



Knoxville Police Department

Annual Response to Resistance Analysis

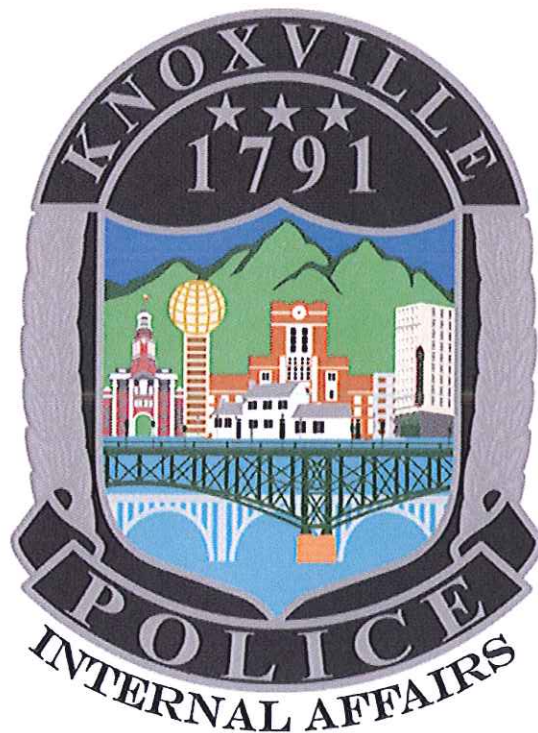
2015



"When resistance to police action or threat to human life is encountered and reasonable alternatives have been considered, a reasonable response to resistance may be employed. Based upon the circumstances of the situations, only a response which is reasonable to effectively bring an incident under control, while protecting the lives of officers or another, shall be applied. A response to gain control of a situation will be used with restraint and in proportion to the legitimate objective to be achieved."

-KPD General Order 1.6, Response to Resistance

**KNOXVILLE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**



**2015
RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE ANALYSIS**

Prepared by:
Captain Eve M. Thomas
Internal Affairs Unit

2015 Annual Response to Resistance

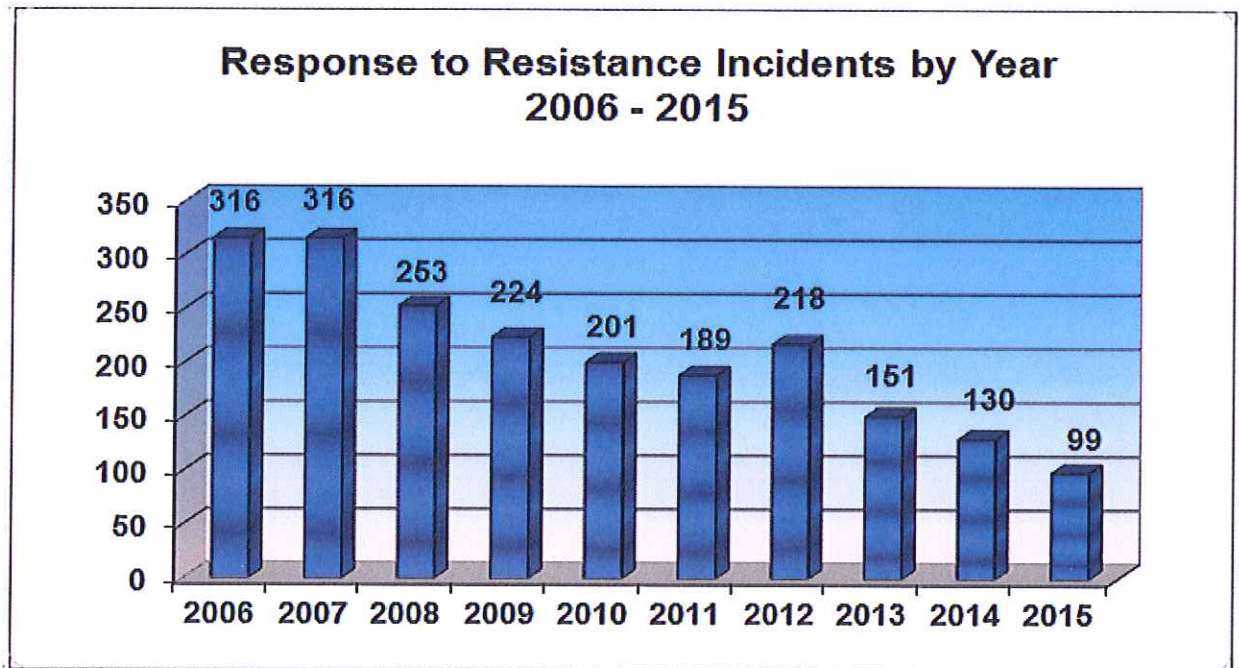
Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Annual Synopsis	10
Division/District/Unit Overview	18
Officers Involved	22
Precipitating Factors	26
Resistance Type and Response Used	30
Response Effectiveness	35
Injuries to Officers	37
Demographics of Subjects	40
Firearms Use	42
Policies and Practice	44
Recommendations	46

Executive Summary

Annual Response to Resistance Analysis – 2015

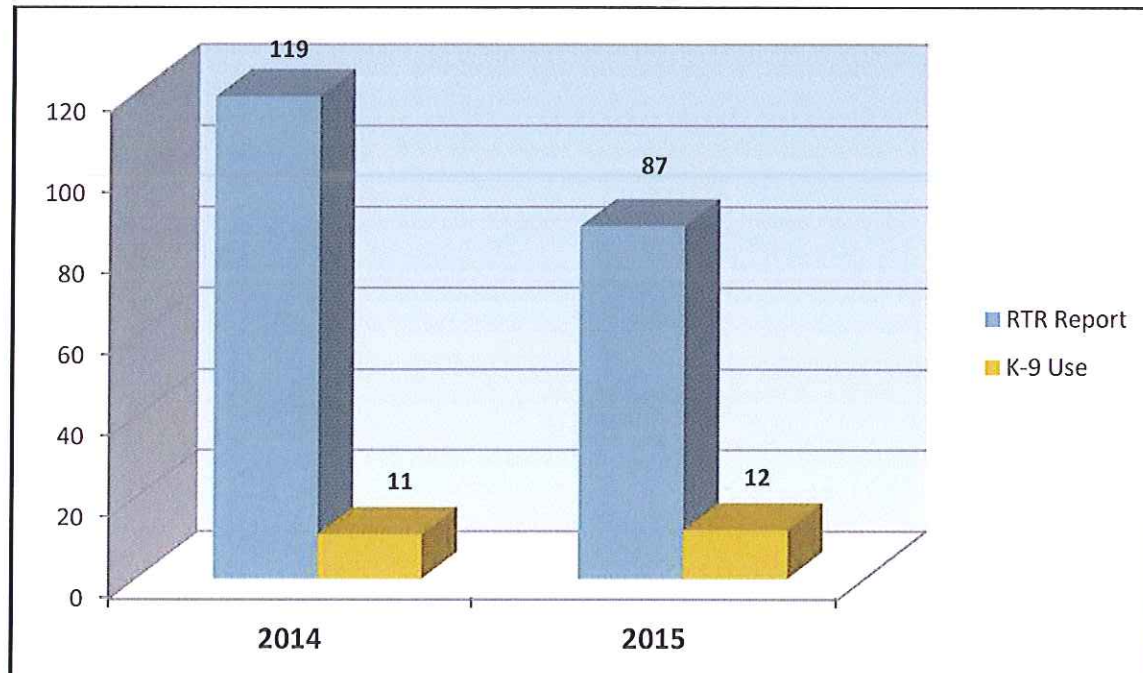
During the 2015 calendar year, officers of the Knoxville Police Department, during the course of their duties, employed documentable force against 99 persons who were actively resisting officers' efforts during arrests or protective custody incidents. Considering that officers arrested 11,790 persons in that time period, force was only used in less than 1% (.83%) of all arrests – or used no force in more than 99% of all arrests. This is comparable to 2014 when force was used in only .98% of arrests and 2013 where force was employed in 1.12% of arrests. Officers used force in responding to resistance sparingly, which is a clear reflection on the training, education, and professionalism of the Knoxville Police Department. In addition to the low percentage of times force is used as response, there has been a steady decline in the number of response to resistance encounters over the past 3 years.



As indicated in the above chart, there was a reduction of 31 Response to Resistance Reports (RTR) in 2015 when compared to the previous year. This notable decrease of 23.8% makes

2015 a record low year for documented responses to resistance with 2014 being the second lowest at 130. This downward trend has continued since 2007 – when 316 responses to resistances were reported. As can be seen in the chart, the exception to this trend was a spike in 2012 with 218 incidents reported.

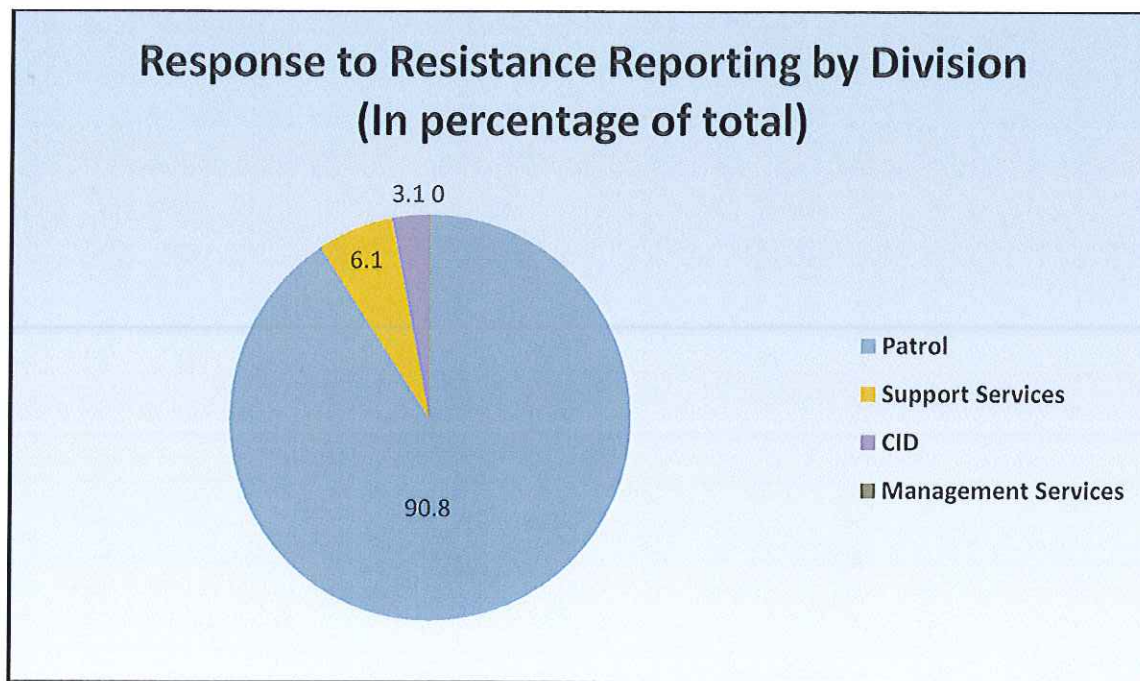
Of the 130 incidents that required a Response to Resistance Report in 2014, 11 were K-9 Use/Apprehension Reports which resulted in a bite. It is important to note that only those K-9 reports that resulted in a bite are included in this analysis. In 2015, 12 K-9 Use/Apprehension Reports which resulted in contact between the suspect and police canine were included in the yearly total of 99 Response to Resistance Reports, indicating a slight increase of 3.7% in responses using canines.



