

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT USE OF FORCE

99.76% OF PUBLIC CONTACT WITH THE POLICE DOES NOT RESULT IN THE USE OF FORCE

Select a date
Last Year

Description

Number of reportable use of force incidents. Reportable use of force includes all instances in which a Department member uses force (i.e. Taser/ electronic control device, strikes, chemical agents, impact weapons, K-9 bites, deadly force) on a subject, excluding verbal commands, handcuffing and control holds. Note: Use of force is considered reportable if there is an injury or suspected injury.

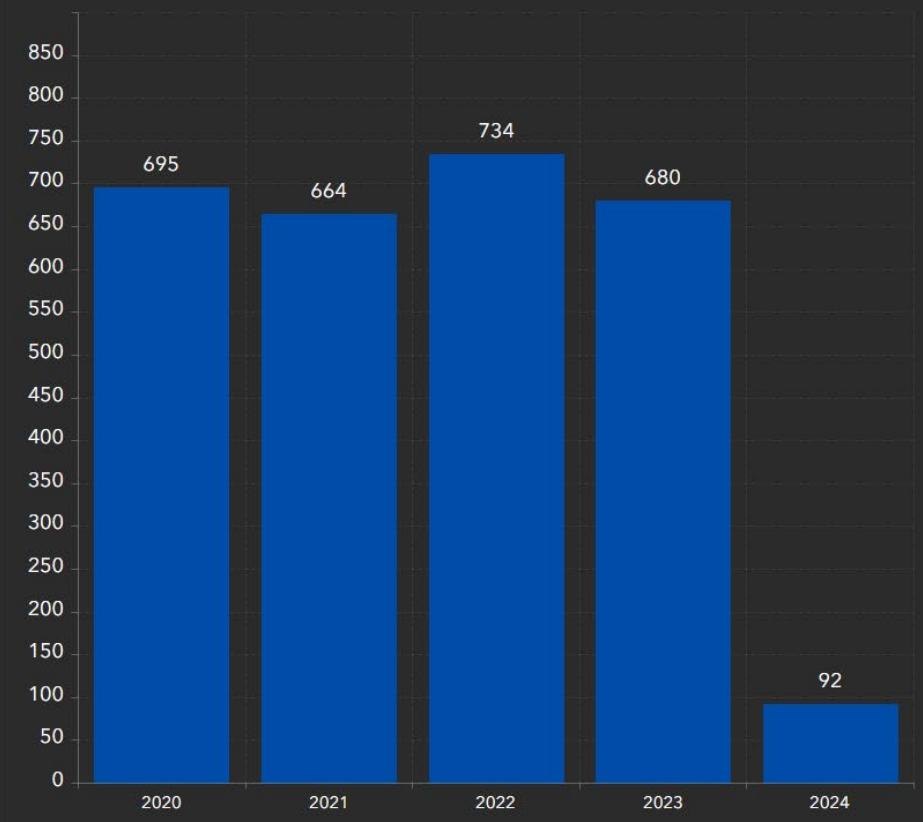
Incidents with a Use of Force
680

Total Calls for Service
282,580

UOF Percent of Incidents
0.241%

2.41 UOF Incidents
per 1000 Calls for Service

Use of Force Total (3 years)



TRANSPARENCY IN POLICING

[HTTPS://WWW.MESAZPOLICE.GOV/COMMUNITY/USE-OF-FORCE](https://www.mesazpolice.gov/community/use-of-force)

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT USE OF FORCE

Filter by Date Range
Last Year

Description

Circumstances precipitating the use of force. This category could include call for service, follow up, booking process, mental health detainer, vehicle stops, officer-initiative activity/on-view activity, SWAT/tactical operations, search warrant service, undercover (UC) operation.

Incidents with a Use of Force

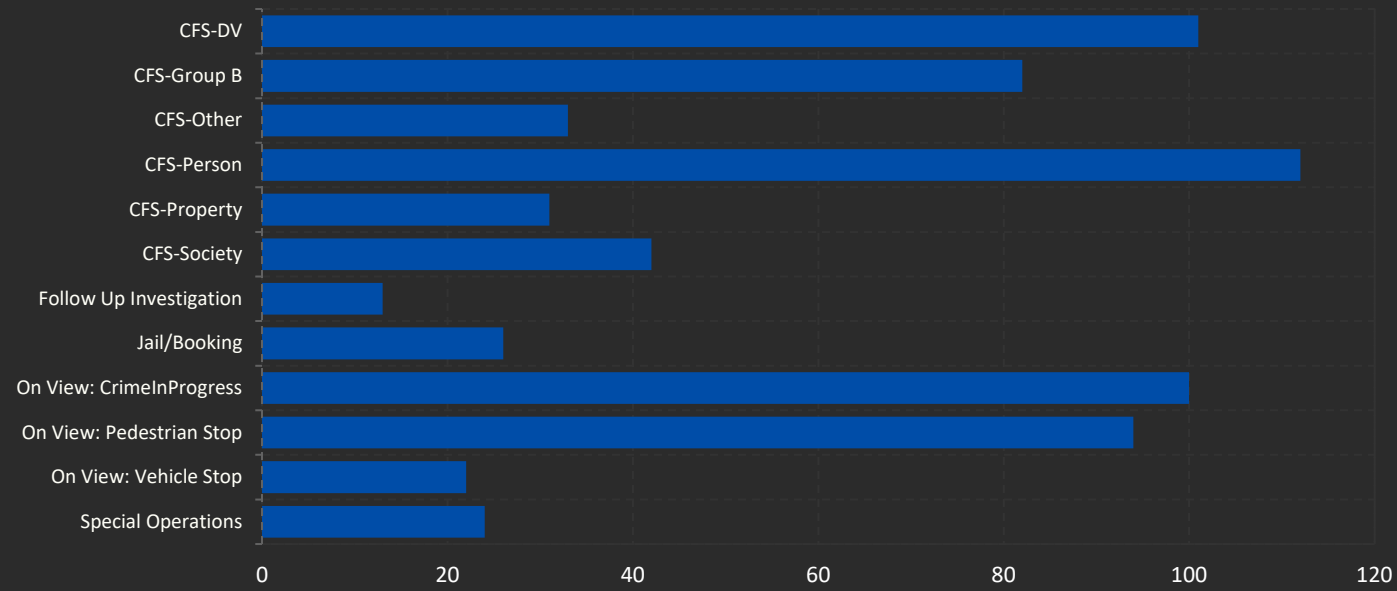
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UOF Percent of Incidents

