

USE OF FORCE

Annual Report

S.A.F.E. DIVISION



2025



ORANGE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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INTRODUCTION to S.A.F.E.

The S.A.F.E. Bureau is responsible for capturing and analyzing the Orange County Sheriff's Department's data, ensuring legislative compliance, as well as creating, developing, and revising policies and procedures. By utilizing and creating best practices, SAFE supports the Department's objective to deliver exceptional law enforcement services while prioritizing the safety of our communities and personnel.

SAFE analyzes use of force data to increase transparency, maintain public trust, reduce injuries, limit liability, and identify areas for improvement. The Department is committed to building core competencies in handling calls for service related to mental health crises, substance abuse, and homelessness. All sworn personnel receive Crisis Intervention Training that focuses on identifying impairment, gaining voluntary compliance through de-escalation, recognizing behavioral health issues, tactics and the utilization of specialized resources. The Department recognizes that the use of force by law enforcement is a serious responsibility and requires constant evaluation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

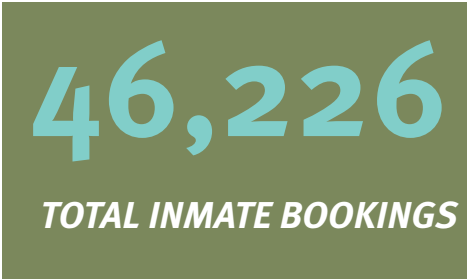
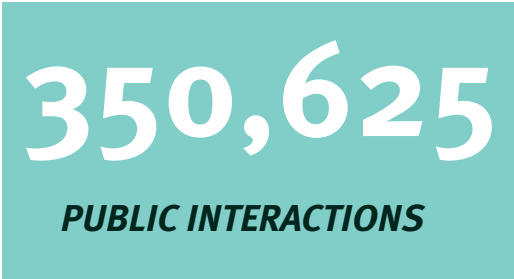
In 2025, the Orange County Sheriff's Department documented **350,625** public interactions and **46,226** inmate bookings. Public interactions include calls for service, observed activities, and all other requests for assistance. Of the **921** reported use of force incidents, **433** occurred in only **0.12%** of public interactions, while **488** occurred in a custody setting. Custodial interactions such as searches, transfers, and movements to court, or hospital appointments occur frequently in a 24-hour jail operation and are not quantified.

In all, **2,659** personnel applied force on **1,104** subjects during the performance of their duties. There were **3.9% (105)** of personnel who suffered some form of injury, but overall **96.1% (2,554)** of personnel were not injured during the use of force. There were **223** subjects injured, and of those, **87.4% (195)** sustained minor injuries (e.g., scrapes, CED probe punctures), and **10.3% (23)** sustained moderate injuries (e.g., lacerations).

Significantly, only **1.8% (4)** of injured subjects suffered major injuries (e.g., fractures, extensive sutures), including **3** from a deputy-involved shooting (see page 31 for further details). An off-duty deputy-involved shooting resulted in **1** death which accounts for **0.4%** of subject injuries.

Overall, **97.6% (898)** of incidents were within Department Policy. Even in those cases where the incident was determined to be in policy, the Department continued to review employees' actions for possible refinement. Of the incidents in policy, the review process identified **26.3% (236)** of incidents as having an opportunity for additional training or minor corrective action that were unrelated to the application of force (e.g., failing to activate a body worn camera or in-car video system, improper driving, or use of unprofessional language). All suspected policy violations related to the application of force are referred to Command Staff for possible investigation by Internal Affairs.

incidents



COMMAND BREAKDOWNS		POLICY DETERMINATION	
488	Custody Operations	662	Within Policy
10	Professional Services	236	Within Policy, Training and/or Corrective Action
390	Patrol Operations	23	Referred to Executive Command Staff
33	Investigations & Special Operations		

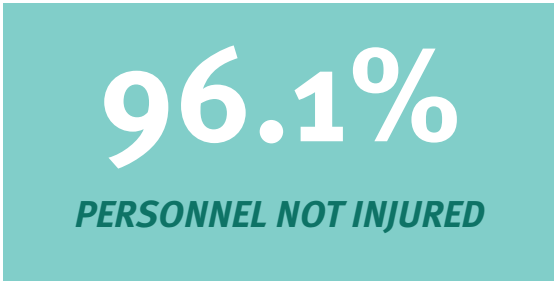




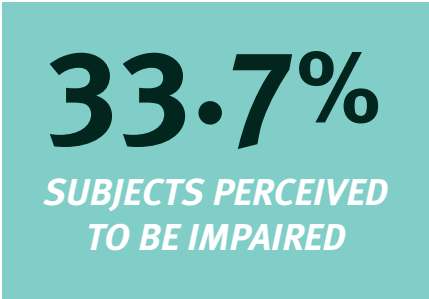
personnel



PERSONNEL INJURIES	
None	2,554
Minor	99
Moderate	5
Major	1
TOTAL INJURED	105



subjects



SUBJECT INJURIES	
None	881
Minor	195
Moderate	23
Major	4
Death	1
TOTAL INJURED	223

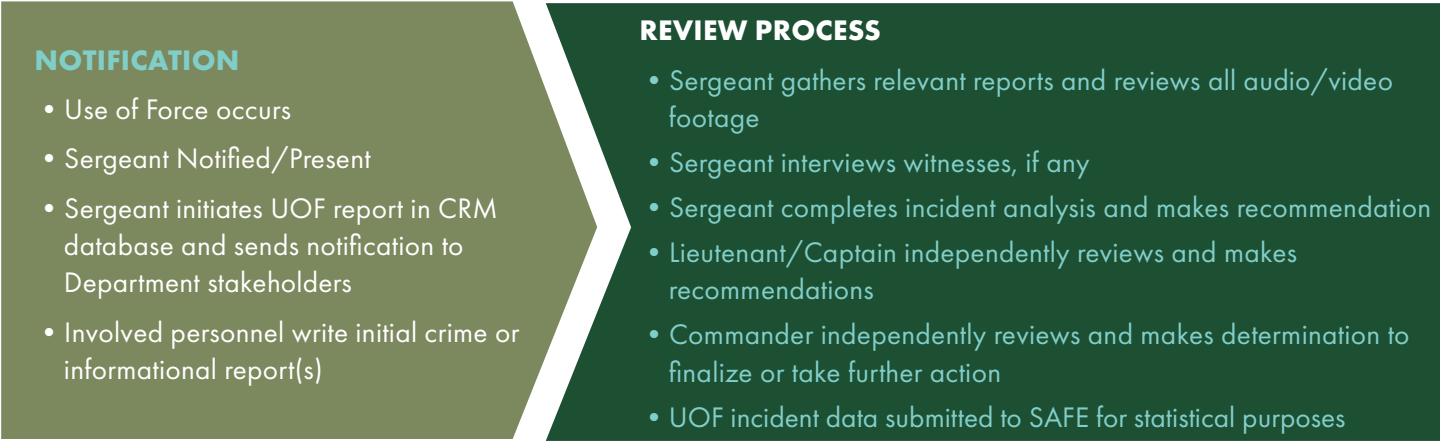
USE OF FORCE PROCESS/POLICY

Definition

A use of force is defined as any incident in which a Department Member, either on or off duty, while performing a law enforcement function, overcomes resistance through the application of physical contact or any other force option. This does not include the use of a firm grip control while performing routine functions such as searching, handcuffing, or escorting.

It also does not include reasonable intervention necessitated by the physical incapacity of the subject (e.g., lifting an intoxicated or disabled person). However, personnel shall make appropriate notifications and provide immediate medical attention in any instance that results in injury, the appearance of injury, or complaint of pain.

process



USE OF FORCE POLICY

300.2 POLICY It is the policy of this Department that Members shall use only that amount of force that appears objectively reasonable, given the facts and circumstances perceived by the Member at the time of the event, to effectively bring an incident under control. "Reasonableness" of the force used must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable Member on the scene at the time of the incident. Any interpretation of reasonableness must allow for the fact the Sheriff's Department Members are often forced to make split-second decisions in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving about the amount of force that is objectively reasonable in a particular situation.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation a Member may encounter, it is recognized that each Member must be entrusted with well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force and tactics used. While it is the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter to minimize injury to everyone involved, nothing in this policy requires a Member to actually sustain physical injury before applying reasonable force. Members may only use a level of force that they reasonably believe is proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance. The use of any force to accomplish unlawful objectives is prohibited. The Department will not tolerate excessive and/or punitive force.

It is recognized that circumstances may arise in which Members are unable to effectively use the tools, weapons, or methods provided by the Department. In such circumstances, the Member may use alternative items or methods readily available to them, so long as the item or method was utilized in an objectively reasonable manner and only to the degree that reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose. In all circumstances, Members are expected to exercise sound judgment and critical decision-making when using force options.

Members are expected to carry out their duties, including the use of force, in a manner that is fair and unbiased (Government Code § 7286(b)).



300.3.1 When determining whether or not to apply any level of force and evaluating whether a Member has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- The apparent immediacy and severity of the threat to officers or others.
- The conduct of the individual being confronted (as reasonably perceived by the Member at the time).
- Member/subject factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injury/exhaustion, and number of Members vs. subjects).
- The conduct of the involved officer.
- The individual's apparent mental state or capacity.
- The effects of drugs or alcohol.
- The individual's apparent ability to understand and comply with officer commands.
- Proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.
- The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and their ability to resist despite being restrained.
- Time and circumstances permitting, the availability of other reasonable and feasible options and their possible effectiveness.
- Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual.
- Training and experience of the Member.
- Potential for injury to citizens, Members, and suspects.
- Whether the person appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the officer.
- The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape.
- The apparent need for immediate control of the subject or a prompt resolution of the situation.
- Whether the conduct of the individual being confronted no longer reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to the officer or others.
- Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence.
- Other exigent circumstances.

300.5.1 Deadly Force Against a Person

- A Member may use deadly force when the Member reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the Member or another person.
- A Member may also use deadly force when the Member reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary to apprehend a fleeing suspect for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the Member reasonably believes that the suspect will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Where feasible, a Member shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the Member has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts (Example: "Police/Sheriff's Department! Stop or I'll shoot!").

CALIFORNIA DOJ USE OF FORCE COLLECTION

Effective January 1, 2016, Chapter 462, Statutes of 2015 (Assembly Bill 71), added Government Code section 12525.2 pertaining to the collection and reporting of use of force incidents resulting in serious bodily injury, as defined by Government code section 12525.2(d), discharge of a firearm, or death.

