2021

Joplin Police Department

Annual Report

2021 Year End Report

January 1st to December 31st

Prepared by Office of Internal Affairs

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The main purpose of this information is to get as much information as possible out to the members of the Department and the public to avoid unnecessary rumors, which have a negative effect on the Department. The annual report will provide a statistical analysis of the lethal, less lethal, and non-lethal force used by the JPD Officer and JPD Detention Officers; and enhance transparency between the Department and its stakeholders within the City of Joplin.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide professional service and protection through leadership and partnership with the community.

VALUE STATMENT

Honor - without compromise
Courage - with compassion
Commitment - to community
Service - with understanding

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Use of Force Policy and Definitions

Officers are confronted daily with situations requiring the use of force to affect an arrest or ensure public safety. The degree of force used depends on what the officer perceives as reasonable and necessary under the circumstances at the time he or she decides to use force. Except for deadly force, the application of any degree of force is justified only when the officer reasonably believes that it is necessary:

- To prevent the escape from custody, make an arrest or an investigative detention of a person the officer believes has committed a crime.
- To defend him or herself or another from what the officer believes is the use of force while trying to arrest another, prevent the suspect's escape, or otherwise lawfully take the person into custody.
- To disperse persons participating in an unlawful assembly.

Deadly force: Any force applied in any manner by any means that could reasonably be expected to cause death or serious physical injury. (RSMo 563.011)

Non-deadly force: Force employed which is neither likely nor intended to cause death or serious physical injury.

Firearms: Any weapon from which a projectile is forcibly ejected by an explosive.

Reasonable belief: When facts or circumstances the officer knows, or should know, are such as to cause an ordinary and prudent person to act or think reasonably in a similar way under similar circumstances.

Serious physical injury: Bodily injury which creates a substantial risk of death or which is likely to cause serious permanent disfigurement or loss, or extended impairment of the function of anybody member or organ.

Objectively Reasonable Force: The "reasonableness" of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments - in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving - about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation. The question is whether the officers' actions are "objectively reasonable" in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them, without regard to their underlying intent or motivation. Because “the test of reasonableness under the Fourth Amendment is not capable of precise definition or mechanical application," however, its proper application requires careful attention to the facts and circumstances of each particular case, including the severity of the crime at issue, whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others, and whether he is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight.

Use of Force Overview

In 2021 Joplin Police Officers employed some level of force 100 times to effect an arrest or assist with a prisoner/medical patient. There were 201 officer involvements, meaning that in some arrests more than one officer was involved. Comparatively speaking during 2020 Joplin Police Officers employed some level of force 154 times to effect an arrest or assist with a prisoner/medical patient.

The analysis provided is based upon averages. The actual use of force by individual officers can be influenced by several factors such as assignment, patrol area, shift, number of hours worked and other variables.

Joplin Police Officers arrested 4746 people on a total of 10,626 criminal charges during 2021.
Joplin Police Officers arrested 5,501 people on a total of 12,422 criminal charges during 2020.

- When at full strength the Joplin Police Department has 110 officers.

Use of force occurred an average of once in every 47 arrests during 2021.
Use of force occurred an average of once in every 36 arrests during 2020.

- Use of Force Incidents broken down by race:

  White- 88
  Black- 16
  Hispanic- 3
  Asian- 0
  Native American- 1
  Other- 0
  Unknown- 0

  *Comments: Some use of force incidents involved multiple subjects

Profile of Use-of-force Incidents received between January 1st, 2021 and December 31st, 2021

Total number of use-of-force incidents:	**100**
Total number of officers involved:	**201**

2021 Type of Force Tally

The following statistics are a comprehensive breakdown of individual use of force events. As such, they are representative of the dynamic and fluid nature of such events wherein a single use of force event is comprised of phases of escalation and de-escalation. Several levels of force and methods of force are utilized to bring about a successful resolution to the event. The following numbers reflect the multiple efforts in use of force events and do not represent a change in the total use of force events listed above.

