

## USE OF FORCE REPORTING

The National Use-of-Force Data Collection is a component of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program that is used by law enforcement agencies to report a law enforcement use of force that results in a fatality, serious bodily injury to a person, or the discharge of a firearm at or in the direction of a person.

The reporting criteria is based on three types of law enforcement contact with the public:

- Calls for service
- Officer initiated
- Court/bailiff activities

**The definition of serious bodily injury is based in part on 18 United States Code 2246 (4):** The term serious bodily injury means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, unconsciousness, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

Serious bodily injury would include all gunshot wounds (regardless of whether they are penetrating or grazing), apparent broken bones, possible internal injury, severe laceration, stitches, sutures, chipped teeth, loss of teeth, canine bites requiring medical attention, unconsciousness due to an applied carotid artery hold, and injuries severe enough to require medical intervention and/or hospitalization. This also includes a bite by a police K9 if the injury required medical attention.

The term “medical intervention” does not include routine evaluation of the subject to determine fitness for arrest or detention by an emergency medical technician or medical staff at a medical facility.

**The definition of firearm is based on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives definition, 18 U.S. 921 (a) (3):** The term firearm means (A) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (B) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (C) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (D) any destructive device. Firearms discharged at or in the direction of a person with

less lethal munitions, such as beanbags, pepper balls, and rubber bullets are excluded. In addition, electronic control weapons are not to be considered firearms.

\*Any information available for an incident should be reported within 48-72 hours of occurrence even if it is still being investigated. Any sections marked “**Pending further investigation**” should be completed once additional information is obtained. Regardless of status, all incidents must be reported by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the following month.