



BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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To: Laura Krantz, VTDigger.com
From: Deputy Chief Bruce D. Bovat
CC: Burlington Police Commission; Burlington Police Department Website
Date: November 5, 2014
Re: Response to Inquiry Regarding Response to Resistance/Use of Force statistics

In response to your request for statistics related to our response to resistance/use of force we have compiled the following statistics for 2014 year to date:

31,155 total incidents. This is the total number of calls that officers have responded to year to date.

Each time we respond to resistance/use any force beyond compliant handcuffing, a report is generated. These numbers may contain duplicates. For example, if two officers struggle with one person and use physical force, there would be two reports generated. If one officer uses physical force, that fails, and they resort to pepper spray, that would also be counted twice. As you can imagine, there are multiple variants of these scenarios that could create duplicate entries.

69 reports of the use of "physical force." Physical force can range from holding arm and escorting a detainee or using control technique to using a striking technique.

67 reports involved the use of a handcuffing technique. All arrestees are handcuffed but reports are only required when they intersect some other response to resistance.

41 reports involved the display of a firearm.

23 reports involved the use of pepper spray.

8 reports involved the use of a Taser. Of these 8, 2 involved the discharge of a Taser/Taser probes. The remaining 6 involved officers removing the taser from its holster displaying it, which led to compliance before it being discharged.

1 report involved a K9 bite.

1 report involved the use of a baton to escort a person (non-strike).

Respect ~ Honor ~ Remember

Officer James P. McGrath, end of watch May 12, 1904; Officer J. Albert Fisher, end of watch December 15, 1947; Officer Robert W. Provost, end of watch January 13, 1954