The most significant decrease in response to resistance reporting was realized in the Patrol Division. The Patrol Division accounted for 118 incidents in 2014 and only 90 during 2015. Patrol has historically accounted for the majority of Response to Resistance Reports, as a function of their daily duties, and any significant changes will be represented in Patrol Division

reporting. In 2015, the reduction in response to resistance incidents reported by the Patrol Division realized a 23.7% decrease from 2014.

The Support Services Division, which contains the SRO (School Resource Officer) Unit, experienced a decrease in the number of response to resistance incidents reported from 9 Response to Resistance Reports submitted in 2014 to 6 submitted in 2015. The Management Services Division had no response to resistance incidents reported and the Criminal Investigative Division (C.I.D.) submitted 3 Response to Resistance Reports.



As per Knoxville Police Department General Order 1.6, "Response to Resistance," during the 2015 calendar year any member who applied any type of lethal or less lethal weapon(s) (to include impact weapons and munitions, OC spray and Electronic Control Device) that was actually used (not merely displayed), and/or physical force was applied at the level of empty hand hard or greater, or instances where injury to the subject was visible or apparent, was required to document their actions as well as the subject's precipitating actions, on a Response to Resistance Report.

POSSIBLE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DECLINE IN INCIDENTS

The continued annual declination of response to resistance incidents that was noted earlier in this summary may possibly be explained by the following information that could perhaps be considered to be causation factors – either individually or in some sort of combination:

KPD's Continued Commitment to Community Engagement

It is well worth noting that the Knoxville Police Department has continued to assertively seek ways to engage the community – both to educate the community about the police department and police procedures and to educate the members of the department regarding the perceptions and needs of the community it serves. The Citizens Police Academy (CPA) has been in place for more than 10 years with most graduates becoming members of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA), which provides volunteer assistance to the department and to the community as an outreach of the Department whenever needed. The Liaison Officer initiative is another example of how the department has responded to community concerns. This initiative has evolved from the department's commitment to have officers attend every community meeting that the department is aware of, to having each community that has regularly scheduled meetings assigned a specific officer, which ensures continuity in communication of problems and issues raised at these meetings to ensure that problem solving occurs and a response/information is provided by that officer. Liaison officers volunteer for this assignment and are provided special training as well as compensation for time they spend on these duties that may occur during "off-duty" time. Other initiatives include the Chaplain Corps, which is made up of community volunteers who have a minimum of five years of ministry or counseling service and complete a Chaplain Training Academy. These Chaplains serve as a support service for the community in crisis situations as well as police department employees and their families. The KPD Explorer Unit is affiliated with the Boys Scouts of America and is comprised of individuals between the ages of 14 and 21 who have an interest in law enforcement and volunteer their time to receive training and provide working support to the department. Additionally, all members of the department are encouraged to participate in community events and initiatives and continue to receive ongoing training in communication.

Recent Internal Investigations

During the 2015 calendar year, there were 5 Internal Affairs Unit investigations that involved use of force allegations. Of those cases, 4 resulted in no sustained use of force allegations and one that was received late in the year is ongoing at this time. However, it must also be noted that a high profile Use of Force investigation was conducted in 2013 that resulted in three officers separating from the department and each one pleading guilty to a felony and misdemeanor charge. Furthermore, seven other members received disciplinary action stemming from the same investigation. In the five years previous to 2015, there have been seven I.A.U. investigations that resulted in sustained use of force infractions. Five of those incidents occurred in 2013 and the other two occurred in 2012. The three years prior had no sustained allegations for Use of Force. The department's response in somewhat recent history may have played a role in changing the way officers view and react to force situations.

Education Level of Officers

The 2014 Annual Response to Resistance Report made reference to an article in the March 10 edition of "Police Quarterly" which focused on research done for a thesis authored by Jason Rydberg which cited a correlation between force usage and the education level on the officers involved.¹ Last year's report indicated that The Knoxville Police Department may be the beneficiary of decreased force usage due to a recent increase in the number of officers who possess a 4 year degree. In 2006, when force usage was at an all-time high (316 incidents), the department had 101 officers with a four year degree. In eight short years the department expanded that number to 193 officers. In essence, force usage dropped by 59% in 8 years while the number of 4 year degrees increased by 91 %.

That trend has continued through 2015, as currently 205 officers (52% of all officers) possess at least a 4 year degree. Additionally, it should be pointed out that a sizable portion of these officers have continued their education. The sworn ranks of the Knoxville Police Department now consists of 26 officers who possess a Master's level degree as well as 15 additional officers who are currently pursuing a Master's level degree.

¹ Rydberg, Jason, "The Effect of Higher Education on Police Behavior." (Michigan State: 2009)

While this research is compelling, an excerpt from an MSNBC report, “U.S. Police: Education Levels and the Use of Force,” contained an observation made by Dr. Maria Habefield of John Jay Criminal Justice. She stated,

“One component here that people tend to ignore is the age component. If you go and get your degree first, you’re a couple of years older than the average recruit and at this age, when you’re so young, those couple years are critical for our emotional development and decision making processes. It’s a huge deal in terms of how emotional you are, how you’re more into assessing things and not just reacting.”²

While we can tout both increased education and increased maturity (age) as having an effect on an officer using force, the combination of these two factors would be desirable in the policing profession to ensure that when force is used, it is used appropriately and only when necessary.

Change in Patrol Division Work Schedule

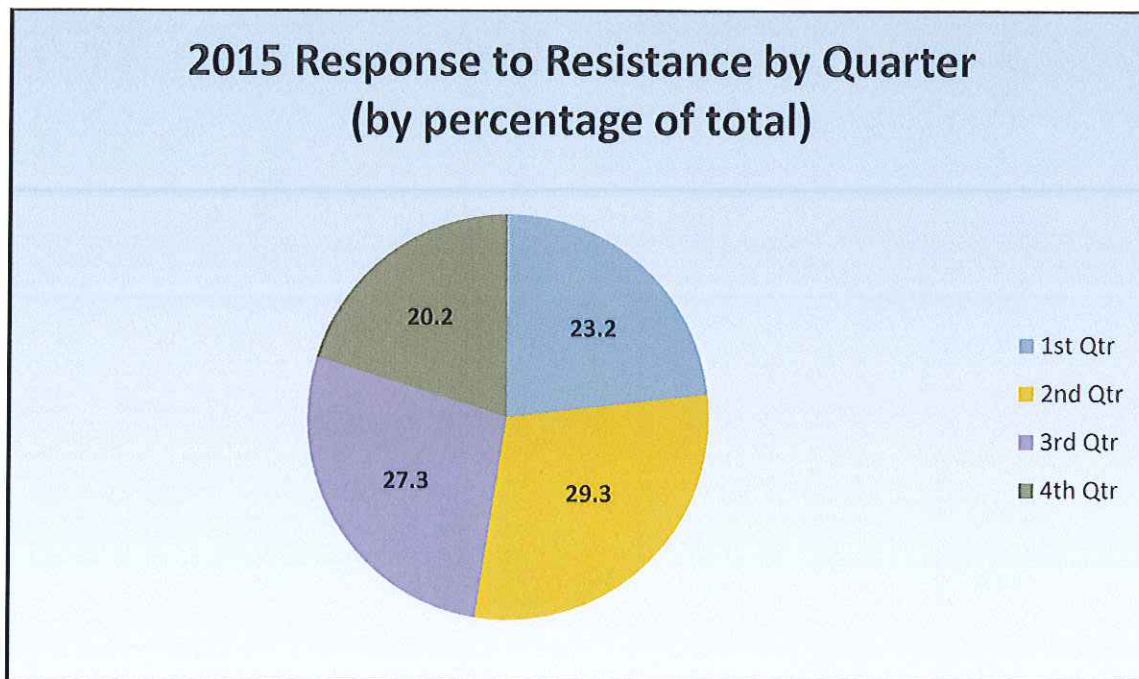
Another possible factor in the reduction of response to resistance incidents is the change in work schedule experienced by officers assigned to district patrol positions that occurred in February, 2015. Previous to this, officers were assigned to a “rotating 6/4 schedule,” which means that they would work a 9.5 hour shift for 6 days during normal day shift hours (6:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.), have 4 days off and then report for 6 days of an evening shift schedule (2:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.), have 4 days off followed by 6 days of night shift hours (9:30 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.), followed by 4 days off and then back to day shift. Followed by extensive research and discussion among all ranks, the change to a “fixed 4/3 schedule” was implemented last February. These officers now work either a day, evening or night shift for 4 ten hour days followed by 3 days off. Research was presented indicating that these “non-rotating” shifts should provide officers with better sleep patterns and increased health benefit. In turn, it would seem that these benefits could be extrapolated to include, among other benefits, better decision making and increased physical performance – two crucial components involved in the use of force.

² Frej, Willa, “U.S. Police: Education Levels and the Use of Force.” MSNBC December 19, 2014.