The DOJ consulted with law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and stakeholders in the development of use of force incident data elements to be reported pursuant to the law. This collaboration resulted in a web-based data collection system, known as “URSUS,” which allows LEAs to enter and submit use of force data to the DOJ, which will publish the data on the Attorney General’s Open Justice website.

Effective January 2024, the California Department of Justice (DOJ) Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC) announced the release of the new Use of Force collection module. While this new module is housed within the California Incident-Based Reporting System (CIBRS) Repository, it is a separate module specific to the use of force data collection, independent from incident-based reporting. To align with the changes established in Assembly Bill 48 (2022) and to comply with the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Use of Force collection, the DOJ retired the URSUS reporting system and transitioned to the new module.

As of 2024, CIBRS requires monthly submissions of use of force data and the DOJ will report to the FBI on behalf of all California law enforcement agencies, in line with other Uniform Crime Reporting efforts. While CIBRS collects data prescribed by state statute, it has been aligned with the FBI’s collection process to prevent duplicate entries and submissions.

The Department reports any use of force incidents that meet the criteria to the California DOJ Use of Force data collection system.

In 2025, the Department submitted **7** of the **921** incidents to CIBRS because they met the criteria under GC 12525.2(d).

To view the annual Use Of Force report by the DOJ, and other publications, please go their website at <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/resources/publications>.

USE OF FORCE AND THE LAW

USE OF FORCE LEGISLATION

The application of force is based on the “objectively reasonable” standard as outlined in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Graham vs. Connor* (1989). In this ruling, use of force by law enforcement must be “objectively reasonable” - meaning that the officer’s actions were reasonable based on the facts and circumstances that they knew at the time. Below are use of force related Senate Bills and Assembly Bills:

AB 71

Requires law enforcement agencies to annually send to the California Department of Justice a report of specific incidents when a peace officer is involved in a use of force involving the following: shooting of civilian by officer, shooting of officer by civilian, use of force resulting in serious bodily injury (as defined under Government Code 12525.2[d]) or death to a civilian.

AB 392

Redefined circumstances under which deadly force by a peace officer is deemed justifiable to include when an officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that deadly force is necessary to defend against imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person, or apprehend a fleeing person for a felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended.

AB 1506

Requires the California Attorney General to investigate any officer involved shootings that result in the death of an unarmed civilian or if there is a reasonable dispute as to whether the civilian was armed. Commencing July 1, 2023, the Attorney General shall operate a Police Practices Division within the DOJ to, upon request of a local law enforcement agency, review the use of deadly force policies of that law enforcement agency.

SB 230

Requires the Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to implement regular training in use of force to all law enforcement officers. It also requires each law enforcement agency to maintain a policy that provides guidelines on the use of force, utilizing de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to force when feasible, specific guidelines for application of deadly force, and factors for evaluating and reviewing all use of force incidents.

SB 1421

Records related to incidents involving discharge of a firearm at a person by an officer or an incident in which use of force resulted in death or great bodily injury (as defined under Penal Code 12022.7) shall be made available to the public.

BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU PROGRAM

In 2023, the Department furthered its commitment to providing resources and training for Department Members by authorizing the Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu (BJJ) tuition reimbursement program. The Department believes promoting BJJ training will increase overall fitness, technical ability, sharpen de-escalation tactics, and reduce injury.

The Department hosted two formal BJJ seminars in 2025. In collaboration with the community, local skilled instructors from different gyms were brought in to demonstrate various law enforcement specific techniques. These seminars allowed Department Members to gain insight on the benefits of BJJ training and the tuition reimbursement program. In addition to the seminars, the Department facilitates informal training in the workplace.

In the third year of the BJJ tuition reimbursement program, there were **134** sworn personnel and **5** Sheriff's Special Officers who enrolled to take private lessons. Of those **139** employees, **65** were involved in use of force incidents. Of the **921** use of force incidents for the year, **18% (170)** incidents involved an employee who participated in the BJJ tuition reimbursement program.

There have been over **300** approved requests for reimbursement for the Brazilian Jiu Jitsu program since its inception. With BJJ-trained personnel comprising only **7.2%** of those involved in use of force incidents, further participation and longitudinal data are needed to evaluate the program's full potential. The Department remains committed to evidence-based assessment as the initiative evolves. While BJJ program participants were involved in approximately **18%** of use of force incidents, current data collection limitations hinder a full assessment of the program's effectiveness. Existing reporting systems capture when force occurs, but do not measure how training influences decision making, the use of control techniques that prevent an application of force, or the avoidance of higher levels of force.

As a result, the benefits of BJJ, particularly its role in improving control, reducing injuries, and preventing escalation, are likely underrepresented. To address this gap, the Department is evaluating expanded data collection through a transition to a new use of force tracking system with enhanced fields to better capture decision making, force substitution, and perceived outcomes specially related to BJJ. These improvements will provide greater insight into the program's impact over time.



UPDATE ON AXON'S TASER 10

Community and officer safety continues to be a priority for the Department, which strives to only use the force necessary to gain compliance.

2025 marks the first full year the TASER 10 has been used in patrol since replacing the TASER X26 in the middle of 2024. In 2025, the TASER 10 was used **39** times in Patrol Operations, almost doubling the usage from 2024 (**22**). The TASER 10 was effective in overcoming resistance **69.2%** (**27**) of the times it was deployed.

As of April 2, 2026, **100%** of active sworn personnel in Patrol Operations have received training for the new TASER 10 with plans for expanded implementation in Custody Operations.

With a longer range, the ability to deploy multiple probes independently with each trigger pull, and a warning alert, the TASER 10 has been a valuable tool to assist in the de-escalation of an incident. Less lethal options are imperative to have when responding to calls involving violent or threatening subjects.

The advantage of the extra probes have proven to be useful as more than two probes were deployed in more than half of incidents where the TASER was considered effective.

100%

***TASER 10 Trained
(ACTIVE SWORN PERSONNEL IN
PATROL OPERATIONS)***



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

In a proactive effort to ensure the Department more effectively meets the behavioral health needs of the community, while still preserving officer and community safety, the Department has three innovative programs: the Behavioral Health Bureau (BHB), the Housing Unit for Military Veterans (HUMV), and the Transitional-Age Youth (TAY) program.

CUSTODIAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUREAU (BHB)

Located within the Intake Release Center (IRC), the BHB custody unit proactively meets the needs of inmates dealing with mental and behavioral health issues. All Deputies assigned to the unit are classified as Behavioral Health Deputies and are trained in basic crisis intervention tactics and techniques.

In an effort to provide inmates with the best and most efficient care and support, these Deputies act as liaisons for IRC Medical and Mental Health personnel. Some of the duties they perform are: handling all behavioral health related grievances, monitoring treatment and services being provided to inmates housed in Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act cells, and acting as the point of contact for Patient's Rights Advocacy Services.

PATROL OPERATIONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUREAU (BHB)

As part of the Patrol Operations Command, the BHB participates in a Co-Responder Team program. This team is composed of an HCA Clinician and a BHB Deputy who has advanced Crisis Intervention Training (CIT 1-3). The team conducts risk assessments, provides resources, education, and when necessary, initiates involuntary hospitalizations. The program also provides case management, including outreach and follow-up services to ensure linkage to ongoing services.

The Behavioral Health Bureau also coordinates and manages all CIT training for Department Members (CIT course 1-3

are POST approved). The goal is for all sworn members to complete Basic CIT and for at least 25% of those to complete Advanced CIT courses.

In January 2022, Deputies began using a mental health disposition whenever clearing service calls associated with mental health. The data is analyzed and used to identify training needs, resource deployment, and future response models.

In 2025, the Department had **18,113** mental health-related calls for service.



100%

**SWORN PERSONNEL
CIT 1 Trained**

45.6%

**SWORN PERSONNEL
CIT 2 Trained**

31.3%

**SWORN PERSONNEL
CIT 3 Trained**



HOUSING UNIT FOR MILITARY VETERANS (HUMV)

Behavioral Health, as it relates to military veterans, is a specialized area the Department takes very seriously. The HUMV program was created in partnership with the Long Beach Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The Department partners with 10 agencies and community resource centers, including the Department of Veteran Affairs, the OC Public Defender's Office, and the Veterans Community Resource and Referral Center, to provide programming for HUMV. Located at the Theo Lacy Facility (TLF), the goal of the HUMV is to assist incarcerated veterans by providing them the necessary in-custody treatment, services, and community outreach required to reduce their chance of recidivism and increase their potential for post-release success.

HUMV inmates sign and agree to actively participate in the curriculum, which is specifically tailored by the Department and based on Incentive Based Housing (IBH). A core goal of HUMV is to structure an environment in which veterans can draw upon the positive aspects of their shared military culture, create a safe place for healing and rehabilitation, and foster positive peer connections.

Since its inception in January 2020, HUMV has housed **90** inmates. These inmates include those who served in the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and National Guard.

TRANSITIONAL-AGE YOUTH (TAY) PROGRAM

Specialized re-entry services are very important to the Department to help reduce recidivism within in the youngest population in custody. The TAY Program was created to tailor re-entry services to young men between the ages of 18 and 25 however, it has expanded to include young women.

Like the HUMV program, the TAY program for men is located at the Theo Lacy Facility while the TAY program for women is located at the Central Jail Complex. The program provides participants with tools and skills to prepare them for life post-release. Inmates in the TAY program are offered courses with lessons on life skills and self-sufficiency while also being provided resources for addiction recovery, mental health, and anger management.

