



Clallam County Sheriff's Office

WASPC Accredited Agency

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File:

March 1, 2016

ANNUAL ANALYSIS 2015

To: Sheriff Bill Benedict

Please find below our annual analysis for our agency. This addresses key statistical information and summaries that can serve as early warning signals to issues within our department.

Internal Investigations/Complaints during 2015

1. 2015-01 – **Corrections Deputy** – Performance 340.3.5 (o) and (p) – **SUSTAINED – Letter of Reprimand**. (Corrections officer took daily newspaper meant for commissioner's office)
2. 2015-02 – **Corrections Deputy** – Performance 340.3.5(P), 340.3.5(AB), 340.3.5(AF), County Policy 230.16(21) – **SUSTAINED – 80 hour suspension with 40 hours deferred**. (Operating equipment without proper certification resulting in injury. Failure to use safety belts in vehicle.)
3. 2015-03 – **Corrections Deputy** – RCW 70.48.100 – Jail Records: Confidentiality– **SUSTAINED – Verbal Counseling**. (Providing confidential jail records to citizen improperly)

Individuals investigated by section

3 Corrections Section = 3 Corrections Deputies

0 Operations Section

0 Administration Section

0 Emergency Management Section

0 Code Enforcement Section

3 individuals were subject to internal investigations
6 policy violations or violations of RCW were identified for individuals investigated
All allegations sustained
0 allegations not sustained
0 allegations exonerated
0 allegations unfounded

Of the 3 individuals investigated there were no individuals involved in more than one incident.

The three investigations conducted in 2015 on our members resulted in:

- 2 individuals received a letter of reprimand
- 1 individual received 80 hour suspension with 40 deferred

DETAILED ALLEGATIONS

Performance – A corrections deputy took newspapers on a periodic basis that were actually for delivery to the commissioner’s office to read while they were working control. The allegation was **SUSTAINED**.

Performance – A corrections officer’s decision to operate a commercial vehicle a short distance without having a commercial vehicle license resulted in running over an inmate. In addition, the corrections officer failed to secure his seat belt **SUSTAINED**.

Performance – On Duty Conduct – A corrections officer shared internal jail records that are considered confidential with a member of their family for non-official purposes. **SUSTAINED**.

There was no common theme connecting allegations of misconduct and the individuals involved. At a total of three A36 investigations in 2015, it matches the number of such cases in 2014.

In all cases no intended violations of policy were found. Some of the incidents demonstrated a lack of knowledge regarding policy, while another incidence involved making a poor decision. Of particular note is the lack of complaints against deputies (all sections) for real or perceived abrasive comment or treatment of the public. While all three investigations were sustained, none of them were flagrant violations of policy and the intent of each incident was nowhere near done with any malice. Rather, while the newspaper incident may be classified as a misunderstanding, the other two incidents were efforts by the corrections officer to either help the county in general, or an individual.

Recommend regular follow up with Supervisors by the Chief Deputies to reassert management's interest in proper application of all policies and procedure.

Staff should be monitored to ensure DTB's are completed and supervisors should take steps to reassert that many procedures are in place as safeguards against making mistakes.

Also recommend complementing our entire staff for providing another year of no complaints from the public about conduct or behavior perceived to be offensive or abrasive. We have received numerous compliments, thank you notes and letters complimenting staff on the care and concern they have exhibited when dealing with our citizens. A sincere "Well done" to all our staff is in order.

Use of Force during 2015

Sgt. Eric Munger reviewed the Use of Force A35 file for the year of 2015 as he did in 2014. Sgt. Munger reports there were a total of sixty nine (69) use of force reports for the year; thirty six (36) for Patrol, and thirty three (33) for Corrections. Assisted by Sgt. Finley in corrections, Sgt. Munger broke down the incidents by Department Section. The incidents have been categorized by level of force used and the techniques that were utilized were recorded. Many of the incidents had multiple techniques utilized; therefore there are significantly more techniques utilized than the number of incidents.

Patrol: 36 total incidents

Level 1- 35

Techniques Utilized:

Display of Firearm	1
Display of Taser	1
Taser Deployment	3
Counter Joint	15
Level 1 Takedown	12
Overpower / Outmuscle	0
Hair Hold	0
LVNR	1
Pressure Point	2

Level 2 –1

Techniques Utilized:

LVNR	1
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Corrections: 33 total incidents.

Level 1 – 25

Techniques Utilized:

Display of Firearm	0
Display of Taser	4
Taser Deployment	2
Counter Joint	16
Level 1 Takedown	12
Overpower / Outmuscle	0
Hair Hold	5
LVNR	2
Restraint Chair	10

Level 2 – 8

Techniques Utilized:

Knee Strikes	0
Hand Strikes	2
Elbow Strikes	0
LVNR	6

In comparing with 2014, this shows a slight decrease in the use of force incidents for the Patrol Division, from 40 to 36. On the surface, this is not a great enough of a difference to be of much statistical value. However, this is the second year in a row with a slight decline in the number of use of force incidents reported by patrol. At this point, there is not enough data to say there is a real downward trend.