0.241%

(2.41 UOF Incidents per 1000 Calls for Service)

Use of Force Service Types



TRANSPARENCY IN POLICING

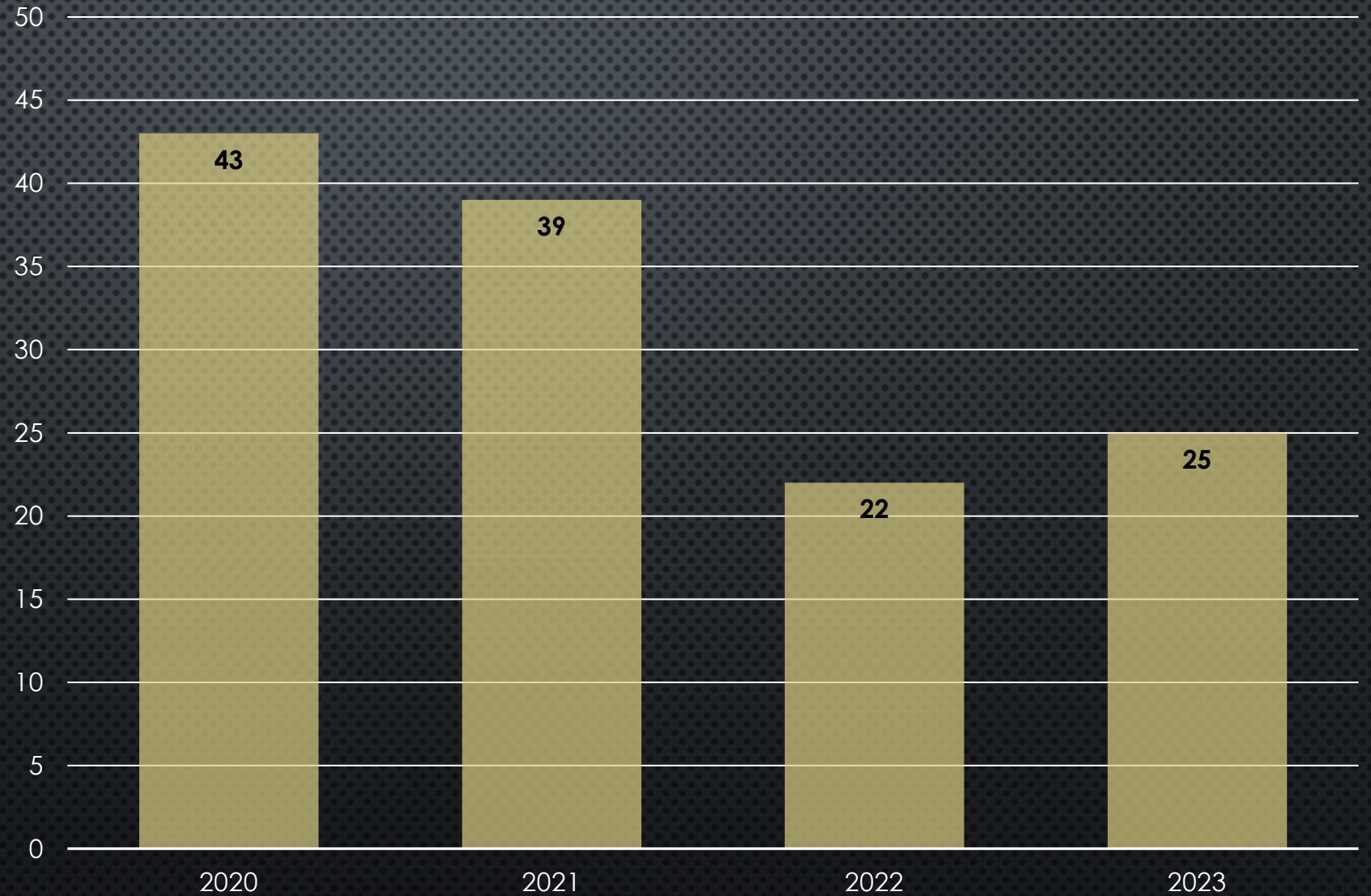
[HTTPS://WWW.MESAZPOLICE.GOV/COMMUNITY/USE-OF-FORCE](https://www.mesazpolice.gov/community/use-of-force)

CHIEF COST 2020 – 2023

OF DISCOURTESY COMPLAINTS

- **2020 - 43**
- **2021 - 39**
- **2022 - 22**
- **2023 - 25**

Discourtesy is considered using disrespectful, vulgar, obscene, profane, or insolent language or gestures to any Department member or any citizen, directly or indirectly, face-to-face, or by telephone, electronic communication (e.g., e-mail), or purposefully use disrespectful, vulgar, obscene, profane, or insolent language on the police radio.