	Type of Force	Total #		Type of Force	Total
1	Active Pointing of Weapon	46	22	Knife	0
2	Alternative Impact Weapon	1	23	Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint	0
3	Arm bar	1	24	Leg Strike(s)	1
4	ASP	0	25	OC Spray	2
5	Canine	12	26	Open-Hand Strike	0
6	Clamp	0	27	Pepper ball Gun	0
7	Come Along	0	28	Physical Restraint	23
8	Control Hold	16	29	Pressure Point(s)	0
9	CS Gas	0	30	Push	5
10	Elbow Strike(s)	4	31	Rifle	0
11	Empty Hand Control	19	32	Shotgun	0
12	Escort	6	33	Strike(s)	8
13	Fist	14	34	Strikes in Furtherance	0
14	Foot	1	35	Take to Ground	20
15	Handgun	1	36	Taser	40
16	Headlock	1	37	Taser Arc Display	0
17	Hobble Restraints	2	38	Thrust Kick	1
18	Impact Munitions	0	39	Tinsley	5
19	Joint Lock	2	40	Verbal Direction	83
20	Kicks	0	41	Wrist Lock	0
21	Knee Strike(s)	11			

Taser Usage

Tasers were deployed 40 times in 2021.
Tasers were deployed 64 times in 2020.

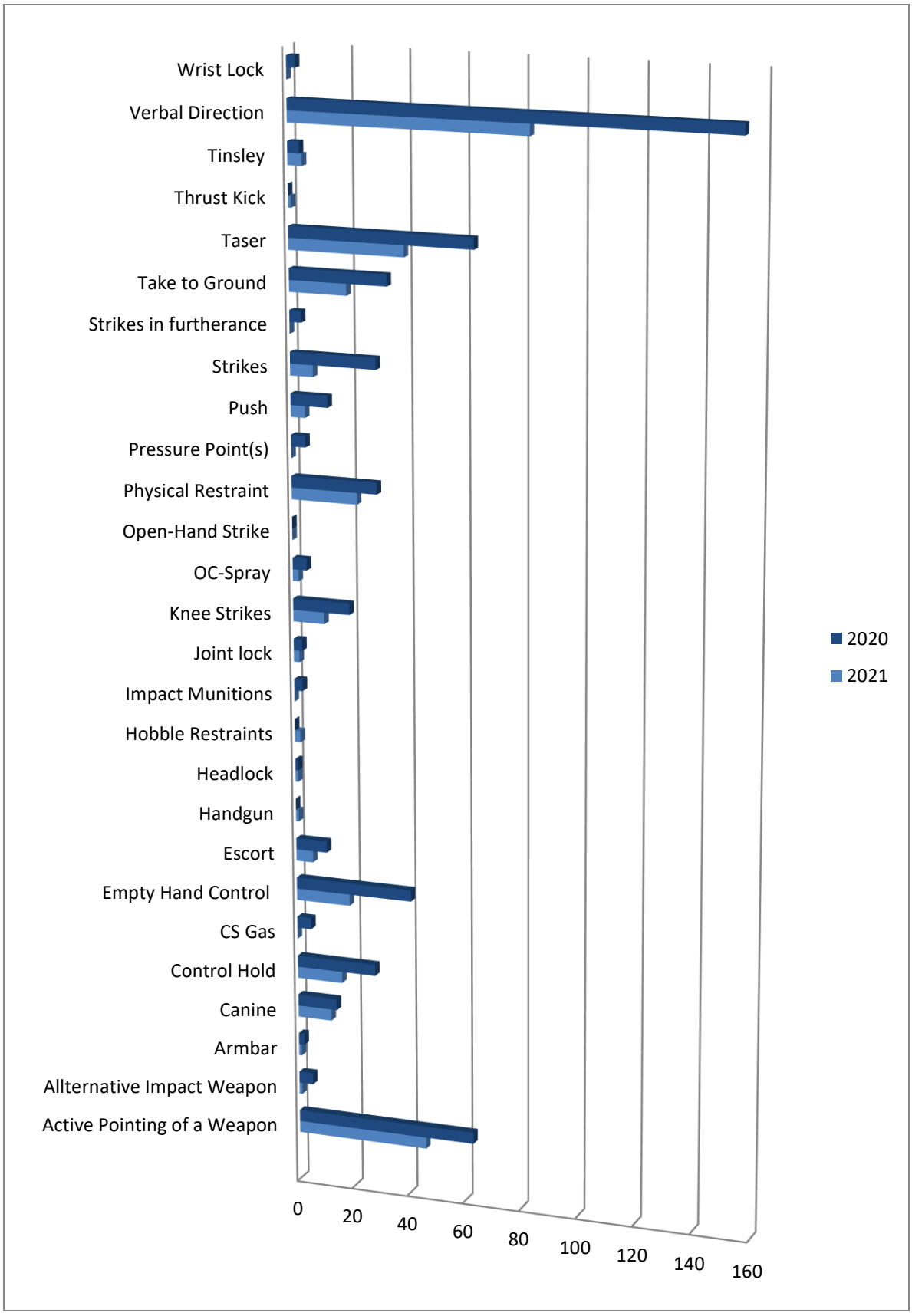
Tasers were deployed an average of once in every 119 arrests in 2021.
Tasers were deployed an average of once in every 85.95 arrests in 2020.