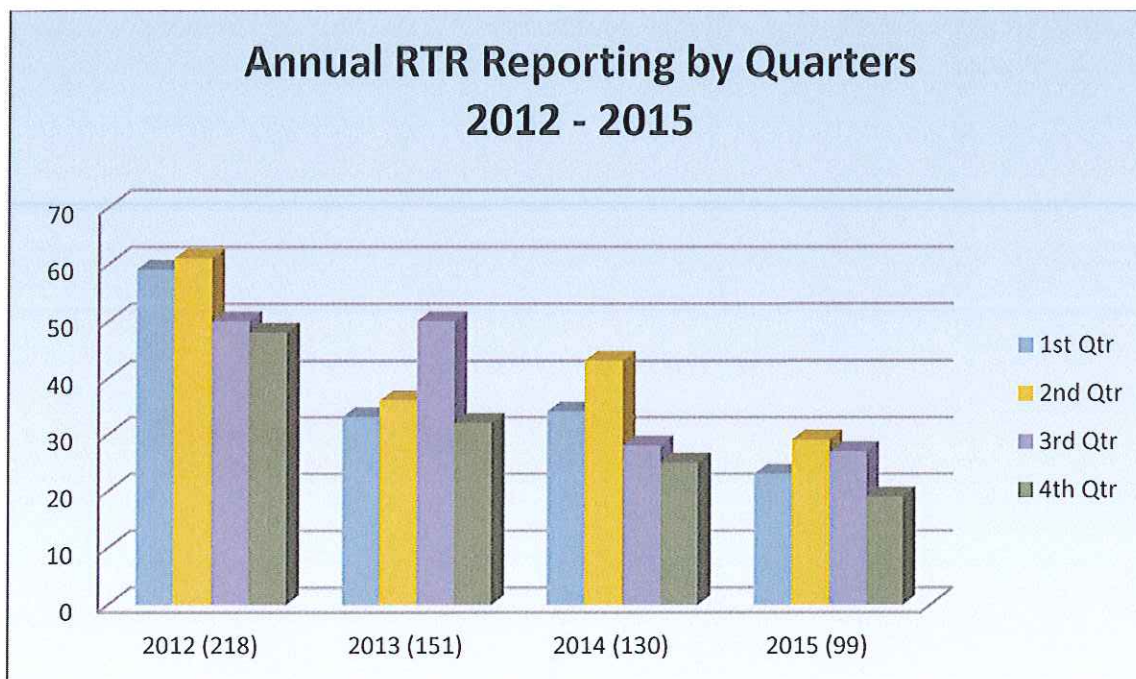
TAB “Annual Synopsis”

2015 Quarterly Summary

During the 2015 calendar year, the 2nd quarter accounted for the highest number of Response to Resistance Reports with 29 having been submitted. The 3rd quarter is close behind with 27 incidents, followed by the 1st quarter and lastly the 4th quarter with 23 and 20 Response to Resistance Reports each. With the exception of the 4th quarter, reporting was fairly consistent across quarters-as illustrated in the chart below.

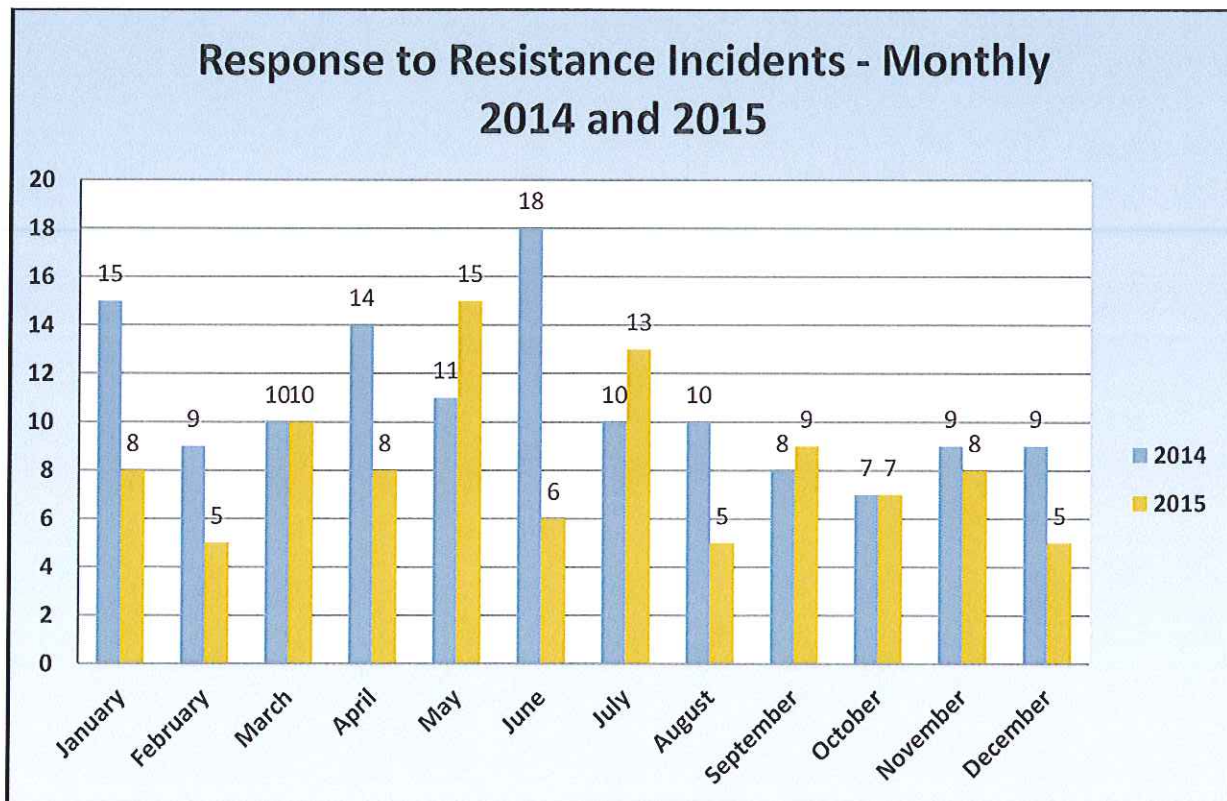


The chart that follows is a comparison by year, over the past four years, by quarter. While the 2nd and 3rd quarters have consistently battled for the highest number of Response to Resistance incidents, the 4th quarter has historically had the fewest incidents, followed respectively by the 1st quarter. These numbers may reflect weather related factors and decreased calls for service that could diminish the likelihood of an incident involving resistance that requires a force response. As can be seen below, it seems that over the past three years, incidents have been trending to remain relatively consistent from one quarter to the next.



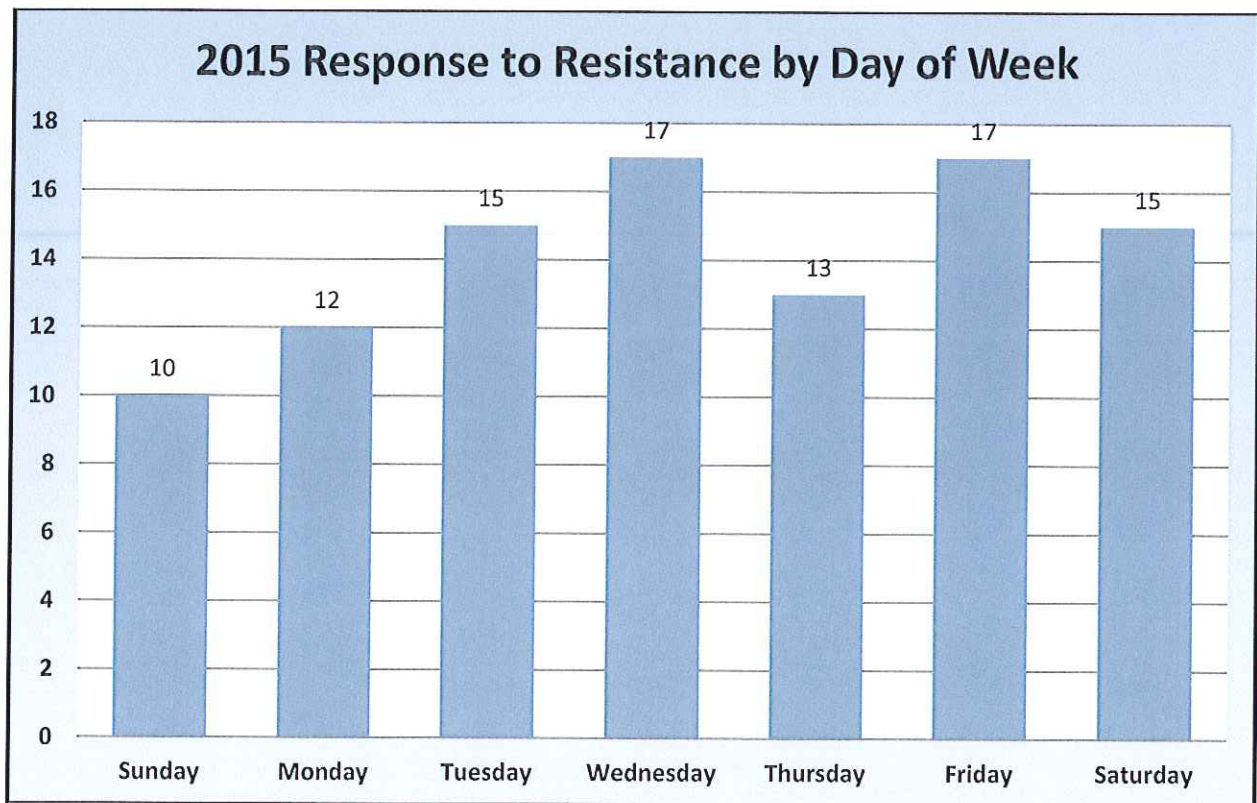
2015 Monthly Response to Resistance Reporting

As displayed graphically below, within the 2015 calendar year, May had the highest number of reported response to resistance incidents with 15 having been reported, followed by July and March with 13 and 10 incidents respectively. These months collectively account for 38.4% of the 99 total reported incidents. The months of February, August and December tied for the lowest reported monthly incidents with only 5 reports. As can be seen below, there is little consistency in monthly reporting when comparing year to year.

