



Use of Force Analysis

Calendar Year (CY) 2023 Annual Analysis

Date of Analysis: January 30, 2024

Analysis Data Collection Period: CY2023

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Distribution: DCS Chief, Associate Director, DU Campus Community and CALEA

CALEA STANDARD 2.1.13

2.1.13 - Annual Analysis of Use of Force Reports

Annually, the agency conducts an analysis of its use of force activities, policies and practices. The analysis should identify:

- a. date and time of incidents;
- b. types of encounters resulting in use of force;
- c. trends or patterns related to race, age and gender of subjects involved;
- d. trends or patterns resulting in injury to any person including employees; and
- e. impact of findings on policies, practices, equipment, and training.

OVERVIEW

This report is a result of the analysis of our CY2023 use of force incidents. These incidents were collected through our ARMS Records Management System (RMS). Use of Force reports are administrative reports that are completely separate from the offense reports completed for the event. The analysis uses the data collected in those reports to determine potential trends or patterns that may impact our policies, practices, equipment and/or training.

USE OF FORCE STATISTICAL DATA

The data table below shows the Department's use of force statistics for a 3-year period. Campus Safety Officers (CSOs) do not have arrest authority but may detain individuals under limited circumstances outlined in Colorado State Statute 16-3-201, which is comparable to a citizen's arrest. The Department reports this as detentions under "Total Use of Force Detentions" in the below table.

Use of Force Data	2021	2022	2023
Display Only (Intermediate Weapon)	3	0	0
Soft Empty Hand	4	5	4
Hard Empty Hand	0	0	0
Intermediate Weapon	0	0	0
OC Spray	0	1	1
Total Uses of Force Incidents	10	7	5
Total Use of Force Actions	14	8	10
Total Use of Force Detentions	8	6	5

In CY20223, there were six separate incidents where CSOs applied a use of force and a total of 7 use of force actions within those incidents. This reflects more than one officer involved in one of the incidents.

The data collected in the tables below show that in the CY2023, use of force numbers was low when compared to the total number of calls for service by CSOs.

Use of Force Data Comparison with DCS Calls for Service.

Total Use of Force Incidents (CY2023)	5
Total Calls for Service/Incidents/Events	7,259
Percentage	0.007%

The below chart represents how often the Denver Police Department responded when a CSO used force and subsequently arrested or cited the subject.

Use of Force Data	2021	2022	2023
DPD Arrest/Citations	3	0	2
# of Use of Force Incidents	10	7	5
% of DPD Arrests w/DCS Use of Force	30%	0%	40%

*Rounded to nearest whole number

When comparing our use of force incidents with DPD arrests/citations, the 3-year trend continues to remain consistent.

CY2023 USE OF FORCE TABLE

The below table shows all 5 uses of force incidents. A review of each use of force action did not reflect a pattern of excessive use of force within the Department.

# UOF Incidents	Incident Number	Type of Force	Reason Force Used	Disposition
1	2300045	Soft Empty Hands	Prevent escape	Justified
2	2300050	Soft Empty hands	Protect self and others	Justified
3	2300338	O.C. Spray Use of	Protect self and others	Justified
4	2300534	Soft Empty Hands	Prevent Escape	Justified
5	2300646	Soft Empty Hands	Prevent Escape	Justified

TRENDS REGARDING SUSPECT AFFILIATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

The data table below shows the Department’s use of force statistics regarding suspect affiliation to the University of Denver (DU).

