

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

2024 USE OF FORCE

ANALYSIS AND REVIEW



It is the mission of the Bloomfield Township Police Department “to preserve the peace and to protect our community with fairness, integrity, pride, and respect”.

Overview

As a recognized Michigan Law Enforcement Accredited Commissioned agency, this document will serve as the 2024 Use of Force Analysis and Review. The International Association of Chiefs of Police defines force as “that amount of effort required by police to compel compliance from an unwilling subject”. This compliance is in conjunction with a lawful order from a law enforcement officer.

Bloomfield Township Police Department follows the guidelines set forth by the United States Supreme Court rulings in *Graham v. Conner* and *Tennessee v. Gardner*. The Department’s Use of Force training has evolved, further addressing force options, levels of resistance, and case law. Use of Force training emphasizes gaining compliance through understanding psychological factors, using effective communication skills, and other techniques designed to de-escalate situations when possible, and minimize the amount of force used. Officers are trained to assess the level of resistance they are met with and either elevate or deescalate their response accordingly.

Training in the department’s use of force policy is required for all members of the department which helps to ensure that every officer, regardless of rank, is prepared and remains proficient in fulfilling their responsibility and solemn duty to protect all members of the public.

Use of Force Policies and Duty to Intervene

The Department divides Use of Force into two separate policies. In conjunction with these policies, the duty to intervene is included in this report.

Policy 4.01F is titled Deadly Force and states, “*The Bloomfield Township Police Department recognizes and respects the value of each human life. Therefore, it is the policy of this Department that police officers shall use only that force that is objectively reasonable to effectively bring an incident under control while protecting the lives of the officer or another.*”

Policy 4.02F is titled Use of Less Lethal Force and states, *“It is the policy of the Bloomfield Township Police Department to utilize the amount of force that is reasonable to effectively bring an incident under control, while protecting the lives of the officer and others. The Use of Force must be objectively reasonable in affecting a lawful arrest and/or in the lawful performance of duty. Police Officers are obligated to protect the rights and ensure the health and well-being of the public, including those accused of committing crimes, and /or those persons taken into protective custody.”*

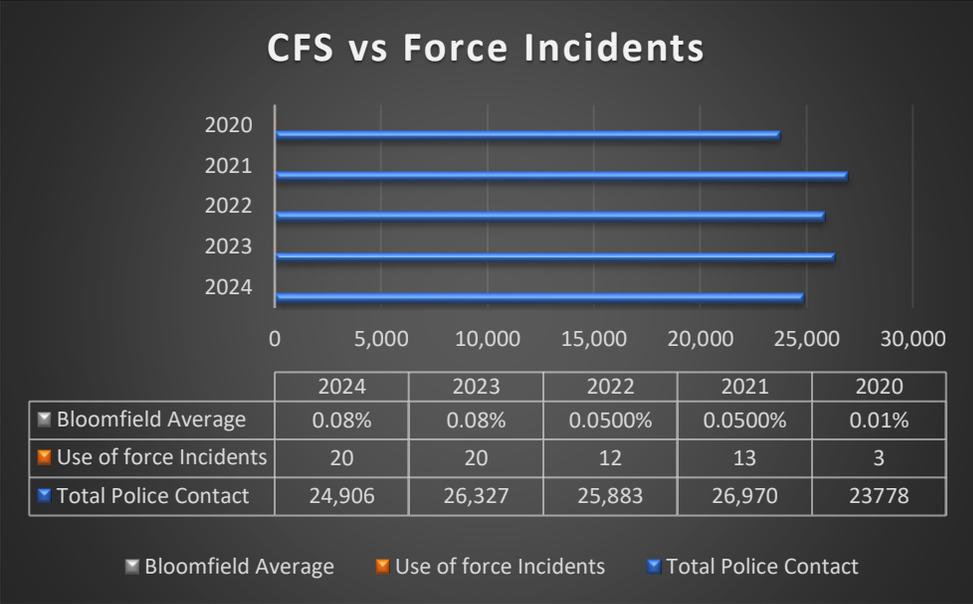
Policy 4.06 is titled Duty to Intervene and states, *“It is the policy of the Bloomfield Township Police Department that officers have an affirmative duty to intervene on behalf of a citizen whose constitutional rights are being violated in the presence of other officers. Bloomfield Township police officers shall intervene when they observe or hear conduct by a fellow member of this agency or any other law enforcement agency.”*

Calls for Service vs Force Incidents

The Department responded to 24,906 calls for service (CFS) in 2024 which generated 125 felony arrests and 669 misdemeanor arrests. This is a 5.4% decrease of CFS compared to 2023. Included in the total CFS are 2,075 traffic stops. Out of those 24,906 CFS there were 20 incidents where force was used. Force was within Department policy in nineteen of the (20) incidents. Furthermore, out of 24,906 CFS 794 resulted in arrests.

Figure A shows a four (5) year comparison between calls for service and the Use of Force.

Figure A.



Use of Force Demographics

Use of Force demographics are presented in Figure B. (Gender) and Figure C. (Race). The average age of the person who had force used against them was 32 years old.