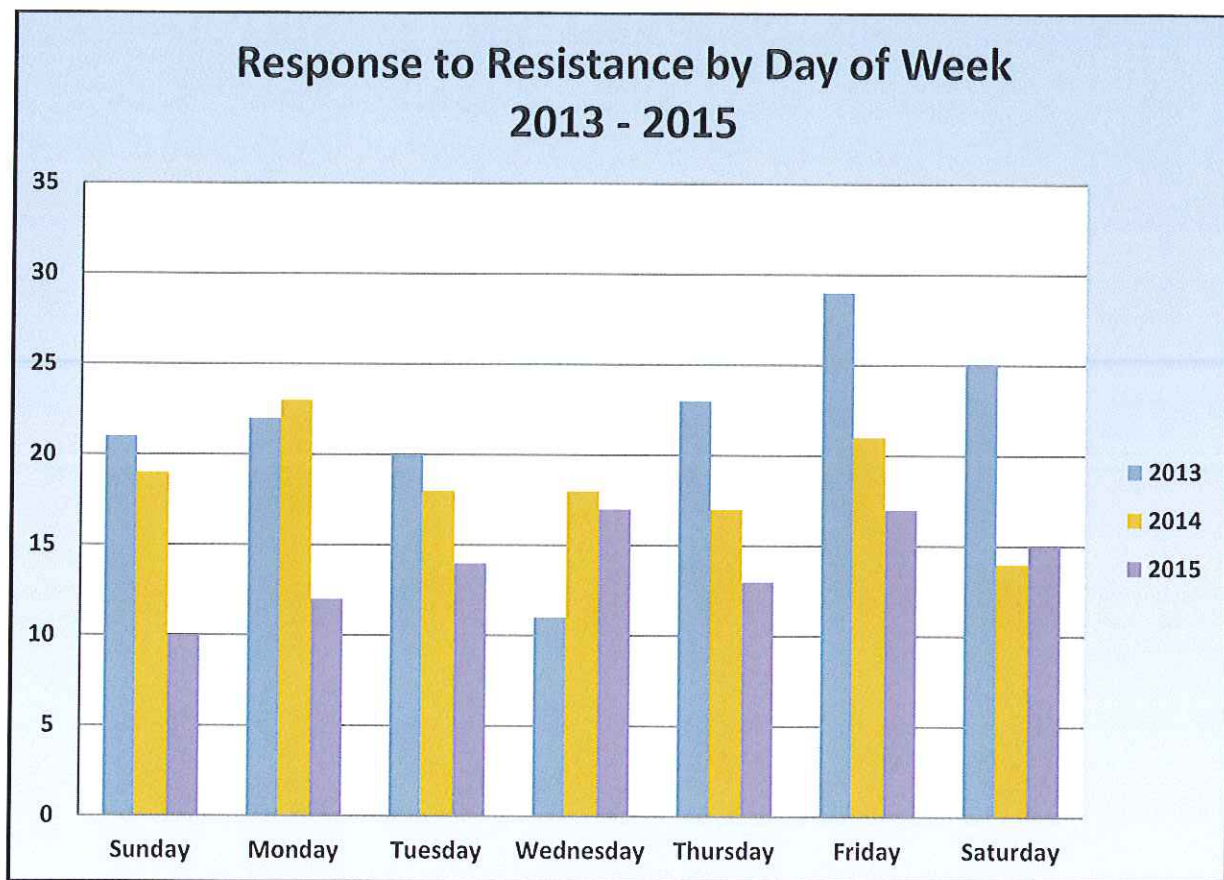


2015 Response to Resistance Reporting by Day of Week

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday experienced the highest number of Response to Resistance incidents during 2015. These three days accounted for nearly two thirds (64%) of the 99 total reported incidents. With the exception of Sunday, which had the lowest reported number of response to resistance incidents, the likelihood of being involved in a response requiring force incident was relatively consistent throughout the week. The daily average over the combined days is 14 incidents.

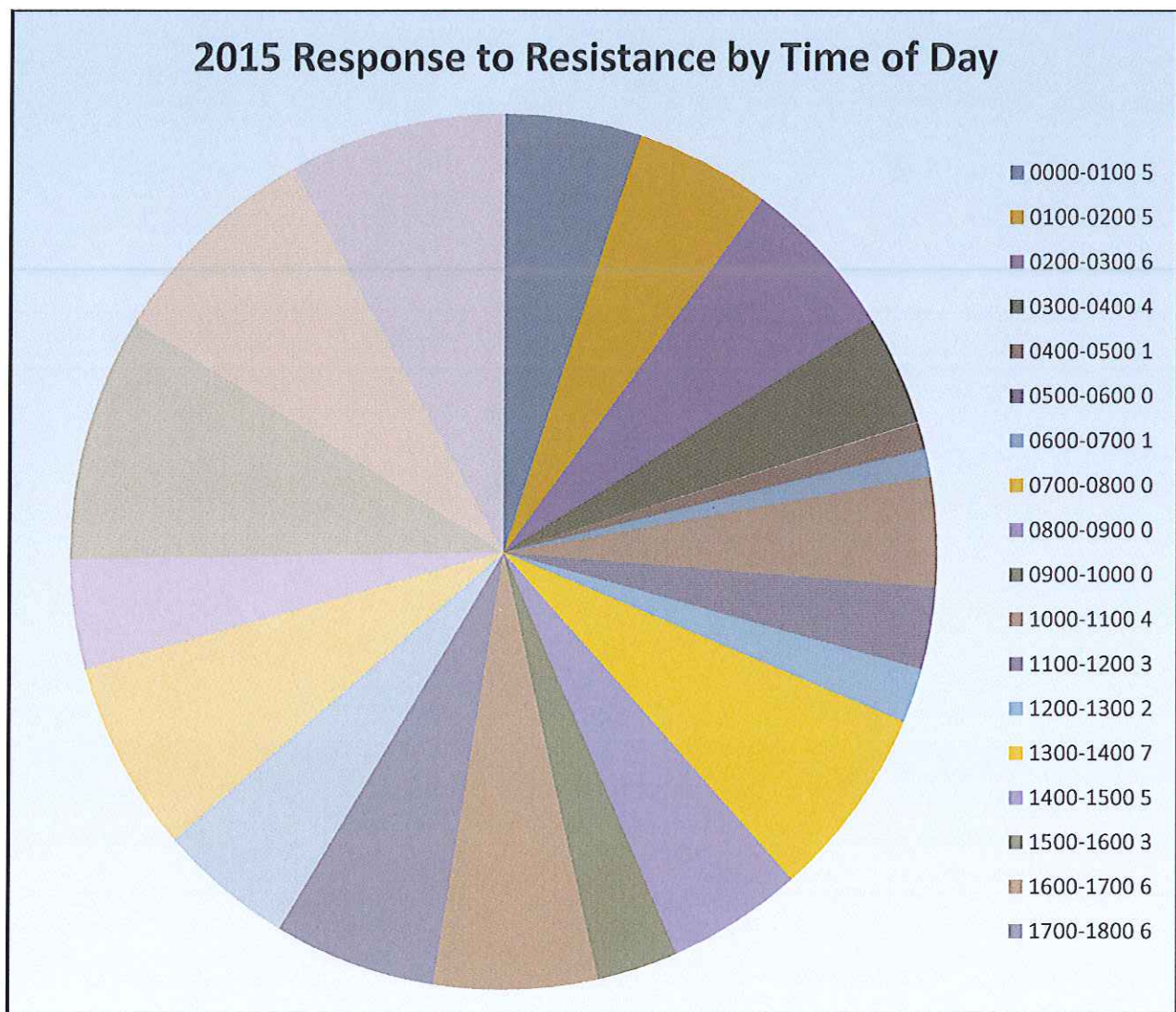


For three consecutive years, Friday has accounted for one of the top two busiest days of the week for response to resistance. Historically, Friday remains the leading day that officers will most likely be involved in a response to resistance incident. The uncertainty of law enforcement is reflected in the numbers and their variation from one year to the next.



2015 Response to Resistance by Time of Day

During 2015 the majority of response to resistance incidents occurred between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m. with little or no incident reporting occurring between 4:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. There are two anomalies, or exceptions, that occurred at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. The hours surrounding each of these times showed higher incident rates with these two hours only reporting 3 and 4 responses to resistance incidents each.



Yearly Overview by Time of Day (2015 – 2012)

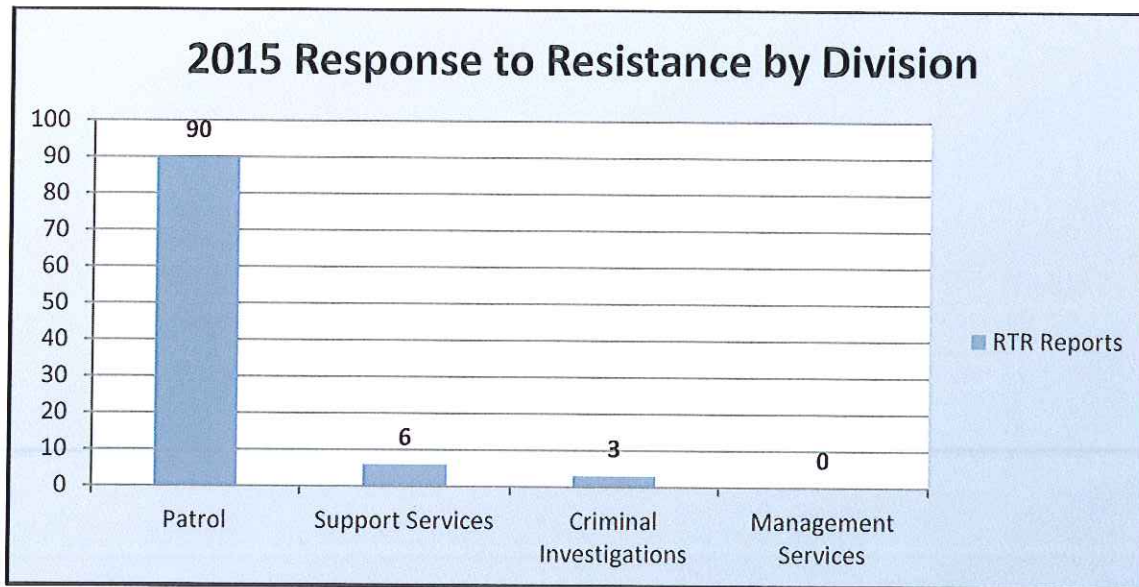
	2015	2014	2013	2012	TOTAL
0000-0100	5	11	7	12	35
0100-0200	5	10	11	10	36
0200-0300	6	11	9	10	36
0300-0400	4	5	5	6	20
0400-0500	1	2	8	5	16
0500-0600	0	1	1	5	7
0600-0700	1	0	2	2	5
0700-0800	0	2	1	3	6
0800-0900	0	6	0	6	12
0900-1000	0	2	7	12	21
1000-1100	4	2	1	7	14
1100-1200	3	3	10	8	24
1200-1300	2	3	14	12	31
1300-1400	7	6	6	6	25
1400-1500	5	3	8	6	22
1500-1600	3	7	9	10	29
1600-1700	6	7	5	8	26
1700-1800	6	10	4	9	29
1800-1900	5	8	8	10	31
1900-2000	7	6	11	10	34
2000-2100	4	3	8	21	36
2100-2200	9	5	3	15	32
2200-2300	8	8	7	12	35
2300-0000	8	9	6	13	36
TOTAL	99	130	151	218	597

Traditionally, the evening and night hours (1700 hours – 0200 hours) experienced the most reported response to resistance reporting. During 2015 this time frame accounted for 57.8% of all incidents.