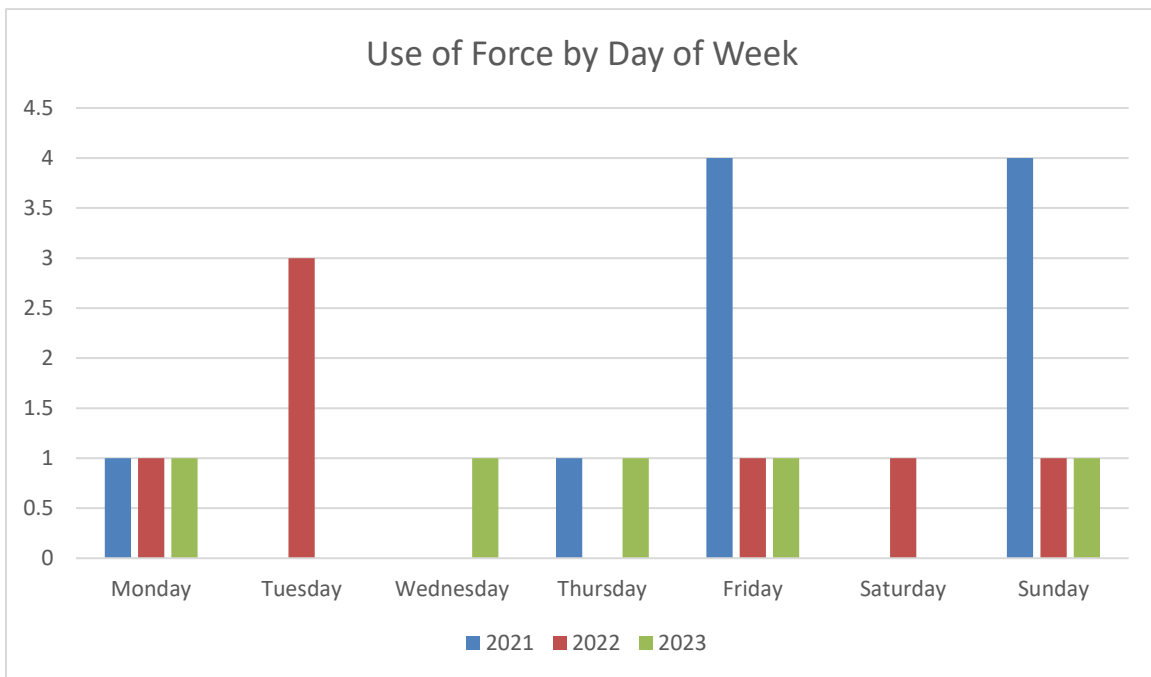
CY UOF Data	# UOF Incidents	DU Affiliated	% AFF	Unaffiliated	%UNAFF
2021	10	2	20%	8	80%
2022	7	3	42%	4	68%
2023	5	2	40%	3	60%

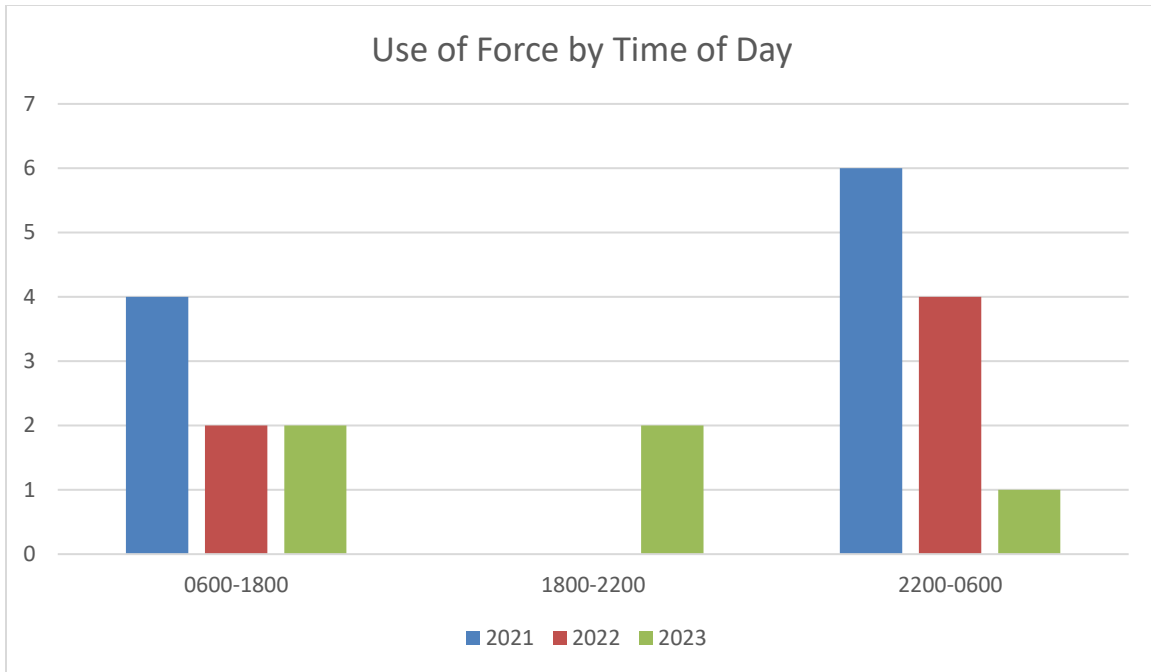
*Rounded to nearest whole number

The 3-year trend demonstrates most of the use of force incidents involve individuals not affiliated with DU. However, there has been a downward trend in the use of force numbers with unaffiliated persons. The University of Denver is in an urban area, which can result in crimes of opportunity for unaffiliated people to take advantage of. This may result in CSO's having to use force with those individuals.