Figure B.

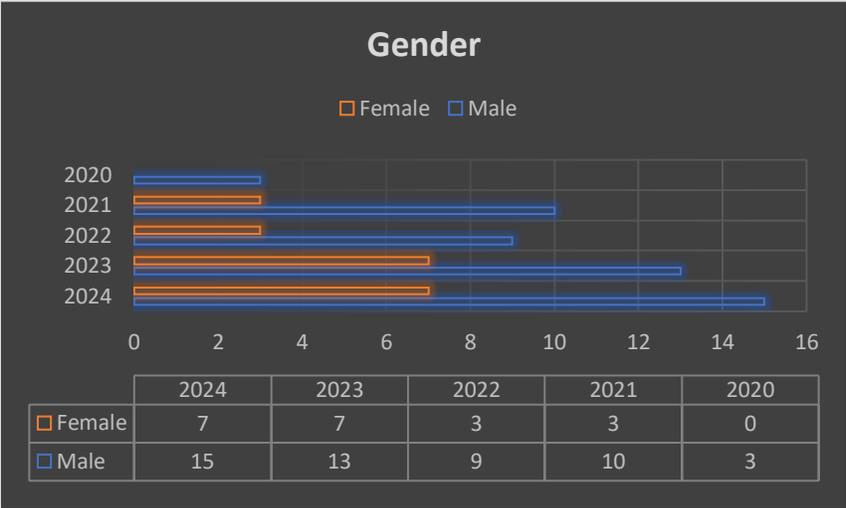
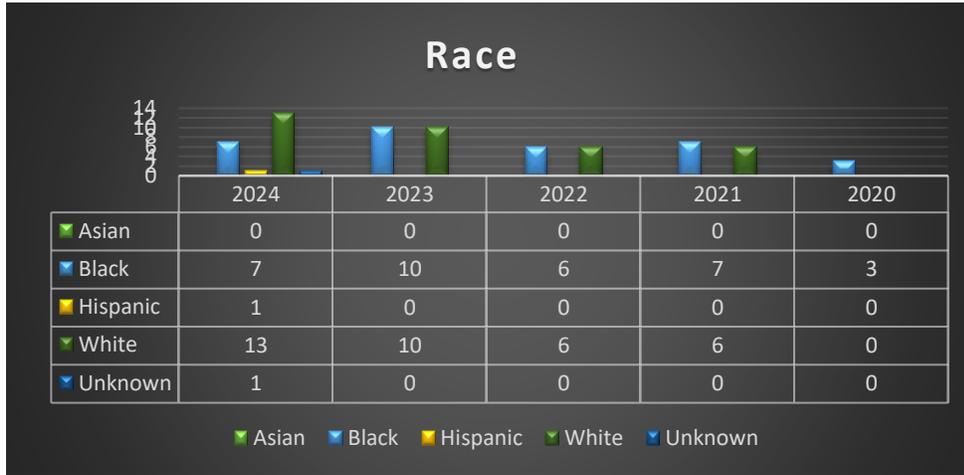


Figure C.



Use of Force Incident Breakdown

Fourteen (14) Use of Force incidents occurred during day shift (0700-1900) and eight (8) occurred during the night shift (1900-0700). Use of Force incident types are shown in Figure D. There were nine (9) incidents where officers had to point their weapons at individuals in order to gain compliance. These CFS include felony stops, possible armed subjects, and fleeing from the police. There were no Taser deployments for 2024.

Figure D.