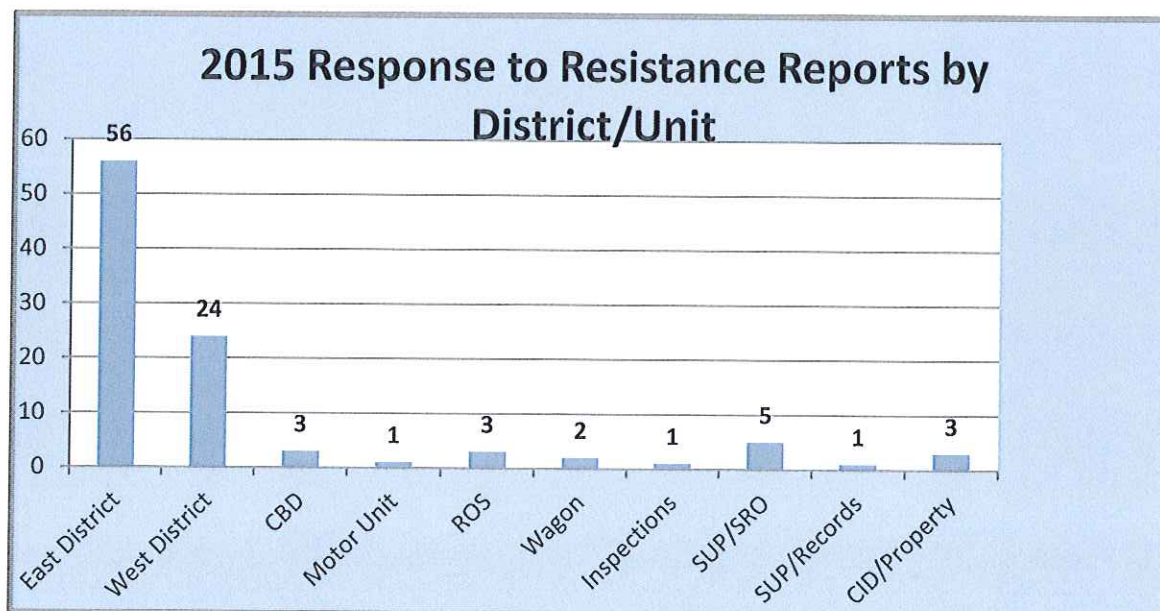
TAB “Division/District/Unit Overview”

Response to Resistance Reporting by Division/District/Unit

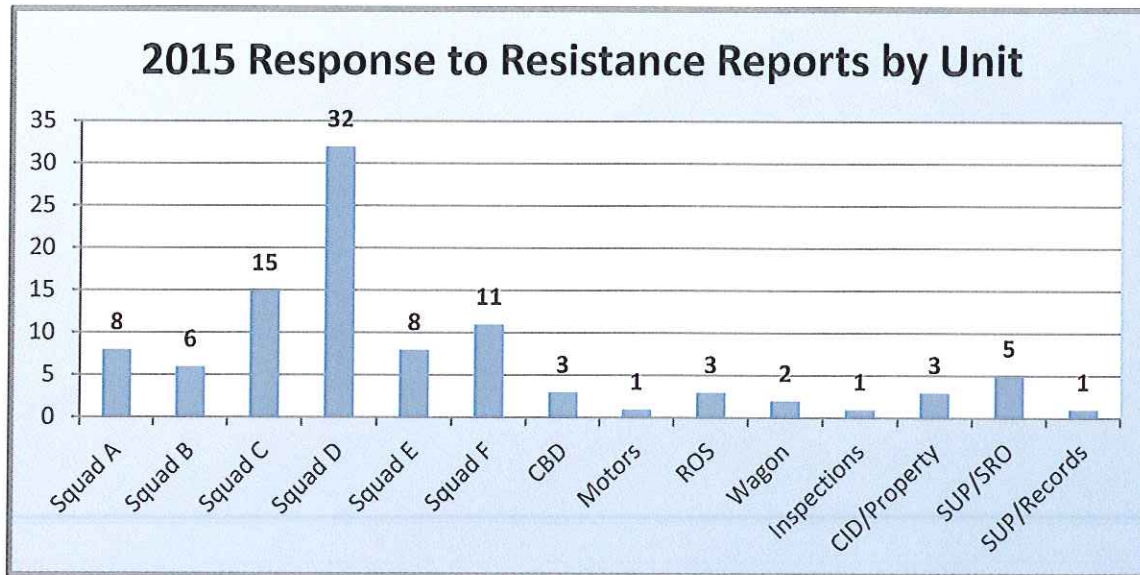
As stated previously in the Executive Summary, the Patrol Division has historically accounted for the majority of Response to Resistance Reports, as a factor involved in their daily duties. As can be seen in the chart below, during 2015 the Patrol Division accounted for 90 Response to Resistance Reports, followed by the Support Services and Criminal Investigative Divisions with 6 and 3 respectively.



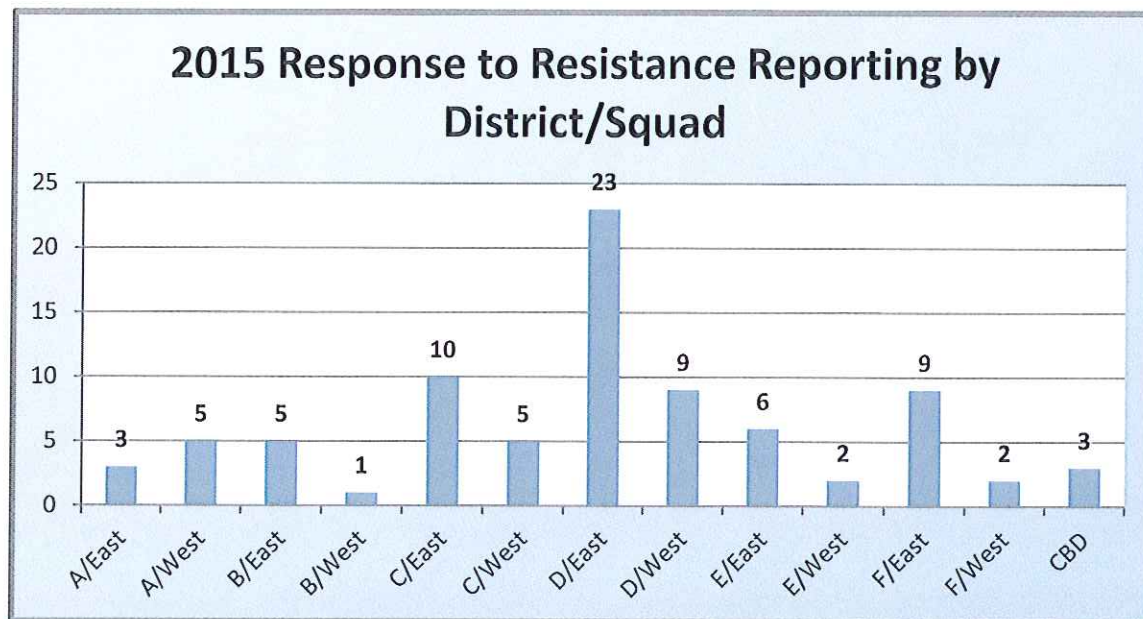
The following chart depicts the Response to Resistance Reports submitted by District/Unit within the Divisions.



The below chart depicts the number of Response to Resistance Reports submitted by Squad and Unit. It must be noted that the complexion of squads changed on Feb 8, 2015 when the Patrol Division changed work schedules and there was an increase from 5 squads (A – E) to 6 squads (A – F).

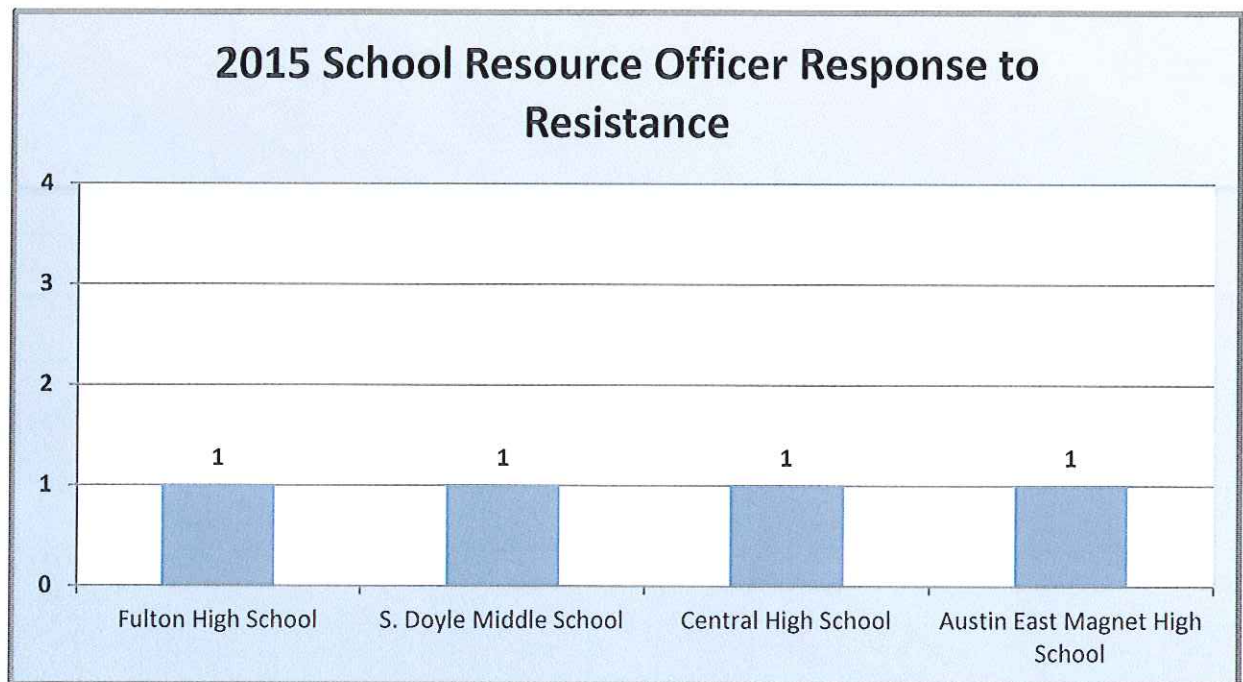


The Response to Resistance Reporting is decimated further by Patrol District and Squad:



2015 SRO Response to Resistance Overview

School Resource Officers reported only four responses to resistances in performance of their assigned duties during 2015, a significant decrease from nine the previous year. Each of the four responses involved a juvenile subject. None of the juvenile subjects reported or exhibited visible injuries as a result of the force response, while two of the officers reported minor injuries to include cuts, abrasions, etc. It should be recognized that School Resource Officers may be required to respond to resistance while taking part in secondary assignments or duties not associated with their responsibilities at a school. Only those responses to resistance that were the direct result of their SRO assignment are represented in this section.



TAB "Officers Involved"

Officers Documenting Response to Resistance During 2015

During 2015 there were a total of 155 officers that utilized 26 types of documentable force a total of 234 times. These officers and their actions were documented on 99 Response to Resistance Reports. As previously stated, multiple officers may have employed several types of force on an individual subject. These figures do not capture witnessing officers that may have observed the force response but did not engage.

The chart below depicts the top ten officers who employed 18% of force responses in 2015 along with their work assignment and number of arrests affected for the year:

Officer Name	Number of Force Responses	Number of Arrests	Division	Assignment
Officer Dylan Williams	7	250	Patrol	West/D
Officer Joseph Whitehead (K9)	6	60	Patrol	East/D
Officer Jakob McDaniel	5	54	Patrol	East/D
Officer Thomas Turner	5	158	Patrol	East/D
Officer Tyler Wiggins	4	155	Patrol	East/D
Officer Sam Henard	3	101	Patrol	East/B
Officer Jordan Henderson	3	161	Patrol	East/D
Officer Christopher Hutton	3	92	Patrol	East/C
Officer Brian Mullane (K9)	3	16	Patrol	West/A
Officer Chelsea Wright	3	81	Patrol	East/C

All of the charted officers are assigned to the Patrol Division, which accounts for the vast majority of force response usage. Four of these officers appeared in last year's list as well.

It should be noted that the other 145 officers who responded with force during 2015 used it only one or two times that year. The following report is a listing of those officers.

Number of incidents by officer -- Jan 01, 2015 Dec 31, 2015

Type	Officer	#
Use of force	Dylan Williams	7
Use of force	Joseph Whitehead, II	6
Use of force	Jakob McDaniel	5
Use of force	Thomas Turner	5
Use of force	Tyler Wiggins	4
Use of force	Samuel Henard	3
Use of force	Jordan Henderson	3
Use of force	Christopher Hutton	3
Use of force	Brian Mullane	3
Use of force	Chelsea Wright	3
Use of force	William Dorwart	2
Use of force	Garrett Fontanez	2
Use of force	Sean Ford	2
Use of force	Brian Foulks	2
Use of force	Nelson Hamilton	2
Use of force	JaJuan Hamilton	2
Use of force	Kenneth Harrell	2
Use of force	Jason Hughett	2
Use of force	Philip Jinks	2
Use of force	Christopher Jones	2
Use of force	Samuel McLane	2
Use of force	Dusty Miller	2
Use of force	Jeremy Moses	2
Use of force	Adam Parnell	2
Use of force	Dean Ray	2
Use of force	Dan Sambrano	2
Use of force	Jacob Schettler	2
Use of force	Nathanael Skellenger	2
Use of force	Joshua Smith	2
Use of force	John Stevens	2
Use of force	Drew Winstead	2
Use of force	Curtis Arms	1
Use of force	Travis Baker	1
Use of force	Jonathan Book	1
Use of force	Richard Boruff	1
Use of force	Barry Britton, Jr.	1
Use of force	James Burrell	1
Use of force	Kenneth Bush	1
Use of force	Darren Carden	1
Use of force	Todd Childress	1
Use of force	Michael Cooper	1
Use of force	Kristen Cox	1
Use of force	Dana Crocker	1
Use of force	Jason Cunningham	1
Use of force	Michael Dabbelt	1
Use of force	Bryan Davis	1
Use of force	Joshua Dykes	1
Use of force	Thomas Epps	1
Use of force	James Gadd	1
Use of force	Ricky Gallaher	1
Use of force	Jason Gardner	1
Use of force	Gerald George	1
Use of force	Gordon Gwathney	1

Use of force	Michael Harper	1
Use of force	Brian Headrick	1
Use of force	Caryn Renee Heitz	1
Use of force	Zackery Herman	1
Use of force	John Holmes	1
Use of force	James Hunley	1
Use of force	Joshua Hurst	1
Use of force	Donny Huskey	1
Use of force	Matthew Janish	1
Use of force	Jason Kalmanek	1
Use of force	Steven Kaufman	1
Use of force	Andrew Keith	1
Use of force	Carl Kennedy	1
Use of force	Ryan Kuykendall	1
Use of force	Matthew Lawson	1
Use of force	James Lockmiller	1
Use of force	Andrew Markham	1
Use of force	Grant Marshall	1
Use of force	John Martin	1
Use of force	Benjamin McVay	1
Use of force	Kenneth Miller	1
Use of force	Geoffrey Murret	1
Use of force	David Ogle	1
Use of force	Jeffrey Pappas	1
Use of force	Terry Pate	1
Use of force	J. Patton	1
Use of force	John Pickens	1
Use of force	Lesley Pressley	1
Use of force	Charles Roach	1
Use of force	Kenneth Robertson	1
Use of force	William Romanini	1
Use of force	Deric Runge	1
Use of force	Charles Sands	1
Use of force	Ernest Sealey	1
Use of force	Shawn Shreve	1
Use of force	Roger Simmons	1
Use of force	Hunter Snoderly	1
Use of force	Derek Swartz	1
Use of force	Sharon Terrell	1
Use of force	William Thompson	1
Use of force	Michael Traylor	1
Use of force	Coy Tucker, II	1
Use of force	Jayson Waggoner	1
Use of force	Preston Whillock	1
Use of force	Richard White	1
Use of force	Christopher Williams	1
Use of force	Shawna Williams	1
Use of force	James Williams, Jr.	1
Use of force	Zack Wilson	1
Use of force	Jacob Wilson	1
Use of force	Samuel Young	1

Report date range criteria: Incidents received between 1/1/2015 and 12/31/2015

Report count criteria: By officer linked to incident

Report name: Involved officer incident count

Report run on: Apr 29, 2016 at 15:30 by Captain Eve Thomas

TAB – “Precipitating Factors”

Precipitating Factors to the Force Response

There was a wide range of factors that precipitated the application of force by officers in 2015. There were 42 different types of services that were being provided when officers were required to respond with force. This highlights the fact that any call has the potential to be dangerous. Officers routinely respond to situations and calls without a complete knowledge of the facts and circumstances. Law enforcement officers approach unknown offenders on traffic stops and often respond to calls equipped with limited information provided by a biased or uninformed third party. Frequently, the details of most calls are not confirmed until an officer(s) have been on scene for an extended period.

Top Eight Calls That Resulted in a Response to Resistance

Type of Call	Number of Force Incidents	% of Force Incidents
Domestic Disturbance	8	8 %
Disturbance Call	7	7 %
Traffic Stop	7	7 %
Warrant Service	7	7 %
Routine Patrol	6	6 %
Public Intoxication	5	5 %
Shoplifting	5	5 %
Officer Assistance	5	5%
Total	50	50 %

Domestic disputes, disturbance calls, traffic stops and warrant service calls were the four police activities that resulted in the most responses to resistance in 2015. Domestic disturbance and disturbance calls remained in the top two slots for the second year. For the fourth consecutive year, domestic disputes and traffic stops have remained on this list-indicating that they still pose the greatest risks to officers of the Knoxville Police Department.

The numbers also indicate that relatively minor calls can require officers to use force. Officers used force while dealing with publically intoxicated persons and while working security. This reinforces the need for officers to remain vigilant and avoid the tendency to become complacent on “routine” calls.

