



USE OF FORCE ANNUAL REPORT

Englewood Police Department

3615 S Elati St, Englewood CO
www.Englewoodco.gov/police

3615 S. ELATI STREET
ENGLEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT



INTRODUCTION

The Englewood Police Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting officers with the authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation, and a careful balancing of all interests.

Englewood Police Officers are trained to utilize alternatives to physical force, whenever possible, and may use physical force only if no other means would be effective to effect an arrest, prevent an escape, or prevent an imminent threat of injury to officers or others.

The proper use of reasonable force reduces injuries to arrestees, officers and the public. Officers constantly strive to de-escalate situations to avoid the necessity to use any amount of force. If these tactics, techniques and methods prove unsuccessful, officers are authorized to use reasonable, necessary and proportional force governed by legal guidelines, departmental policies and procedures, and training to gain control and safely resolve these situations.

Training in the department's use of force policies is required for all members of the department which helps to ensure that every officer, regardless of rank, is prepared and remains proficient in fulfilling their responsibility and solemn duty to protect the residents and visitors to the City of Englewood. Our recurring training in enforcement encounters involves teaching our officers an increased emphasis on de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to force with the intent to minimize the need to use force to resolve interactions.

The Englewood Police use of force policy holds our staff accountable in situations in which force is necessary. E.P.D. policy also includes the duty for our officers to intercede and report any other officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances. If that officer observes another law enforcement officer use force that is potentially beyond that of which is objectively reasonable, they shall when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force.

Per department policy, an officer is required to complete a "Use of Force" report in any instance in which they use any amount of force.

Englewood P.D. uses an officer-based use of force reporting system. This means that each individual officer reports their own use of force on any incident. For example, in one incident there could be several officers on scene and each of them will complete a use of force report.



THE DATA

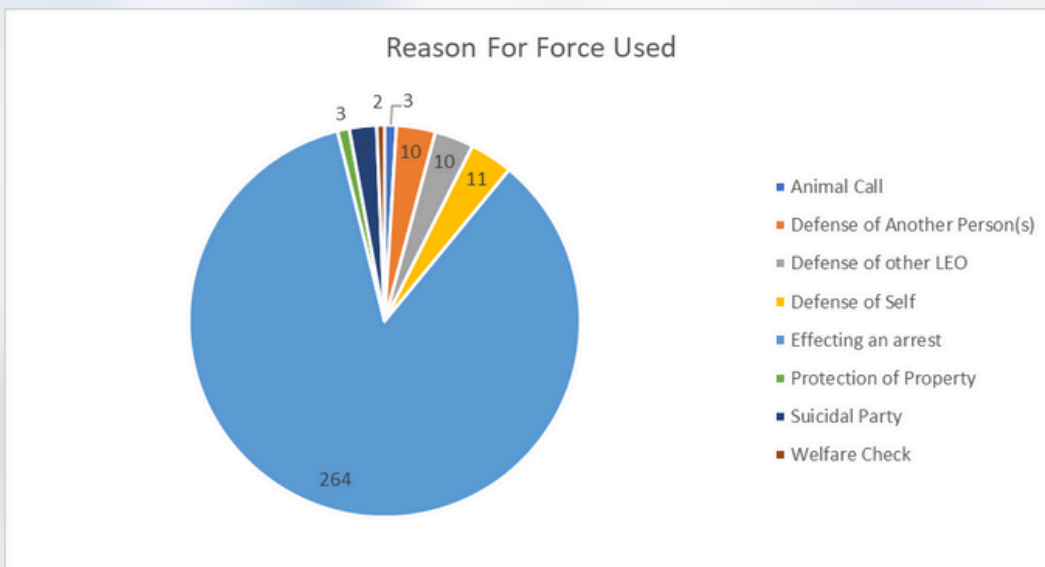


In 2023, Englewood Police Officers responded to 39,386 calls for service in which officers were physically on scene. Of these 39,386 calls for service, 189 resulted in varying applications of force by one or more officer(s). A total of 294 reports were generated by officers using some level of force within the 189 calls for service where force was applied. This means that of the 39,386 calls for service in 2023, only 0.48% resulted in an application of force.

This statistic alone indicates that for an overwhelming majority of the calls for service, officers rarely use force in response to resistance in the performance of their duties.

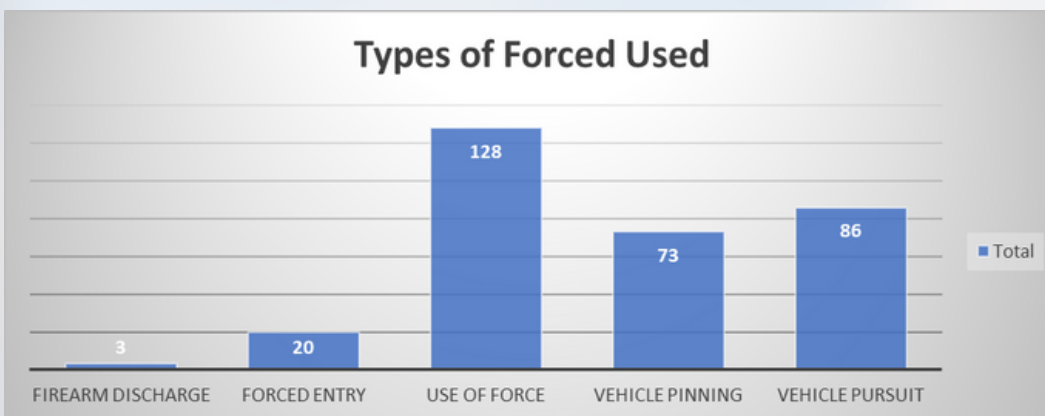
The following information further breaks down the types of calls the officers were responding to and the reason that the force was used.

Activity when force is used in response to resistance:



Effecting an Arrest: 264, Defense of Self: 11, Defense of Other Law Enforcement Officer: 10, Defense of Another Person(s): 10, Suicidal Party: 7, Protection of Property: 3, Animal Call: 3, Welfare Check: 2.

Activity when force is used in response to resistance:



Physical Use of Force: 128, Vehicle Pursuit: 86, Vehicle Pinning: 73, Forced Entry: 20, Firearm Discharge: 3.

Out of the 294 officers involved in the uses of force there were 20 in which an officer was injured during the incident. There were 193 citizens involved in these uses of force, 36 of which reported being injured in any manner as a result of the force being used.



CONCLUSION

As a part of the review and oversight process when an officer uses force, E.P.D. will review every case. E.P.D. has a committee made up of a member of the Command Group, subject matter expert training officers, City Attorney Office representatives, peer officers, and representatives from the Englewood Police Benefits Association. This group objectively evaluates the use of force by officers to ensure that their authority is used lawfully, appropriately and is consistent with training and policy.

Moreover, the Police Department's Body Worn Camera (B.W.C.) program includes all of the sworn officers. Officers are mandated by policy and Colorado State Statute to activate their B.W.C. during any interaction with the public for the purpose of enforcing the law or investigating possible violations of the law. This technology helps document interactions between the police and individuals involved in these calls for service. This promotes officer and agency accountability and transparency as well as accurately capturing law enforcement interactions with the public.