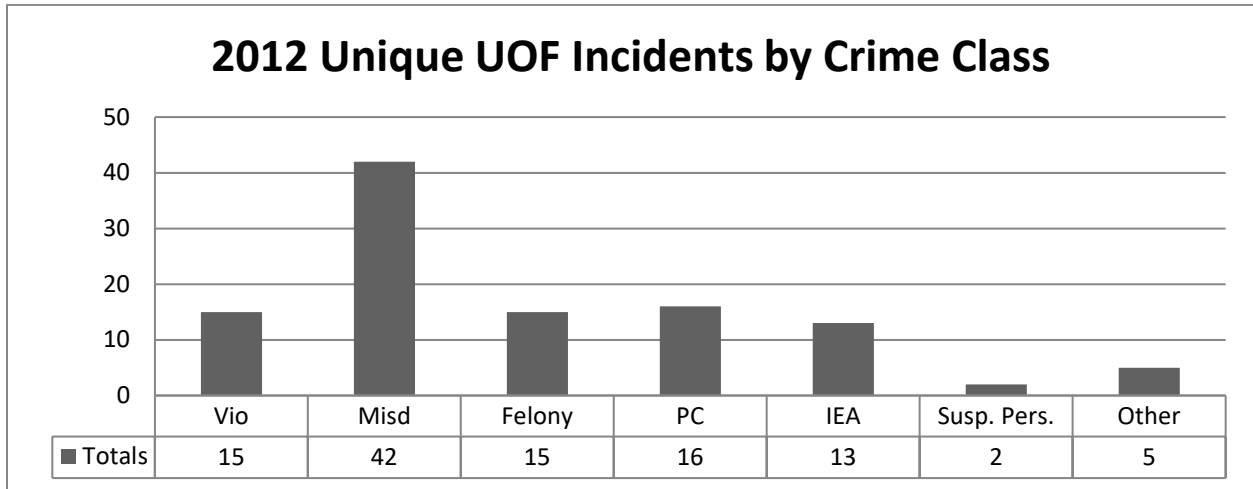
Of the 108 unique non-crowd control incidents, suspects were injured in seventeen of them and intoxicated in forty-five instances.



*These two charts omit two crowd-control incidents

This translates to a 16% injury rate and a 42% intoxication rate for 2012. Comparable data for 2011 showed a 12.5% injury rate and a 40% intoxication rate. The slight increase in suspect injuries is unattributable to any specific factor.

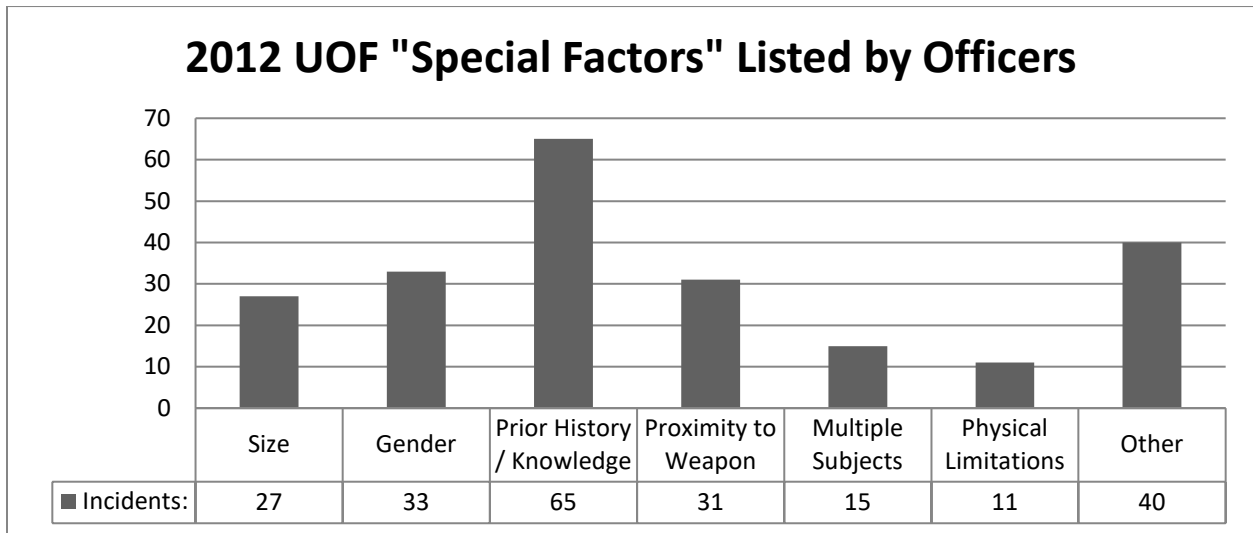
Analysis of the encounters themselves showed that the vast majority of them resulted in (or stemmed from) misdemeanor charges for the suspects. Other level charges and dispositions were far below.



*This chart omits two crowd-control incidents

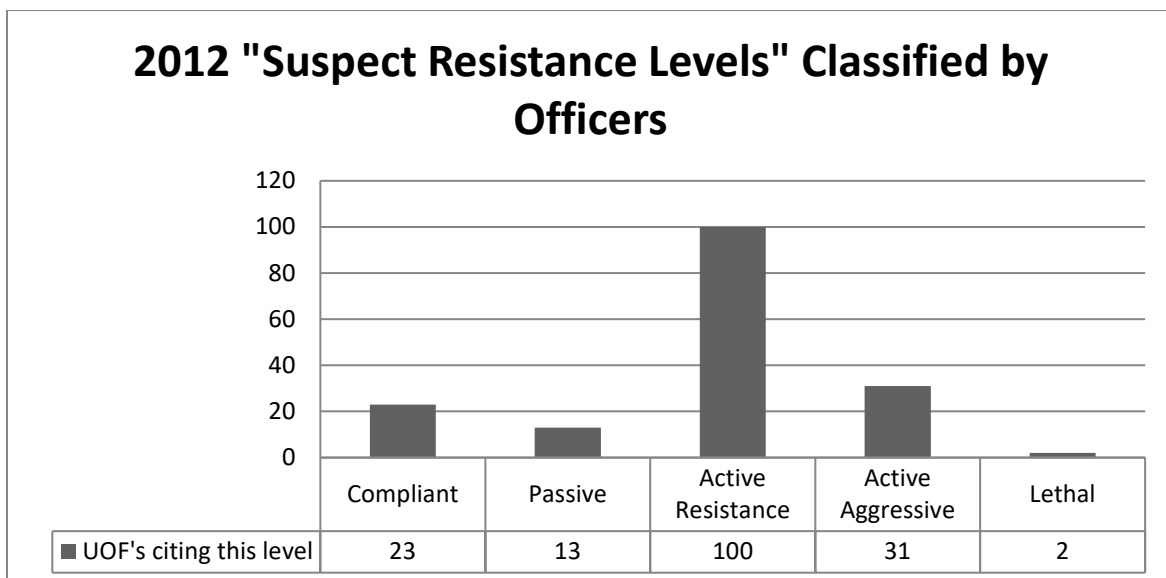
A comparison of 2012 UOF by Crime Classification to the same categories from 2011 showed violations for 2012 at 14%, 2011 at 7%. Misdemeanors for 2012 were at 39% of total, 2011 were at 45%. Felonies for 2012 were at 14% of total, 2011 were at 10%. Protective Custodies for 2012 were at 15% of total, while 2011 PC's were at 12%.

Understanding that an officers perception of their opponent plays a big part in their choice of tactics to deal with them, I noted that the majority of UOF's filed listed "Special Factors" relating to either the choice to employ force or the choice of tactic.:



Note the high numbers for "Prior History / Knowledge," which belies multiple encounters with the same suspects, or in some cases effective dispatchers conveying information more than the minimum.

Also pertaining to officers' perception of opponents is the level of resistance encountered. Similar to historic data, "Active Resistance" by far outnumbers other levels of resistance, as illustrated here:

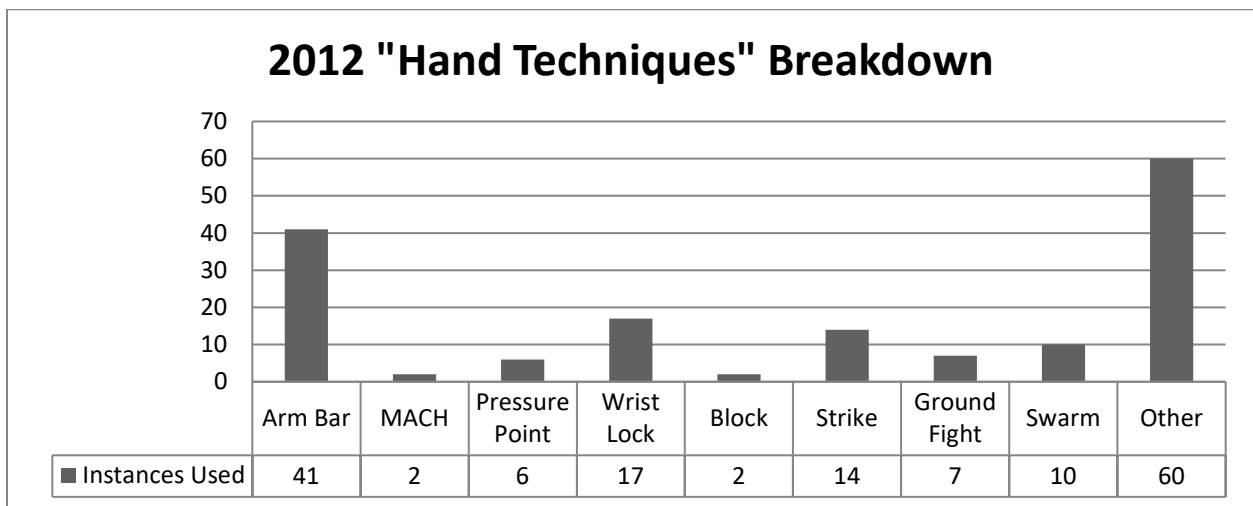


Officers used "Hand Techniques" most often which makes sense historically and practically given that's the "weapon system" we have ready most of the time. Next common was "Firearms or Special Weapons" (40 uses, with 38 "displayed only" and two pistols fired resulting in a single fatality), then "OC Spray" (18 uses, one display), "Baton" (11 uses, three displays), then "K9" (2 displays only). The Tactical Team accounted for two UOF's in 2012.

Two of the baton uses, wherein they were thrown or tossed, were classified as "within policy" but outside of commonly accepted training. We have made specific adjustments to our baton training to address this phenomena.

Multiple techniques were utilized about 24% of the time, with "Hand Techniques" almost always used as one of the techniques.

Given the commonplace use of "Hand Techniques" I charted that category to aid in training planning with the UOF / Defensive Tactics team. Of note here is the lack of explanation of what "Other" is, especially given it's the most common category chosen. Plans have been developed to correct this deficiency, to include verbal instructions during the upcoming 2012 4-hour UOF class as well as a possible form modification.



Most available weapons made a showing in the "Firearms and Special Weapons" section, including the Glock, the M4-style rifle, and the 40mm launcher, in that order. All were "displayed only" except for two discharges of pistols. In this one incident one officer fired at a vehicle driver with lethal results, and another officer fired at the car with negligible results.

OC spray was usually highly effective, with only a small number (3 out of 18 uses) listed as ineffective.

Baton use consisted of mostly "locks" followed by strikes and displays.

The total number of incidents listing officers as "Injured" was two. I researched these cases and found no specific preventative remedy for any of them, given the information available:

12-632-AR Officer punched in head (concussion resulting) while fighting during an arrest, appeared to be something that could happen during such an incident.

12-666-AR No mention in the narrative of the report about any officer injuries.

The 171 Use of Force reports filed in 2012 shows a 21% decrease over the 216 filed in 2011. It is difficult to say, for sure, what accounts for this decrease, be it officers becoming better at using their command presence and negotiation to avoid having to use force, or suspects just choosing to resist less.

This agency continues to research the viability of acquiring and deploying Tasers. The fielding of these systems would appear to offer benefits in the form of fewer physical engagements through their mere display, as well as reduced chance for injury to officers and others when properly activated against an aggressive suspect.

The UOF team continues to expand its capabilities through new instructor certifications and training opportunities. We have brought in an experienced outside instructor for "Ground Fighting" classes. Feedback on these classes has been overwhelmingly positive. Coordination is ongoing with the UOF staff to ensure that future UOF training is pertinent and effective, as well as the continual review of equipment, techniques and policy, to support the officers in the field in keeping with the Department mission.

Police Department
City of Keene, New Hampshire

Date: February 13, 2014
To: Kenneth J. Meola, Police Chief
From: Shane C. Maxfield, Lieutenant
Subject: 2013 Use of Force Audit

During January of 2014 I conducted an audit of all 2013 Use of Force (UOF) reports filed by Keene Police Officers. Analysis of the UOF reports for completeness, developing trends and effectiveness of weapons, techniques and training was completed.

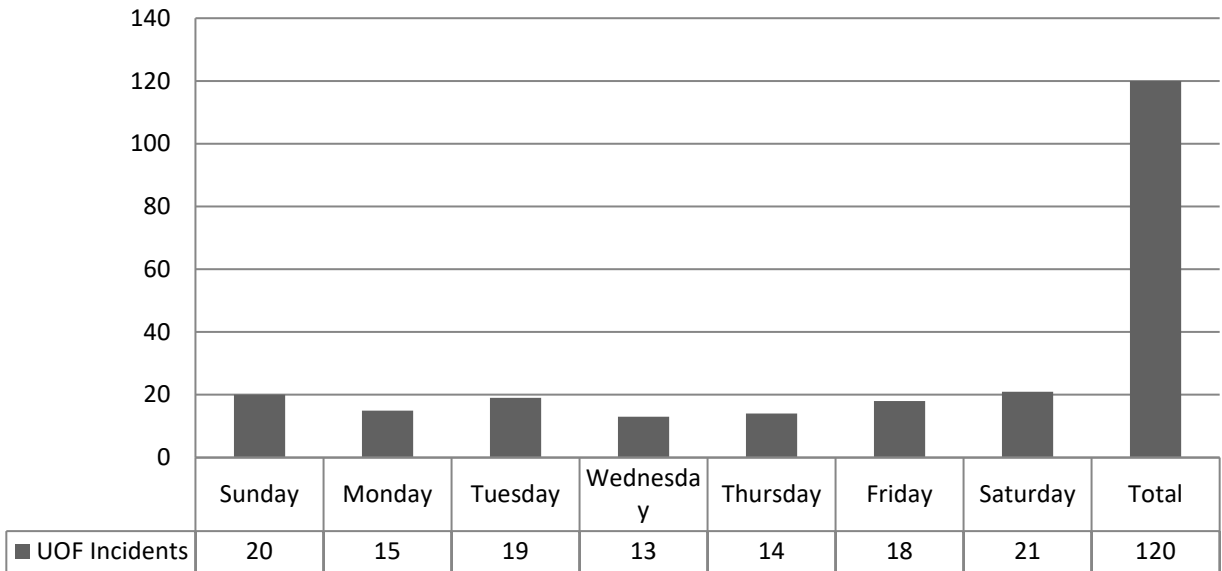
Over the course of 2013 there were a total of 120 incidents (95 Arrest Reports (AR's), 25 Offense Reports and Field Interviews (OF's and FI's), exclusive of "Dispatched Animals") resulting in 182 Use of Force reports filed. Arrest Reports produced 150 UOF filings, while OF's produced the remaining 32 UOF's.

The characteristics of the AR-involved UOF's were varied, as expected, and included pre-arrest UOF's to booking room UOF's. The OF-related UOF's involved mostly IEA's and "assist other agency" cases.

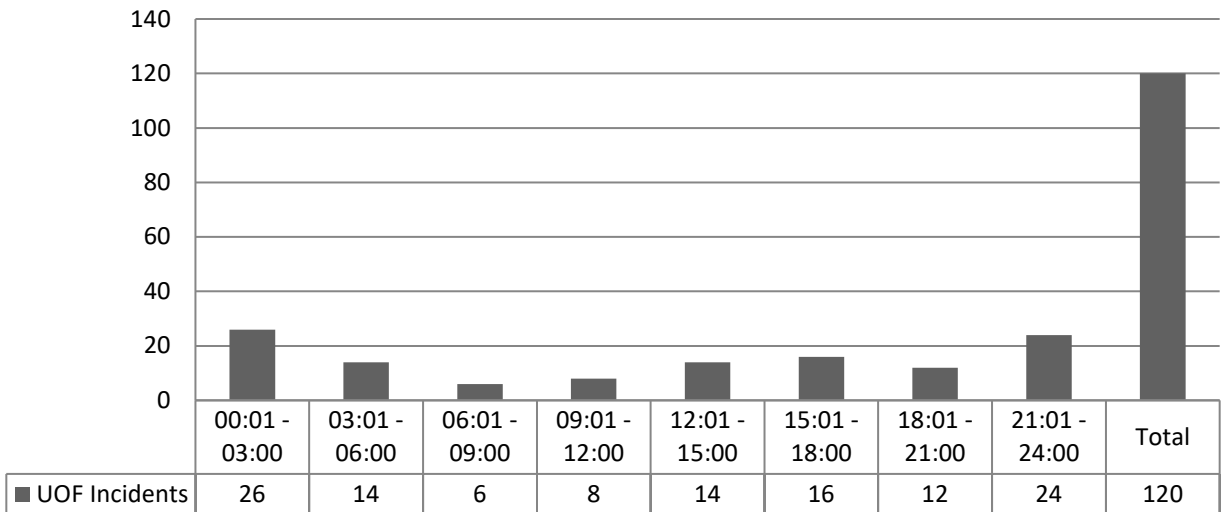
This year there was a large volume of incomplete UOF forms, resulting in wasted time looking up the AR or OF report to fill in the missing data. These incomplete forms had been reviewed and passed through by Supervisors. I will review the proper screening procedures with the Supervisors to eliminate this trend.