The following is a complete list of calls for service that resulted in a force response:

Nature of Police Service Involving Use of force

Between Jan 1, 2015 and Dec 31, 2015

Service type	Count	Percent of total	:
Agg. Assault	1	1%	
Alarm--Residential	1	1%	
Assault	1	1%	
Assist Rural Metro	2	2%	
Burglary-Business	1	1%	
Burglary-In Progress	2	2%	
Burglary-Vehicle	1	1%	
Canine Assist	1	1%	
Criminal Trespass	1	1%	
Disorderly Conduct	3	3%	
Disturbance Call	7	7%	
Domestic Problems	8	8%	
Drug Related Call	2	2%	
Felony Stop	1	1%	
Fight Call	1	1%	
Fireworks	2	2%	
Hospital	1	1%	
Indecent Exposure	1	1%	
Investigation Call	1	1%	
Man W/Gun Call	1	1%	
Missing Person	1	1%	
Officer Assist	5	5%	
Public Intoxication	5	5%	
Pursuit--Vehicle	1	1%	
Robbery-Armed	1	1%	
Routine Patrol	6	6%	
Runaway	1	1%	
School-Disorderly Conduc	3	3%	
School-Disturbance	1	1%	
Shoplifting	5	5%	
Stationary Traffic Assgn	1	1%	
Suicide--Attempt	4	4%	
Suspicious Person	1	1%	
Theft	2	2%	
Traffic Accident	1	1%	
Traffic Stop	7	7%	
Transporting	1	1%	
Trespass	2	2%	

UT Football Game	1	1%
Vandalism	1	1%
Walking Patrol	1	1%
Warrant Service	7	7%
Working Security	3	3%

Date range criteria: Uses of force incidents dated Between Jan 1, 2015 and Dec 31, 2015

Count criteria: Use of force incidents

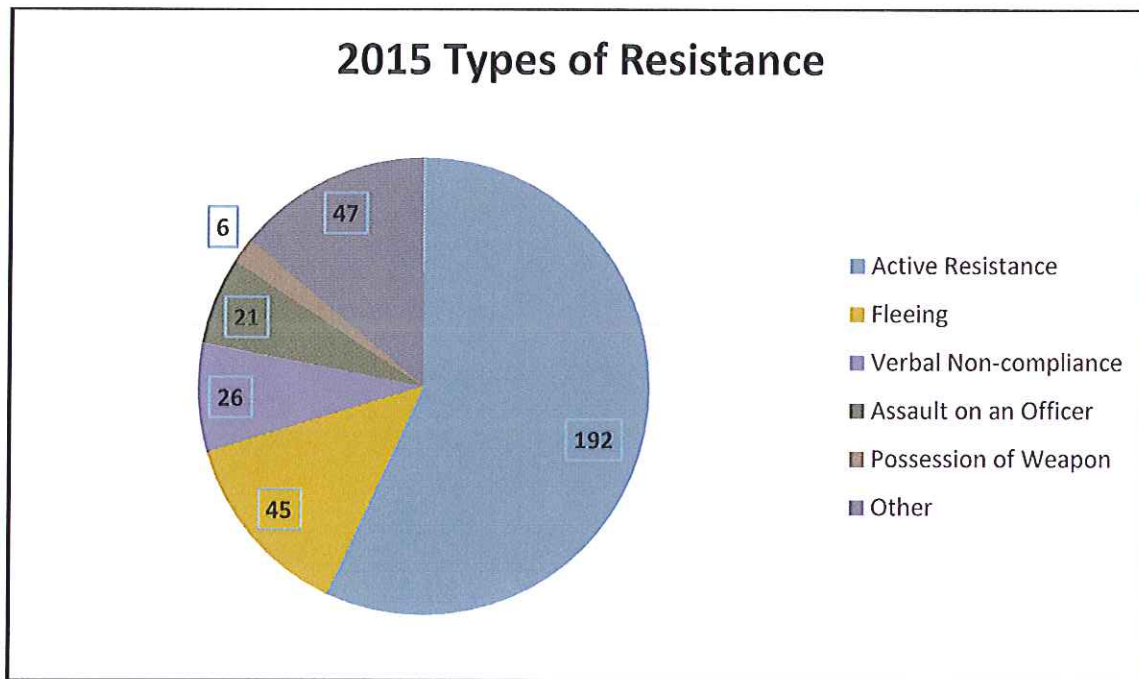
Report name: Use of force count by service type

Report run on: Apr 29, 2016 at 16:23 by Captain Eve Thomas

TAB – “Resistance Type and Response Used”

Types of Resistance Used by Subjects

Those who resisted the police chose a wide array of non-compliant behaviors and actions that required officers to respond. It is important to note, that many of the reported incidents involved several types of resistance which may have resulted in multiple types of responses by officers. In total, there were 337 types of resistance used by subjects that required a response in 2015. A detailed accounting of these actions can be seen in the chart and descriptions below:



The most prominent type of resistance utilized by arrestees was active resistance, which accounted for 57 % of all resistance. This type of active, physical, resistance included wrestling or pulling away from an officer to avoid being handcuffed and/or to evade arrest. Included in this category are those instances where subjects refused to exit a vehicle upon an officer's command and the officer was required to forcibly extract the subject. It is important to remember that physical resistance can continue after restraints are applied.

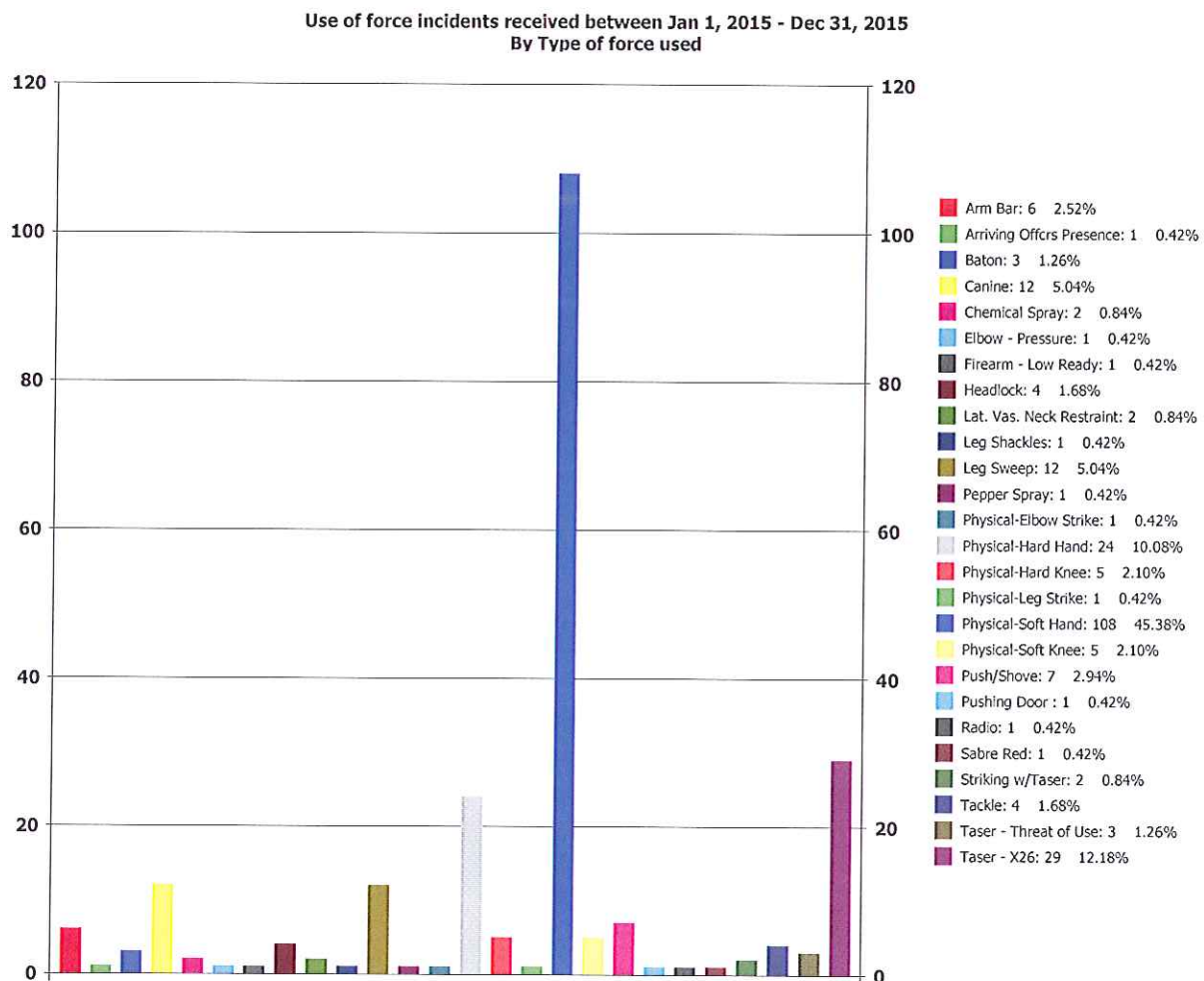
Secondly, fleeing accounted for 13.3% of resistance used by subjects during 2015. Fleeing encompasses running, and attempting to run away as well as real and attempted flight in a vehicle.

The third most prevalent type of resistance was verbal noncompliance, which accounted for 7.7% of resistance used. This encompasses resistance that likely precipitated more aggressive resistance. Failure by an arrestee to show their hands or follow basic instructions would be some of the resistance included in this category.

In 2015, officers documented 21 incidents when they were assaulted during a response to resistance situation. Multiple assaults or assault attempts can be employed during a single response to resistance scenario. For instance, a suspect may choose to spit, punch and kick during their attempt to resist arrest. Officers will document all acts of violence employed by the suspect on the Response to Resistance report. The 21 incidents reported in 2015 equates to 6.2% of the total number of times resistance was used by a subject. This percentage is down from 10% in 2014 and also from 2013 when the total assaults on officers comprised 9% of the resistance types. This provides an indication that situational de-escalation tactics by officers during tense situations are making an impact.

Response Types Used by Police Officers

The most prominent type of force used by Knoxville Officers in 2015 was soft hand techniques which accounted for 50 % of all responses. Soft hand techniques include pain compliance techniques, arm bars, and “come-along” holds. Empty-hand hard techniques were the second most frequent type of force and accounted for 24 % of all responses to resistance. Empty hand hard techniques are represented by strikes, kicks, and movements that cause the assailant to impact the ground. The Taser X26 was the third most common type of forced used and accounted for 12% of all force applied. The percentages for soft hand techniques rose 8% and empty hand hard techniques decreased 10% when compared to the 2014 percentages. Taser usage was up a mere 1%.



Although they are similar in terms of force continuum, the Taser and pepper spray are not included in the empty-hand hard figures. In 2015, the Taser was deployed 29 times, down from 34 times in 2014, but accounted for 12% of all force used-an increase of 1% from 2014. Pepper spray was deployed only twice and accounted for less than 1% of all force used, which was a decrease of 2 % from 2014. The use of pepper spray continues to remain low when you compare a usage rate of .84% in 2013 and 2.27 % in 2012.