The average number of Taser deployments was 3 times per month in 2021.

Yearly Type of Force Comparison

It should be noted that there were 100 use of force events in 2021. There were 154 Use of Force events in 2020. The numbers on the chart below will show a higher number. One should take into consideration that many force events have more than one type of force used. For example, if verbal direction is given, and the party still fails to comply with the officer, that officer will move to a different type of force.

See following page for Graph


Wrist Lock
Verbal Direction
Tinsley
Thrust Kick
Taser
Take to Ground
Strikes in furtherance
Strikes
Push
Pressure Point(s)
Physical Restraint
Open-Hand Strike
OC-Spray
Knee Strikes
Joint lock
Impact Munitions
Hobble Restraints
Headlock
Handgun
Escort
Empty Hand Control
CS Gas
Control Hold
Canine
Armbar
Allternative Impact Weapon
Active Pointing of a Weapon
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
2020
2021

Citizen Resistance Tally

Types of Resistance;

Psychological Intimidation – Verbal and Non-Verbal cues indicative of a subject's mental or physical preparedness to resist and/or assault the officer or others.

Non-Compliance - Noncompliance or verbal responses or threats of non-compliance to officer's directions.

Passive Resistance - Dead weight; no active participation, not influencing, not exerting any force (internal or otherwise)

Active Resistance - Clinging to objects to prevent the officer from gaining control, exerting influence by physical effort or action. (i.e. using muscle tension to prevent movement.)

Escape Resistance - Fleeing, pushing or pulling away from the officer to avoid control, however, not attempting to harm the officer.

Active Aggression - Physical actions of assault.

Deadly Force Threat – Assaults with the perceived intent and apparent ability to cause death or great bodily harm.

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Active Aggression	27	10.07%
Active Resistance	59	22.01%
Deadly Force Assault on Citizen	0	00.00%
Deadly Force Assault on Officer	0	00.00*
Escape Resistance	42	15.67%
Felony Car Stop	10	03.73%
Handgun	1	00.37%
Knife	3	01.12
Non-Compliance	68	25.37%
None	4	01.49%
Passive Resistance	23	08.58%
Psychological Intimidation	16	05.97%
Self-Harm	0	00.00%
Showed Great Strength	12	04.48%
Spit	3	01.12%
Total	**268**	

Arrests and Charges

Citizen arrested in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	18	17.48%
Yes	85	82.52%
Total	**103**	

Tally of charges against involved citizens:

Charge	Count	Percent of total
96-hour Mental Commit	8	04.67%
Assault	6	03.13%
Assault on Officer	9	04.69%
Compliance with request for information by Ofc.	3	01.56%
Domestic Assault	6	03.13%
DWI/DUI	5	02.60%
Felony Resisting Arrest	26	13.54%
Felony Warrant	9	04.69%
Misdemeanor Warrant	6	03.13%
Not Arrested/Charged	7	03.65%
Obstructing service of Officer/Resisting	24	12.05%
Other Felony PC	22	11.46%
Other Misdemeanor PC	18	09.38%
Peace Disturbance	2	01.04%
Possession of Controlled Substance	6	03.13%
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	4	02.08%
Possession of Marijuana	1	00.52%
Resisting Arrest	25	13.02%
Safe Keep	0	00.00%
Traffic Violations	3	01.56%
Violation of Ex-Parte/Full Order of Protection	2	01.04%
Total	**192**	