A day / time analysis of the 120 separate UOF incidents showed the following breakdown by day of week and then by time of day. Frequency of incidents increases slightly around the weekends and significantly during the night time hours, which are generally the days / times for social gatherings and the resultant calls and conflicts.

Unique UOF Incidents by Day of Week

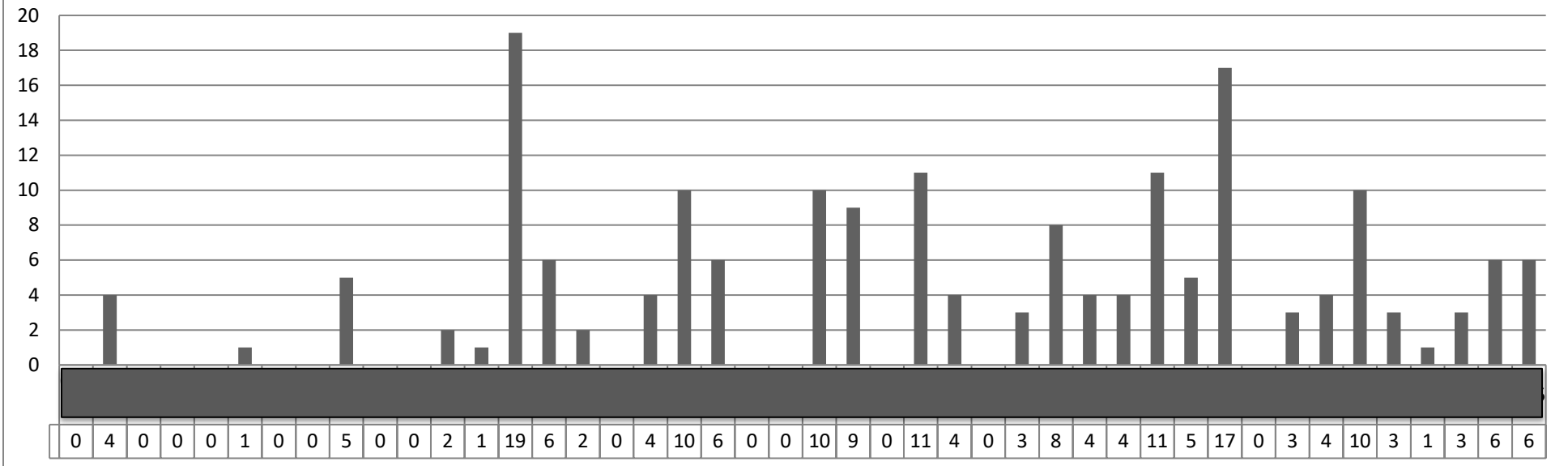


Unique UOF Incidents by Time of Day



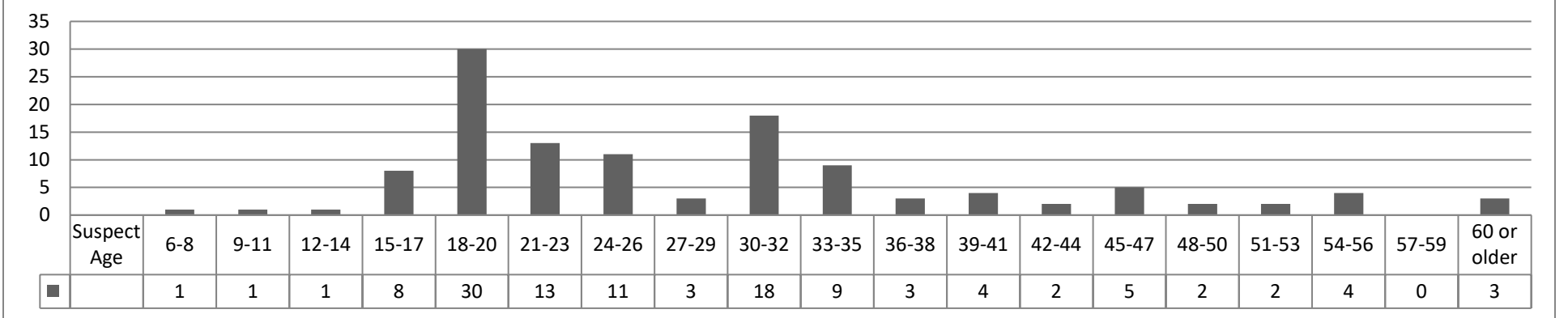
Analysis of the numbers of UOF reports filed by individual officers showed the predictable (and historic) trend that dayshift officers report fewer uses of force than evening or night shift officers (See the following graph). A few night shift officers show increases of UOF's filed. Analysis of this revealed that one of these personnel was a Field Supervisor who made a point to go to most "extraordinary" calls, and was thus exposed to more incidents necessitating the use of force. Analysis of the other officer showed that a full quarter of the UOF reports he/she filed were unnecessary, by policy.

UOF's Filed, By Officer

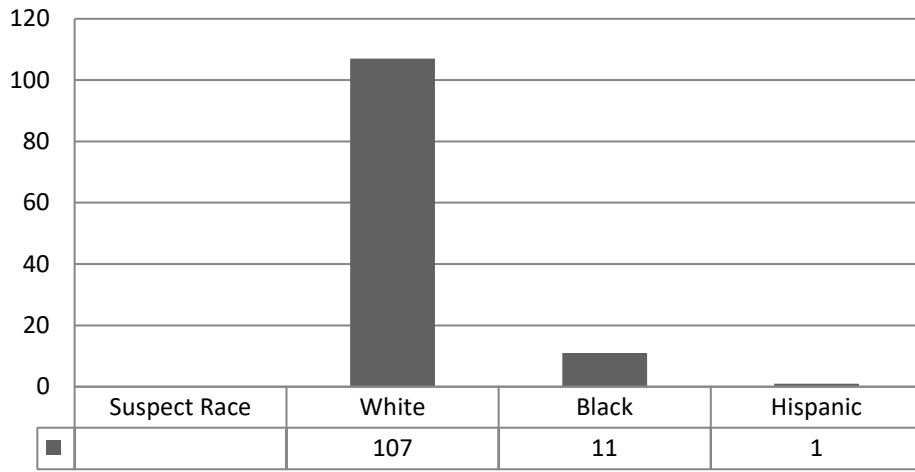


Analysis of the suspects involved showed the bulk of UOF's applied on white males in their late teens to mid-twenties, with another slight spike for suspects in their early thirties. These charts exclude one "Riot" type incident.

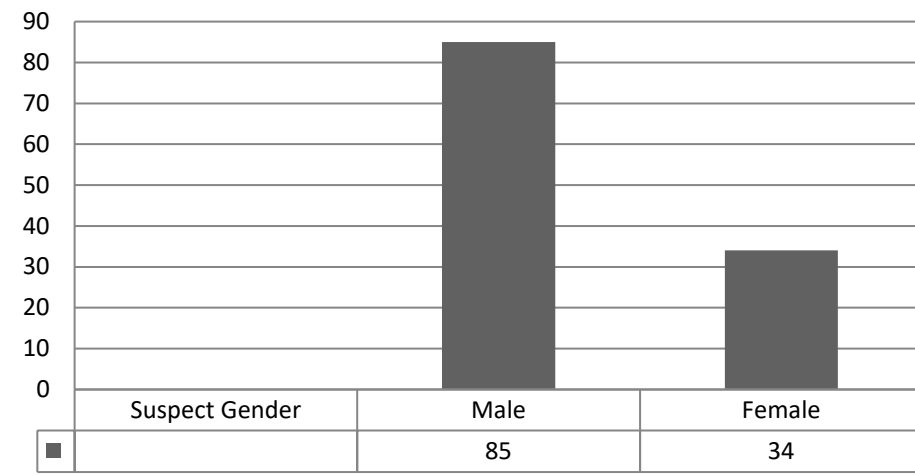
Suspect Age Distribution



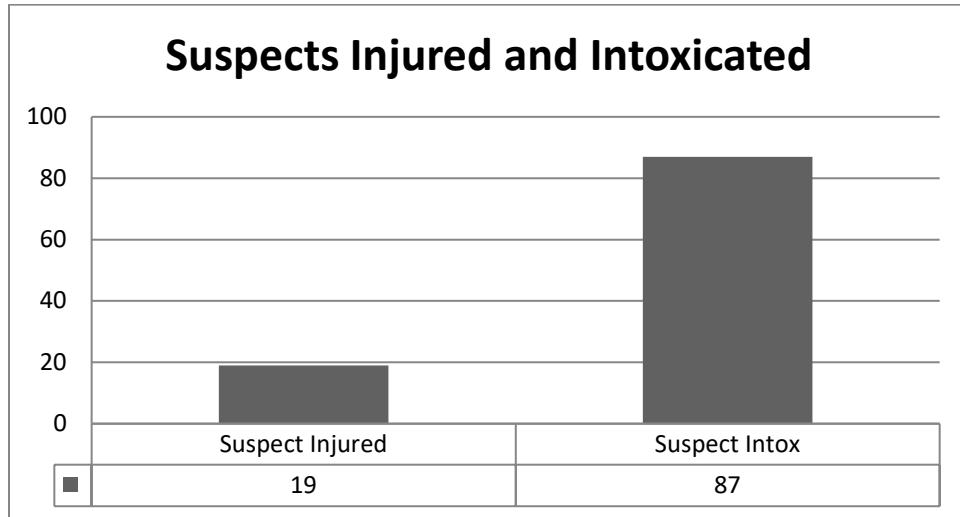
Suspect Race



Suspect Gender



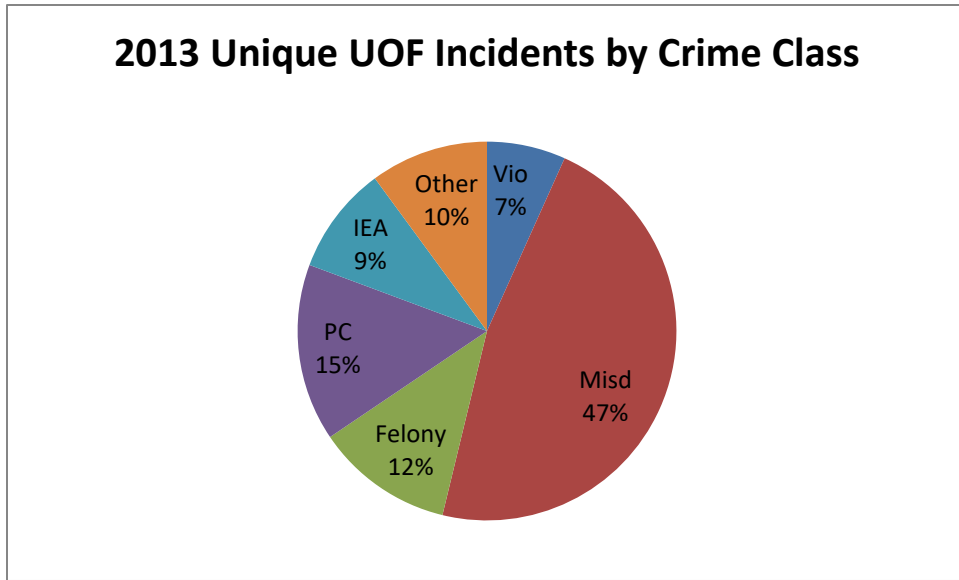
Of the 119 unique non-crowd control incidents, suspects were injured in nineteen of them and intoxicated in eighty-seven instances.



*This chart omits one crowd control incident

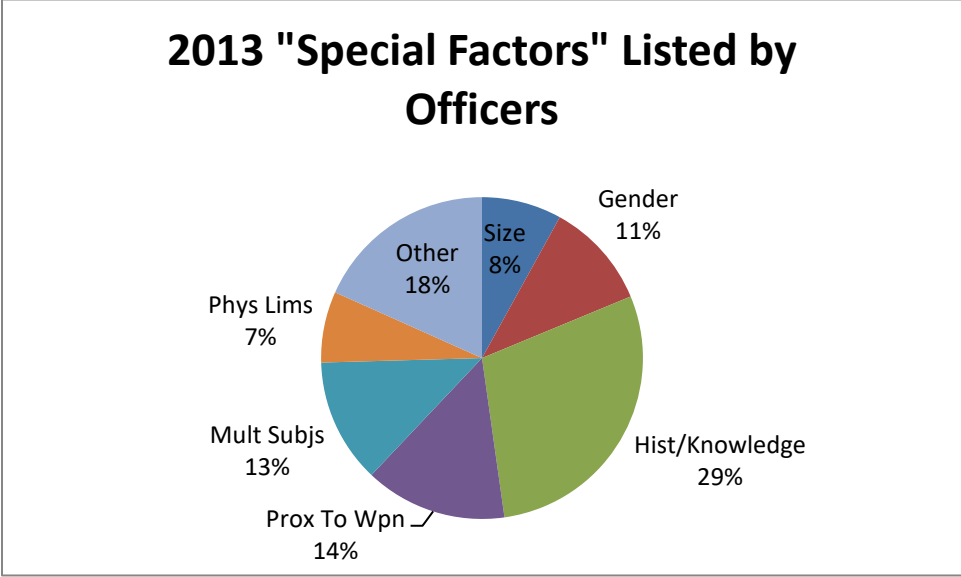
This translates to a 16% injury rate and a 73% intoxication rate for 2013. Comparable data for 2012 showed a 16% injury rate and a 42% intoxication rate.

Analysis of the encounters themselves showed that the vast majority of them resulted in (or stemmed from) misdemeanor charges for the suspects. Other level charges and dispositions were far below.



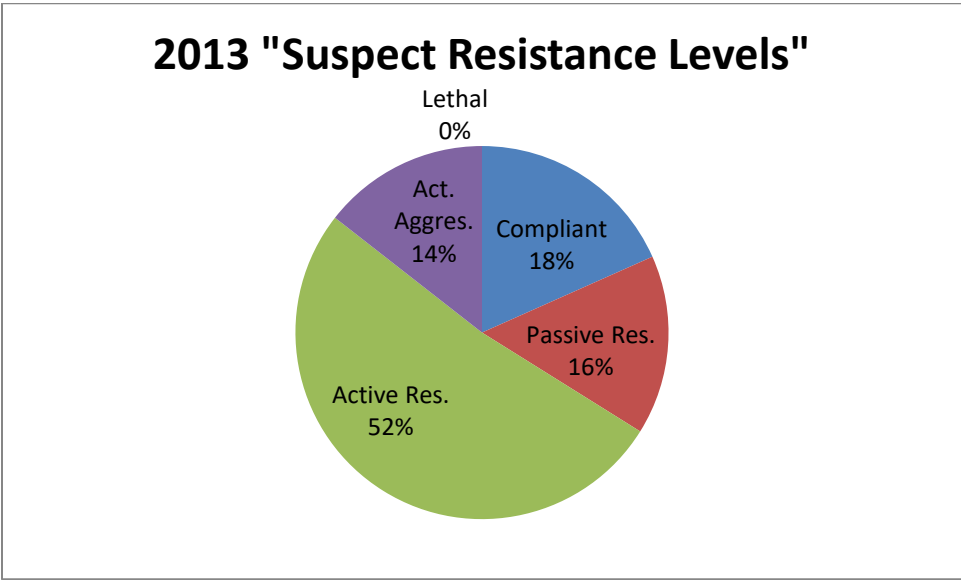
A comparison of 2013 UOF by Crime Classification to the same categories from 2012 showed violations for 2013 at 7%, 2012 at 14%. Misdemeanors for 2013 were at 47% of total, 2012 were at 39%. Felonies for 2013 were at 12% of total, 2012 were at 14%. Protective Custodies for 2013 were at 15% of total, while 2012 PC's were at 15%.