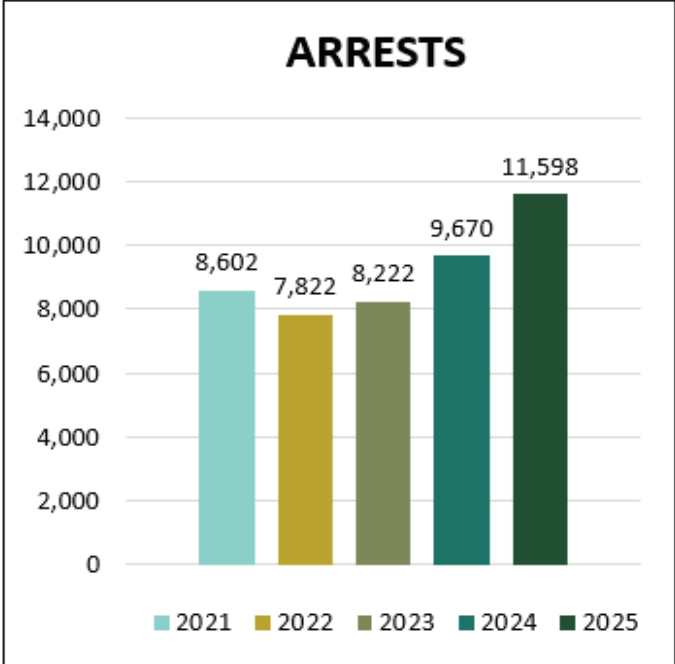
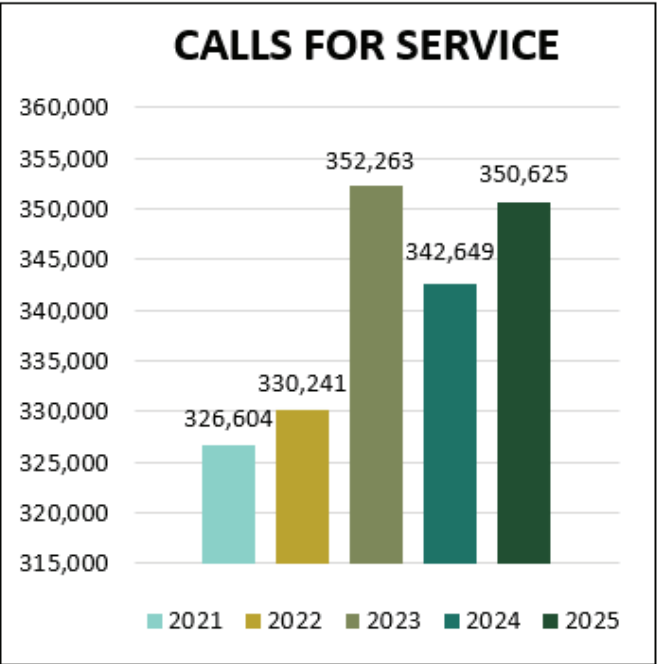
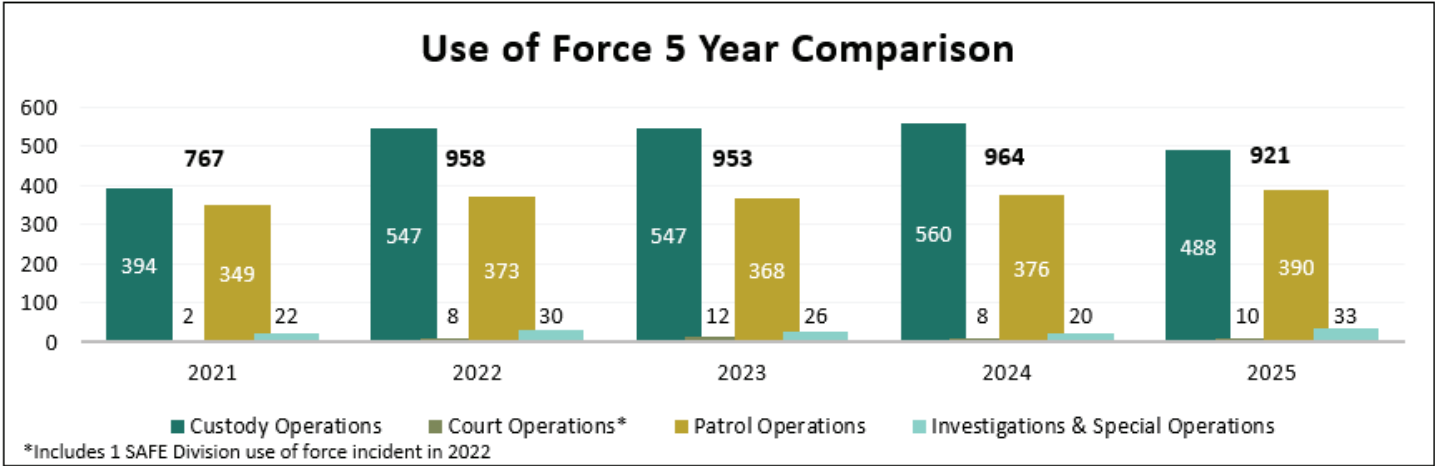
Participants are expected to attend and engage in the 2-3 daily group sessions. For attending and engaging in the program's many offerings, the inmates will receive rewards such as personal items or additional outdoor time. The goal of the TAY program is to promote emotional well-being, prevent future criminal behavior and to provide the youth with tools to be successful upon release. The UCI Road to Reentry Study evaluates the effectiveness of the program by interviewing participants while they are in jail and for several years post-release.

There have been **85** participants in the TAY program since its inception in August 2021.

USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS

TREND ANALYSIS

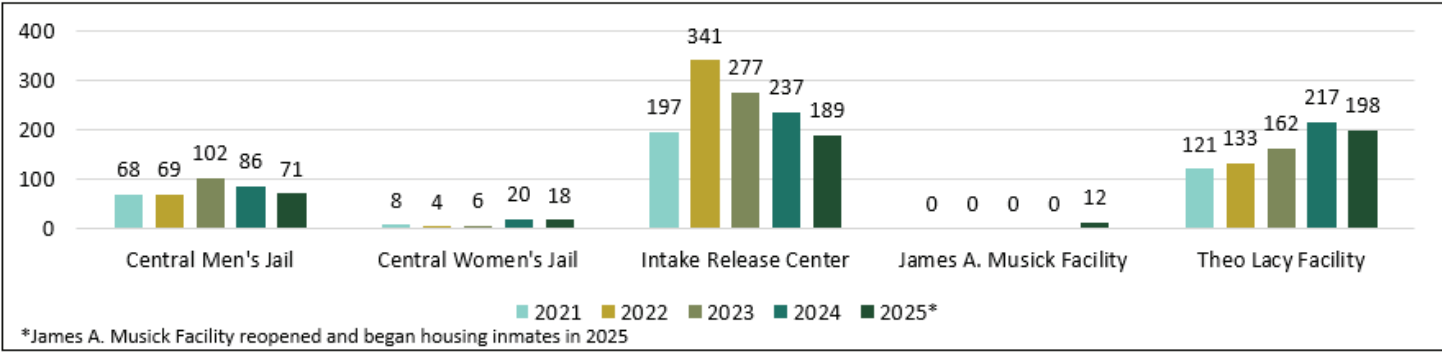
The number of calls for service increased **2.3% (7,976)** from 2024 (**342,649**) to 2025 (**350,625**). There was a **19.9% (1,928)** increase in arrests from 2024 (**9,670**) to 2025 (**11,598**). The number of use of force incidents decreased from **964** in 2024 to **921** in 2025. This is a **4.5% (43 incidents)** decrease in total use of force incidents from the prior year. From 2021 to 2025, the average number of use of force incidents annually was **913**.





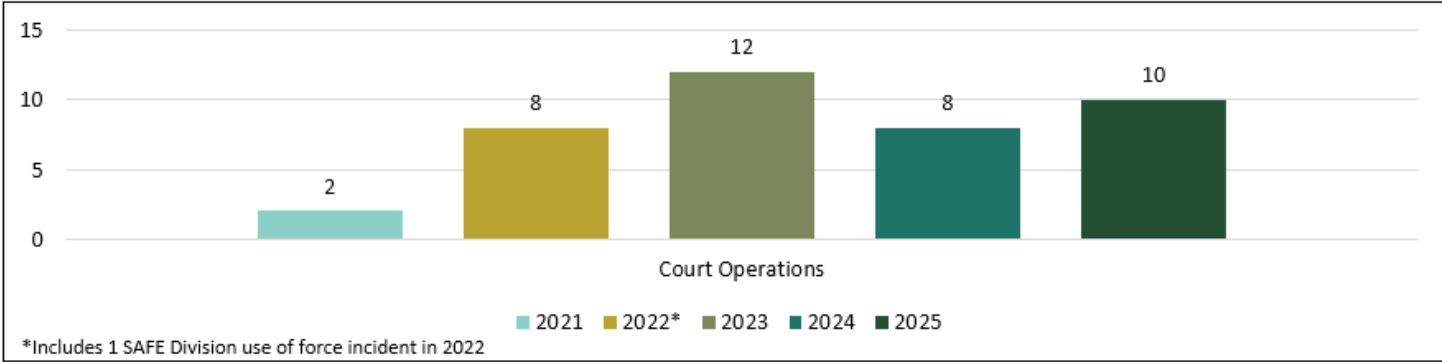
The following graph displays the breakdown of use of force incidents in each custodial facility. The frequency of use of force incidents generally correlates with the average population of each facility. The Intake Release Center had an average of **127** daily bookings. Of the **189** use of force incidents that occurred at the Intake Release Center, **68.8% (130)** were in the booking loop. The booking loop intakes a wide variety of individuals including inmate transfers from other facilities and agencies as well as newly arrested individuals who may still be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol or experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

custody operations



Deputies provide for the safety and security of court facilities including in the court rooms, court detention cells, and at weapons screening areas. Deputies also execute evictions, enforce levies, and serve restraining orders. The following graph displays the number of use of force incidents that court operations deputies encountered.

court operations

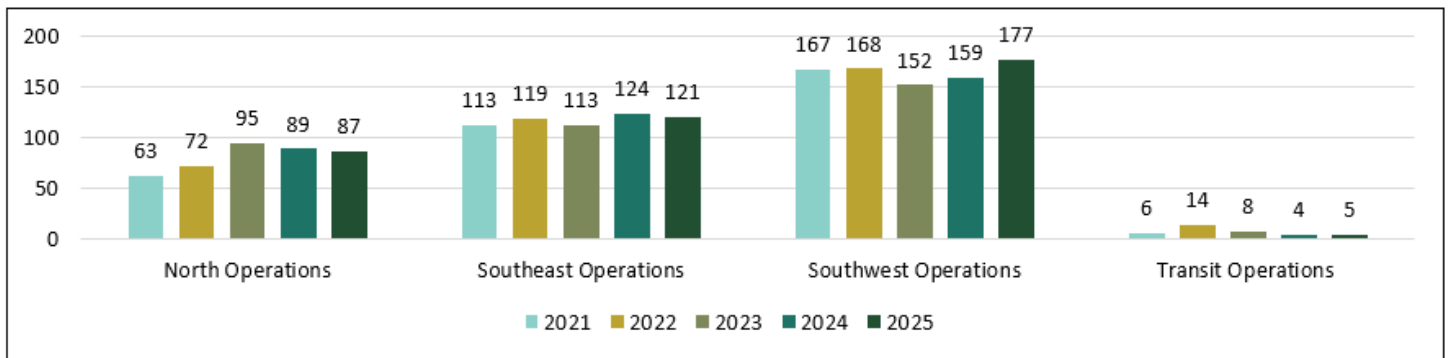


Deputies in patrol had an average of approximately **961** official daily interactions with the public. The graph below breaks down the number of use of force incidents that occurred in each jurisdiction. Transit Operations consists of Airport Police Services, the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA) and Harbor Patrol. According to the OCTA, bus ridership was at an average of approximately **87,425** daily riders* in the beginning of 2025. John Wayne Airport data shows there were **11,369,865** passengers in 2025** with **10,160** calls for service. The Harbor Patrol had **13,487** calls for service for the year.