USE OF FORCE DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENTS (CALEA 2.1.13a)

Since CY2021, there has been a decrease in the number of use of force incidents on Friday, Sunday, and Tuesdays. For CY2023, all other days have remained consistent with previous years and do not reflect a pattern of concern with the use of force numbers. The time of day has also stayed consistent throughout the 3-year analysis, with a slight drop in use of force numbers between the hours of 0600 – 1800 hours, along with a drop in numbers between 0200 – 0600 hours. Although there were two use of forces during the hours of 1800 – 2200 hours, in CY2023, this does not reflect any pattern for the use of force numbers during this time frame.

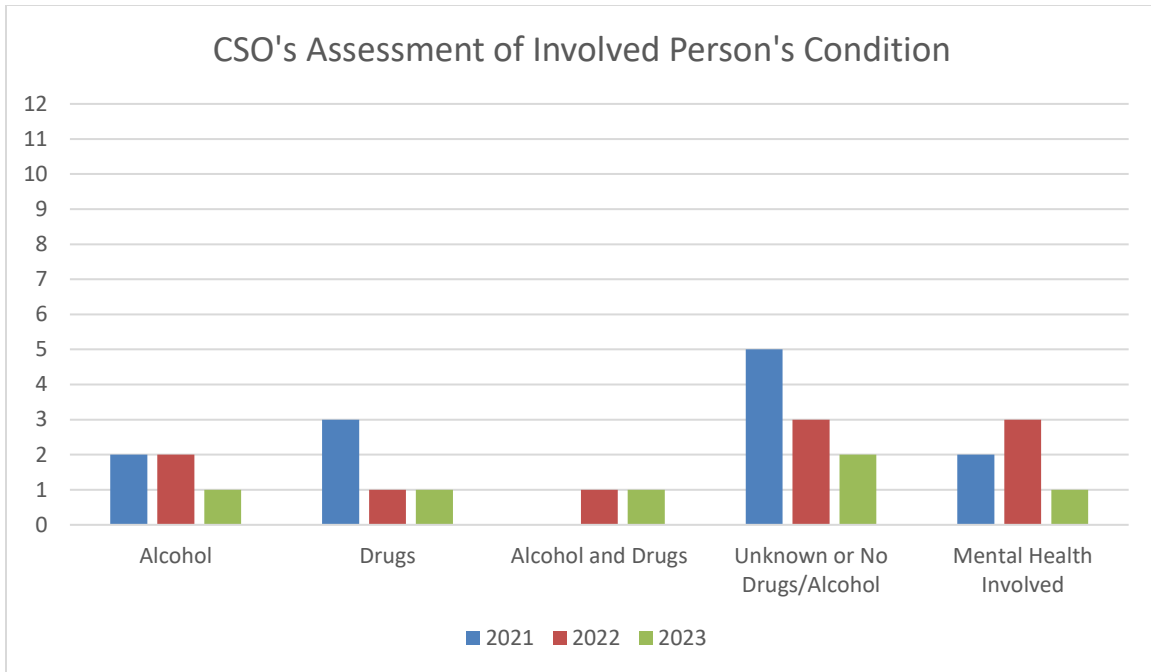




TYPES OF ENCOUNTERS RESULTING IN USE OF FORCE (CALEA 2.1.13b)