Understanding that an officers perception of their opponent plays a big part in their choice of tactics to deal with them, I noted that the majority of UOF's filed listed "Special Factors" relating to either the choice to employ force or the choice of tactic.:



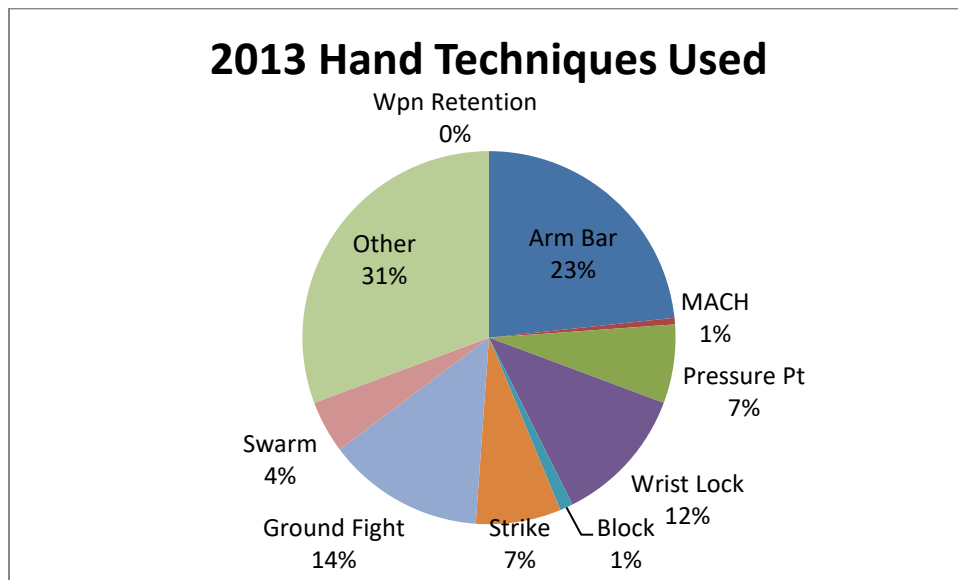
Note the high numbers for "Prior History / Knowledge," which belies multiple encounters with the same suspects, or in some cases effective dispatchers conveying information more than the minimum.

Also pertaining to officers' perception of opponents is the level of resistance encountered. Similar to historic data, "Active Resistance" by far outnumbers other levels of resistance, as illustrated here:



Officers used "Hand Techniques" most often, which makes sense historically and practically as it is the most readily available force option. Next common was "Firearms or Special Weapons" (46 uses, "displayed only") then "OC Spray" (10 uses), "Baton" (10 uses, three displays), then "K9" (4 displays only). The Tactical Team accounted for two UOF's in 2013.

Given the commonplace use of "Hand Techniques" I charted that category to aid in training planning with the UOF / Defensive Tactics team.



Most available weapons made a showing in the "Firearms and Special Weapons" section, including the Glock, the M4-style rifle, and the 40mm launcher, in that order. All were "displayed only."

OC spray was used ten times, and equally listed as either very effective, or not effective at all.

Baton use consisted of mostly "locks" followed by strikes and displays.

One UOF report listed an officer as being injured (13-114-AR), which appeared to be the result of ground fighting, while last year's UOF analysis indicated that two officers had been injured in UOF incidents. These low numbers resist attempts to attach causal factors or to infer significance of the change from two to one.

The 182 Use of Force reports filed in 2013 shows a 6% increase over the 171 filed in 2012. This is a statistically minor increase, and is not attributable to any specific factor.

This agency continues to research the viability of acquiring and deploying Tasers. The fielding of these systems would appear to offer benefits in the form of fewer physical engagements through their mere display, as well as reduced chance for injury to officers and others when properly activated against an aggressive suspect. We have also fielded two PepperBall weapon systems recently, which will be tracked and evaluated starting in CY 2014.

Coordination is ongoing with the UOF staff to ensure that future UOF training is pertinent and effective, as well as the continual review of equipment, techniques, practices and policy, to support the officers in the field in keeping with the Department mission. At present, current training appears to be meeting this agency's needs.

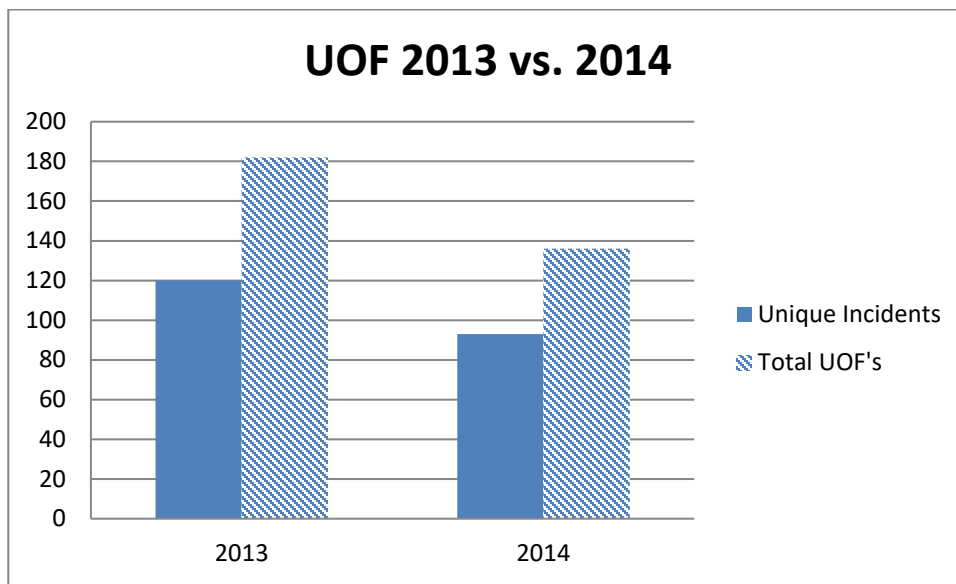
Police Department
City of Keene, New Hampshire

Date: January 28, 2015
To: Kenneth J. Meola, Police Chief
From: Shane C. Maxfield, Lieutenant
Subject: 2014 Use of Force Audit

During January of 2015 I conducted an audit of all 2014 Use of Force (UOF) reports filed by Keene Police Officers. Analysis of the UOF reports for completeness, developing trends and effectiveness of weapons, techniques and training was completed.

Over the course of 2014 there were a total of 93 unique incidents (69 Arrest Reports (AR's), 22 Offense Reports and Field Interviews (OF's and FI's), exclusive of "Dispatched Animals") resulting in 136 Use of Force reports filed. Arrest Reports produced 107 UOF filings, while OF's and FI's produced the remaining 29 UOF's.

The 93 incident total for 2014 was a 22.5% decrease from 2013, which had 120 unique incidents. The 136 total UOF's filed in 2014 was also significantly lower (25.3% lower) than 2013, which had 182 UOF's filed. This relationship is illustrated, below.

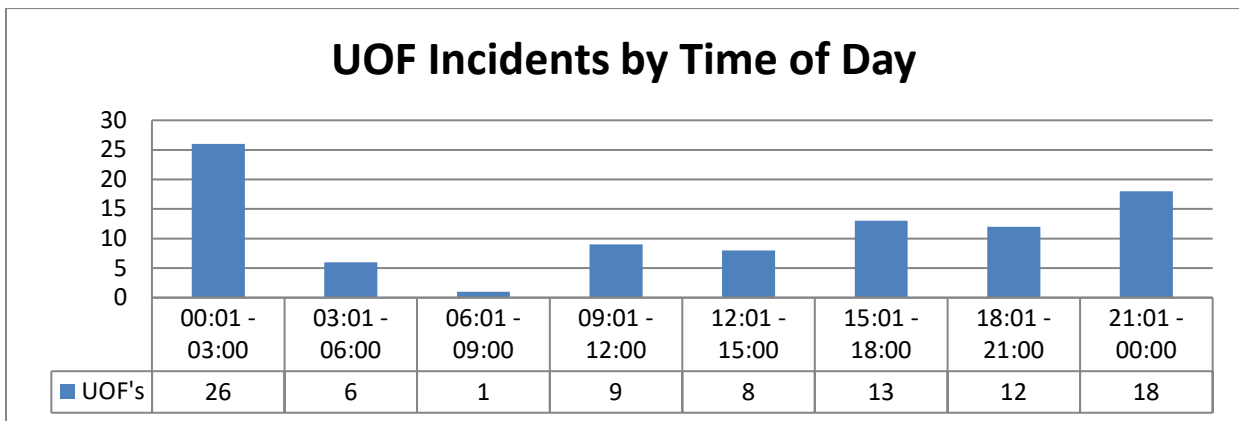
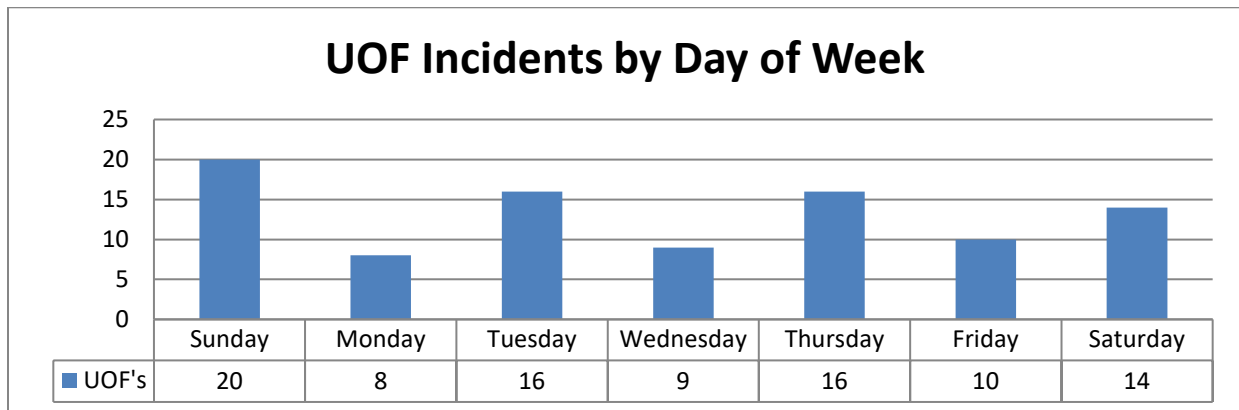


Analysis of the UOF's themselves revealed no specific reasoning for the sharp decrease from 2013 to 2014, nor could any correlation be made regarding call volume. The "Calls For Service" total from 2014 (30502) was only 5% lower than 2013 (32180).

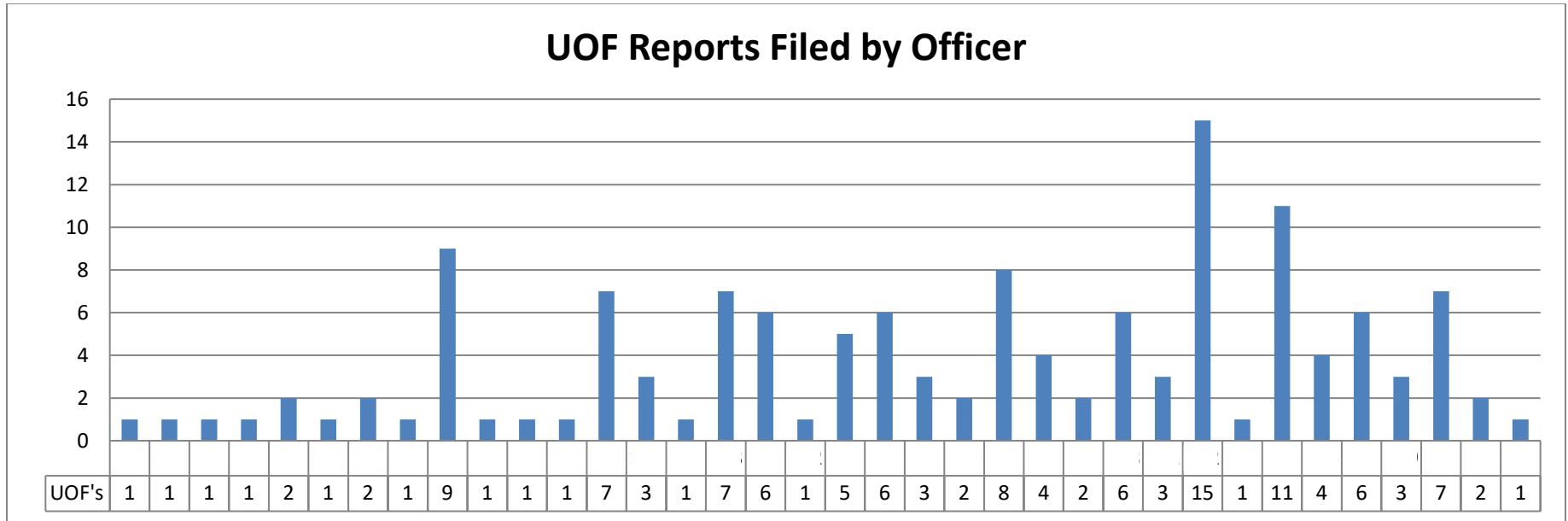
The unfortunate trend of incomplete UOF forms continued this year. Many submitted forms had vital data missing. Most were able to be clarified by pulling up the respective AR or OF report, though with one I had to physically track the officer down and inquire about the incident. I will, again, take time during the next 4-hour firearms class to reiterate the importance of complete and accurate UOF reporting. Additionally, I have instituted a process of conducting UOF review and data entry every couple of weeks so that I can identify and remedy deficient UOF forms in a more timely and useful manner. Supervisors who habitually sign off on and pass through incomplete UOF forms will be brought to the attention of Command Staff.

The characteristics of the AR-involved UOF's were varied, as expected, and included pre-arrest UOF's to booking room UOF's. The OF-related UOF's involved mostly IEA's and "assist other agency" cases.

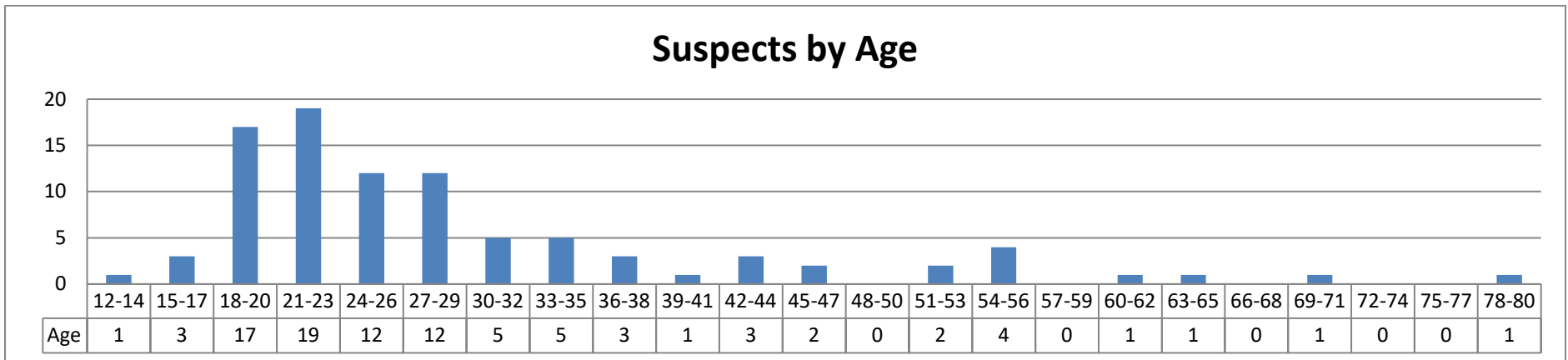
A day / time analysis of the 93 unique UOF incidents showed the following breakdown by day of week and then by time of day. Saturday night (early Sunday morning) is the heaviest, followed by Tuesday and Thursday.



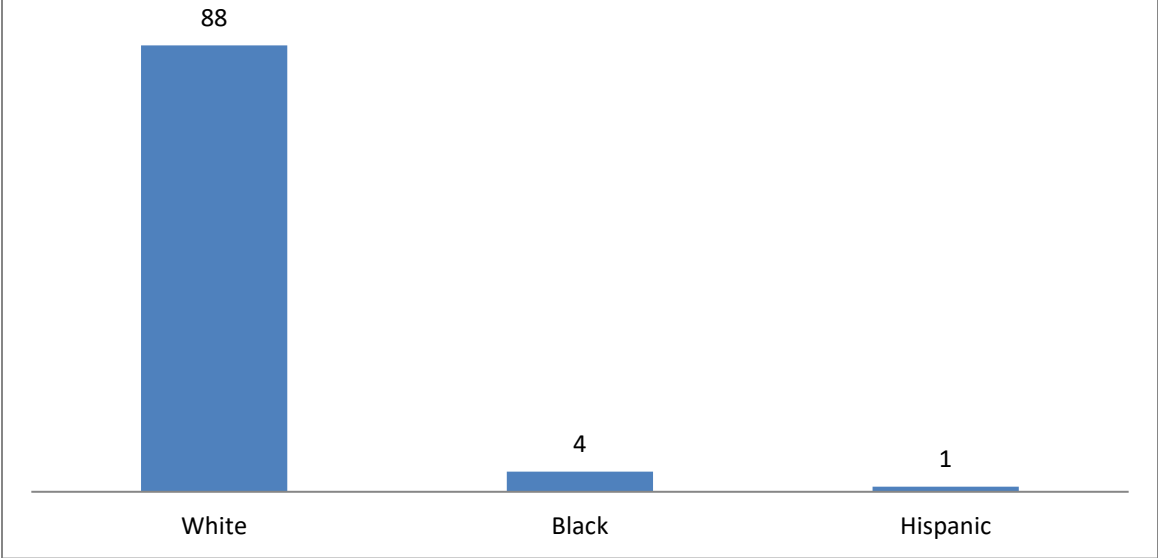
Analysis of the numbers of UOF reports filed by individual officers showed the predictable (and historic) trend that dayshift officers report fewer uses of force than evening or night shift officers (See the following graph). One night-shift officer completed several more UOF's than his peers. I scrutinized each associated report (AR's, OF's and an FI) and felt that all were justified, reasonable and in accordance with policy and statute.