Injuries

Injury-The Missouri Criminal Code defines injury in Chapter 565.070 as *physical pain, illness, or any impairment of physical condition*. Our current category for injuries only includes injured or not injured. For the purpose of reporting injuries, Injuries will include visible injuries such as contusions and bruises, lacerations, punctures, scratches and abrasions. It will also include any complaint of physical pain, illness, or any impairment of physical condition which may not be clearly visible, however an Officer reasonably believes is caused from the type of force that was used on the Officer or Subject. Officers and subjects may have more than one visible injury (i.e. a contusion and an abrasion) however these are only counted as one "injury" in relation to the use of force event. This data will not include pre-existing injuries in relation to the use of force event.

Taken to Hospital- Subject or Officer was taken to hospital for treatment as a result of the use of force event. This may occur for several reasons and may sometimes be required by Departmental Policy due to the type of force that was used.

Citizen was injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	70	67.96%
Yes	33	32.04%
Total	103	

Citizen taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	83	80.59%
Yes	21	20.39%
Total	**103**	

Officer injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	96	93.20%
Yes	7	06.80%
Total	**103**	

Officer taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count	Percent of total
No	100	97.09%
Yes	3	02.91%
Total	**103**	

Reason for Use of Force and Type of service being rendered at the time

Reason for use-of-force:

Reason	Count	Percent of total
Jail cell extraction	0	00.00%
Jail failure to comply	1	00.98%
Jail inmate movement	0	00.00%
Jail to enforce jail rule	0	00.00%
Felony car stop	0	00.00%
To assist another agency	3	02.94%
To defend another officer	1	00.98%
To defend another person	1	00.98%
To defend self	9	08.82%
To disperse an unlawful assembly	0	00.00%
To effect arrest	73	71.57%
Investigative detention	7	06.86%
To prevent a violent felony	1	00.98%
To prevent a violent misdemeanor	1	00.98%
To restrain for subject's safety	3	02.94%
Transport Prisoner	2	01.96%
Total	**102**	

Type of service being rendered at time of use-of-force:

Service type	Count	Percent of total
(Jail) detention	1	00.68%
Accident investigation	0	00.00%
Attending court	0	00.00%
Bar check	0	00.00%
Call for service	21	20.59%
Criminal investigation	10	09.80%
Disturbance	19	18.63%
Felony car stop	7	06.86%
Foot pursuit	11	10.78%
Medical assistance call	2	01.96%
Mental	6	05.88%
Off duty	0	00.00%
Pedestrian check	3	02.94%
Prisoner handling	2	01.96%
Prisoner transport	0	00.00%
Suspicious activity	1	00.68%
Traffic Stop	9	08.82%
Vehicle Pursuit	5	04.90%
Warrant Service	5	04.90%
Total	**102**	

Detention Officer Use of force

During the end of 2012, the Joplin Police Department began to track Police Officer use of force stats separate from Detention Officer use of force stats. This was to give the most practical data for officers working in a street environment vs. inside a jail. Detention Officer stats no longer reflect such data such as; Officer use of force vs. arrest, Officer use of force vs. use of force rate, Taser deployments vs. arrest, reason force was used, and type of service being rendered. This data will be documented separately in order to give the most accurate number.

In 2021 Joplin Detention Officers employed some level of force 18 times to defend themselves, enforce a jail rule, or move a prisoner. In 2020 Detention Officers used force 20 times.

The analysis provided is based upon averages. The actual use of force by individual detention officers can be influenced by several factors such as assignment, shift, number of hours worked and other variables.

The following statistics are a comprehensive breakdown of individual use of force events. As such, they are representative of the dynamic and fluid nature of such events wherein a single use of force event is comprised of phases of escalation and de-escalation. Several levels of force and methods of force are utilized to bring about a successful resolution to the event. The following numbers reflect the multiple efforts in use of force events and do not represent a change in the total use of force events listed above.