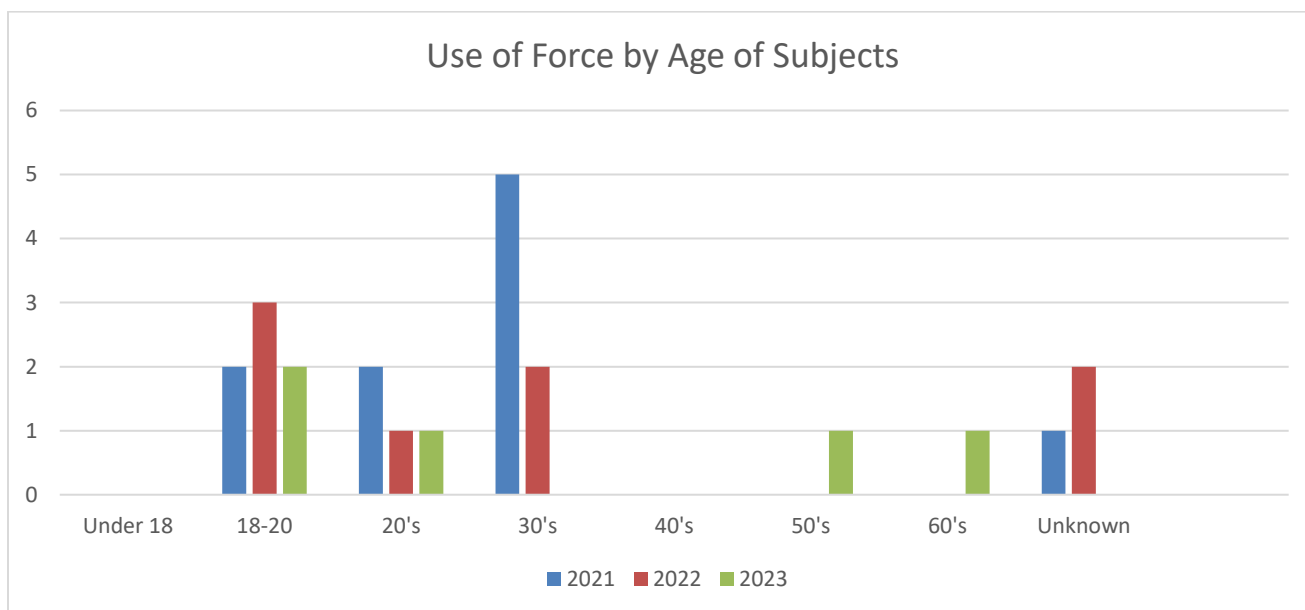
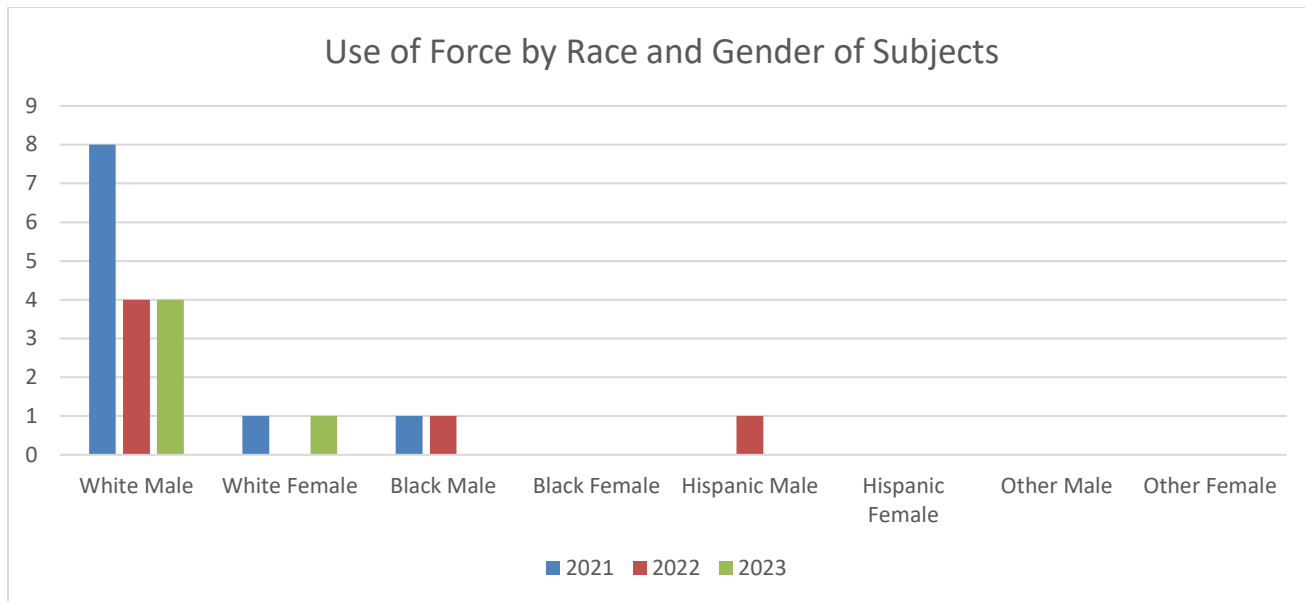
Out of the five uses of force incidents in CY2023, 80 percent arose out of calls for service. The suspicious person calls all varied in the type of activity the person was participating in at the time the decision was made to contact them, including one person who was a repeat offender. In CY2023, 60 percent of uses of force involved a subject that was under the influence of alcohol or drugs. This is up from 50 percent in CY2022. This is a trend we would expect to see since alcohol and drug use increases the chance a contacted person will not be compliant.