*Obtained from the OCTA news release: <https://www.octa.net/news/news-releases/octa-kept-orange-county-moving-in-2025>

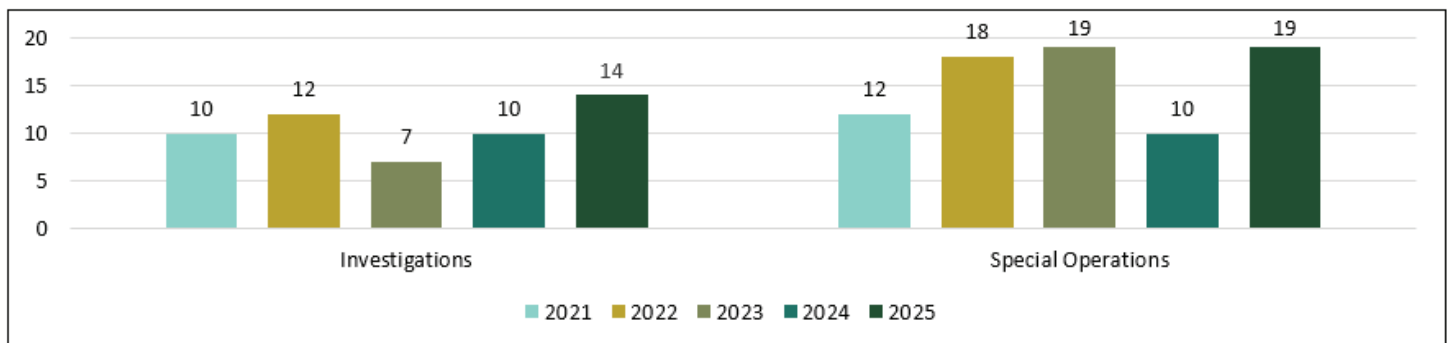
**Obtained from the John Wayne Airport December 2025 Statistics News Release: <https://www.ocair.com/news/2026/01/22/statistics-december-2025/>

patrol operations



The Special Operations Division consists of the Special Enforcement, Air Support and Mutual Aid Bureaus. The Investigations Division consists of the Criminal Investigations and the Special Investigations Bureaus.

investigations and special operations



INCIDENT ANALYSIS

The following tables display the average inmate population at each custody facility, calls for service and arrests within the Sheriff's Department's contracted cities/patrol areas, and the use of force incidents that occurred in 2025.

custody operations command

Facility	Average Inmate Population	UOF Incidents
Central Men's Jail	994	71
Central Women's Jail	187	18
Intake Release Center*	345**	189
James A. Musick Facility	147	12
Theo Lacy Facility	2,312	198

*The IRC contains the booking loop which intakes a wide variety of individuals including inmate transfers from other facilities and agencies as well as newly arrested individuals who may still be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol or experiencing a behavioral health crisis. **This value includes the 127 average daily bookings.

professional services command

Division	Inmates Detained for Court Appearances	Approximate Interactions with the Public*	UOF Incidents
Court Operations	60,725	2,170,985	10

*This value includes 2,129,985 members of the public going through weapons screening at the courts as well as an estimate of contacts through Civil processes for the year.

patrol operations command

City	Calls For Service	Arrests	UOF Incidents	City	Calls For Service	Arrests	UOF Incidents
Aliso Viejo	14,347	247	17	North Unincorporated*	74,144	1,563	33
Dana Point	15,870	427	27	Rancho Santa Margarita	13,721	623	19
Harbor Patrol	13,487	8	1	San Clemente	25,425	916	49
John Wayne Airport	10,160	21	1	San Juan Capistrano	13,396	1,098	39
Laguna Hills	20,798	602	13	South Unincorporated	12,195	395	16
Laguna Niguel	22,680	829	20	Stanton	26,115	1,793	32
Laguna Woods	5,369	50	4	Villa Park	3,097	14	0
Lake Forest	29,946	1,304	55	Yorba Linda	22,769	316	16
Mission Viejo	26,679	1,357	31	Miscellaneous**	--	--	17
TOTAL							390

*Calls for service include all activity that occurred in the North Unincorporated geographic areas. **Security Bureau, OCTA, and Behavioral Health Bureau arrests are accounted for in their respective jurisdictions.

investigations and special operations command

Area	UOF Incidents
Investigations	14
Canine Services	7*
SRT/Mobile Field Force	5
SWAT	7
TOTAL	33

*2 incidents included SWAT

Below are the top five types of initial activities resulting in use of force incidents for each Command/Division:

Custody Operations*

Resisting Arrest
Assault
Battery
Disturbance - General
Uncooperative Inmate



Court Operations

Resisting Arrest
Battery on a Peace Officer
Use of Force on Deputy
Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Disturbance - General



Patrol Operations

Disturbance - General
Disturbance - Family Dispute
Suspicious Person/Circumstance
Fight in Progress
Trespassing



Investigation & Special Operations

Search Warrant
Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Patrol Check
Use of Force on Deputy
Court Order Violation Report



*This excludes incidents that occurred during the booking process. The top five initial activities where use of force occurred during the booking process were: Resisting Arrest, Uncooperative Inmate, Use of Force on Deputy, Battery on a Police Officer and Booking Process Delay.

The statistical data for initial activities was extracted from the Customer Relations Management (CRM) system notification section of the use of force reports. Initial activities may have been a result of an incident that occurred in the field which subsequently resulted in a Use of Force during the booking process.

PERSONNEL ANALYSIS

There was a **5.2% (147)** decrease in personnel that applied force from 2024 (**2,806** personnel) to 2025 (**2,659** personnel). A total of **98.5% (2,618)** of personnel were within policy. Although considered within policy, **13.7% (365)** of personnel received additional training or corrective action that was unrelated to the application of force. There were **41** personnel referred to Executive Command Staff for possible policy violations which included tactics, lack of de-escalation, use of force notification, etc. Of the **41** personnel referred to Executive Command Staff, **12** required no further action while **29** were referred to Internal Affairs. Per Department policy, **4** personnel were automatically referred to Executive Command Staff due to being part of a deputy-involved shooting.

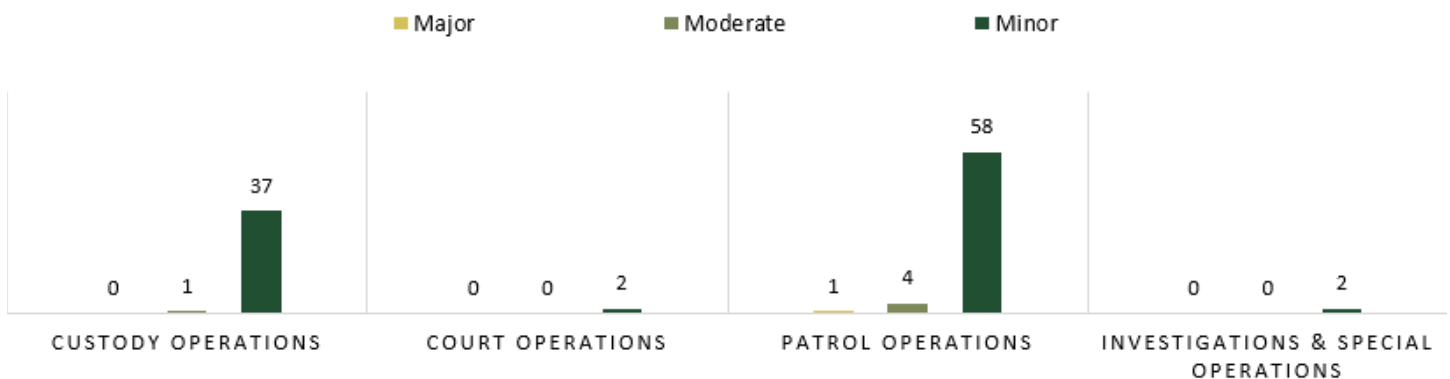
As of March 19, 2026, **12** personnel had sustained policy violations, **7** were not sustained, **3** were exonerated and **7** were still pending. Of the sustained violations, only **2** were related to the application of force.

2024 to 2025 Annual Comparison

Personnel Involved			Personnel Details						Injury Details	
Command/Division	Personnel Involved		Within Policy		Within Policy, Training or Corrective Action		Referred to Executive Command Staff		Injured Personnel	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
Custody Operations	1,827	1,586	1,634	1,423	176	133	17	30	41	38
Court Operations	16	20	13	16	3	4	0	0	3	2
North Operations	207	210	156	150	50	59	1	1	8	13
Southeast Operations	311	329	257	248	54	79	0	2	13	24
Southwest Operations	374	437	275	353	87	77	12	7	19	25
Transit Operations	13	8	12	5	1	3	0	0	0	1
Investigations	24	31	18	23	6	8	0	0	2	1
Special Operations*	34	38	25	35	9	2	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	2,806	2,659	2,390	2,253	386	365	30	41	86	105

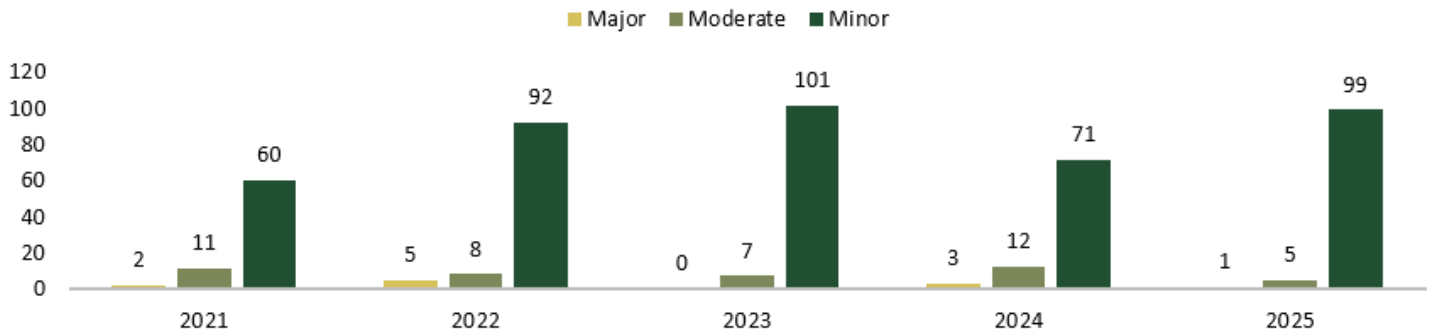
* Special Operations Division has SWAT, Hazardous Devices Squad, and Canine Services which often respond to high risk incidents to support field personnel.