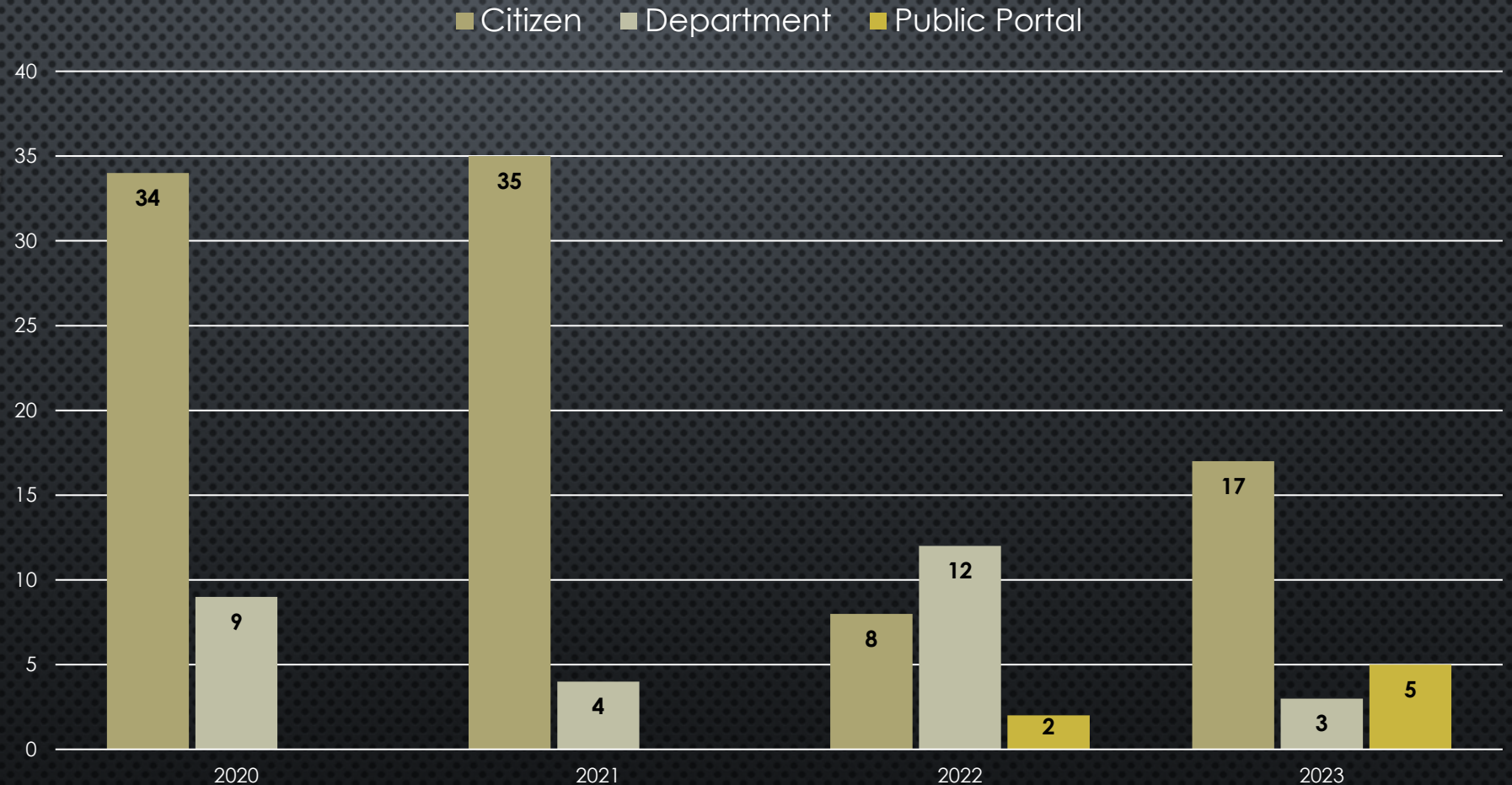
CHIEF COST 2020 – 2023

OF DISCOURTESY COMPLAINTS

ON MAY 12, 2022

THE PUBLIC PORTAL WENT LIVE

The Public Portal is a configurable public-facing website designed to receive complaints, compliments, and feedback from the public. Complainants are updated with email and text notifications upon receipt of their complaint, as it's investigated, and when an outcome has been determined.



POLICY ENHANCEMENTS

- CREATED 3 NEW USE OF FORCE POLICIES IN 2023

- **PEPPER BALL DPM 2.1.70** – A SMALL PROJECTILE THAT BREAKS OPEN UPON IMPACT THAT DISPERSES PAVA.