# UOF Incidents	Call Type	Origin	Alcohol/Drugs Involved	Mental Health Involved
1	Suspicious Party	Call for service	Yes	No
2	Intoxicated Party	Call for Service	Yes	No
3	Intoxicated Party	Call for service	Yes	No
4	Suspicious Party	Officer Initiated	Unknown	No
5	Suspicious Party	Call for service	Unknown	Yes



TRENDS OR PATTERNS RELATED TO RACE, AGE, GENDER OF SUBJECTS (CALEA 2.1.13c)

When considering the race, age, and gender of the subjects involved in uses of force, we would expect this to be in relative proportion to the demographics of our campus community and the Denver community. When this occurs, it is an indicator that bias is not a factor in a CSO's decision to use force. Additionally, we would generally expect to see the majority of uses of force involve males and person over 18 and under 50. CSOs rarely contact juveniles on campus, so it would be unusual to have a use of force involving any. Uses of force are also rarer among the elderly population and women for numerous reasons. In CY2023 All subjects that force was used were white, four of them were male and one was female. It is rare that CSO's would use force on individuals over the age of 50, but in the CY2023, there was one use of force incident involving someone in their 50s and another in their 60s. Both of these incidents were unhoused individuals, committing crimes on campus. The University of Denver is in an urban area and has experienced more unhoused subjects on or near campus throughout the year. Because of this, CSOs would encounter older populations more than the past years. There does not appear to be any pattern for use of force abuse.



TRENDS OR PATTERNS RELATED TO USE OF FORCE BY CSO

Each use of force incident was reviewed to determine if any CSO was involved in an unusually high number of uses of force. For the five use of force incidents, there were ten separate CSOs involved. Only one CSO was involved in more than one incident, and none were involved in more than two incidents. This would indicate there are no trends related to the involvement of a specific CSO in uses of force.

TRENDS OR PATTERNS RESULTING IN INJURY TO ANY PERSON (CALEA 2.1.13d)

Injuries to Suspect: There were two reported injuries to persons involved in uses of force during CY2023. This is higher than CY2022, where no injuries were reported, but is consistent with CY2021 where two suspects complained of injuries.

Injuries to Officer: There were two Officers injured during one of the uses of force during CY2023. There has consistently been a low number of CSOs injured in previous years.

The low number of injuries would indicate CSOs are using proper techniques when employing force, using a minimal level of force when necessary, along with an overall decrease in numbers of uses of force in CY2023.

USE OF FORCE COMPLAINTS

Use of Force Complaints	2021	2022	2023
EXTERNAL – DU/Public Complaints	0	0	0
OUTCOMES:			
Proper Conduct	0	0	0
Improper Conduct	0	0	0
Insufficient Evidence	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	0	0
INTERNAL – Originated by DU Campus Safety	0	1	0
OUTCOMES:			
Proper Conduct	0	0	0
Improper Conduct	0	1	0
Insufficient Evidence	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	0	0
TOTAL USE OF FORCE INVESTIGATIONS	0	1	0

There were no external or internal complaints for any uses of force in CY2023. Historically, complaints for uses of force have come from DCS employees, which demonstrates our commitment to maintain accountability and transparency by following our policy and procedures.

IMPACT OF FINDINGS ON POLICY, PRACTICES, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT (CALEA 2.1.13e)

The use of force analysis shows that the number of times force was used in CY2023 was lower than previous years and has shown a steady decrease each year.

Threat Pattern Recognition (TPR) training has been given to all CSO's during initial hiring and recertification each year thereafter. TPR is the preferred training course for the Department and use of force analysis did not identify any areas of concerns related to this training.

Patrol Officers only carry Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray and ASPs (extendable batons). There was one incident where a CSO deployed OC on a suspect. The suspect was intoxicated and attempted to gain access to the CSO's baton, struck the CSO with a closed fist, and attempted to strangle the CSO with their hands, prior to the OC spray being deployed. The suspect was detained with minimal injury and arrested by the Denver Police. An internal review was initiated, and the findings found that the CSO acted within policy and the law to protect themselves and others in the area from harm.