INJURIES TO PERSONNEL IN 2025



A total of **96.1% (2,554)** of personnel were not injured, **3.7% (99)** had minor injuries, and **0.2% (5)** had moderate injuries. There were **0.04% (1)** serious injuries and **0** personnel deaths in 2025.

ANNUAL COMPARISON OF INJURIES TO PERSONNEL



The total percentage of injured employees increased from 3.1% in 2024 to 3.9% in 2025.

SUBJECT ANALYSIS

In 2025, force was applied on **1,104** subjects, which was a **4.5% (52)** decrease in subjects compared to 2024 (**1,156**). A total of **20.2% (223)** subjects were injured from the use of force. Of the injured subjects, **87.4% (195)** had minor injuries (e.g., cuts/scrapes, bruising/swelling, puncture wounds from CED probes), **10.2% (23)** had moderate injuries (e.g., lacerations), and **1.8% (4)** suffered major injuries (e.g., fractures, dislocation, injury requiring surgery) including **3** from deputy-involved shootings. An off-duty deputy-involved shooting resulted in **1** death which accounts for **0.4%** of subject injuries.

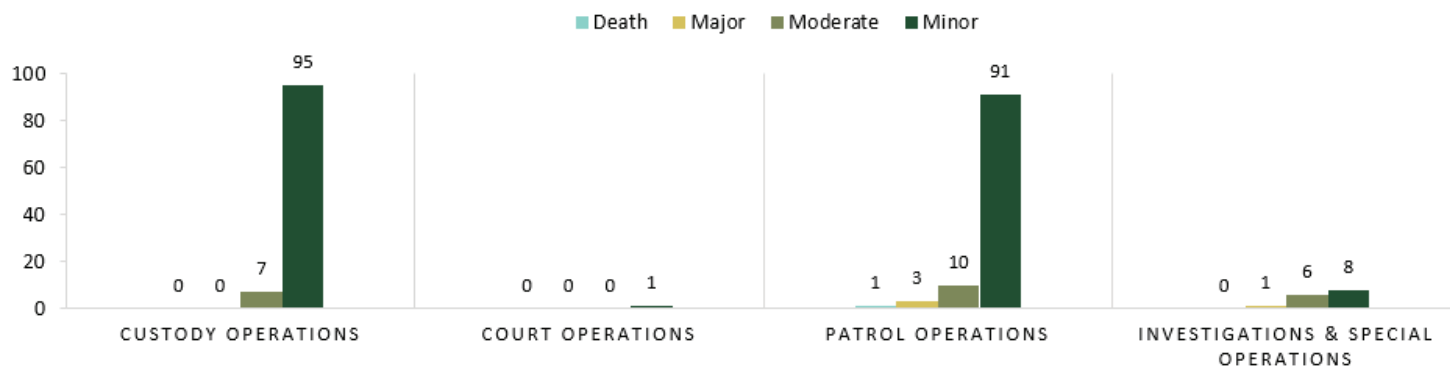


2024 to 2025 Annual Comparison

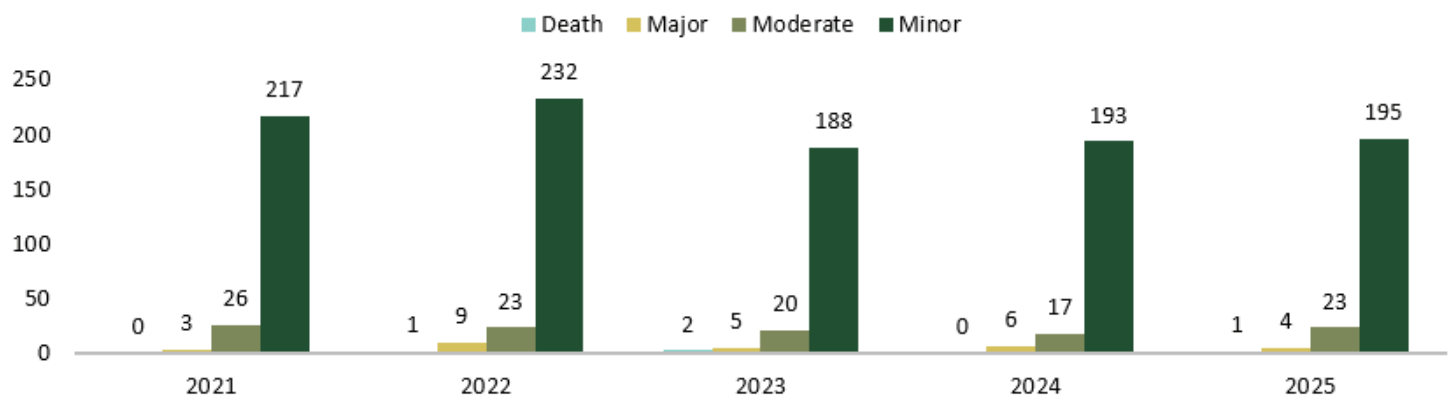
Command/Division	Total Subjects		Injured Subjects	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
Custody Operations	730	644	101	102
Court Operations	10	10	0	1
North Operations	94	92	26	25
Southeast Operations	125	128	25	29
Southwest Operations	166	180	48	51
Transit Operations	4	5	0	0
Investigations	16	16	6	7
Special Operations*	11	29	10	8
TOTALS	1,239	1,104	216	223

* Special Operations Division has SWAT, Hazardous Devices Squad, and Canine Services which often respond to high risk incidents to support field personnel.

INJURIES TO SUBJECTS IN 2025



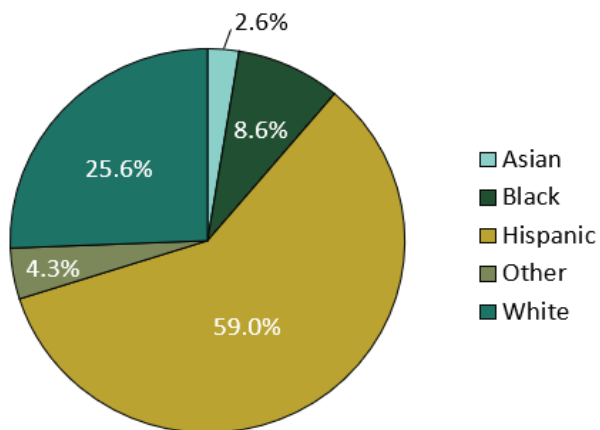
ANNUAL COMPARISON OF INJURIES TO SUBJECTS



SUBJECT ANALYSIS *(continued)*

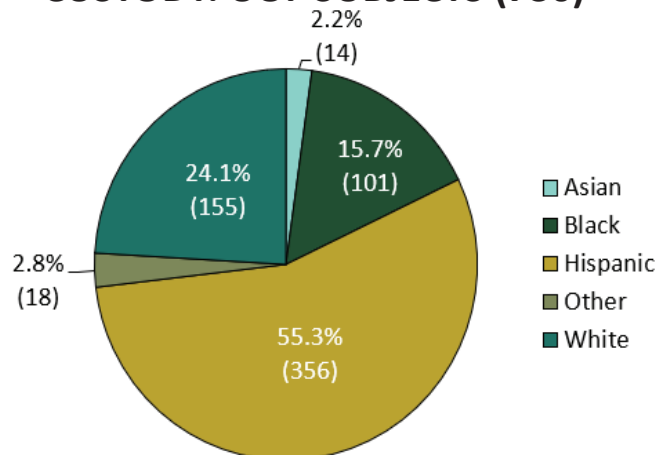
RACE DEMOGRAPHICS

CUSTODY POPULATION

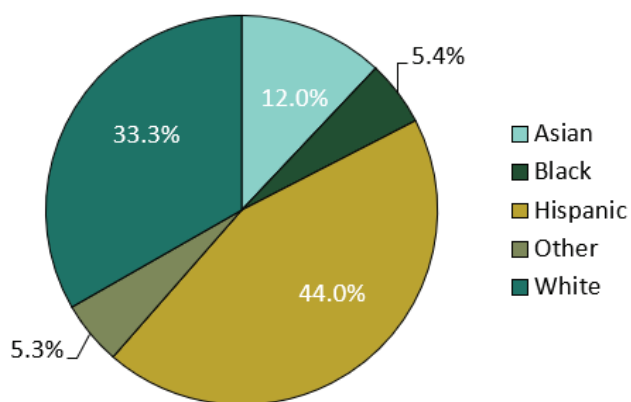


Average daily custody population: 3,985

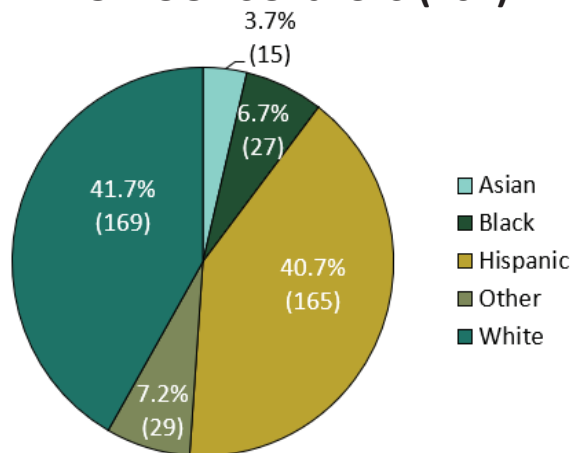
CUSTODY: UOF SUBJECTS (730)