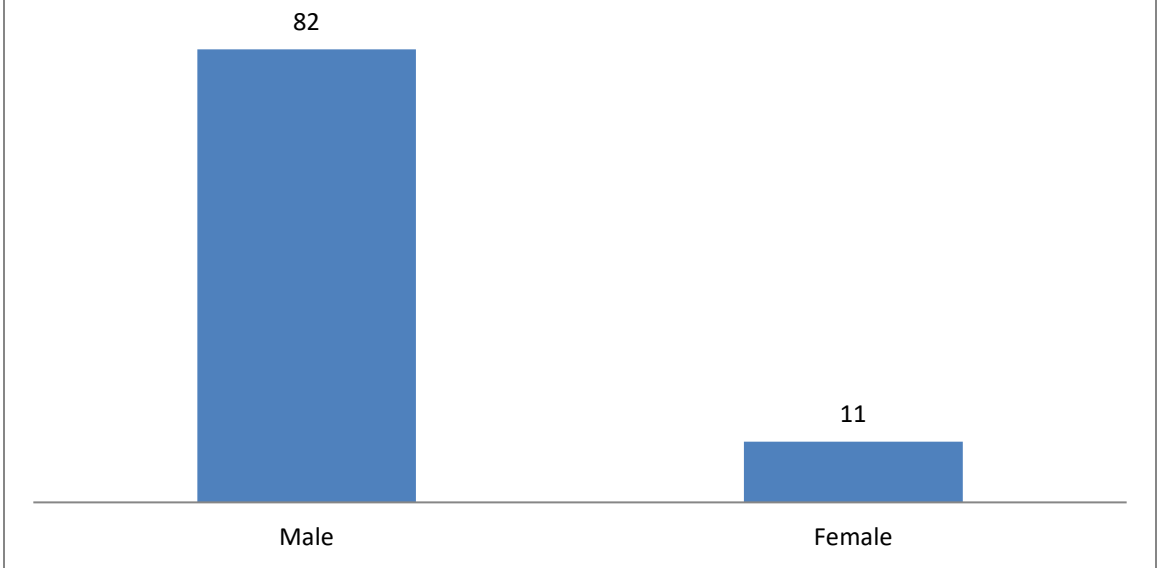
Analysis of the suspects involved showed the bulk of UOF's applied on white males in their late teens to early thirties.



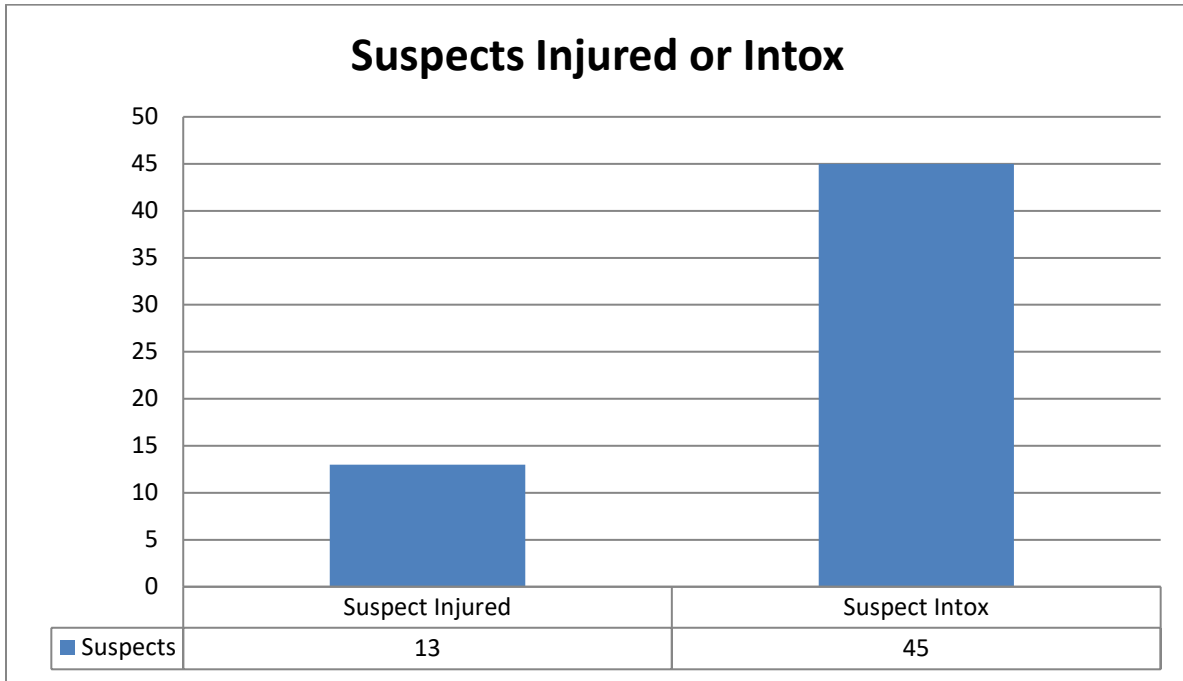
Suspect Race



Suspect Sex

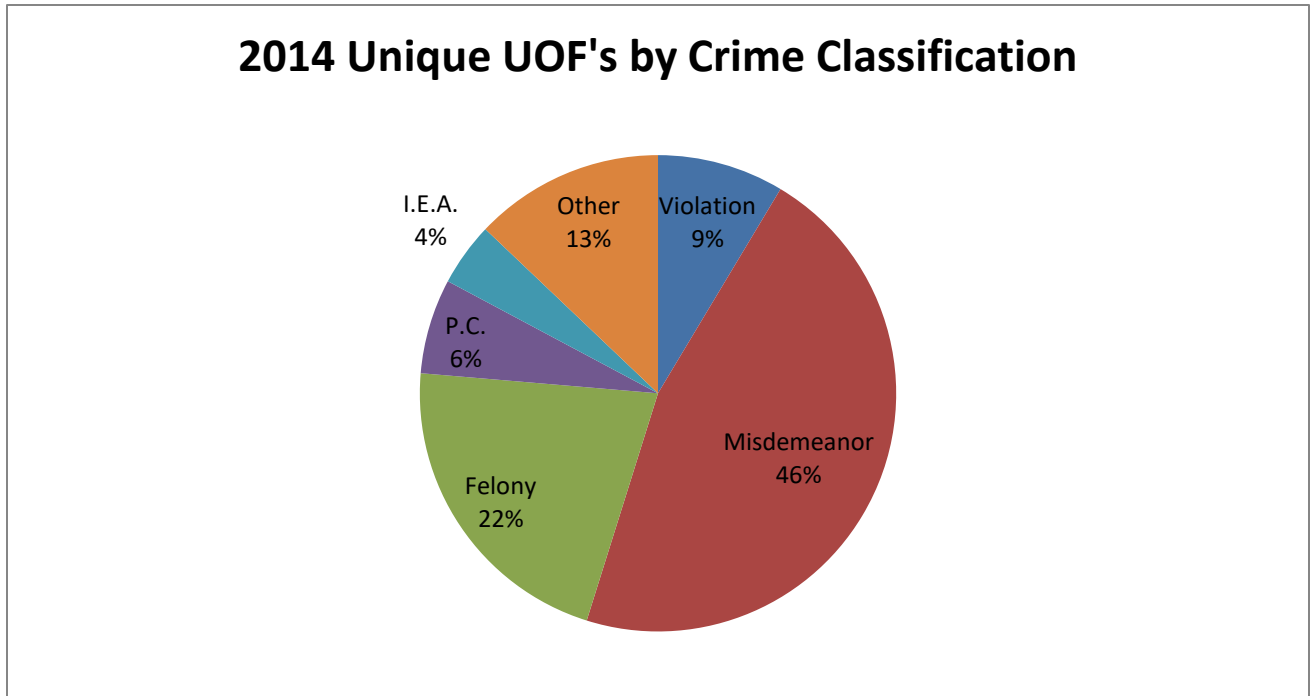


Of the 93 unique non-crowd control incidents, suspects were injured in thirteen of them and intoxicated in forty-five instances.



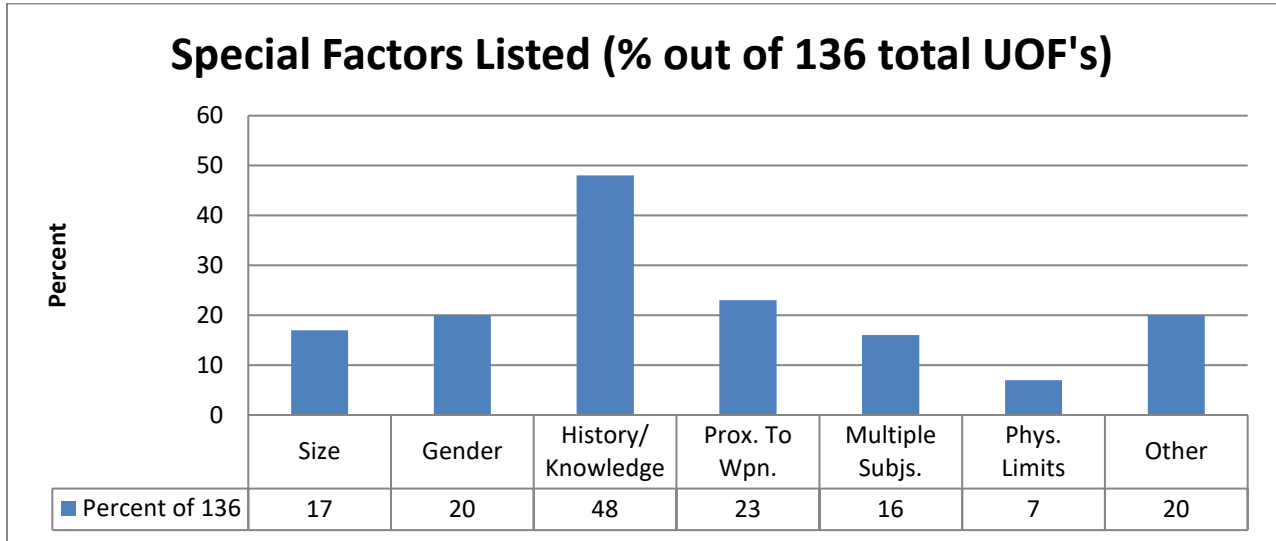
This translates to a 14% injury rate and a 48% intoxication rate for 2014. Comparable data for 2013 showed a 16% injury rate and a 73% intoxication rate.

Analysis of the encounters themselves showed that the vast majority of them resulted in (or stemmed from) misdemeanor charges for the suspects. Other level charges and dispositions were far below.



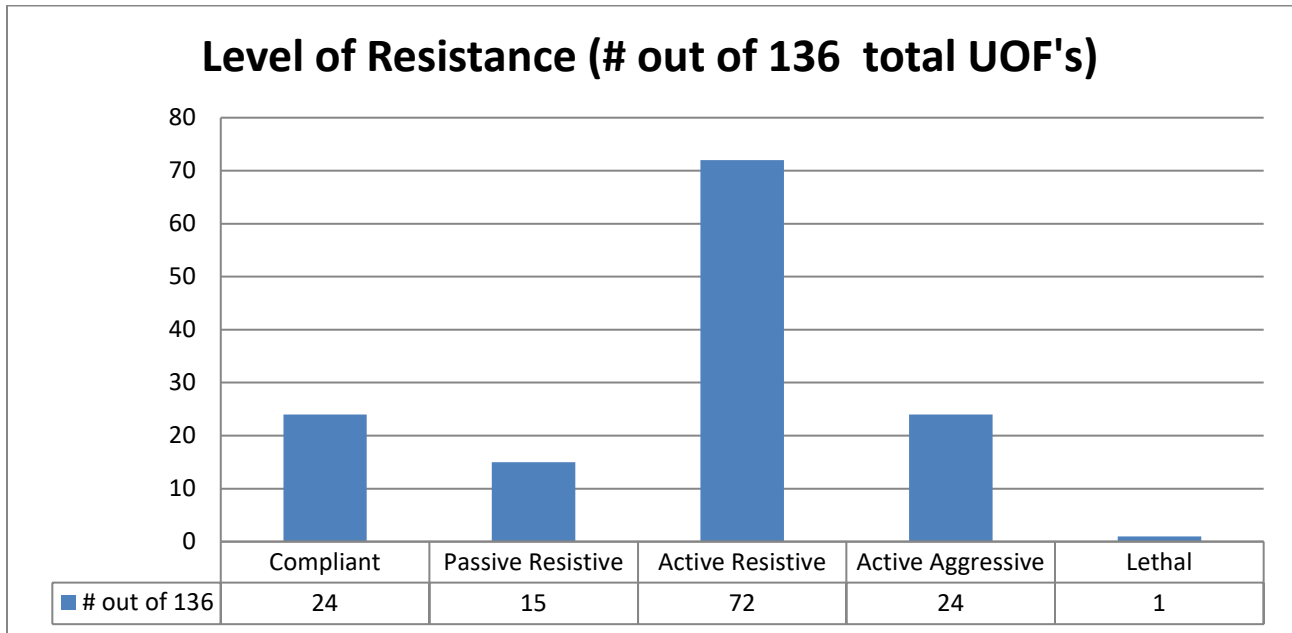
A comparison of 2014 UOF by Crime Classification to the same categories from 2013 showed violations for 2014 at 9%, 2013 at 7%. Misdemeanors for 2014 were at 46% of total, 2013 were at 47%. Felonies for 2014 were at 22% of total, 2013 were at 12%. Protective Custodies for 2014 were at 6% of total, while 2013 PC's were at 15%.

Understanding that an officers perception of their opponent plays a big part in their choice of tactics to deal with them, I noted that the majority of UOF's filed listed "Special Factors" relating to either the choice to employ force or the choice of tactic:



Note the high numbers for "Prior History / Knowledge," which belies multiple encounters with the same suspects, or in some cases effective dispatchers conveying information more than the minimum.

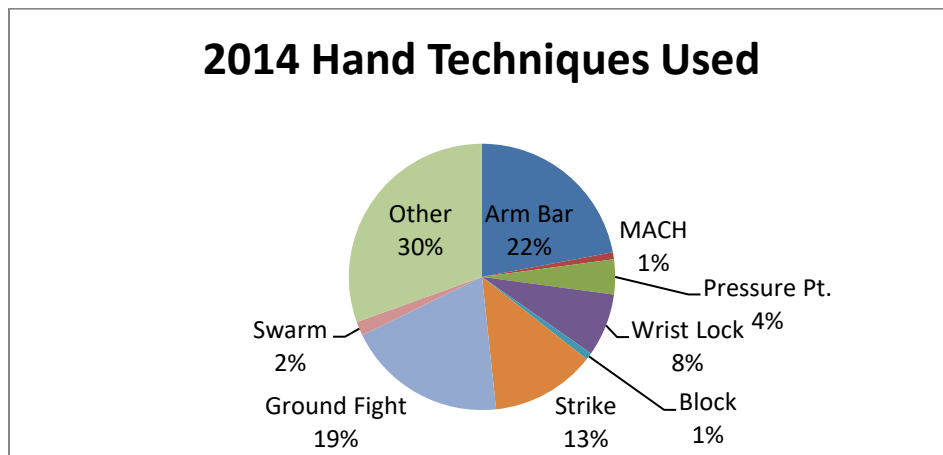
Also pertaining to officers' perception of opponents is the level of resistance encountered. Similar to historic data, "Active Resistance" by far outnumbers other levels of resistance perceived by Officers, as illustrated here:



NOTE: The incident cited in the "Lethal" column involved a felony suspect wielding a firearm during a stand off, and eventually ended with the suspect's suicide.

Officers used "Hand Techniques" most often (85 times during 136 UOF's), which makes sense historically and practically as it is the most readily available force option. Next common was "Firearms or Special Weapons" (42 uses, "displayed only" for all except one incident where the 12ga drag-stabilized beanbag was used) then "OC Spray" (11 uses), "K9" (5, with one bite and four displays), then "Baton" (1, for an armlock). The Tactical Team accounted for two UOF's in 2014.

Given the commonplace use of "Hand Techniques" I charted that category to aid in training planning with the UOF / Defensive Tactics team.



Most available weapons made a showing in the "Firearms and Special Weapons" section, including the Glock, the M4-style rifle, 12ga "Less Lethal Shotgun," the 40mm launcher and Pepperball systems, in that order. Most were "displayed only" except for one use of the 12ga "Less Lethal" system which was used to apply two drag-stabilized beanbag rounds to end a stand-off, and the extensive use of the 40mm and Pepperball launchers during rioting coinciding with PumpkinFest 2014.

OC spray was used eleven times, and was mostly "very effective," with a couple "moderately effective" and only one "not effective." It was also used, in significant amounts, during riots coinciding with Pumpkin Festival 2014, during which it was very effective in crowd management.

Baton use consisted of a single arm lock.

Two UOF reports listed officers as being injured (14-841-AR and 14-1139-AR), both reports being by the same officer. One listed the officer as having had medical attention where the injuries were scuffs / scrapes and were incurred during a ground fight. Last year's UOF analysis indicated that one officer had been injured in UOF incidents. The low number of officer injuries, and the increase from one last year to two this year, when examined in the light of 136 total UOF's, is positive, and might be attributed to quality training and decision-making.

The 136 total UOF's filed in 2014 was significantly lower (25.3% lower) than 2013, which had 182 UOF's filed. This drop could be reflective of officers working more towards other solutions during encounters than the use of force.