PAVA IS A POWDER COMPOSED OF SIX COMPOUNDS FOUND NATURALLY IN PEPPER PLANTS. THE PAVA CAUSES A PUNGENT AND IRRITATING ODOR THAT MAY CAUSE TEMPORARILY ACUTE PAIN AND A REDNESS EFFECT ON THE SKIN

- **VEHICLE CONTAINMENT TECHNIQUES DPM 2.1.80** – AN ADVANCED APPREHENSION METHOD OF A COORDINATED USE OF UNMARKED POLICE VEHICLES BY AUTHORIZED MEMBERS TO RESTRICT THE MOVEMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL VEHICLE (EITHER MOBILE OR STATIONARY) TO STOP AND PREVENT VEHICLE MOVEMENT TO DECREASE THE LIKELIHOOD OF A VEHICLE PURSUIT
- **GRAPPLER VEHICLE IMMOBILIZATION DEVICE DPM 2.3.35** – A NETTING SYSTEM DEPLOYED FROM AN EQUIPPED VEHICLE'S FRONT BUMPER TO CAPTURE AND LOCK ONE OF THE REAR TIRES, AXLE, OR SUSPENSION COMPONENTS OF A MOVING VEHICLE

POLICY ENHANCEMENTS

- REVISED 12 POLICIES* BY ENHANCING DEFINITIONS AND LANGUAGE TO FURTHER FOCUS THE APPROPRIATE DEPLOYMENT OF THESE TOOLS AND ARREST TACTICS IN USE OF FORCE SITUATIONS TO MINIMIZE THE FORCE USED TO THE MINIMUM AMOUNT NECESSARY GIVEN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES
 - **IMPACT WEAPONS** – THE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZES TWO PRIMARY TYPES OF IMPACT WEAPONS FOR DAILY CARRY AND USE BY OFFICERS, AN ASP WHICH IS A BLACK EXPANDABLE BATON AND BLACK SIDE HANDLED BATON. A LESS LETHAL SHOTGUN IS A FLEXIBLE BATON OPTION
 - **LESS LETHAL SHOTGUN** – ALSO KNOWN AS A BEAN BAG SHOTGUN AND A 12-GAUGE FLEXIBLE BATON, ARE CARRIED BY AUTHORIZED BY OPERATORS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE DEPARTMENT TRAINING
 - **POLICE SERVICE DOG** – ALSO KNOWN AS A K-9 UNIT USED TO SEARCH FOR SUSPECTS, LOST PERSONS, EVIDENCE, STOLEN PROPERTY OR OTHER ARTICLES, AND THE APPREHENSION OF PERSONS SUSPECTED OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR
 - **ALEAP ACCREDITATION** – ARIZONA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION PROGRAM – PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH ESTABLISHED STANDARDS AND CLEAR STATEMENT OF PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVES, WHICH REPRESENT CURRENT AND PROFESSIONAL INDUSTRY-BEST-PRACTICES IN THE SAFE, EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY DELIVERY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING CYCLE

AZPOST (ARIZONA PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING BOARD) REQUIRES ALL POLICE OFFICERS HAVE A MINIMUM OF 12 HOURS OF TRAINING ANNUALLY

Mesa PD average number of training hours per officer per year	2021	2022	2023
	38	48	96

Mesa PD completed more than **81,465** hours of training in 2023



A police officer in uniform is kneeling on a stone staircase, looking down at a dog. The background is a stone wall.

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING CONTINUED

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CITIZEN TRAINING REVIEW COMMITTEE

- **DUTY TO INTERVENE** – TRAINING TO REINFORCE SECTION 8 OF THE USE OF FORCE POLICY THAT STATES IF AN OFFICER OBSERVES ANOTHER OFFICER USING FORCE THAT IS CLEARLY BEYOND WHAT IS OBJECTIVELY REASONABLE THAT THEY WILL INTERCEDE TO PREVENT THAT EXCESSIVE FORCE FROM CONTINUING AND THEN PROMPTLY NOTIFY A SUPERVISOR
- **ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING** - SCENARIO BASED TRAINING THAT FOCUSED ON SMALL TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL TACTICS TO QUICKLY NEUTRALIZE AN ONGOING THREAT. DISCUSSIONS WERE ALSO HAD ABOUT THE CONTINUED RESPONSIBILITIES OF USE OF DEADLY FORCE INCIDENTS. FURTHER DISCUSSED AND TRAINED WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE ONCE THE THREAT IS NEUTRALIZED INCLUDING RENDERING AID.



