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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Ray Smiley, Chief of Police  
**From:** Thomas Claunch, Deputy Chief  
**Date:** January 18, 2012  
**Reference:** 2011- Use of Force/Injury Analysis

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During 2011 there were a total of sixty (60) incidents where some level of force was used, which is up from 2010 where there were a total of 36 incidents. However, this year's numbers are somewhat misleading, simply because during 2011 we began including "Pointing a Weapon" in the use of force matrix. We began including this midyear and from June till the end of the year, there were 15 incidents where officers pointed their weapons at subject. If we take these 15 incidents out of the total of sixty (60), that leaves us with 45 incidents. This, I feel makes for a more accurate comparison between the two years. Based upon these numbers, this equates to a 25% increase in the number of Use of Force Incidents.

Even though there was a 25% increase in the total number of Use of Force incidents, the biggest increase came in the use of "Control Techniques", which was eleven (11) in 2011, up from four (4). The number of Taser uses actually dropped by one (1) in the year 2011. It should be noted that there was a slight increase (2.34%) in the number of "Calls for Service" from 25,589 in 2010 to 26,188 in 2011.

A detailed analysis of this information revealed that during 2011, Night Shift B had a total of thirty-three (33) Incidents (73.33% of the overall total) and one officer in

# MEMORANDUM

THOMAS CLAUNCH

PAGE 2

1/15/2020

particular had seventeen (17) "Use of Force" incidents which equates to 28.33% of the overall total.

Night Shift B works the busiest nights, that being Thursday, Friday and every other Saturday, so they seem to deal with more incidents involving alcohol/drugs. Of the 33 incidents Night Shift B was involved in, 26 (78.78%) involved individuals under the influence of alcohol or drugs and in 28 (84.84%) the suspects displayed combative/assaultive behavior.

A thorough investigation was conducted and it was determined that one of resultant causes was the lack of supervision on that shift. This particular supervisor has been "counseled" about his performance and he has since completed roll call training with his shift covering the Use of Force. Next, the officer mentioned above was also "counseled" about his performance and was transferred to another shift where he seems to be doing better. We will also provide this officer additional training to help ensure that he performs to our standards.

It should also be noted that of the 45 reported Use of Force incidents, injuries to either the suspect or to the arresting officer were sustained in 14 of those incidents. This equates to 31.11% of the total. The majority of the injuries were minor in nature, usually lacerations (4) or abrasions (5) received while resisting arrest. Two incidents resulted in minor bruising to the suspect and officer. Two incidents 11-00527 (gun shots wounds to two victims) and 11-02872 (officer's torn bicep muscle) resulted in more serious injuries.