TAB – “Response Effectiveness”

Response Effectiveness

A total of 25 different force response types were employed and documented by officers during 2015 with varying degrees of success as depicted in the table below:

Profile of Use-of-force Incidents received between Jan 1, 2015 and Dec 31, 2015					
Total number of use-of-force incidents: 99					
Total number of officers involved: 155					
Type of force tally:					
<u>Type of force</u>	<u>Effective</u>		<u>Not effective</u>		<u>Total #</u>
	<u>#</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>%</u>	
Arm Bar	3	50%	3	50%	6
Arriving Officers Presence	1	100%	0	0%	1
Baton	2	67%	1	33%	3
Canine	12	100%	0	0%	12
Chemical Spray	1	50%	1	50%	2
Elbow - Pressure	1	100%	0	0%	1
Firearm - Low Ready	0	0%	1	100%	1
Headlock	2	50%	2	50%	4
Lat. Vas. Neck Restraint	1	50%	1	50%	2
Leg Shackles	1	100%	0	0%	1
Leg Sweep	5	42%	7	58%	11
Pepper Spray	1	100%	0	0%	1
Physical-Elbow Strike	1	100%	0	0%	1
Physical-Hard Hand	15	63%	9	38%	22
Physical-Hard Knee	2	40%	3	60%	5
Physical-Leg Strike	0	0%	1	100%	1
Physical-Soft Hand	62	57%	46	43%	107
Physical-Soft Knee	2	40%	3	60%	5
Push/Shove	2	29%	5	71%	7
Pushing Door	1	100%	0	0%	1
Radio	0	0%	1	100%	1
Sabre Red	0	0%	1	100%	1
Striking w/Taser	0	0%	2	100%	2
Tackle	1	25%	3	75%	4
Taser - Threat of Use	3	100%	0	0%	3
Taser - X26	20	69%	9	31%	29
Report date range criteria: Incidents received between Jan 1, 2015 and Dec 31, 2015					
Report name: Use of Force stats					
Report run on: Apr 06, 2016 at 16:11 by Captain Eve Thomas					

As in 2014, the use of police canines remained a useful tool and maintained a 100% effectiveness rate for 2015. Although only used twice in 2015, chemical spray improved to a 100% effectiveness rate as well. The Taser remained the preferred less-lethal weapon for response to resistance and its effectiveness improved from 62% in 2014 to 69% in 2015, an indication that proper utilization (i.e. shot placement and drive-stun follow-up) of this tool has improved. While documented response to resistance reporting declined by 23.8% from 2014, comparative Taser usage increased by 1%.

TAB – “Injuries to Officers”

Injuries to Officers

It should be recognized that there is a possibility of injury to officers as they respond to resistance and it is not possible to anticipate every situation that they may face in order to prevent injury. However, officers receive defensive tactics training annually in order to minimize the possibility of injury to themselves and the resisting subject(s). This training is continually updated based upon current trends, research and new information.

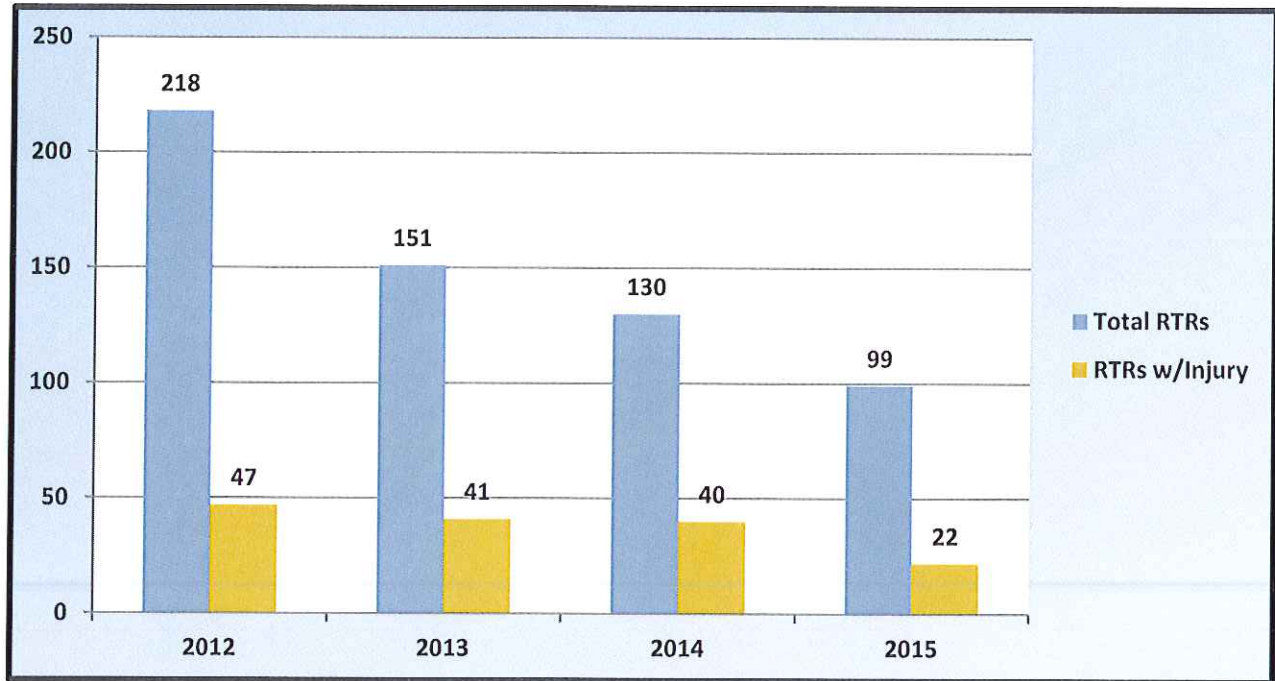
During 2015, 25 officers reported 27 types of injuries while engaged in 23 response to resistance encounters. The types of injuries are depicted in the table below:

Type of Injury	Number of Injuries
Minor Scrapes and Abrasions	
Face/Head	2
Arm/Elbow	3
Hand/Wrist	7
Knee	3
Unknown	1
Lacerations	
Eye/Face	3
Arm/Elbow	1
Hand	3
Leg/Knee	2
Sprains/Strains	
Knee	1
Exposure to Bodily Fluids	
Blood	1
Total	27

As can be seen above, the noted injuries are largely minor in nature, which again is a direct result of defensive tactics and tactical training received by officers throughout their careers. This is not to minimize the fact that a serious injury can occur at any time regardless of the type and amount of training received as police work is inherently dangerous and the potential for responding to a volatile situation is always a factor. As in 2014, hand/wrist injuries are the most common, accounting for 37% of the injuries incurred while responding to resistance in 2015. This is a slight increase from the 36% in 2014. Injuries to the hand/wrist may be an indicator that an officer's force response was less than optimal-as strikes with a closed fist are not generally recommended and have led to injuries in the past. The use of strikes other than those involving the fists has been a continued focus of defensive tactics training.

Finally, the next chart shows the year to year comparison of documented responses to resistance that have resulted in injuries to officers. During the 2015 calendar year, officers

documented 99 responses to resistance, 22 of which (or 22%) resulted in officers being injured. This ended a three year trend where documented responses to resistance had declined but the percentage of those involving officer injury had increased. This year both declined which would seem to indicate an improvement in de-escalation skills and officer safety training.



Response to Resistance by Subject

The majority of persons upon whom police responded to resistance with force in 2015 were white males (52%) followed by black males (33%). Both black females and white females accounted for 6% of the subjects while there were no Hispanic females involved in responses to resistance and only 2 Hispanic males.

Response to Resistance 2015: Involved Citizen Demographics				
	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
Arabic	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	0
Bi-Racial	0	0	0	0
Black	6	33	0	39
Hispanic	0	2	0	2
Indian	0	0	0	0
Mixed Race	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Polynesian	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0
White	6	52	0	58
Total	12	84	0	99

This demographic breakdown by citizen subject remained largely unchanged from 2014 to 2015. White males still represented the majority of those who resisted officers. There was a decrease of 3% in the number of black males involved in resistance and the number of involved black females also showed a modest decrease of 2%. There was an increase of 2% in the white female category and no change in the number of Hispanic males.

This lack of significant changes in the demographics indicates that officers are responding to resistance and applying force in a consistent and impartial manner.

Firearms Use in 2015

Animal Control Officers accounted for all eight of the times that Knoxville Police Department personnel discharged a firearm. All of these incidents involved the approved use of the firearm to destroy an animal.

No patrol officers discharged a firearm during 2015 other than during training.

TAB – “Policies and Practice”

Policy and Practice

There were no significant policy changes to the Response to Resistance policy in 2015 and no future changes are recommended – although it should be noted that CALEA will be requesting comments on proposed standards relating to use of force data reporting and analysis which may prompt changes to our current policy.

TAB – “Recommendations”

Recommendations Based Upon 2015 Analysis

As we must continue to be innovative in policy, training and practice when considering response to resistance, the following are recommendations based upon current trends and information contained in this analysis:

- Continued focus and training on de-escalation tactics in order to avoid the need to respond to resistance is strongly recommended. Continued improvement of communication skills will lead to legitimacy in the community and reinforce the practice of procedural justice.
- The continued evaluation of replacing the “Response Continuum” in General Order 1.6 with a “Critical Decision-Making” model to be used during officer training will enhance the officer’s ability to use a variety of well-thought out, prepared, appropriate actions when required to respond to different types of resistance. This model will be beneficial in everyday low-threat through high-risk incidents.
- Again this year, pepper spray continues to be under-utilized, having been used just four times with a 50% effectiveness rating. Although training with this tool has been ongoing, officers are not using it to its potential. Training with this option should be stressed especially for emotionally disturbed persons who may have adverse reactions to the Taser. While the Taser was a more effective weapon, 69% effectiveness in 2015 and 100% effectiveness when simply displayed as a threat, pepper spray also does not require medical attention for probe removal and will shorten the amount of time officers spend with the subject. However, it must also be recognized that with pepper spray there is a potential for officer exposure to the chemical as well – officers are introduced to chemical spray during academy training so that they are aware of its effects and that they can continue effective performance after being exposed.
- A continued focus on “officer wellness” is also recommended to ensure that officers have the maximum potential to make critical decisions and optimal physical performance when required to respond to resistance.
- Expansion of CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) for officers assigned to Patrol and Investigative duties would be beneficial when engaged with the growing segment of society that struggles with mental health issues and comes into contact with the criminal justice system.
- Finally, as recommended in last year’s analysis, the expansion of the Educational Incentive Program to include an incentive for associate degrees and master’s level degrees due to the correlation between education level and force usage as discussed in the Executive Summary of this report. Also, further research for this year’s report indicated there may be a maturity aspect to these findings as well. In light of this, I would also recommend raising the hiring age and the requirement of an associate

degree. This could be accomplished by removing the age requirement of the Cadet Program and the re-introduction of college course participation while in the program as well as a time limit to obtain the required education level.