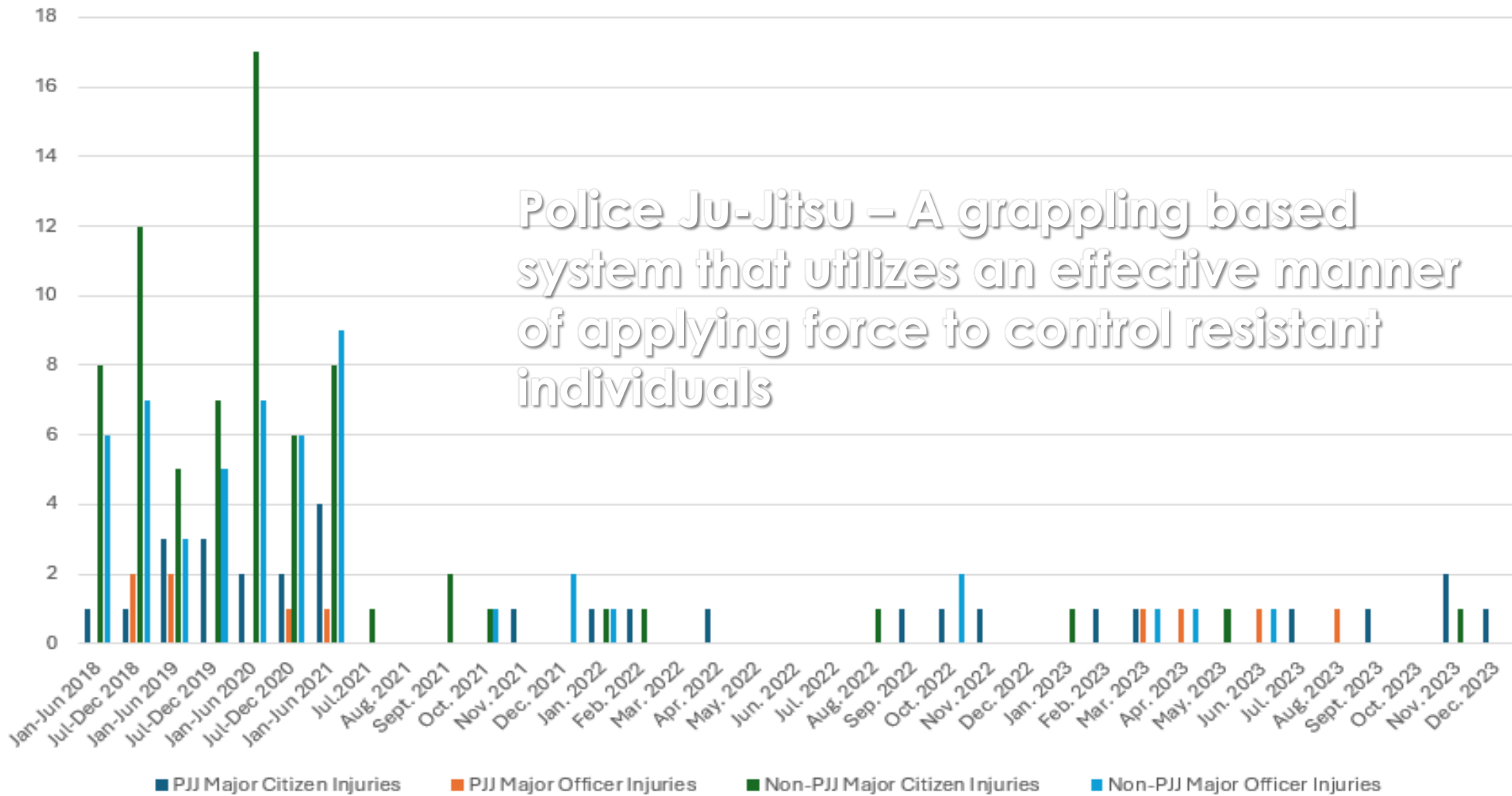
MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING CONTINUED

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CITIZEN TRAINING REVIEW COMMITTEE

- **HIGH RISK TRAFFIC STOPS** – CLASS ROOM AND SCENARIO-BASED TRAINING HIGHLIGHTED BY DISCUSSIONS ON FOURTH AMENDMENT CONSIDERATIONS AS WELL AS TACTICAL DECISION MAKING. DISCUSSIONS WERE THEN IMPLEMENTED IN VARIOUS SCENARIOS WITH DIFFERENT STIMULUS USED IN EACH SCENARIO.
- **DRIVING** – TACTICAL DRIVING AND CORNERING TRAINING RELATED TO DRIVING SKILLS TO AVOID COLLISIONS
- **ADVANCED TACTICS & DECISION MAKING** – TRAINING THAT INCLUDED DE-ESCALATION, CRITICAL DECISION MAKING WHILE UNDER STRESS, POLICE JU-JITSU AND PROGRESSION OF USE OF FORCE SCENARIOS INCLUDING THE USE OF DEADLY FORCE

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING CONTINUED

Major Injuries to Citizens and Officers



Police Ju-Jitsu – A grappling based system that utilizes an effective manner of applying force to control resistant individuals