**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
POPULATION***

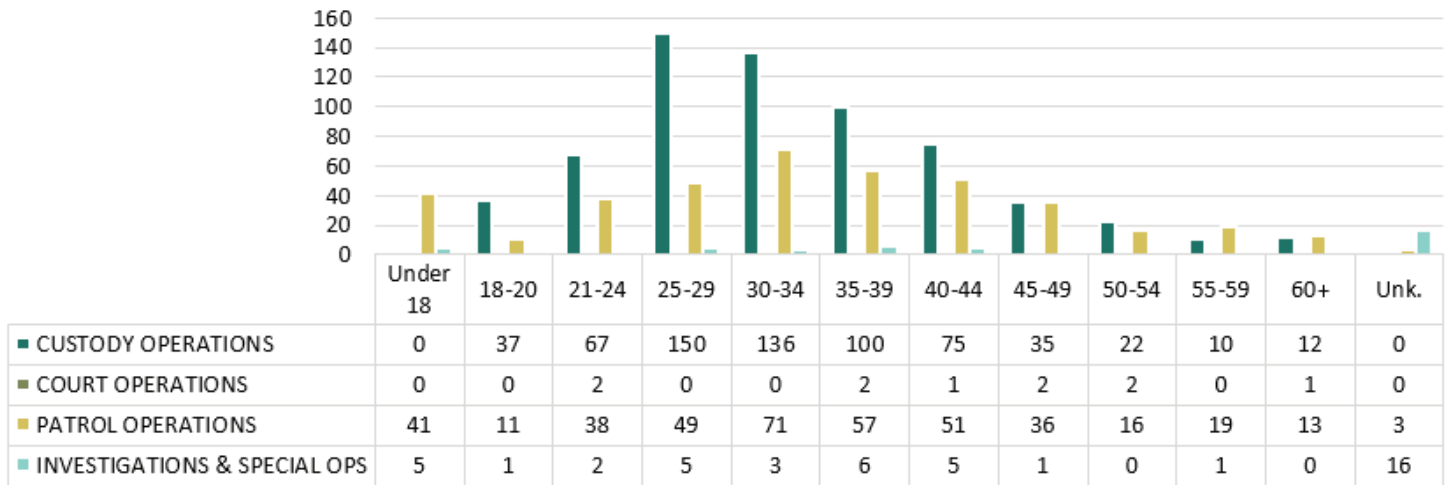


PATROL: UOF SUBJECTS (404)



*Obtained from the Census Bureau: <https://data.census.gov/>

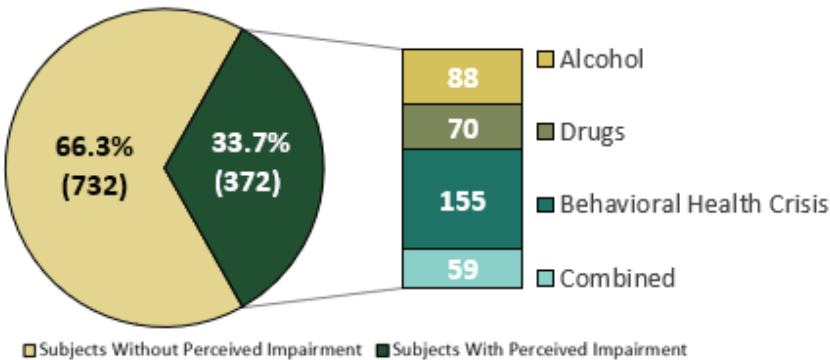
UOF SUBJECTS BY AGE RANGE



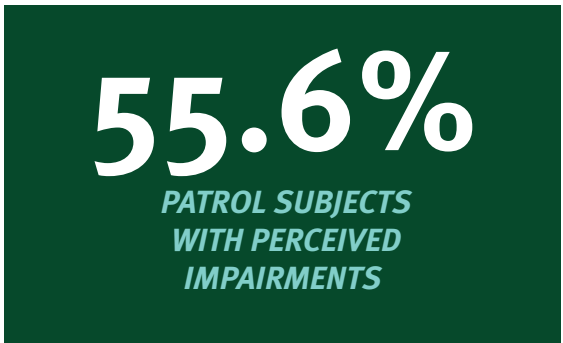
SUBJECTS WITH PERCEIVED IMPAIRMENTS

Of the 1,104 subjects involved in use of force incidents, 33.7% (372) were documented as having a perceived impairment (alcohol, drugs, behavioral health crisis or a combination). Combined perceived impairment refers to a combination of two or three of the perceived impairments. 59 subjects had a combination of multiple impairments. The most common combination of perceived impairments was drugs and behavioral health crisis which made up 37.3% (22) of subjects listed with combined impairments. 4 subjects were perceived to be impaired with alcohol, drugs and a behavioral health crisis.

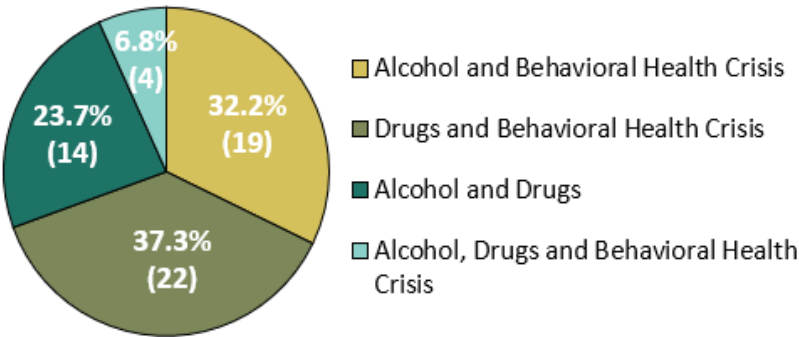
DEPARTMENT WIDE 1,104 SUBJECTS



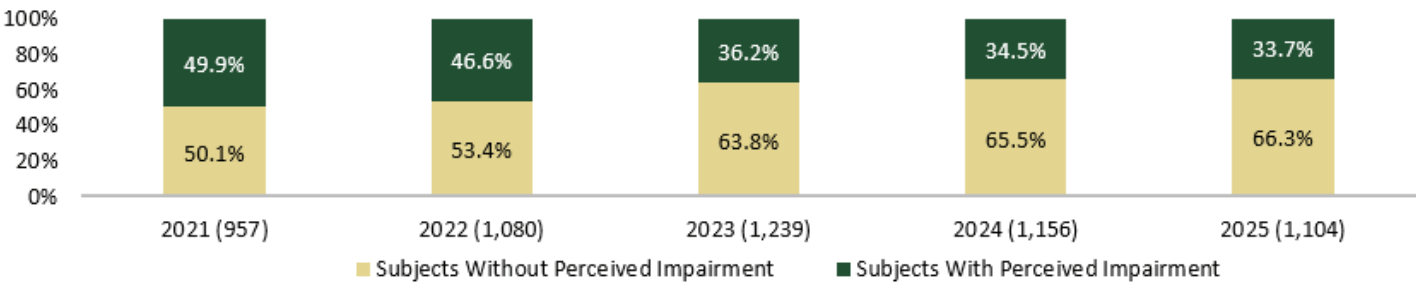
Each impairment is specific to one subject (e.g., Combination is separate from drugs, alcohol, or behavioral health crisis). Subjects are counted for only one category. The statistical data for subject impairments was extracted from the Customer Relations Management (CRM) system and was determined by personnel perception.



COMBINED IMPAIRMENTS BREAKDOWN 59 SUBJECTS

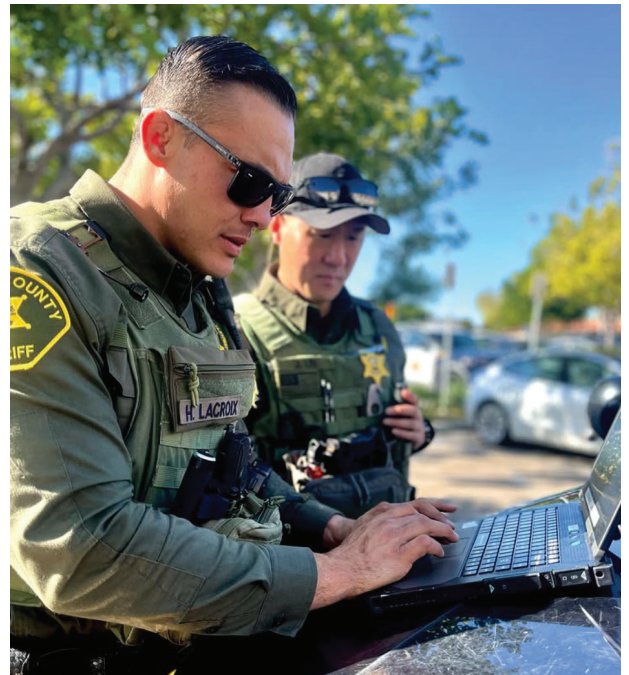
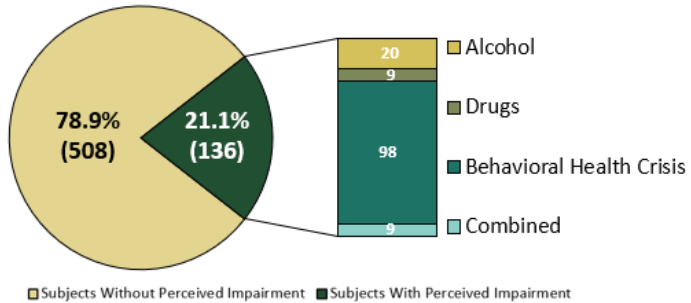


ANNUAL COMPARISON OF IMPAIRED SUBJECTS TO TOTAL USE OF FORCE SUBJECTS



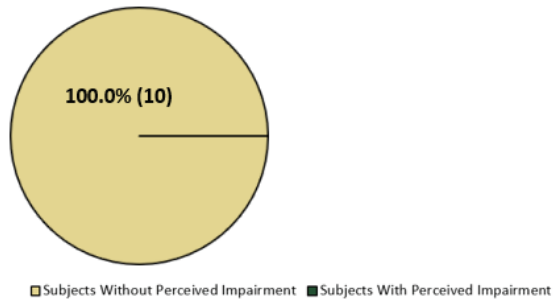
CUSTODY OPERATIONS

644 SUBJECTS



COURT OPERATIONS

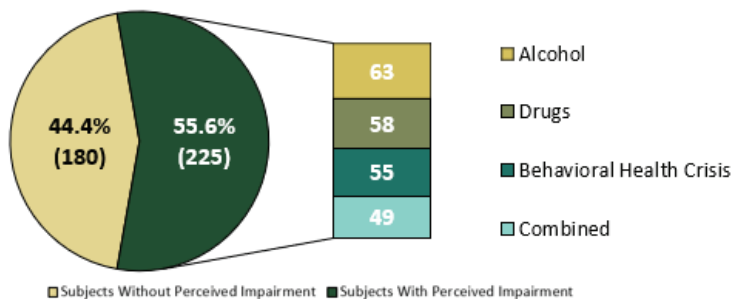
10 SUBJECTS



Custody Operations had **644** subjects with **21.1%** (**136**) of those subjects being perceived as impaired. Court Operations had a total of **10** subjects with none of them being perceived as impaired. Patrol Operations had a total of **405** subjects with **55.6%** (**225**) of subjects being perceived as impaired. Investigations & Special Operations had a total of **45** subjects with **24.4%** (**11**) of subjects being perceived as impaired. There was a **7.0%** (**28**) decrease in subjects with perceived impairment when comparing 2024 to 2025.