Profile of Jail Use-of-force Incidents received Between January 1st 2021 and December 31th 2021

Total number of use-of-force incidents: **18**
Total number of officers involved: **61**

Type of Force	Total #		Total #
Alternative Impact Weapon	0	Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint	0
Arm bar	0	Leg Strike(s)	0
ASP	0	Open-Hand Strike	0
Clamp	0	Physical Restraint	5
Come-Along	0	Pressure Point(s)	0
Control Hold	3	Push	0
Elbow Strike(s)	1	Strike(s)	0
Empty Hand Control	3	Strikes in Furtherance	0
Escort	0	Take to Ground	1
Fist	0	Taser	10
Foot	0	Taser Arc Display	0
Headlock	0	Thrust Kick	0
Hobble Restraints	1	Tinsley	1
Joint Lock	0	Verbal Direction	1
Kicks	0	Wrist Lock	1
Knee Strike(s)	0		

Detention Officer Use of Force Continued

Citizen resistance tally:	
Reason	**Count**
Active Aggression	13
Active Resistance	11
Deadly Force Assault on Citizen	0
Deadly Force Assault on Officer	0
Escape Resistance	2
Handgun	0
Knife	0
Non-Compliance	15
None	0
Passive Resistance	7
Psychological Intimidation	2
Self-Harm	4
Showed Great Strength	3
Spit	3
Total	**60**

Injuries (Detention Officers)

Citizen was injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count
No	9
Yes	9
Total	**18**

Citizen taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count
No	17
Yes	1
Total	**18**

Officer injured in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count
No	13
Yes	5
Total	**18**

Officer taken to hospital in conjunction with use-of-force (# incidents):

	Count
No	18
Yes	0
Total	**18**

Internal Affairs Report

During the year of 2021, 52 cases were forwarded to the Office of Internal Affairs for investigation. There were 39 cases that involved sworn personnel and 13 cases that involved non-sworn personnel. Comparatively, for the year of 2020, 75 cases were forwarded to the Office of Internal Affairs for investigation. There were 44 cases that involved sworn personnel and 31 cases that involved non-sworn personnel.

The 52 cases involving department personnel are broken down by quarter and graphs are completed to give an indication of how many complaints have been investigated, where the complaints were generated from, how many have been sustained and what types of disciplinary actions have been handed out for those violations.

In 2021, the Joplin Police Department was authorized for 110 sworn officer and 12 civilian positions in the police department. There are currently 18 jail employees and 22 dispatch employees. This makes 162 authorized employees that fall under the Police Department.

The main purpose of this information is to get as much information as possible out to the members of the Department to avoid unnecessary rumors, which have a negative effect on the Department. The Office of Internal Affairs understands and respects each individual employee's right to confidentiality and will uphold that standard. However, it is important that generic information be shared Department wide to provide expectations and equality for every employee. The Office of Internal Affairs will assure you that each complaint will be investigated in accordance with department policy and as expeditiously as possible.

As illustrated in SOG 2-08, Internal Affairs, I have listed the disposition classifications of internal investigations for your convenience. Disposition classifications are as follows:

1. Unfounded - no truth to allegations.
2. Exonerated - allegations true but result of adherence to proper and appropriate procedures and techniques.
3. Not sustained - unable to verify the truth of the matters under investigation.
4. Sustained - allegations true.
5. Policy Failure - The allegation is true, but employee's action was not inconsistent with policy and there is an indication of a need for policy review and revision.
6. Withdrawn – Complainant withdraws their complaint.
7. Inactivated – There is not enough information to investigate and no way of obtaining more information. The case may have to be inactivated until more information is available.

Complaints Received

The following is a breakdown of all complaints received by Internal Affairs for 2021:

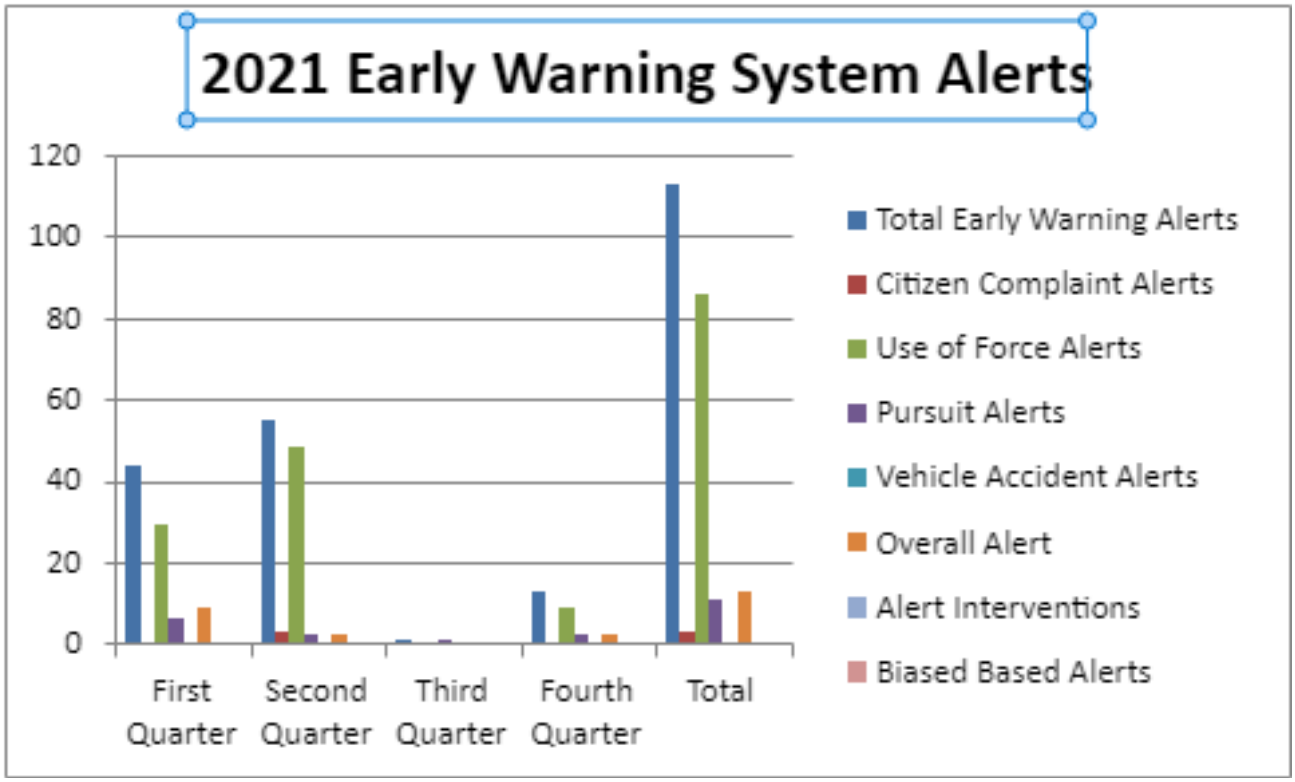
- 52 complaints were received.
- 35 complaints were generated by citizens
- 17 complaints were generated within the agency
- 20 complaints were sustained or partially sustained
- 32 complaints resulted in findings that were other than sustained
- JPD received an average of 2.9 citizen complaints per month
- JPD received an average of 1.4 internal complaints per month

During the year of 2021 the Joplin Police Department responded to 75,502 calls for service. Included in that number is 9,529 vehicle stops. JPD Officers made 4,746 arrests resulting in 10,626 charges.

During the year of 2020 the Joplin Police Department responded to 81,727 calls for service. Included in that number is 11,867 vehicle stops. JPD Officers made 5,501 arrests resulting in 12,422 charges.

Early Warning System

In addition, a comprehensive Personnel Early Warning System is an essential component of a well-managed law enforcement agency. The Joplin Police Department is committed to this concept and I have implemented threshold limits into our Internal Affairs software (IA Pro) to manage this process. As a result of threshold limits recommended by the officers of the department and set by the Chief of Police, officers activities will be reviewed (by their immediate supervisor) when threshold limits are met. The threshold limits have been set as follows, to cover a twelve (12) month period; Citizen Complaints = 3, Use of Force = 12, Pursuits = 4, Bias Based Profiling = 1, and Vehicle Accidents = 2. The purpose of the Personnel Early Warning System shall be a means to identify and assess employees' performance in high-risk incidents and intervene where appropriate.