The Keene Police Department fielded two Pepperball systems in 2014. These weapons played significant roles during riots coinciding with the 2014 Pumpkin Festival, mainly in pinpoint intervention and general crowd control. It is proving to be a useful addition to our "toolbox," when used in conjunction with other options.

Coordination is ongoing with the UOF staff to ensure that future UOF training is pertinent and effective, as well as the continual review of equipment, techniques, practices and policy, to support the officers in the field in keeping with the Department mission. At present, current training appears to be meeting this agency's needs, and the training calendar covers all force options, concentrating on mastery of basic skills.

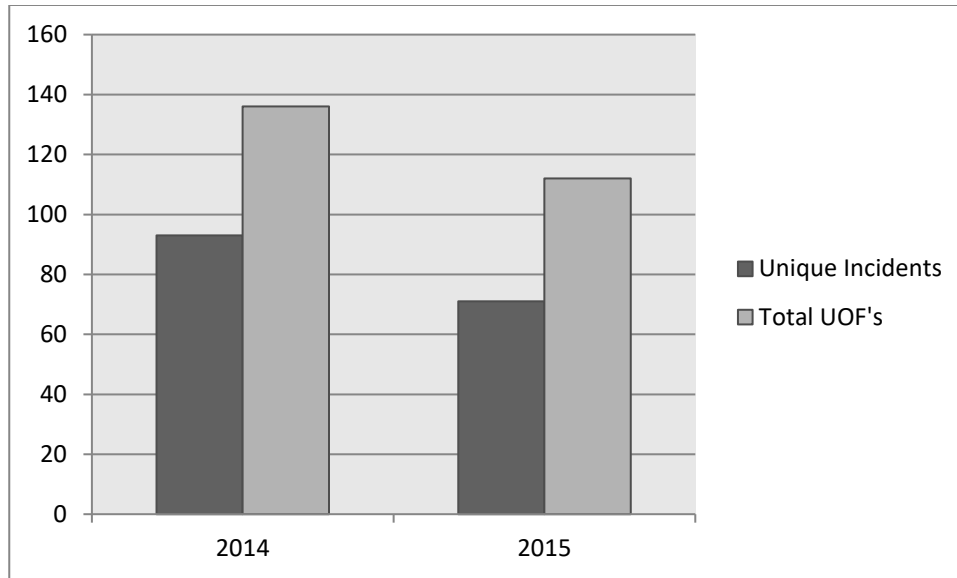
Police Department
City of Keene, New Hampshire

Date: February 20, 2016
To: Brian Costa, Police Chief
Through: Steven Stewart, Captain
Through: Steven Russo, Captain
From: Shane C. Maxfield, Lieutenant
Subject: 2015 Use of Force Analysis

During January of 2016 I conducted an analysis of all 2015 Use of Force (UOF) reports filed by Keene Police Officers. Review of the UOF reports for completeness, developing trends and effectiveness of weapons, techniques and training was completed.

Over the course of 2015 there were a total of 71 unique incidents (56 Arrest Reports (AR's), 15 Offense Reports and Field Interviews (OF's and FI's), exclusive of "Dispatched Animals") resulting in 112 Use of Force reports filed. Arrest Reports produced 92 UOF filings, while OF's and FI's produced the remaining 20 UOF's.

The 71 incident total for 2015 was a 23.66% decrease from 2014, which had 93 unique incidents. The 112 total UOF's filed in 2015 was also significantly lower (17.65% lower) than 2014, which had 136 UOF's filed. This relationship is illustrated, below.

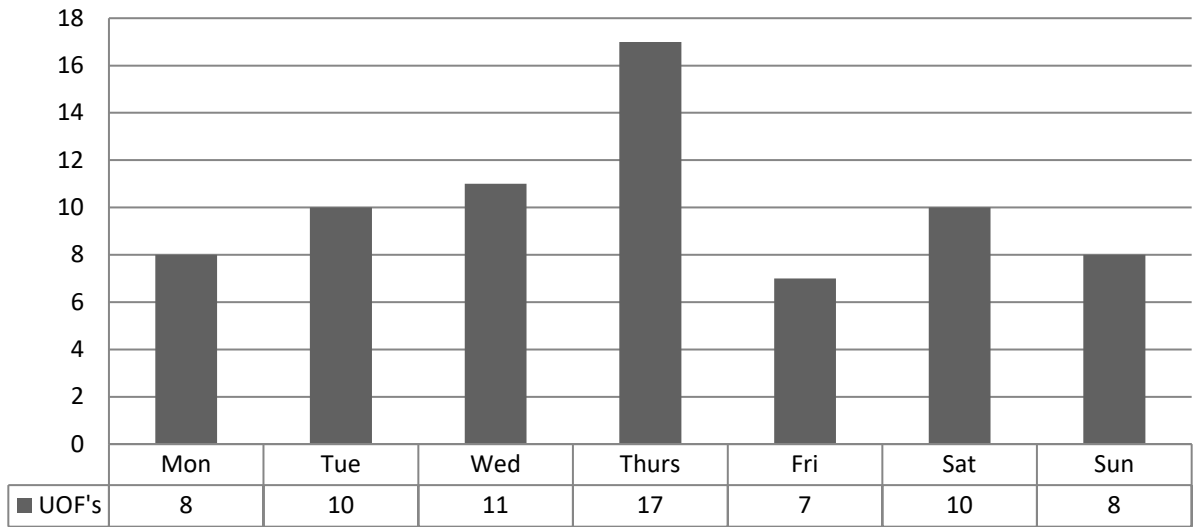


Analysis of the UOF's themselves revealed no specific reasoning for the decrease from 2014 to 2015, nor could any correlation be made regarding call volume. The "Calls For Service" total from 2015 (29855) was only 2.12% lower than 2014 (30502).

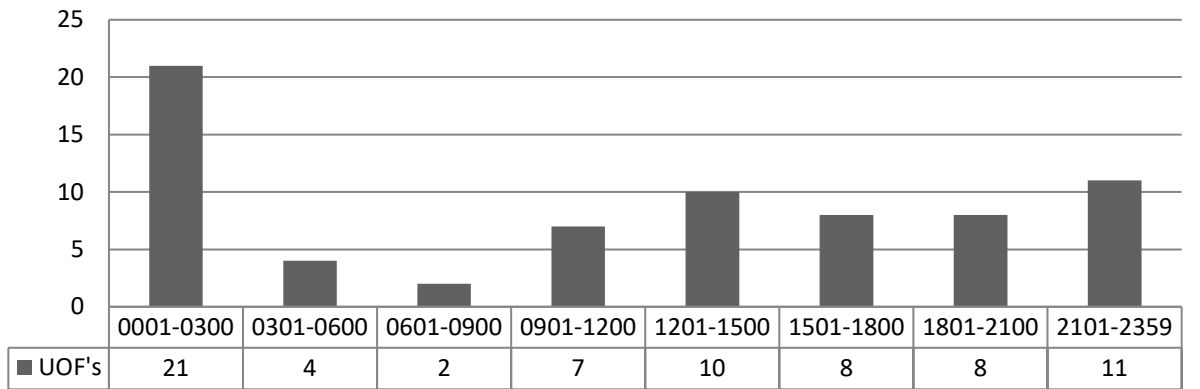
The characteristics of the AR-involved UOF's were varied, as expected, and included pre-arrest UOF's to booking room UOF's. The OF-related UOF's involved mostly IEA's and "assist other agency" cases.

A day / time analysis of the 71 unique UOF incidents showed the following breakdown by day of week and then by time of day. Thursday was the heaviest, followed by Wednesday and Tuesday / Saturday. No specific reason for this breakdown was garnered from the data. Nighttime and early morning hours were the heaviest.

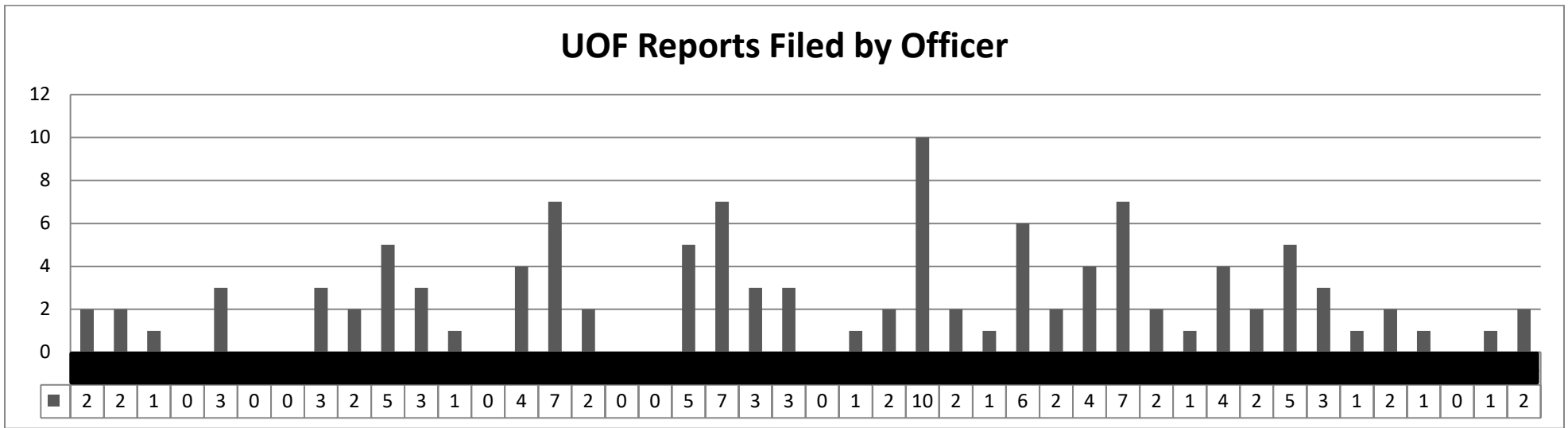
UOF Incidents by Day of Week



UOF Incidents by Time of Day

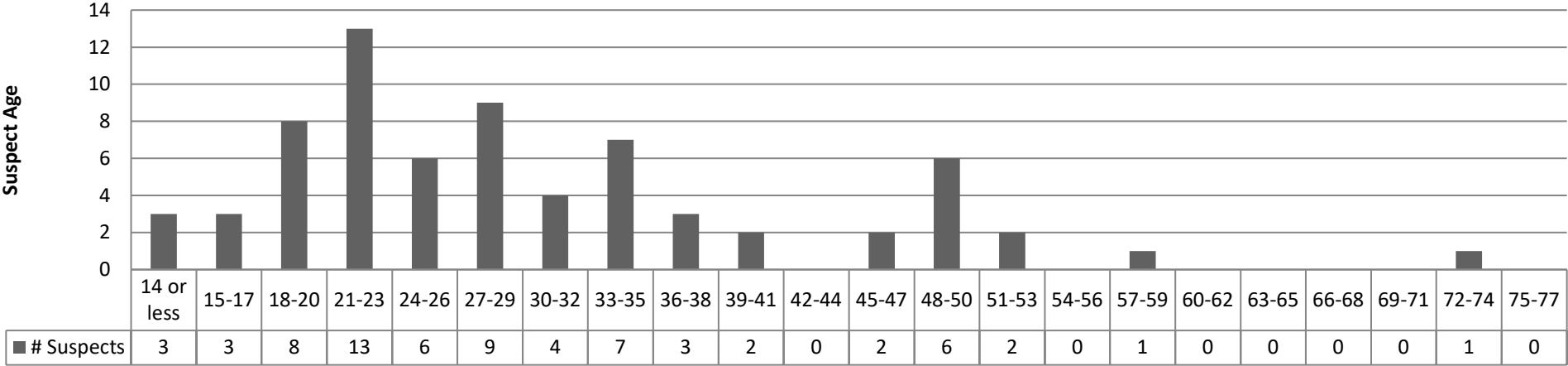


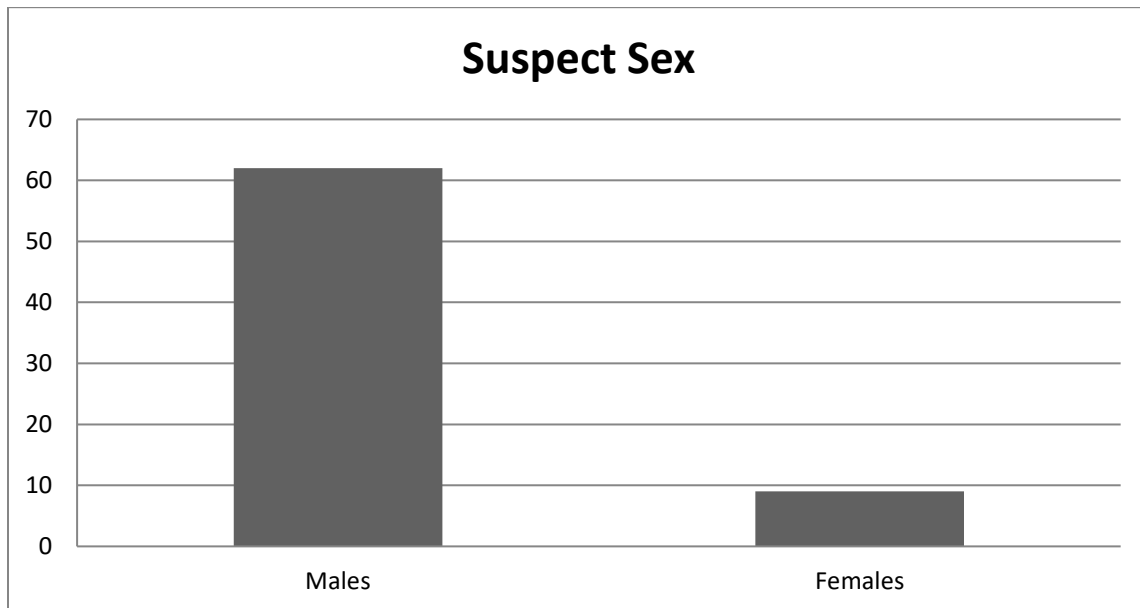
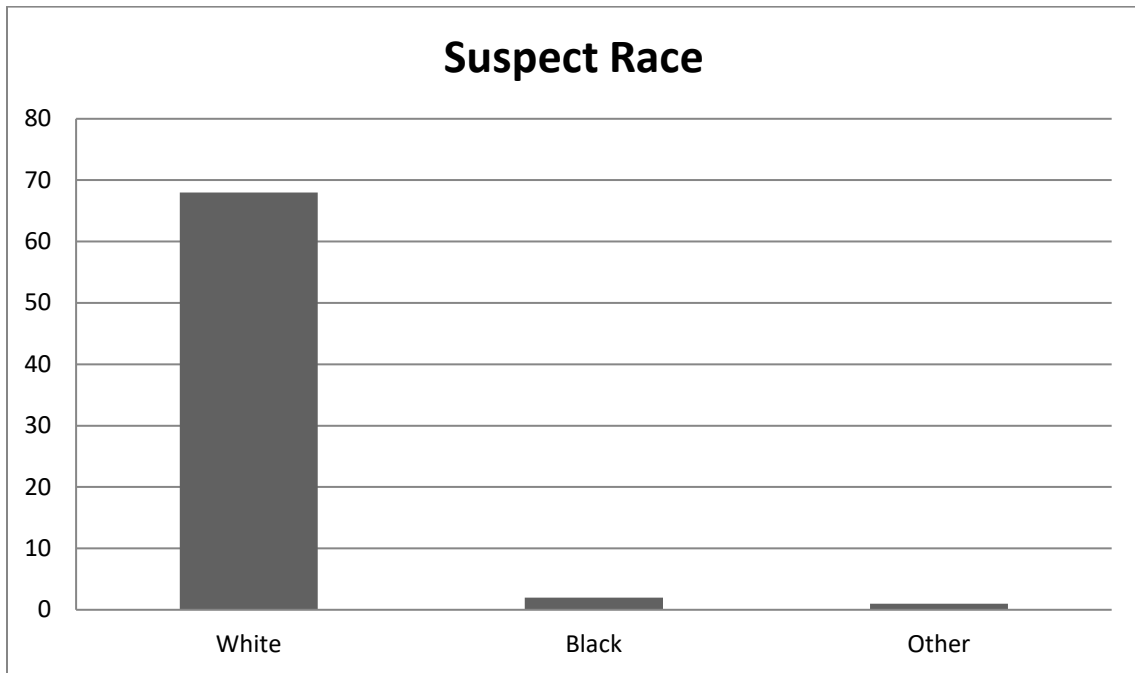
Analysis of the numbers of UOF reports filed by individual officers showed the predictable (and historic) trend that dayshift officers report fewer uses of force than evening or night shift officers (See the following graph).



