



**DOOR COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**TAMMY A. STERNARD, SHERIFF**  
Patrick McCarty, Chief Deputy  
Carl Waterstreet, Professional Standards Captain  
Brad Shortreed, Patrol Lieutenant  
Kyle Veerer, Jail Lieutenant

**Integrity – Professionalism – Fairness – Teamwork**

TO: Sheriff Tammy Sternard

March 4, 2024

RE: 2023 Annual Use of Force Report

Sheriff Sternard,

I have reviewed the use-of-force reports for the Door County Sheriff's Office for incidents which occurred in 2023.

**The following is a summary of the Patrol Division:**

DATE CASE #	CALL NATURE	LEVEL OF FORCE	MEDICAL CLEAR.	INSTRUCTOR REVIEW	ADMIN. REVIEW	VIDEO
02-11-2023 23-001915	Disorderly Subject	Passive Countermeasures	Yes	Yes Justified	Yes No Issues	Yes
5-19-2023 23-006681	Wanted Person (Agency Assist)	Weapon Display Taser Display	Yes	Yes Justified	Yes No Issues	Yes
5-28-2023 23-007383	Eluding	Weapon Display	No	Yes Justified	Yes No Issues	Yes
6/22/2023 23-009422	Wanted Person (Traffic Stop)	Taser Display	Yes	Yes Justified	Yes No Issues	Yes
6/27/2023 23-009838	OWI	Weapon Display Taser Deployment Compliance Hold	Yes	Yes Justified	Yes No Issues	Yes
10/14/2023 23-017698	Weapons Call (Shots Fired)	Weapon Display Taser Display	Yes	Yes Justified	Yes No Issues	Yes

The Patrol Division had 6 use-of-force incidents in 2023. This is a decrease from 2022 when there were 8 incidents. In 2023, 4 of the 6 incidents involved more than one deputy using a level of force. In these instances, each deputy completed a use-of-force report documenting their individual use of force. For 3 of the incidents, a deputy displaying a weapon was the highest level of force used. In one of the incidents, passive countermeasures were the highest level of force. In another incident, a Taser

display was the highest level of force. In the last incident, a Taser deployment was the highest level of force used. Medical clearance was sought after 5 of the 6 incidents. The majority of the medical clearances were not related to the use-of-force, but were a requirement of the booking process.

All of the use-of-force incidents were reviewed by a State of Wisconsin certified Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT) instructor and they were all determined to be justified and within departmental policy. The Door County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division continued to use a body-worn camera program that was implemented in May of 2022. In July of 2023, the Patrol Division converted from a Panasonic in-car video system to an Axon in-car video system. All 6 of the use-of-force incidents were captured on the video utilizing one or both of these systems.

Charts of the past three years:

Call Nature	2021	2022	2023
Mental/Suicidal Subject	1	3	0
Domestic Dispute	4	1	0
OWI	2	0	1
Traffic Stop	2	1	1
Agency Assist	0	0	1
Crime in Progress	0	3	3
Bail Jumping	1	0	0
Suspicious Activity	1	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>

Highest Level of Force Type	2021	2022	2023
Weapon Display	7	5	4
Taser Display	1	0	0
Taser Deployment	0	0	1
Passive Countermeasures	3	3	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>

In 2023, Door County Sheriff's Office deputies handled 7,520 calls for service according to the Spillman Records Management System. They also conducted 5,144 traffic stops where no other CAD call was assigned to the stop during this time frame. The combined number of calls for service and traffics stops for 2023 was 12,664. 6 of these resulted in a use of force. The percentage for this is .0474%

The entire Patrol Division is CIT trained. Newly hired deputies attend 40 hours of CIT training during or shortly after the completion of their field training program. The Door County Sheriff's Office continues to have a Mental Health Community Engagement Deputy assigned to the Patrol Division. One of this deputy's responsibilities is to follow-up on calls involving a mental health nexus. At the beginning of 2024, the Door County Sheriff's Office added a coordinated response specialist as a co-responder to mental health calls to help deescalate situations.

