



Beaufort County Sheriff's Office

2022 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 2022, there were 20 incidents in which force was used to effect an arrest.

Altogether, 26 deputies were involved. Of the 20 documented incidents, nine involved more than one deputy. Six deputies were involved in two or more incidents.

Of the 20 incidents:

- One involved a juvenile, of which was during school hours
- 13 reports stated there were no injuries to the defendant or deputy involved
- Seven reports stated minor injuries to the defendant to include but not limited to scrapes, bruises, lacerations etc. due to resisting arrest
- Three 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	9
Black Female	2
White Male	4
White Female	2
Hispanic Male	3

Defendant Age	Total
Under 18 years old	1
18 - 30 years old	8
31 - 40 years old	5
41 - 50 years old	2
Older than 50 years old	3
Unknown	1

There were 12 incidents where a combination of techniques was 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
CS Ferrett Rounds	4
CS Flameless Tri-Chamber	3
Exact Impact Munitions	4
Knee Strike	9
OC Spray	1
Soft Empty Hands	11
Taser	8
Takedown	4
Drive Stun	5
Straight Arm Bar	2
ASP Baton	2
Pressure Points	1
Hard Empty Hands	6
Brachial Stun	1

Of the 20 incidents, the following criminal charges resulted.

Criminal Charge	Total
Resisting Arrest	12
Fleeing to Evade	5
Public Disorderly Conduct	2
Unlawful Carry of a Firearm	2
Failure to Stop for Blue Lights	2
Simple Possession of Marijuana	2
Criminal Sexual Conduct, 1 st	1
Kidnapping	1
Murder	1
Possession of a Weapon	1
Assault & Battery, 2 nd	1
Narcotics	1
Driving Under the Influence	1
Open Container	1
Huffing Aerosol for Intoxication	1
Domestic Violence, 1 st	1
Diving Under Suspension, 1 st	1

Assault & Battery, 3 rd	1
Possession with Intent to Distribute Schedule II Narcotic	1
Possession of Cocaine	1
Assault and Battery	1
Weapons Offense	1