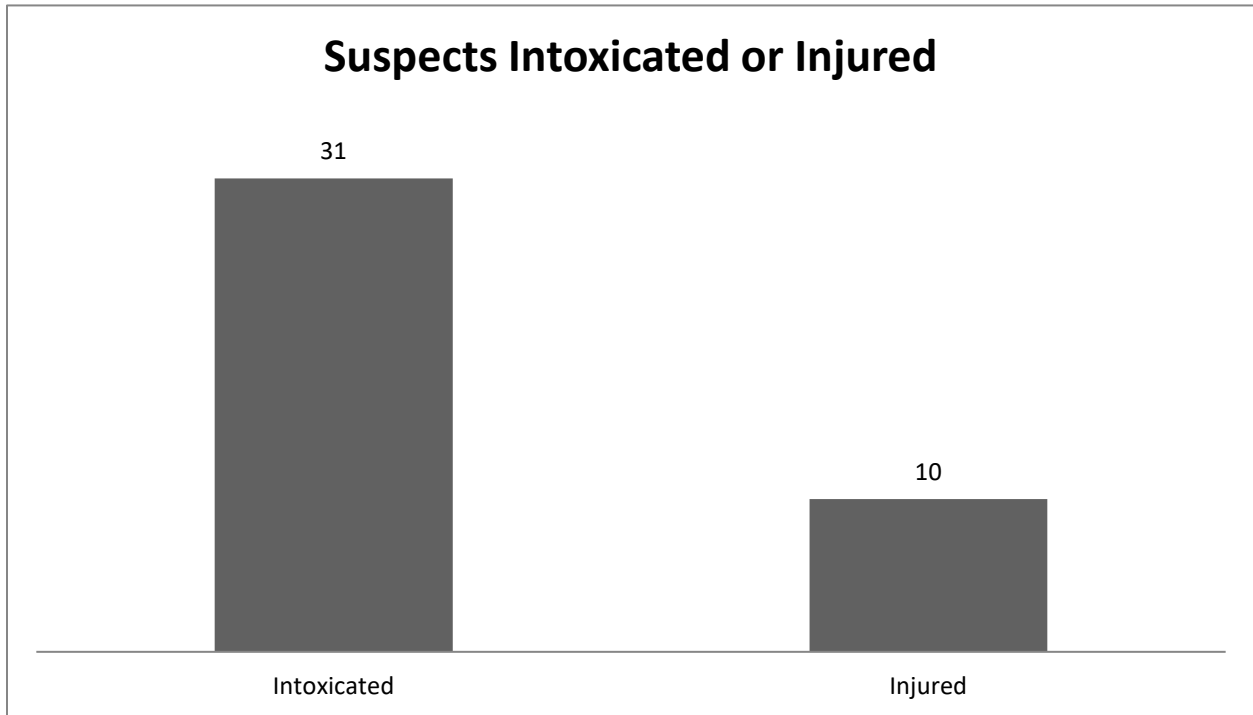
Analysis of the suspects involved showed the bulk of UOF's applied on white males in their late teens to early thirties (one suspect was unidentified, so no age was listed for him).

Suspects by Age



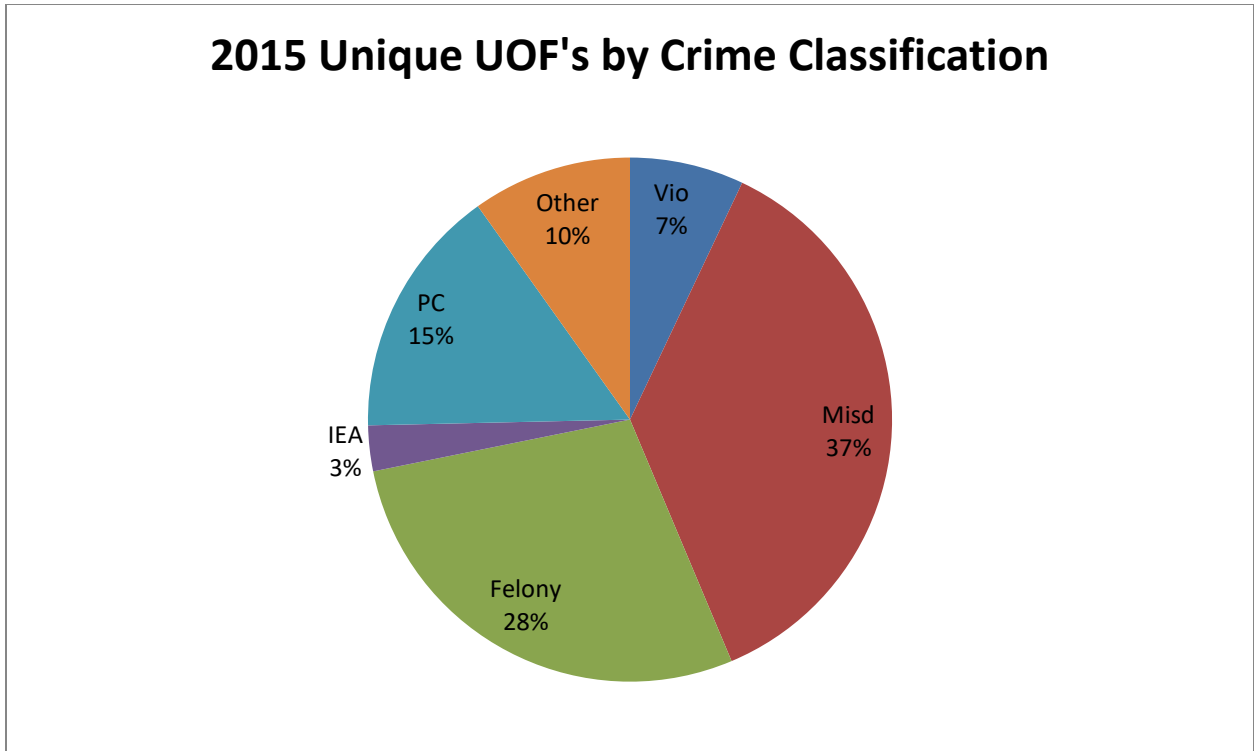


Of the seventy-one unique incidents, suspects were intoxicated in thirty-one of them and injured in ten instances.



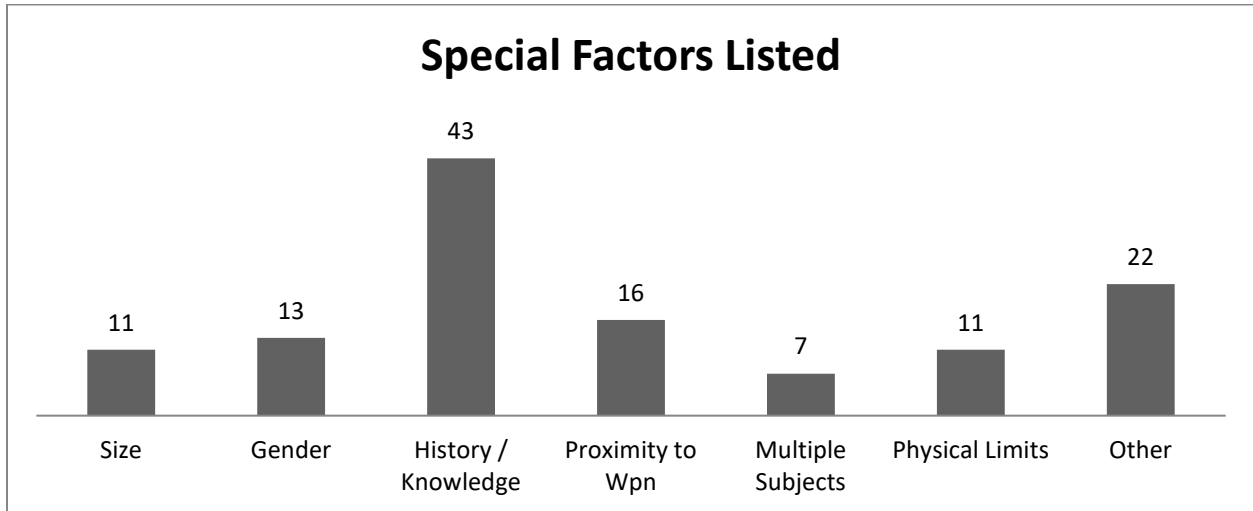
This translates to a 44% intoxication rate and a 14% injury rate for 2015. Comparable data for 2014 showed a 48% intoxication rate and a 14% injury rate. Of the 10 subjects listed as "Injured" in the 2015 UOF's, five received medical attention for minor injuries. Four of those received contusions and abrasions while being captured after fleeing on foot while the fifth received a laceration while actively fighting officers attempting to arrest him in a restaurant.

Analysis of the encounters themselves showed that the majority of them resulted in (or stemmed from) misdemeanor charges for the suspects, followed closely by felony incidents. Other level charges and dispositions were far fewer.



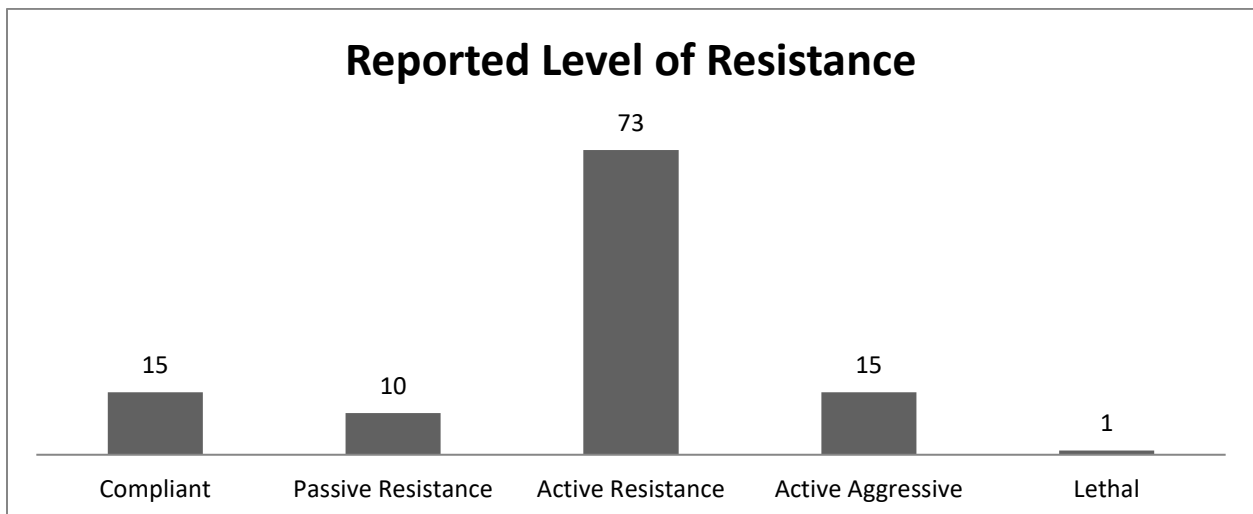
A comparison of 2015 UOF by Crime Classification to the same categories from 2014 showed violations for 2015 at 7%, 2014 at 9%. Misdemeanors for 2015 were at 37% of total, 2014 were at 46%. Felonies for 2015 were at 28% of total, 2014 were at 22%. Protective Custodies for 2015 were at 15% of total, while 2014 PC's were at 6%.

Understanding that an officers perception of their opponent plays a big part in their choice of tactics to deal with them, I noted that the majority of UOF's filed listed "Special Factors" relating to either the choice to employ force or the choice of tactic:



Note the high numbers for "Prior History / Knowledge," which belies multiple encounters with the same suspects, or in some cases effective dispatchers conveying information more than the minimum.

Also pertaining to officers' perception of opponents is the level of resistance encountered. Similar to historic data, "Active Resistance" by far outnumbers other levels of resistance perceived by Officers, as illustrated here:

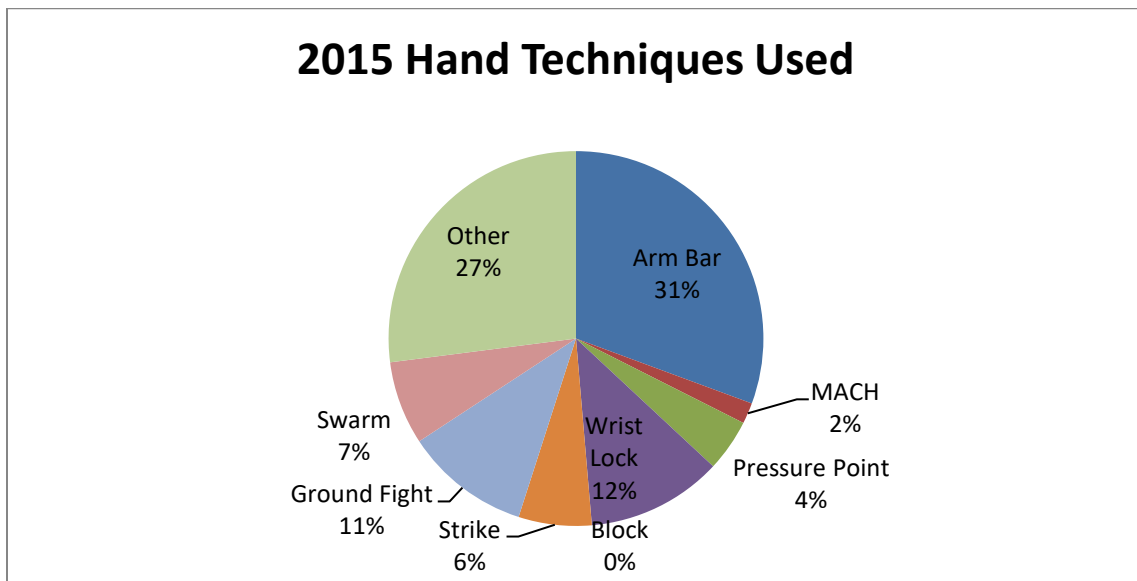


NOTE1: The incident cited in the "Lethal" column involved a suicidal subject wielding two knives and advancing menacingly towards officers. The subject was eventually Tased by NHSP and transported to an assistance facility.

NOTE2: Force used on "Compliant" subjects generally consisted of felony incidents where they were covered by a firearm

Officers used "Hand Techniques" most often (81 times during 112 UOF's), which makes sense historically and practically as it is the most readily available force option. Next common was "Firearms or Special Weapons" (24 uses, "displayed only" for all except one incident where the 40mm Direct Impact launcher was used) then "OC Spray" (12 uses, one display only), then "Baton" (1, for an armlock). The Tactical Team accounted for five UOF's in 2015.

Given the commonplace use of "Hand Techniques" I charted that category to aid in training planning with the UOF / Defensive Tactics team.



Arm bars were used most often, proving the ease and usefulness of this technique. Things that filled up the "Other" category included any hand technique that didn't fit into any of the classic categories, such as tugging on a person's arm to get them out of a car or pulling on a resisting subject's leg to assist other officers swarming him.

"Firearms and Special Weapons" utilized in 2015 included the Glock, the M4-style rifle, and the 40mm launcher, in that order. Most were "displayed only" except for one use of the 40mm Direct Impact launcher system which was used to apply a single sponge round to an uncooperative home invasion suspect.

OC spray was used thirteen times, and was mostly "very effective," with a couple "moderately effective" and four "not effective," one of which was due to the spray never contacting the suspect.

Baton use consisted of a single forward strike followed by an arm lock.

Two UOF reports listed officers as being injured (15-156-AR and 15-419-AR). One report indicated the officer sustained minor scrapes and bruises while arresting a large,

combative, delusional person. The other had a different officer sustaining a minor wrist injury while tackling a fleeing, handcuffed subject pursuant to a drug arrest.

The 112 total UOF's filed in 2015 was significantly lower (17.6% lower) than 2014, which had 136 UOF's filed. This decrease continues the trend of recent years, and could be reflective of officers working more towards other solutions during encounters than the use of force.

Pursuant to this UOF Analysis, coordination is ongoing with the UOF staff to ensure that future UOF training is pertinent and effective, as well as the continual review of equipment, techniques, practices and policy, to support the officers in the field in keeping with the Department mission. At present, current training appears to be meeting this agency's needs, and the training calendar covers all force options, concentrating on mastery of basic skill.

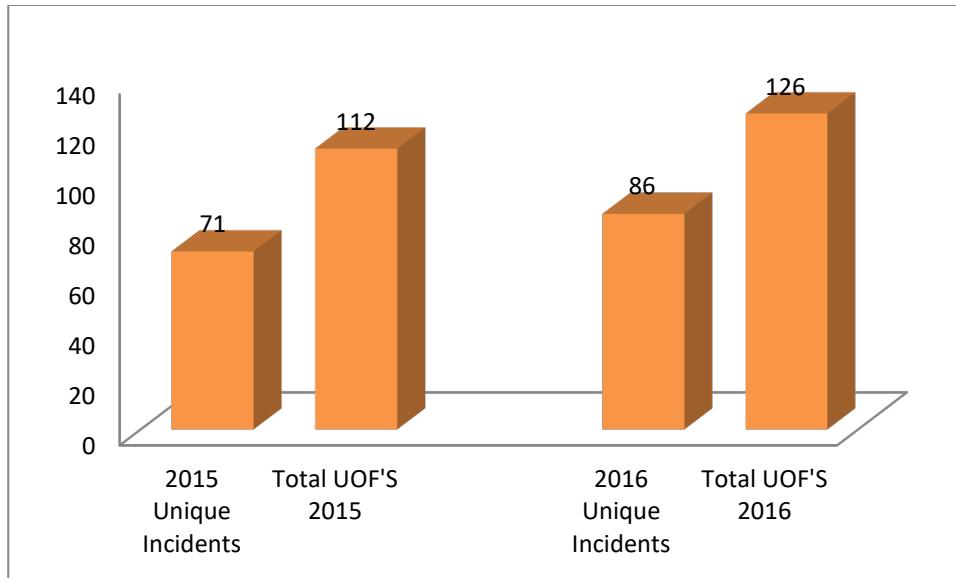
Police Department
City of Keene, New Hampshire

Date: 10 January 2017
To: Brian Costa, Police Chief
Through: Steven Stewart, Captain
Through: Steven Russo, Captain
From: Todd B. Lawrence, Lieutenant
Subject: 2016 Use of Force Analysis

During January of 2017, I conducted an analysis of all 2016 Use of Force (UOF) reports filed by Keene Police Officers. An analysis and review of the UOF reports for completeness, developing trends and effectiveness of weapons, techniques and training was completed.