Investigations (Quarterly Breakdown)

FIRST QUARTER INVESTIGATIONS

18 Investigations (5 internal complaints received, 13 citizen complaints received)

Complaint Type	***Results***	***Investigator***
Misconduct	Sustained	Supervisor
Misconduct	Sustained	Supervisor
Excessive Force	Unfounded	IA
Harassment	Unfounded	IA
Excessive Force	Unfounded	IA
Misconduct	Sustained	IA
Lying	Unfounded	IA
Rudeness	Unfounded	IA
Rudeness	Sustained	IA
Lost Property	Unfounded	IA
Misconduct	Exonerated	IA
Misconduct	Unfounded	IA
Rudeness	Sustained	IA
Misconduct	Unfounded	IA
Misconduct	Sustained	IA
Criminal Misconduct	Not Sustained	IA
Lost Property	Unfounded	IA
Rudeness, Basic Procedure	Sustained	IA

SECOND QUARTER INVESTIGATIONS

23 Investigations (**6** internal complaints received, **17** citizen complaints received)

Complaint Type	***Results***	***Investigator***
Equipment Use	Sustained	Supervisor
Equipment Use	Sustained	Supervisor
Tardiness	Sustained	Supervisor
Leave Violation	Sustained	Supervisor
Substance Abuse	Sustained	Supervisor
Rudeness, False Arrest	Unfounded	IA
Illegal Detention	Unfounded	Supervisor
Rudeness	Unfounded	Supervisor
Rudeness	Exonerated	IA

Misconduct	Exonerated	IA
Misconduct	Withdrawn	IA
Failure to Act	Exonerated	Supervisor
Rudeness	Sustained	IA
Misconduct	Exonerated	IA
Rudeness	Unfounded	IA
Rudeness	Sustained	Supervisor
Lost Property	Sustained	IA
Misconduct	Unfounded	IA
Misconduct	Unfounded	IA
Misconduct	Not Sustained	IA
Criminal Misconduct	Unfounded	Supervisor
In-custody Death	No Violations	IA
Criminal Misconduct	Not Sustained	IA

THIRD QUARTER INVESTIGATIONS

5 Investigations (**4** internal complaints received, **1** citizen complaints received)

Complaint Type	***Results***	***Investigator***
Tardiness	Sustained	Supervisor
Fail to Search Inmate	Sustained	Supervisor
Misconduct	Sustained	Supervisor
Lost Property	Sustained	Supervisor
Misconduct	Unfounded	IA

FOURTH QUARTER INVESTIGATIONS

6 Investigations (**2** internal complaints received, **4** citizen complaints received.

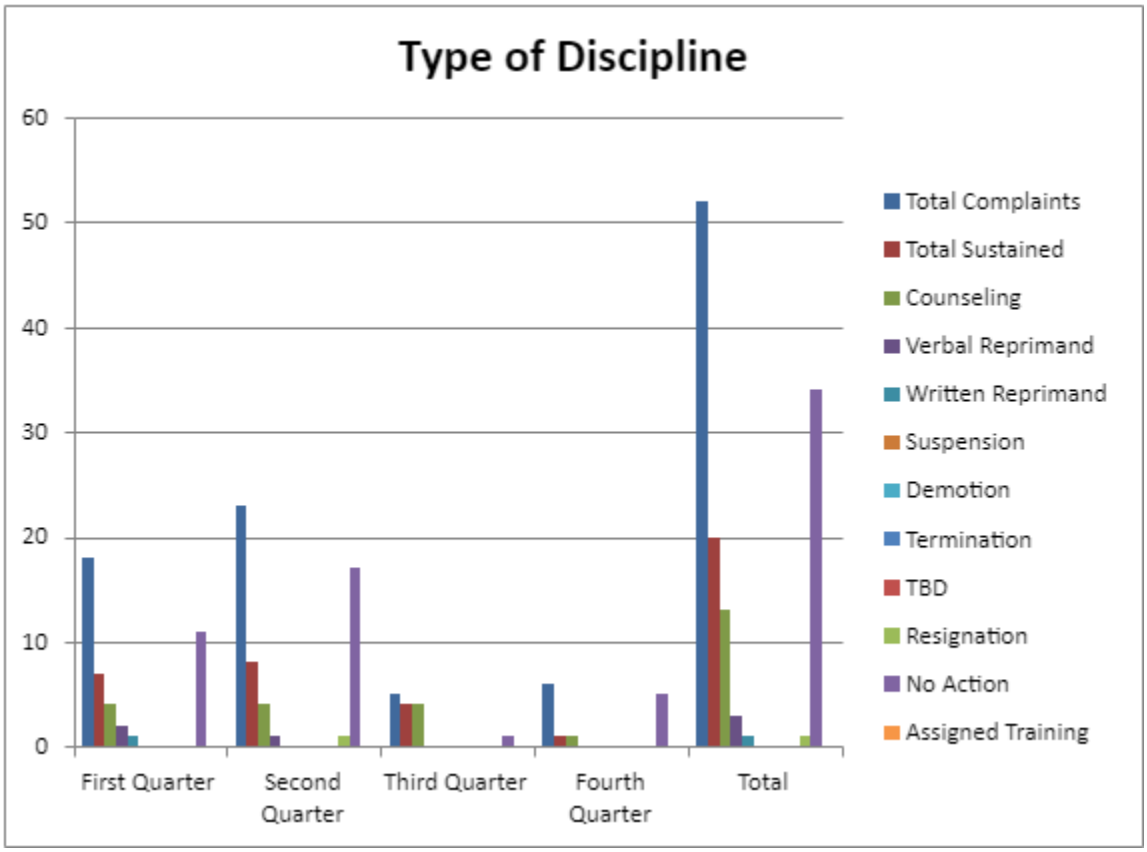
Complaint Type	***Results***	***Investigator***
Leave Violation	Sustained	Supervisor
Rudeness	Not Sustained	Supervisor
Misconduct	Unfounded	IA
Illegal Search	Exonerated	Supervisor
Misconduct	Unfounded	IA
Misconduct	Exonerated	IA