**The following is a summary for the Jail Division:**

DATE	INCIDENT NATURE	LEVEL OF FORCE	MEDICAL CLEAR.	INSTRUCTOR REVIEW	ADMIN. REVIEW	VIDEO
01-05-2023 10593	Self-Harm	Passive Countermeasures Restraint Chair	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes
03-21-2023 10906	Combative Inmate	Compliance Hold Passive Countermeasures	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes
05-16-2023 23-006477	Combative Inmate	Passive Countermeasures Taser Display	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes
07-26-2023 11457	Combative Inmate	Compliance Hold Passive Countermeasures Restraint Chair	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes
8-11-2023 11539	Combative Inmate	Compliance Hold Passive Countermeasures	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes
09-24-2023 11703	Inmate Assault	Active Countermeasures Restraint Chair	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified Procedure Changes and Additional Training	Yes
10-21-2023 23-018137	Self-Harm Inmate Assault	Escort Hold Passive Countermeasures Active Countermeasures Restraint Chair	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes
11-07-2023 11849	Self-Harm	Passive Countermeasures Active Countermeasures Restraint Chair	Yes	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes
11-30-2023 11960	Self-Harm	Passive Countermeasures Restraint Chair	No	Justified Within Policy	Justified No Issues	Yes

In 2023, there were 9 use-of-force incidents in the Jail Division. This is a significant increase from 2022 when there was only 1 use-of-force incident. This increase can be attributed to the on-going rise in mental health issues that are prevalent in the jail population. 4 of these were combative inmates. Another 4 of these were for self-harm, one of which was escalated by the inmate to an assault on staff. The final incident was an inmate assault on staff. During my review of this incident, I noted several procedural changes that could be made and some recommendations for additional training. My recommendations were shared with the command staff and with the Jail Division’s first-line supervisors for implementation.

Charts of the past three years:

Nature	2021	2022	2023
Self-harm	3	0	3
Combative Inmate	1	1	4
Escape Attempt	1	0	0
Inmate Assault	0	0	2
<b>Total:</b>	5	1	9

Force Type	2021	2022	2023
Restraint Chair	3	1	6
Passive Countermeasures	1	0	2
Taser Display	1	0	1
<b>Total:</b>	5	1	9

These incidents were reviewed by a State of Wisconsin certified Principles of Subject Control (POSC) Instructor and they were all determined to be justified and within departmental policy. All of the incidents were also administratively reviewed. There was one incident, an inmate assault on a

deputy, that resulted in procedural changes and a recommendation for additional scenario-based training for the jail staff noted above.

In 2023, the Door County Jail had an average daily population of 62 inmates. This is a slight decrease from 2022 when the average daily population was 67 inmates.

In 2023, 799 bookings were completed in the Door County Jail. This is a slight increase from 2022 when 786 bookings were completed.

Currently, the entire Jail Division is Crisis Intervention Partners (CIP) trained. Newly hired deputies will be trained during or shortly after the completion of their corrections training program.

### **Training, Reporting and Policy Compliance:**

The Door County Sheriff's Office continues to have a robust in-service training program for both divisions. Use-of-force training is included during these in-services. Due to staff turnover (resignations and retirements) there is a need to on-board several new state-certified instructors in multiple disciplines to include Firearms and DAAT. This shortage is being addressed by the Professional Standards Captain and new instructors are being training during 2024.

The Door County Sheriff's Office continues to comply with State-mandated reporting. Reports are submitted on a monthly basis to the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

The Door County Sheriff's Office continues to remain in compliance with the Federal mandate regarding use-of-force policies. The policy manual for the Door County Sheriff's Office is managed through Lexipol. The use-of-force policy is reviewed on a periodic basis and the policy is updated when there is a change in Federal law or State statutes and Lexipol makes a recommended update.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Deputy Patrick McCarty