Over the course of 2016 there were a total of 86 unique incidents (62 Arrest Reports (AR's), 24 Offense Reports and Field Interviews (OF's and FI's), exclusive of "Dispatched Animals") resulting in 126 Use of Force reports filed. Arrest Reports produced 98 UOF filings, while OF's and FI's produced the remaining 28 UOF's.

The 86 incident total for 2016 was a 19.72% increase from 2015, which had 71 unique incidents. The 126 total UOF's filed in 2016 was also significantly higher (9.23% higher) than 2015, which had 112 UOF's filed. This relationship is illustrated, below.

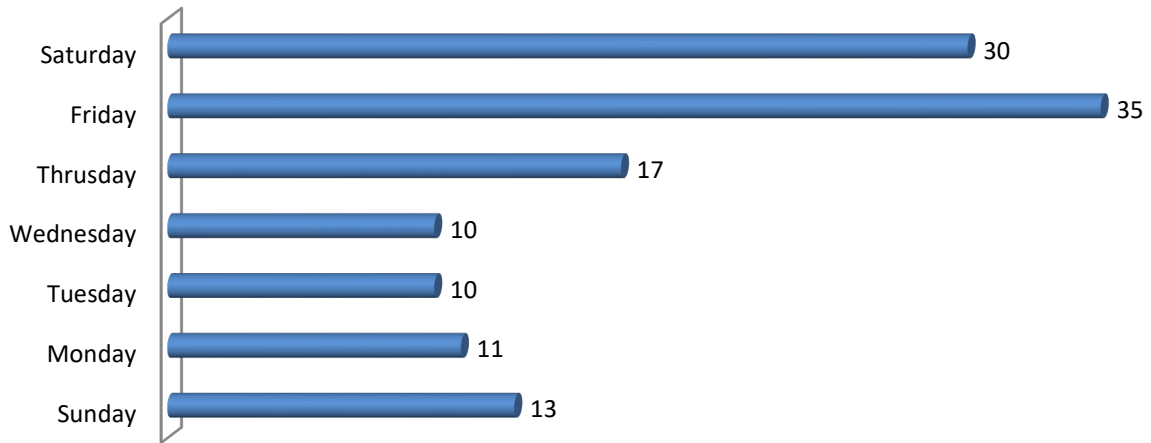


Analysis of the UOF's themselves revealed no specific reasoning for the increase from 2015 to 2016, nor could any correlation be made regarding call volume. The "Calls For Service" total from 2016 (30042) was only 0.63% higher than 2015 (29855).

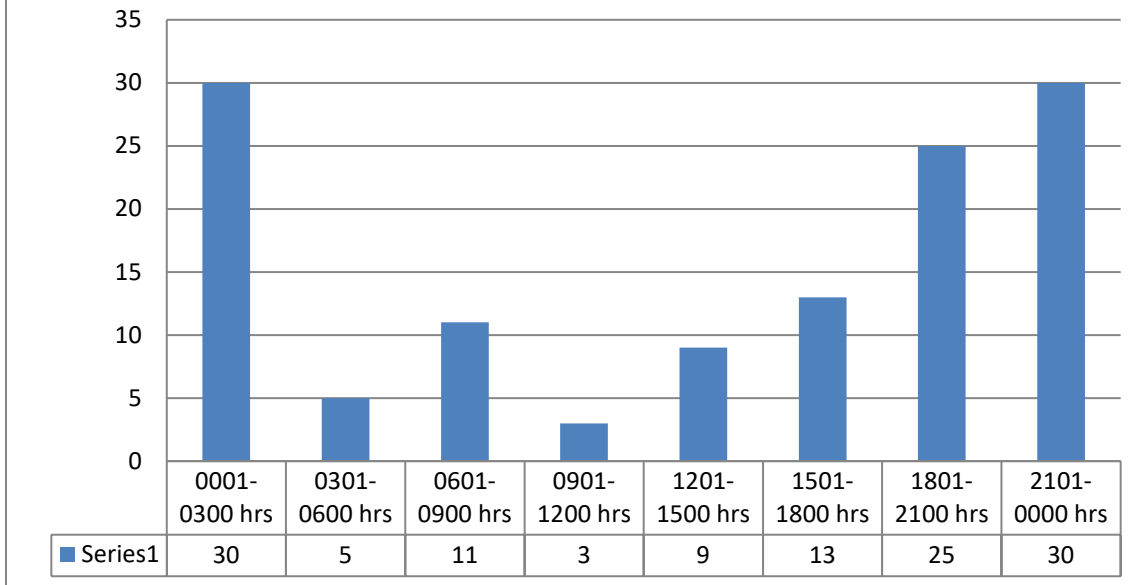
The characteristics of the AR-involved UOF's were varied, as expected and included pre-arrest UOF's to booking room UOF's. The OF-related UOF's involved mostly IEA's and "assist other agency" cases.

A day / time analysis of the 86 unique UOF incidents showed the following breakdown by day of week and then by time of day. Friday was the heaviest, followed by Saturday and Thursday. No specific reason for this breakdown was garnered from the data. Nighttime and early morning hours were the heaviest.

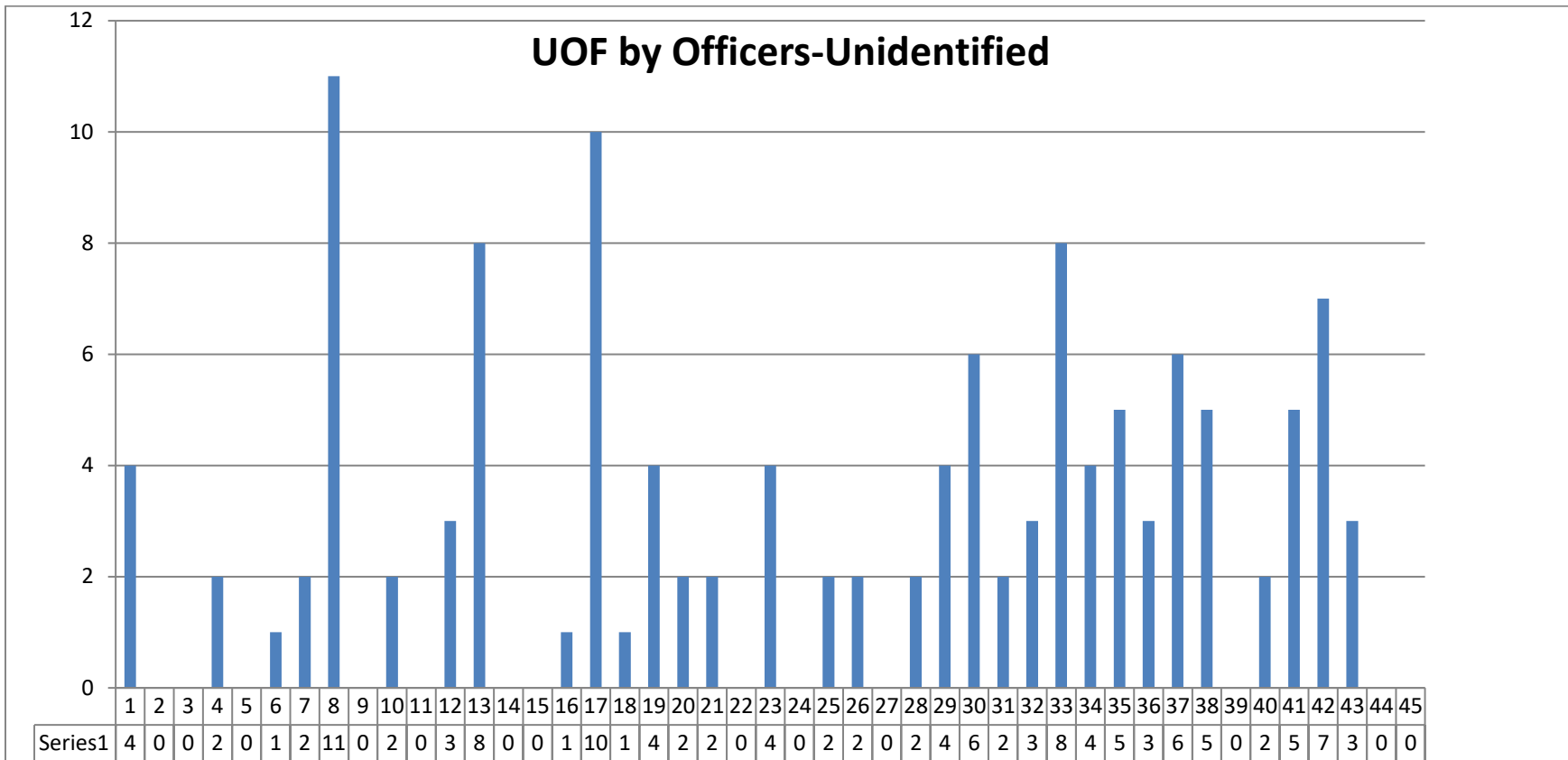
Days of the Week



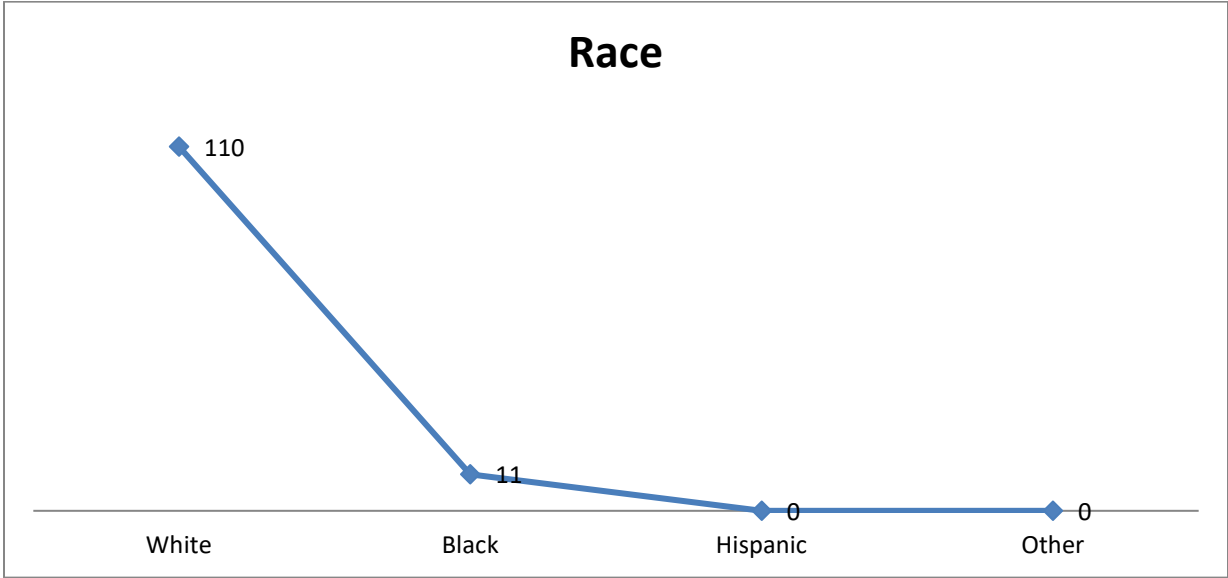
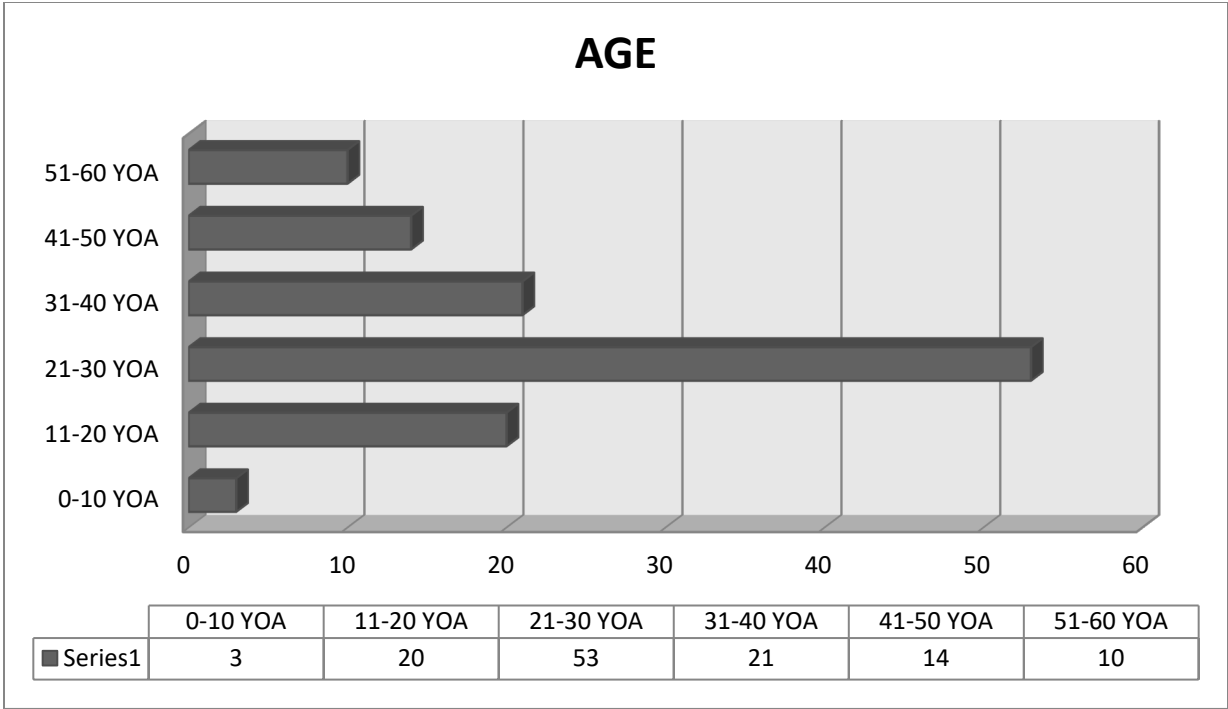
Times of Day

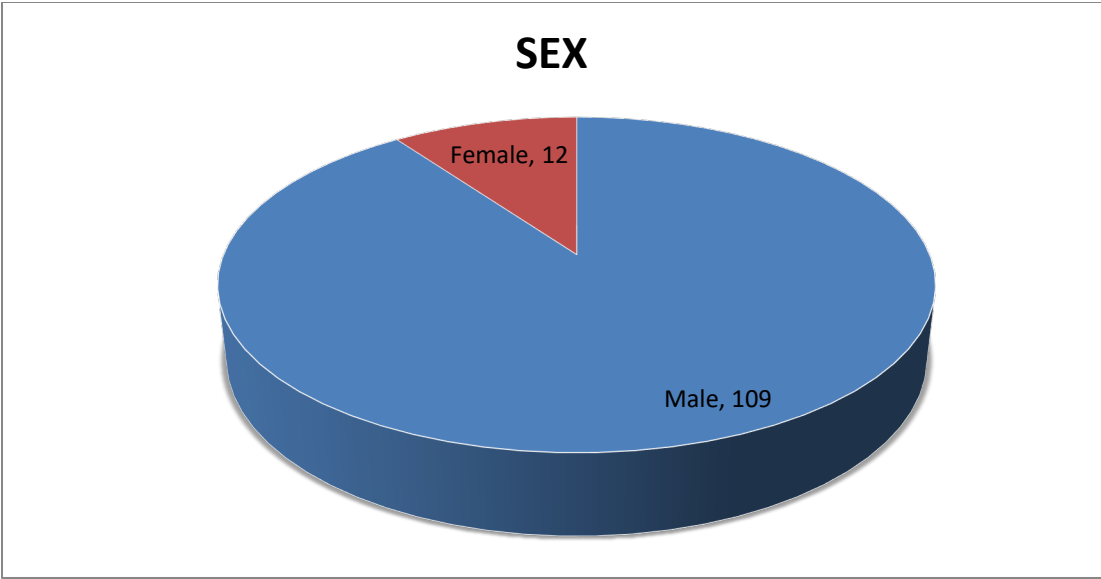


Analysis of the numbers of UOF reports filed by individual officers showed the predictable (and historic) trend that dayshift officers report fewer uses of force than evening or night shift officers.