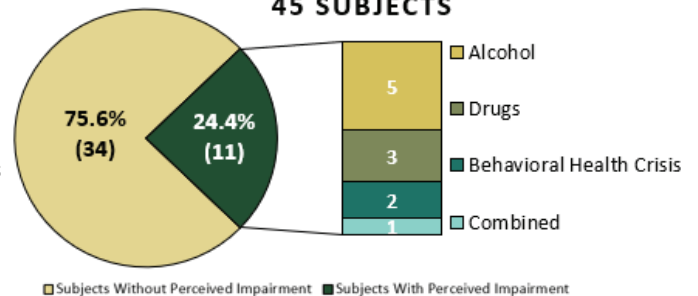
PATROL OPERATIONS

405 SUBJECTS



INVESTIGATIONS & SPECIAL OPERATIONS

45 SUBJECTS



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) was developed in 2001 to provide a coordinated response to inmates who are uncooperative. All ERT responses are supervised by a sergeant or manager and any force used during an ERT response is carried out at the direction of the on-scene supervisor. Emergency Response Team members train bi-weekly to advance their skills, stay updated on policy, and learn new and improved tactics to respond to dangerous incidents with

minimal to no injuries to both staff and inmates. There was a total of **57** personnel who applied force as a result of an Emergency Response Team activation in 2025. **100% (57)** of ERT personnel were within policy, no further action required. The total personnel involved in Emergency Response Team activations decreased by **50.9% (59 personnel)** from 2024 to 2025. All personnel were within policy, including training or corrective action, for both years.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM INCIDENT DETAILS					
Incidents		Personnel Details			
Facility	Incidents	Total Personnel	Within Policy	Within Policy, Training or Corrective Action	Referred to Command Staff
Central Men's Jail	0	0	0	0	0
Central Women's Jail	0	0	0	0	0
Intake Release Center	10	50	50	0	0
Theo Lacy Facility	1	7	7	0	0
Court Operations	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	11	57	57	0	0

INCIDENT POLICY DETERMINATIONS

The Department collects use of force data to review and analyze the force used by personnel. The Department inspects each use of force incident with an eye toward improving interactions with the public. This commitment is reflected in the examination of use of force incidents from multiple perspectives, including training, tactics, policies, procedures and equipment. In 2025, out of **921** incidents, **97.5% (898)** of incidents were within Department policy. Of the incidents within policy, **73.7% (662)** of incidents required no further action. Even in those cases where the incident was within policy, the Department continued to review employees’ actions for possible refinement. **26.3% (236)** of the incidents within Department policy prompted training or corrective action that was unrelated to the application of force (e.g., failing to activate a body worn camera or in-car video system, driving, or use of unprofessional language).

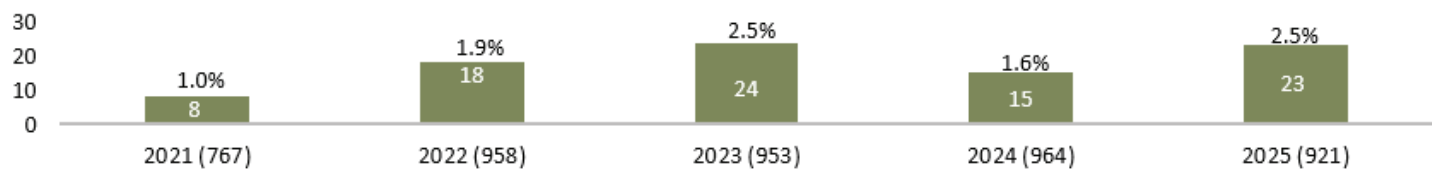
99.3%

of all incidents were within policy for application of force (Policy 300.2 - Reasonable and Necessary, page 6)

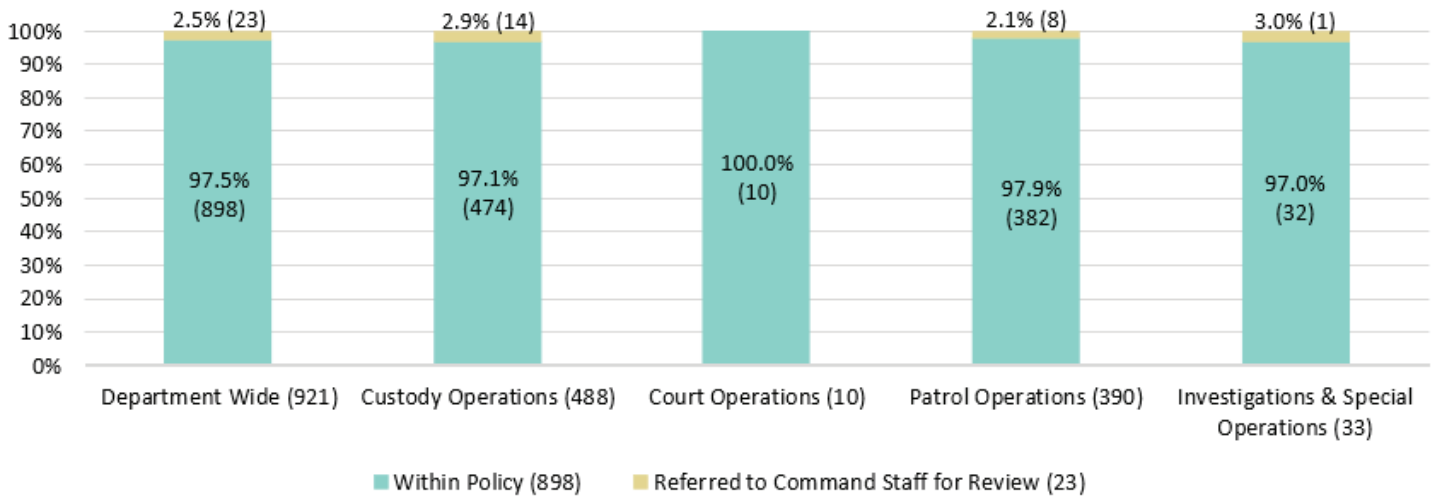
Incidents can be referred to Executive Command Staff for multiple policy violations. In 2025, there were **14** incidents referred to Executive Command Staff for possible violation of the Department’s Use of Force Policy and **9** referred for a possible violation of a policy unrelated to the Use of Force policy. Per Department policy, **4** incidents were automatically referred because they were deputy-involved shootings. Of those referred for possible violation of the Use of Force Policy, **11** incidents were referred for the actual application of force itself with **2** incidents (**2** personnel) resulting in a sustained violation while **3** incidents are still pending review. **6** incidents were referred for lack of sufficient de-escalation efforts, **1** was referred for timely UOF reporting.

2025 Department Wide Policy Determinations				
Command/Division	Total Incidents	Within Policy	Within Policy, Training or Corrective Action	Referred to Command Staff
Custody Operations	488	398	76	14
Court Operations	10	6	4	0
North Operations	87	47	39	1
Southeast Operations	121	67	52	2
Southwest Operations	177	115	57	5
Transit Operations	5	3	2	0
Investigations	14	10	4	0
Special Operations	19	16	2	1
TOTALS	921	662	236	23

ANNUAL COMPARISON OF INCIDENTS REFERRED TO COMMAND STAFF



DEPARTMENT WIDE POLICY DETERMINATIONS

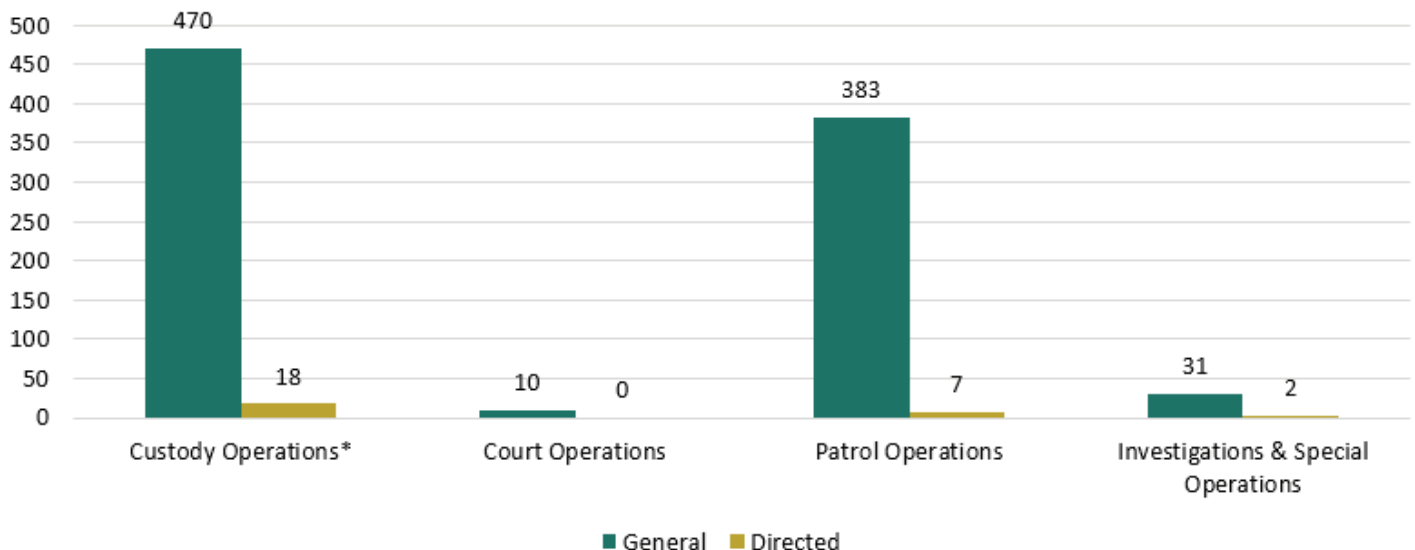


FORCE OPTIONS APPLIED BY PERSONNEL

FORCE OPTIONS USED

The Department separates force into two categories: general or directed. Any force carried out at the direction of supervision is considered directed force. Any force applied by Department Members outside of the direction of supervision is considered general force. In general force, the Department Member determines whether the circumstances require force.