The following is a breakdown of Biased Based complaints received for the year 2021:

- 0 Complaints received based on Race
- 0 Complaints received based on Gender
- 0 Complaints received based on Religion
- 1 Complaints received based on Economic Status
- 0 Complaints received based on Age
- 0 Complaints received based on Ethnicity
- 0 Complaints received based on Sexual Orientation

*****It should be noted that there may be more complaint types and investigations than actual complaints received. This is a result of multiple employees being investigated for one complaint form.**

Types of Discipline



***If you see a disciplinary action that does not seem to fit the violation, keep in mind that it may be due to the severity of the case or it could be a progressive level of discipline.**

Crashes and Pursuit Policy

In case of crash or damage to any department vehicle the driver will immediately request the on-duty supervisor be notified. The supervisor will have an investigation made and the crash investigator will report the crash using the State approved crash form. A Crash/Pursuit Review Board will then review all crashes/pursuits involving Police Department employees and vehicles.

The Crash/Pursuit Review Board- the body responsible for reviewing completed officer involved crash and pursuit reports. The Crash/Pursuit Review Board will review each report to ensure compliance with department policy and forward their findings to the Office of Internal Affairs. The Office of Internal Affairs,

or his/her designee, will review the Crash/Pursuit Boards findings and initiate an investigation if appropriate. The Crash/Pursuit Review Board is a panel of three officers consisting of the Traffic Sergeant and two designees.

For tracking purposes, crashes in a city vehicle and pursuits are separated from internal and citizen complaints and are categorized in the following manner.

Crash

During 2020 there were 26 officer involved accidents in a city vehicle. Of those accidents, 20 of the officers were determined by the Crash Review Board to be at fault.

First Quarter Crash Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Suspension**
Vehicle Operation	**Verbal Reprimand**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**

Second Quarter Crash Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***
Vehicle Operation	**Suspension**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Suspension**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**

Third Quarter Crash Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Letter in File**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**

Fourth Quarter Crash Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***

Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Shift Transfer**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**
Vehicle Operation	**Suspension**
Vehicle Operation	**Counseling**

Pursuits

During 2021 there were 27 officer-involved pursuits. Of the 27 pursuits involving officers, 2 officers were disciplined for policy violations related to the pursuits.

First Quarter Pursuit Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***
N/A	

Second Quarter Pursuit Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***
Emergency Driving	**Suspension**

Third Quarter Pursuit Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***
Pursuit Justification	**Counseling**

Fourth Quarter Pursuit Discipline

Violation	***Discipline***
N/A	

***If you see a disciplinary action that does not seem to fit the violation, keep in mind that it may be due to the severity of the case or it could be a progressive level of discipline.**