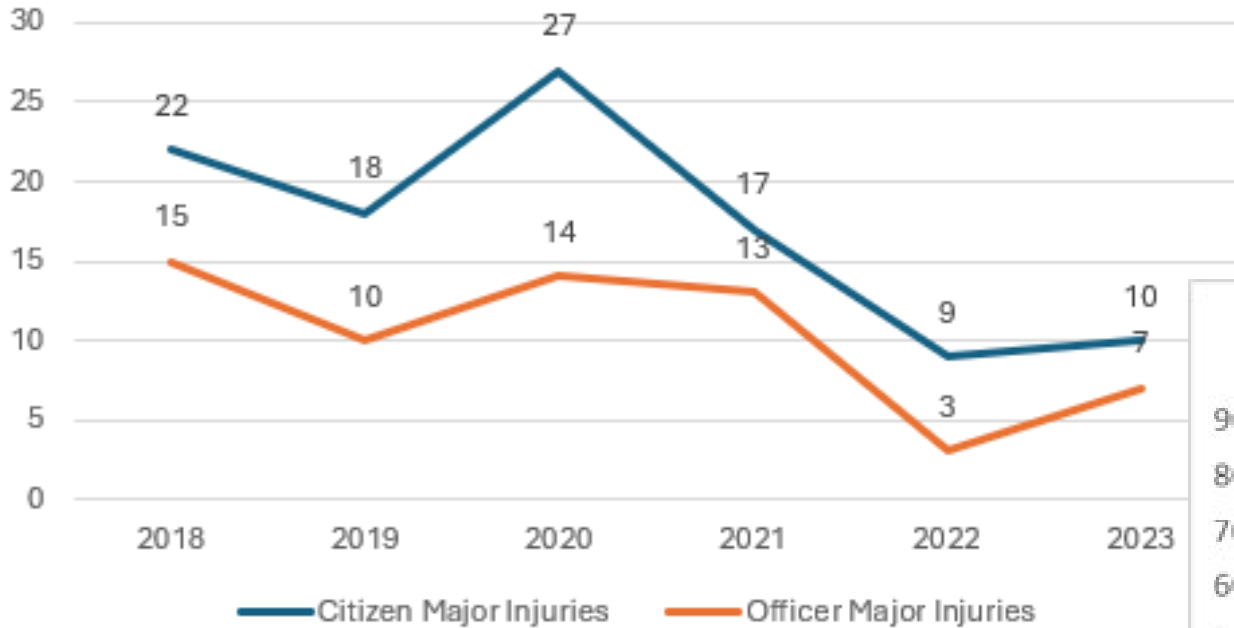
DUE TO THE CONFIDENCE OFFICERS HAVE IN APPLYING PJJ AND DE-ESCALATION TECHNIQUES, OUR FORCE INCIDENTS HAVE FALLEN EVERY YEAR FROM 650 PER YEAR IN 2018 TO ONLY 521 FORCE INCIDENTS IN 2022

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING CONTINUED

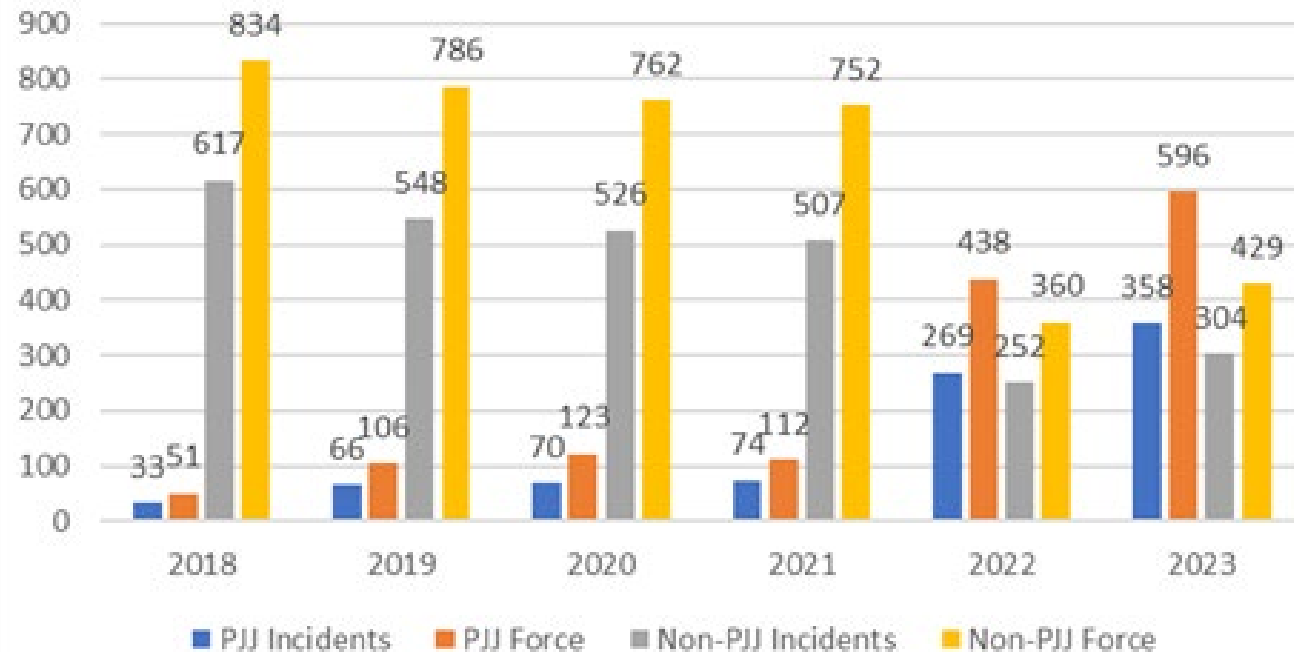
Police Ju-Jitsu – A grappling based system that utilizes an effective manner of applying force to control resistant individuals

The first department wide Police Ju-Jitsu training class took place January of 2021