GENERAL OR DIRECTED FORCE



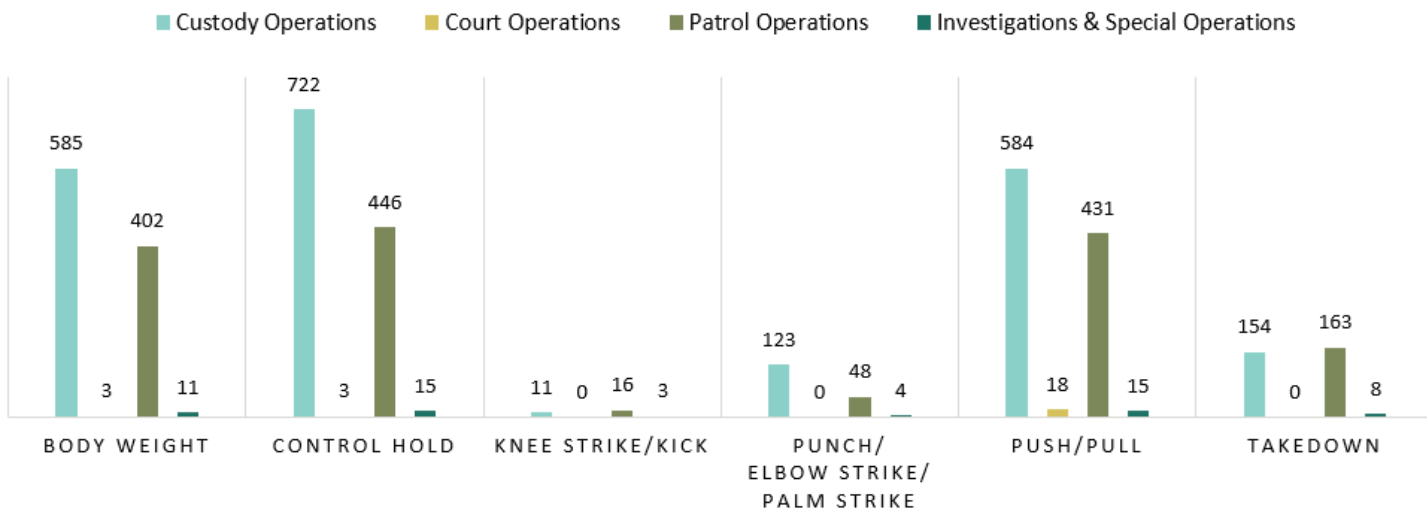
*Of the 488 Custody Operations uses of force, the booking process had 128 general uses of force and 2 directed uses of force.

An application of force is a deployment of force by a Department Member on a subject during an incident (e.g., one deputy pepper spraying two inmates equals two applications of force, two deputies perform a takedown on one subject equals two applications of force).

Force Type	Custody Operations	Court Operations	Patrol Operations	Investigations & Special Operations
40mm	5	0	1	5
Baton	0	0	0	0
Canine	0	0	0	8
Car to Car/PIT	0	0	3	0
CED	7	0	39	2
Firearm	0	0	3	1
Hands-On*	2,179	24	1,506	56
Hobble	0	0	14	0
Impact Weapon	1	0	0	0
Less Lethal Shotgun	0	0	1	1
Pepper Spray	137	0	2	1
Pepper Ball	82	1	3	21
Other	0	0	0	0
Shield	8	0	0	0
Sting Ball Grenade	0	0	0	0

*Hands-On includes body weight, control holds, knee strikes, personal body weapons, punch/kicks, push/pulls and takedowns.

HANDS-ON FORCE BREAKDOWN



PRIMARY APPLICATION OF FORCE BREAKDOWN (continued)

MOST COMMON
FORCE TYPE USED

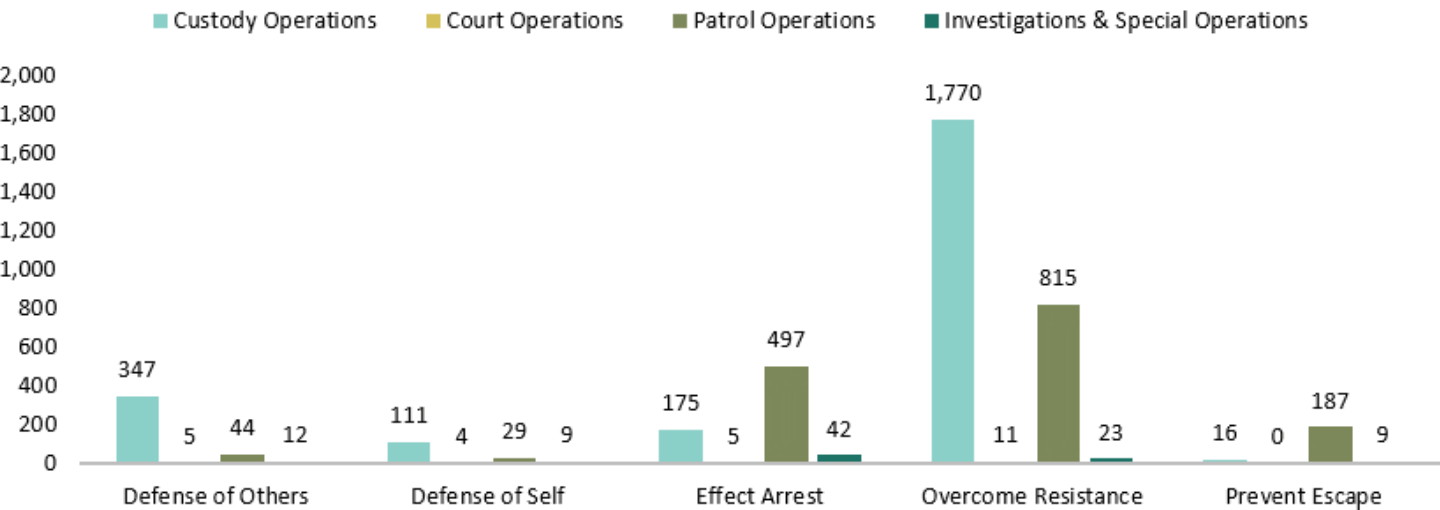
- Hands-On
- Pepper Spray
- Pepper Ball



REASONS FOR FORCE

To better understand and analyze use of force for areas of improvement it is also imperative to review the reasons each Department Member utilized force.

REASONS FOR USE OF FORCE*



*Values may not include all reasons for force from officer-involved shootings as those are under review by Internal Affairs and/or the District Attorney's Office.

CRITICAL INCIDENT REVIEWS

In 2025, there were **3** Critical Incident Reviews associated with use of force incidents. All incidents were deputy-involved shootings with **0** resulting in death. When a deputy-involved shooting occurs, multiple simultaneous investigations are immediately initiated.

The Orange County District Attorney’s Office conducts the primary investigation into the actions of the involved deputies to determine whether their actions were within the law.

The Department investigates the criminal conduct of any potential suspects and conducts a Critical Incident Review to identify and recommend whether any additional policies, training or equipment are needed to assist personnel when confronted with future critical incidents. The Department also conducts an internal administrative investigation to determine whether the actions of the involved deputies were within policy, consistent with training, and identify potential areas for improvement.

After these investigations are complete, the Office of Independent Review examines the incident and makes pertinent recommendations.

Quarter 1 • Dana Point • 03/28/2025	
Force Type Used • Firearm Deputy-Involved ShootingCurrently Under Review by the District Attorney’s Office	Deputies responded to a residence in Dana Point reference a welfare check in a gated community. Upon arriving at the scene, Deputies attempted to contact the resident. The resident exited the front door holding a knife moving towards the deputy. A deputy-involved shooting occurred and the resident, now suspect, was struck multiple times. Medical aid was provided to the suspect and she was transported to the hospital. The suspect sustained non-life threatening injuries from the deputy-involved shooting.
Quarter 2 • Laguna Hills • 05/20/2025	
Force Type Used • Firearm Deputy-Involved ShootingCurrently Under Review by the District Attorney’s Office	Multiple callers reported seeing a male subject with two knives in Laguna Hills. Deputies responded to a commercial parking lot in reference to that male subject. When a deputy located the subject, he moved towards the deputy armed with a knife and subsequently a deputy-involved shooting occurred. The suspect was provided medical aid at the scene and transported to a hospital. The suspect sustained non-life threatening injuries from the deputy-involved shooting.
Quarter 3 • Lake Forest • 08/07/2025	
Force Type Used • Firearm Deputy-Involved ShootingCurrently Under Review by the District Attorney’s Office	Deputies were notified of a suspect involved in a family violence incident involving himself and a family member the previous day. Deputies found that the suspect had multiple felony warrants for his arrest which included theft, weapons, and narcotics-related offenses. When deputies attempted to detain him in a commercial parking lot, he produced a firearm and a deputy-involved shooting occurred. The suspect was struck and medical aid was provided at the scene. He was transported to a hospital with non-life threatening injuries from the deputy-involved shooting

CONCLUSION

All use of force incidents reported in the Sheriff's Department accounted for only **0.12% (433)** of public interactions and **1.1% (488)** of inmate bookings. Combined, this represents less than **0.2%** of total documented encounters. When considering that all custody interactions cannot be quantified, the percentage of use of force incidents occurring in custody is actually lower. The Department continues to operate with the highest level of professionalism, providing a caring and compassionate response to the people we serve. The Department strives to provide the highest quality training to personnel so that we can provide exceptional service to our communities.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- There were increases in arrests, inmate bookings and calls for service when comparing 2024 to 2025.
- Custody Operations had a **12.9% (72)** decrease in use of force incidents. The most significant decreases were a **20.3% (48)** decrease in incidents at the Intake Release Center and a **8.8% (19)** decrease in incidents at the Theo Lacy Facility.
- Frequency in use of the conducted energy device has almost doubled in patrol, from **22** in 2024 to **39** in 2025 since the transition to TASER 10 and pepper spray use in patrol remains low.
- Only **21.1% (136)** of use of force subjects in a custody setting were perceived to be impaired with **77.2% (105)** of those subjects experiencing a behavioral health crisis
- The percentage of subjects who were perceived to be impaired in patrol decreased from **62.0%** 2024 to **55.6%** in 2025.
- The number of sworn Department Members who are trained on advanced Crisis Intervention Training continues to rise, **45.6%** for CIT 2 and **31.3%** for CIT 3. All sworn Department Members are trained on CIT 1.
- Although minor injuries to personnel increased **39.4% (28)**, moderate injuries decreased **58.3% (7)** and major injuries decreased **66.7% (2)**.

use of force perspective

350,625

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE
from the Department's patrol
areas/contracted cities

46,226

TOTAL INMATE BOOKINGS
at all custody facilities

11,598

TOTAL ARRESTS
occurred in 3.3% of
total calls for service

4

Deputy-involved shootings

99.3%

**Personnel Within Department
Policy for Uses of Force**

Orange County Sheriff's Department
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Santa Ana, California 92703

OCSHERIFF.gov