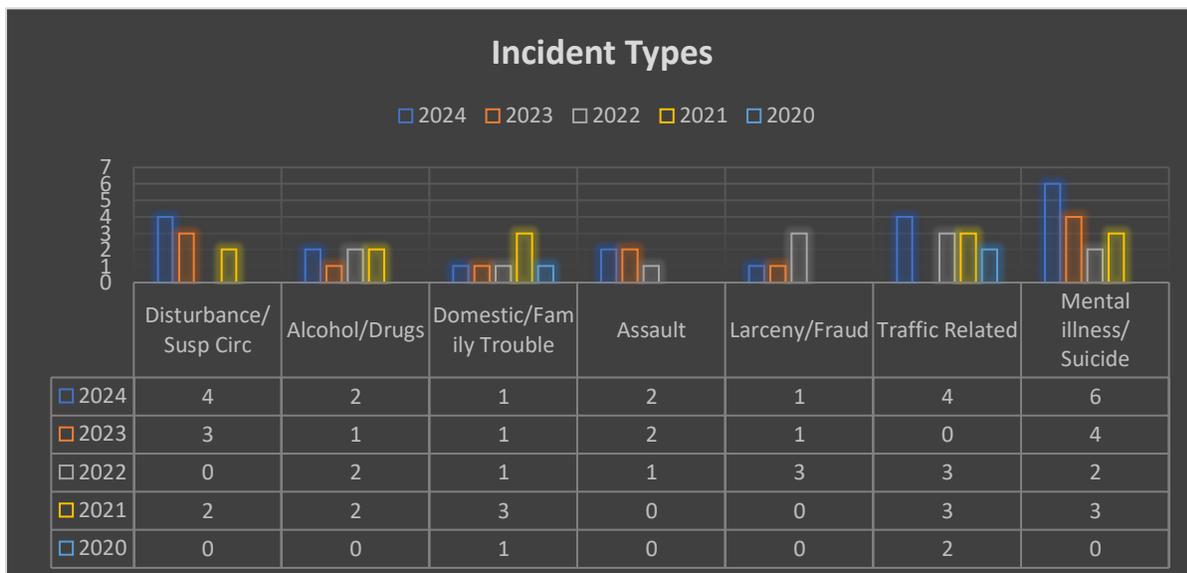
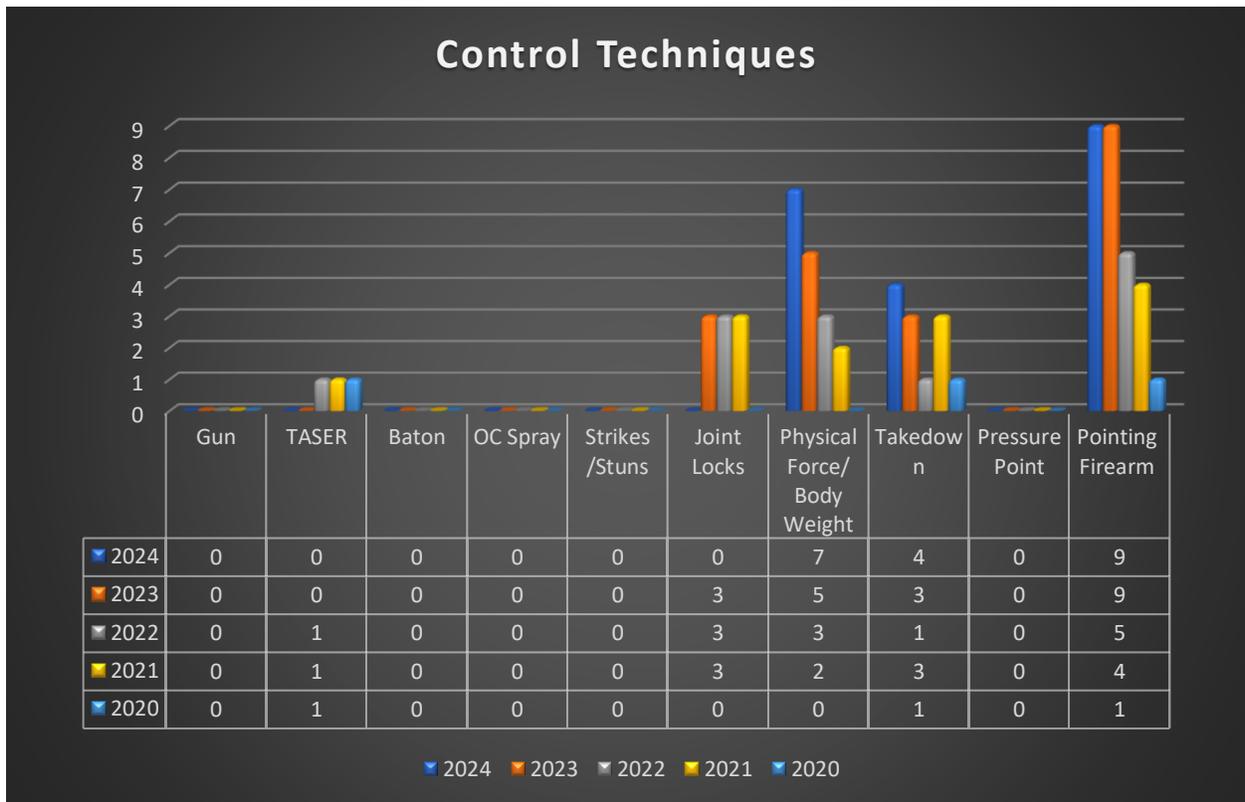


Figure E. illustrates additional compliance techniques used by officers during incidents where force was used.

Figure E.



There were no deadly force incidents to report. During three incidents that subjects sustained injuries. One (1) subject sustained minor injuries (cuts or scrapes) and another sustained a sore wrist. These injuries were treated at the scene with no further medical follow-up. The third incident was a K9 bite where the subject was treated at the hospital for his injuries.

Training Trends and Suggestions

Officers continued to train defensive tactics and de-escalation techniques quarterly. This procedure will continually be monitored to ensure this is the best practice. During defensive tactics training, officers reviewed the De-Escalation Policy, Less Lethal Force Policy, and Lethal Force Policy.

New Active Shooter Response (ASR) formations were also trained on the Township campus and Oakland County Sheriff’s Department locations. Bloomfield Township is a member of OTAC and trains with other departments in Oakland County to be ready for

any and all incidents. This training gave officers the opportunity to explore building facilities in which they may not have been familiar with prior to this training.

Looking to 2025, the Department will continue to develop our officer's skills in all areas. With the goal of giving them the tools to handle complex and evolving situations with professionalism, honor, integrity, and respect.

Prepared by:

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