



Beaufort County Sheriff's Office

2021 Annual Use of Force Report

It is the policy of the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office to use the minimal amount of force necessary to deal with any given set of circumstances. In no instance shall any deputy sheriff exercise use of force without due consideration for the safety of the public, other deputies or the safety of suspects. The mission of the Sheriff's Office is to apprehend criminal offenders and bring them before the proper court for the administration of justice according to law.

Of the arrests made by Beaufort County Sheriff's Office deputies in 2021, there were 20 incidents in which force was used to effect an arrest.

Altogether, 30 deputies were involved. Of the 20 documented incidents, 10 involved more than one deputy. Two deputies were involved in two or more incidents.

Of the 20 incidents:

- Three involved a juvenile, of which zero were during school hours
- Three involved a mental subject
- Nine reports stated there were no injuries to the defendant or deputy involved
- Five reports stated minor injuries to the defendant to include but not limited to scrapes, bruises, lacerations etc. due to resisting arrest
- Zero reports stated a deputy(s) were injured due to the defendant resisting arrest

All 20 incidents were found to be in compliance with the Sheriff's Office standard operating procedures for use of force.

Defendant Race/Sex	Total
Black Male	16
Black Female	0
White Male	2
White Female	0
Hispanic Male	2

Defendant Age	Total
Under 18 years old	3
18 - 30 years old	7
31 - 40 years old	6
41 - 50 years old	3
Older than 50 years old	1
Unknown	0

In several incidents, there were a combination of techniques that were utilized. A review of the incidents shows each of the incidents started with minimum force and escalated under the Use of Force Continuum until compliance with lawful orders was achieved. The review also revealed in nearly every one of these incidents, the initial technique was ineffective.

Technique Used	Total
Takedown	11
Taser	10
Soft Empty Hands	10
Hard Empty Hands	2
Restraint	1
OC Spray	1

Of the 20 incidents, the following criminal charges resulted.

Criminal Charge	Total
Resisting Arrest	6
Fleeing to Evade	4
Assault & Battery	4
Assault & Battery, 3 rd	4
Trespassing	3
Burglary, 2 nd	2
Unlawful Carry	2
Simple Possession of Marijuana	2
Breaking and Entering Auto	1
Assault & Battery, 2 nd	1
Throwing Bodily Fluids	1
Incorrigible Child	1
Threat to Public Official	1
Assault on a Police Officer	1
Driving Under Suspension, 3 rd	1
Malicious Injury to Personal Property	1
Resisting Arrest with Officer Injury	1
Domestic Violence, 1 st	1
Public Disorderly Conduct	1
Leave the Scene	1
Shoplifting	1
Unknown	1