Major Injuries to Citizens and Officers



Use of Force Incidents and Modalities Used



SIX-YEAR REDUCTION IN INJURIES TO
CITIZEN AND OFFICERS

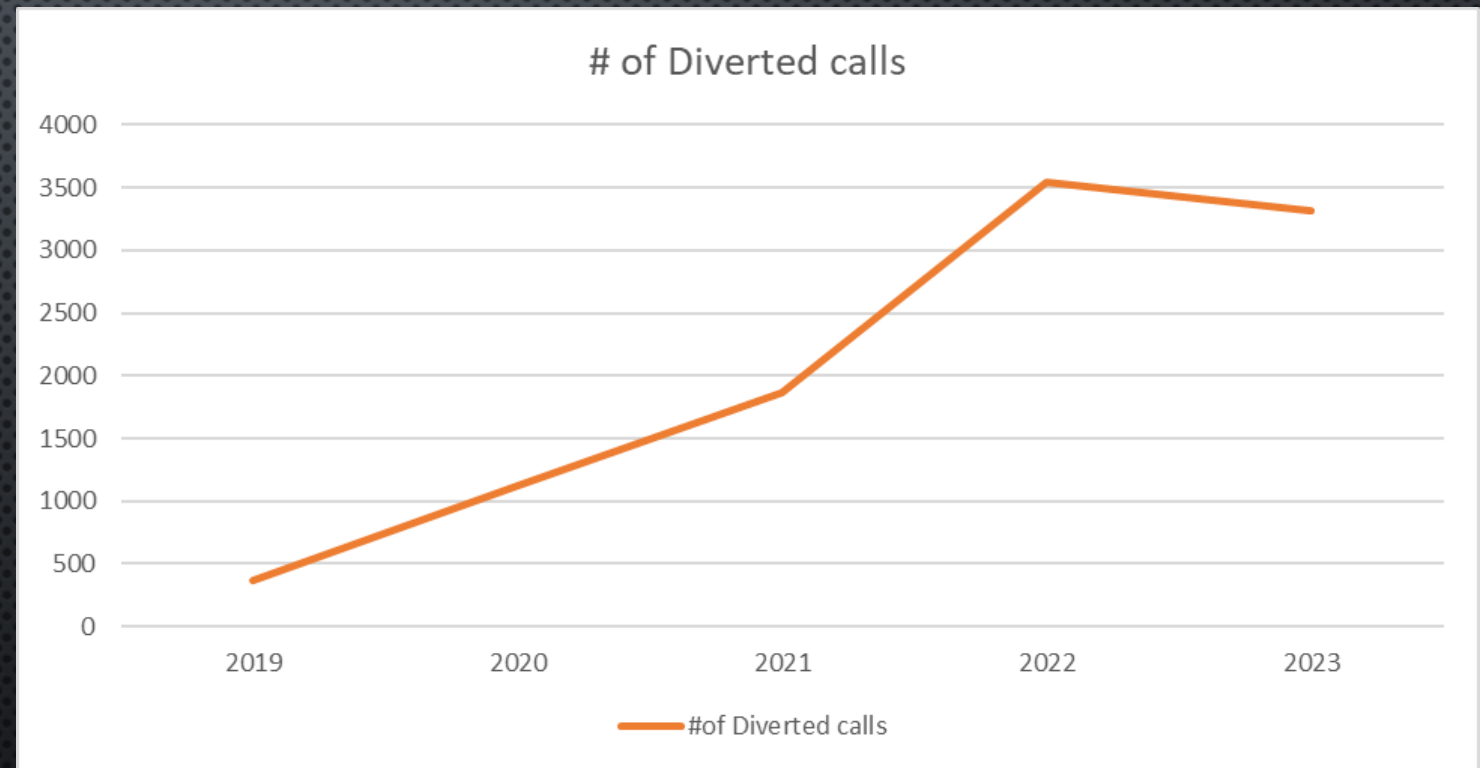
MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING CONTINUED

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CITIZEN TRAINING REVIEW COMMITTEE

- CITY OF MESA 2023 INITIATIVES IN MENTAL ILLNESS AND POLICING
 - IN 2022 19.86% OF ADULTS EXPERIENCED MENTAL ILLNESS AND 4.91% OF THE US POPULATION WAS DIAGNOSED WITH A SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS (SMI)
 - IN JULY 2022 MESA PD PARTNERED WITH MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIANS AND FORMED MENTAL HEALTH MOBILE TEAMS TO ASSIST PATROL OFFICERS TO REDUCE WAIT TIMES FOR SERVICES

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT MENTAL HEALTH

- IN 2019, CALLS THAT WERE STRICTLY MENTAL HEALTH RELATED IN NATURE WERE DIVERTED USING A COMMUNITY PARTNER. THE GRAPHIC SHOWS THE TOTAL CALLS DIVERTED AWAY FROM A PATROL OFFICER RESPONSE SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE PROGRAM
- IN 2021 A CRISIS COUNSELOR BEGAN WORKING WITH 911/MESA PD DISPATCHERS UP TO 20 HOURS A WEEK ASSISTING WITH CALL DIVERSION TO THE CRISIS NETWORK



MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT MENTAL HEALTH

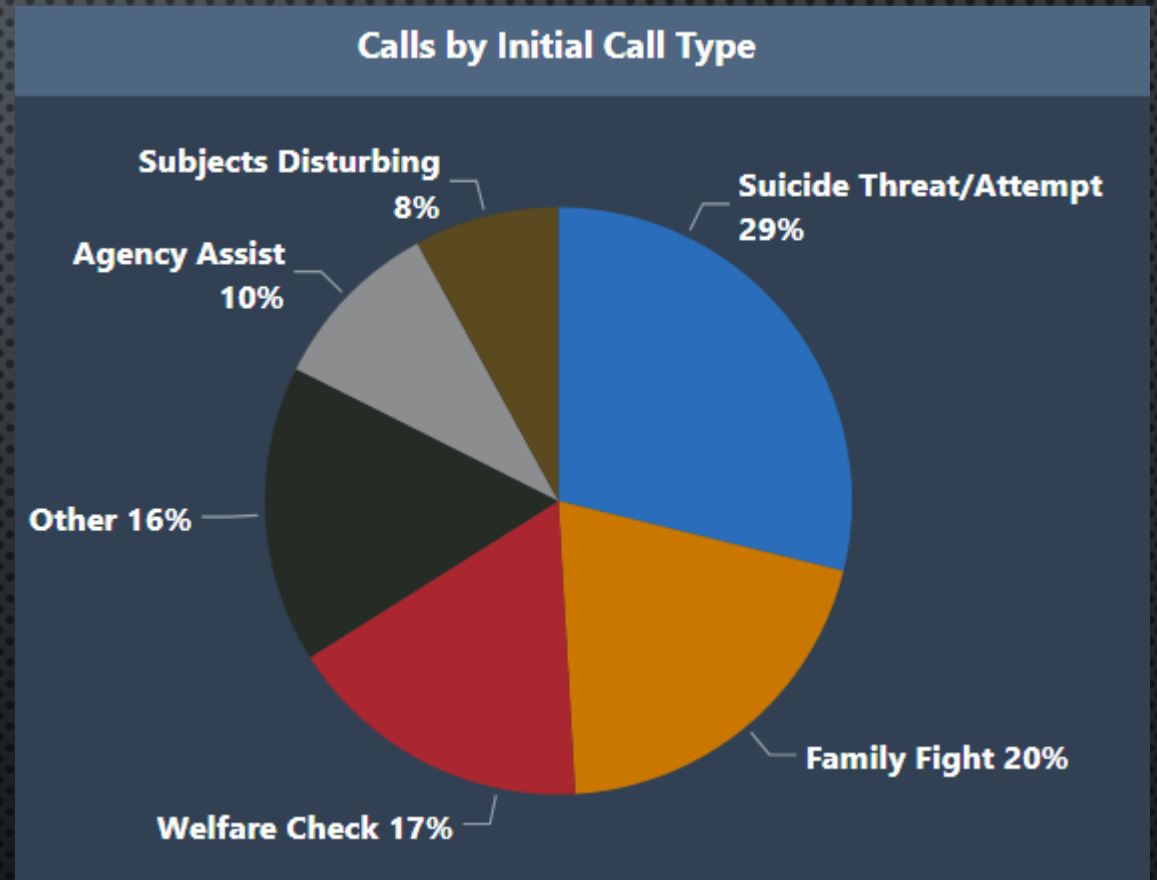
- THE REDUCTION IN MENTAL HEALTH CALLS TO THE 911 SYSTEM FROM 2022 TO 2023 COULD BE CONTRIBUTED TO THE NATION-WIDE AVAILABILITY OF THE 988 SYSTEM ON JULY 16, 2022
- THE 988 SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE PROVIDES 24/7, THROUGH TEXT CHAT OR MOBILE SERVICES TO PROVIDE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR STATE AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES. THE CRISIS CENTERS UTILIZE TRAINED VOLUNTEERS AS WELL AS MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.



24/7 CALL, TEXT, CHAT

MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT MENTAL HEALTH

- IN JULY OF 2022, CRISIS TEAMS WERE FORMED TO RESPOND TO CERTAIN TYPES OF CALLS TO ASSIST WITH A MENTAL HEALTH COMPONENT
- FROM JULY 2022 TO DECEMBER 2023, 1,481 CALLS WERE DISPATCHED TO THE CRISIS TEAMS.
- THE GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATES THE TOP FIVE CALL TYPES CRISIS TEAMS RESPONDED TO



CONTEXT

2010- Nov 2019 \approx 3,030,210 Total Calls for Service

- Dispatched \approx 1,786,760
- On-View \approx 1,243,450

Of those Calls For Service, we had 165 Use of Force Complaints

131 Citizen

34 Departmental (Internal)

3,030,210 Calls For Service and 165 Use of Force complaints = .005%



ACCOUNTABILITY

Prior Departmental (Internal) Use of Force complaint average: 3.4 per year

38% Sustained departmental initiated complaints

CONTEXT

Nov 2019 to Present \approx 1,064,495 Total Calls for Service

- Dispatched \approx 708,127
- On-View \approx 348,937
- Diverted to Solari (Mental Health) \approx 10,037

Of those Calls For Service, we had 133 Use of Force Complaints
78 Citizen
55 Departmental (Internal)

1,064,495 Calls For Service and 133 Use of Force complaints \approx .013%



ACCOUNTABILITY

Recent Departmental (Internal) Use of Force complaint average: 26.6 per year
61% Sustained departmental initiated complaints



CALLS FOR SERVICE / USE OF FORCE

2023 ≈ 282,580 TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE (CFS)

215 USES OF TASER ≈ .076%

49 USES OF BEANBAG ≈ .017%

8 OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS ≈ .003%