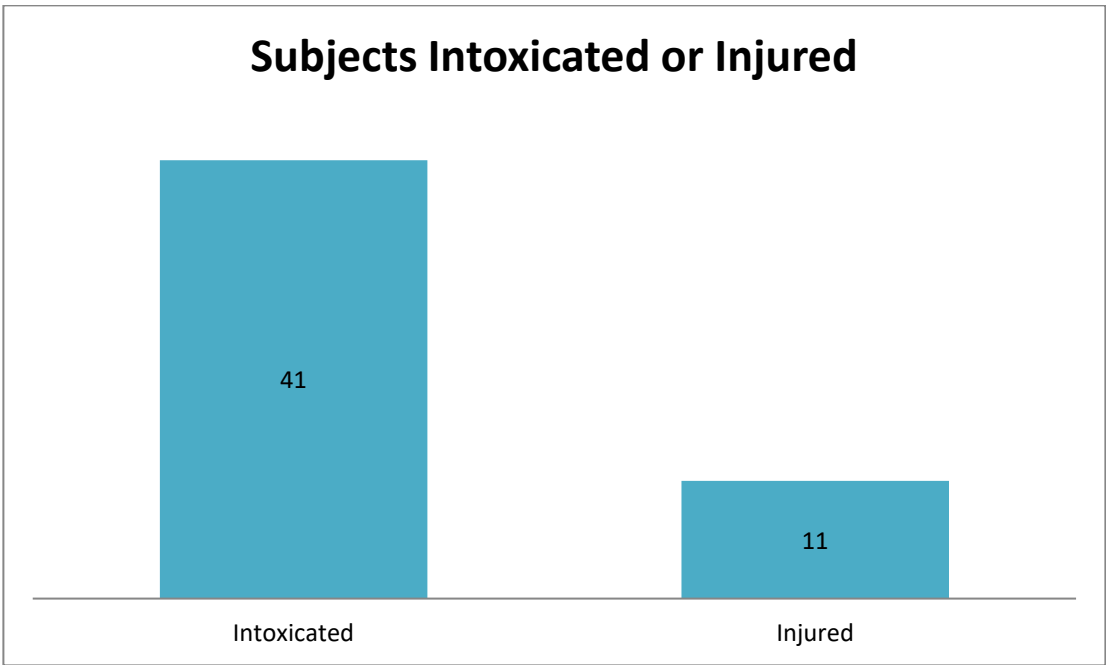


Analysis of the suspects involved showed the bulk of UOF's applied on white males in their early twenties to early thirties.





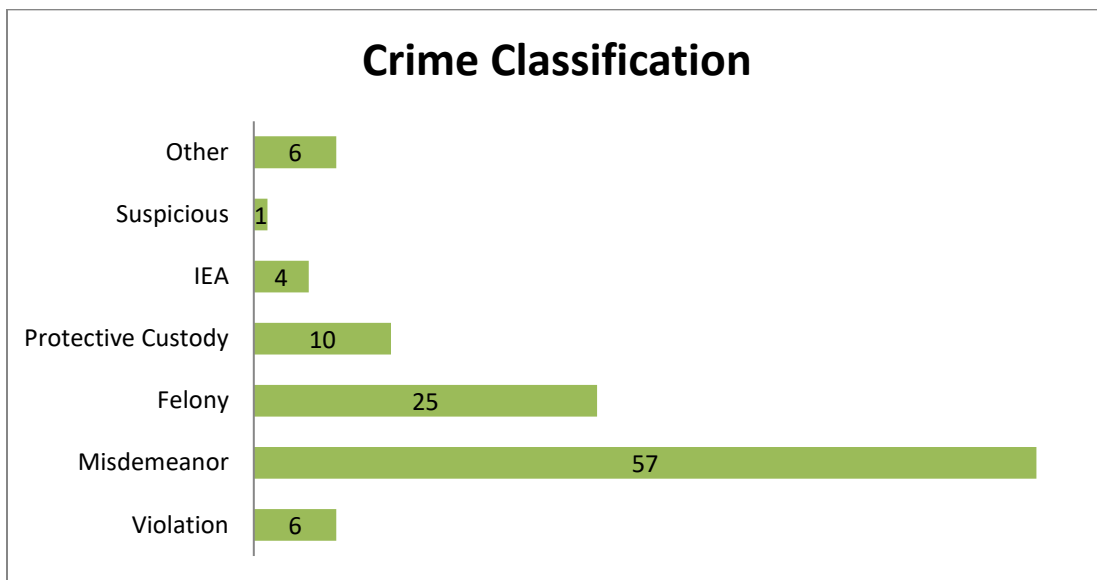
Of the 86 unique incidents, suspects were intoxicated in 41 of them and injured in 11 instances.



This translates to a 48% intoxication rate and a 16% injury rate for 2016. Comparable data for 2015 showed a 44% intoxication rate and a 14% injury rate.

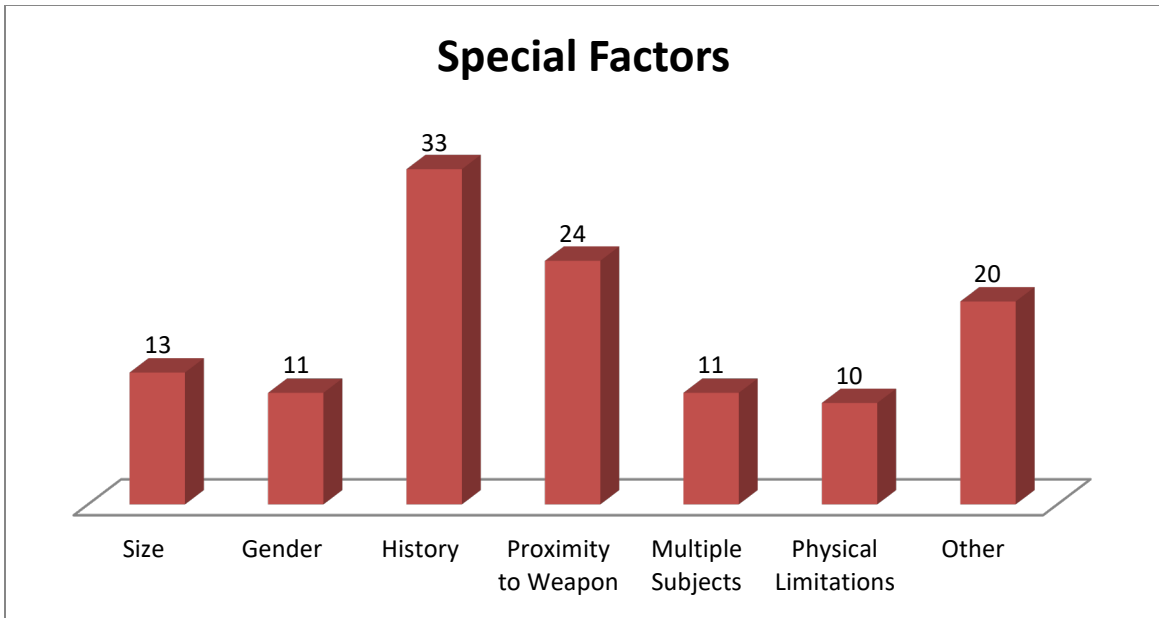
Of the 11 subjects listed as "Injured" in the 2016 UOF's, ten received medical attention for minor injuries. Nine of those received contusions and abrasions while being captured after fleeing on foot while two received a laceration while actively fighting officers attempting to arrest him. One subject completely waived medical attention.

Analysis of the encounters themselves showed that the majority of them resulted in (or stemmed from) misdemeanor charges for the suspects, followed closely by felony incidents. Other level charges and dispositions were far fewer.



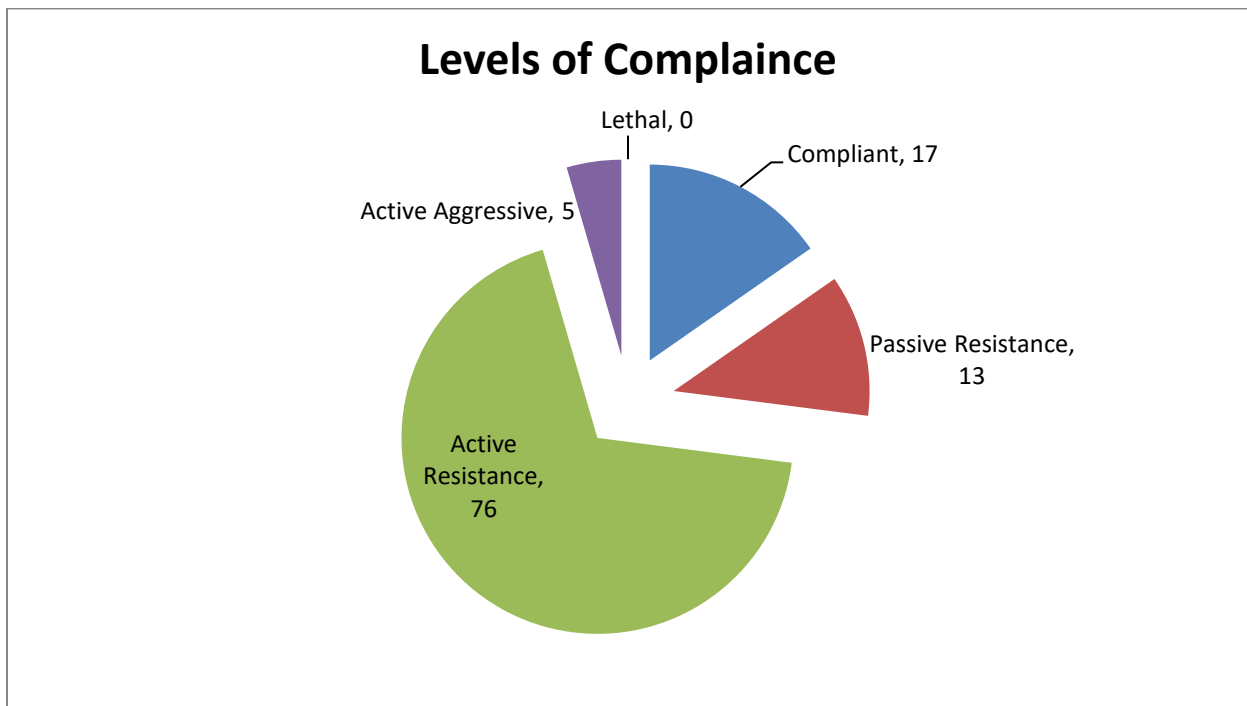
A comparison of 2016 UOF by Crime Classification to the same categories from 2015 showed violations for 2016 at 6, 2015 at 6. Misdemeanors for 2016 were at 57 of the total, 2015 were at 41. Felonies for 2016 were at 25 of the total, 2015 were at 16. Protective Custodies for 2016 were at 10 of the total, while 2015 PC's were at 2.

Understanding that an officers perception of their opponent plays a big part in their choice of tactics to deal with them, I noted that the majority of UOF's filed listed "Special Factors" relating to either the choice to employ force or the choice of tactic:



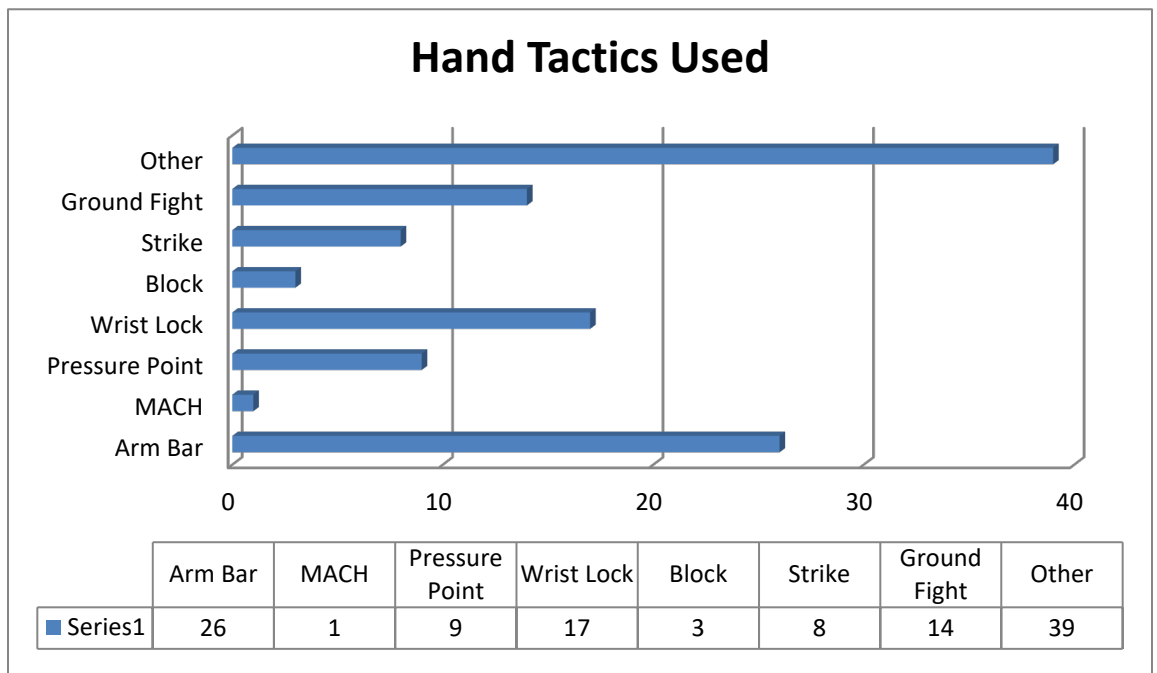
Note the high numbers for “Prior History / Knowledge,” which belies multiple encounters with the same suspects, or in some cases effective dispatchers conveying information more than the minimum.

Also pertaining to officers’ perception of opponents is the level of resistance encountered. Similar to historic data, “Active Resistance” by far outnumbers other levels of resistance perceived by Officers, as illustrated here:

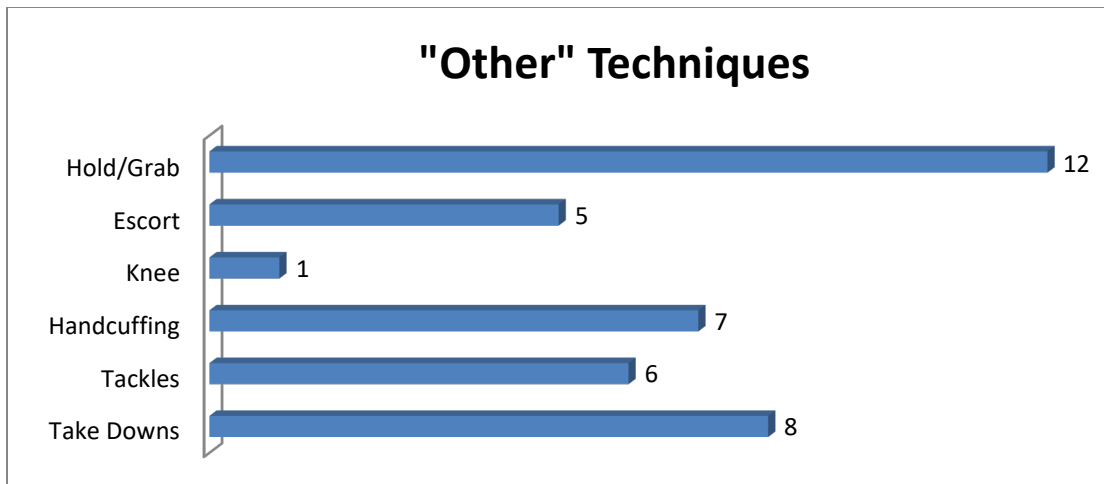


Officers used "Hand Techniques" most often (85 times during 125 UOF's), which makes sense historically and practically as it is the most readily available force option. Next common was "Firearms or Special Weapons" (36 uses,"displayed only" for all except one incident where the 40mm Direct Impact launcher was used) then "OC Spray" (12 uses), then "Baton" (1, for an armlock). Many of the UOF reports filed the officers used a combination of the forces at their disposal.

Given the commonplace use of "Hand Techniques" I charted that category to aid in training planning with the UOF / Defensive Tactics team.



Arm bars were used 2nd most often for the provided techniques, proving the ease and usefulness of this technique. Things that filled up the "Other" category included any hand technique that didn't fit into any of the classic categories, such as hold/grab or handcuffing. Another common "other" technique were takedown's or tackling. I charted the "other" techniques below.



"Firearms and Special Weapons" utilized in 2016 included the Glock, the M4-style rifle, and the 40mm launcher, in that order. Most were "displayed only" except for one use of the 40mm Direct Impact launcher system which was used to apply a single sponge round to an uncooperative IEA suspect, who at the time of the incident was cutting themselves with a knife.

OC spray was used 12 times, and was mostly "very effective," with (3) "moderately effective" and (1) "not effective".

Baton use consisted of a single arm lock.

The KPD Tactical Team filed 2 UOF reports. During the 2 incidents, their firearms or special weapons were displayed only. One (1) call was for a barricaded subject during a felony level offense and the other was deemed a vehicle assault during a misdemeanor level offense.

Two UOF reports listed officers as being injured (16-194-AR and 16-217-AR). One report indicated the officer sustained minor abrasions on his hands while arresting a large, combative person. The other had a different officer sustaining a minor leg injury while tackling a fleeing subject pursuant to a theft arrest.

The 126 total UOF's filed in 2016 was higher (11.61% increase) than 2015, which had 112 UOF's filed. This increase is opposite than trend of recent years, and could be reflective of officers responding to more calls for service and encountering more unique incidents where UOF incidents may be required.

Pursuant to this UOF Analysis, coordination is ongoing with the UOF staff to ensure that future UOF training is pertinent and effective, as well as the continual review of equipment, techniques, practices and policy, to support the officers in the field in keeping with the Department mission. At present, current training appears to be

meeting this agency's needs, and the training calendar covers all force options, concentrating on mastery of basic skill.