For 2015, use of force incidents were again spread randomly between shifts and deputies with two notable exceptions. Two individual deputies had more than double

the use of force incidents compared to the next highest deputy. In looking at the department's 2015 statistics, those two deputies were by a large margin, department leaders in calls handled and arrests made. In this case, it stands to reason they would be the deputies with the most use of force incidents.

For Corrections, there was a dramatic decrease in the number of use of force reports from 55 in 2014 to 33 in 2015. There are several reasons that would likely explain some of the decrease. One factor to consider is that the jail population has, on average, been less during the 2015 year. When the jail population is down, not only are there fewer possible inmates to create problematic incidents, the overall tension level in the jail decreases. The decrease in tension increases inmate morale, and the problems that arise also decrease.

During the busy months in the jail, (July to September) the inmate population averaged 129 for 2014 compared to 107 for 2015. For the entirety of those years, the average population numbers were 125 for 2014 and 114 for 2015

Pursuits during 2015

In 2015 the Clallam County Sheriff's Office initiated 4 vehicle pursuits. The 4 pursuit reports are contained in administrative file A41 Vehicle Pursuit Reports. The reports in 2015 are titled A41-15-01 through 15-04.

The pursuits are summarized as follows:

- **15-01:** 2 deputies involved. Suspect Vehicle: Motorcycle. Original violation/crime: Fail to Stop at Stop Sign. Duration: 4 minutes. Distance: 4 miles. Maximum Speed: Approximately 60 MPH. Termination Disposition: Suspect lost control of motorcycle resulting in non-injury collision; suspect fled on foot before being apprehended in immediate flight from collision. Injuries: No. Charging Disposition: Attempt to Elude.
- **15-02:** 2 deputies involved. Suspect Vehicle: Pick-up. Original violation/crime: Felony Malicious Mischief DV. Duration: 4 minutes. Distance: 4 miles. Maximum Speed: 100 MPH. Termination Disposition: Suspect vehicle collision with tree. Injuries: Minor/treated as scene. Charging Disposition: Attempt to Elude, Mal Misc 2 DV, Hit and Run.
- **15-03:** 2 deputies involved. Suspect Vehicle: Car. Original violation/crime: Felony No Bail Bench Warrant/Theft Suspects. Duration: 20 minutes. Distance: 11.7 miles. Maximum Speed: 60 MPH. Termination Disposition: Lost sight of

Vehicle (Vehicle later located/Head on collision with patrol vehicle). Injuries: Deputy sustained concussion as a result of collision/Suspect(s) uninjured. Charging Disposition: Attempt to Elude/Warrants.

- **15-04:** 2 deputies involved. Suspect Vehicle: Moped. Original violation/crime: Fail to Signal turn. Duration: 2 minutes. Distance 2 miles. Maximum Speed: 25 MPH. Termination Disposition: Got Away. Injuries: None. Charging Disposition: None

During 2015 there were 4 pursuits reported by the CCSO versus 5 in 2014. All pursuits in 2015 were subject to supervisory and administrative review and all were conducted within the parameters of the department's pursuit policy.

Biased Based Policing 2015

No reports or complaints were received by this agency in 2015 that would indicate there were any incidents of biased based police activity. In a spot check of incidents throughout the year, no indications of any profiling or racially motivated actions were engaged in by any department member as well.

I researched arrests made in 2015 by race. Through computer based recall, we found a total of 982 cases cleared by arrest by deputies in 2015. The race of the defendants in those cases breaks down as follows:

White, non Hispanic	873 or 89%
Asian	6 or 1%
Black	28 or 3%
Hispanic	14 or 2%
Native American	51 or 5%

In comparison, 2014 population estimates break down as follows:

White, non Hispanic	87.8%
Asian	1.7%
Black	1.0%
Hispanic	5.8%
Native American	5.6%

Arrests by race fall closely into line with the demographics of our area. Again, the recall was by cases cleared by arrest so one person may account for several arrests if charged with multiple crimes resulted for one incident or a series of incidents.

While race is only one factor in biased police monitoring, there is nothing that is pointing in a direction that would make it seem deputies are profiling any group, race, religion, etc. in their enforcement duties.

Evidence Report

In the future, an accreditation standard will be instituted to report to the agency head, a status report on the evidence and property room. This is to ensure that items are being properly purged and disposed of regularly and in an appropriate manner.

Because this is a new standard to report, we have no baseline numbers from previous reports, so some of the numbers are either estimated, or not exactly representative of the entire year of 2015.

Property and Evidence On Hand 12/31/14 – 8,974

Items Received in 2015 – 2,868

Disposed of in 2015 – 2,947

Estimated property on hand as of 12/31/15 – 8,895

Hopefully, this recording may establish an accurate count of property movement through our evidence room going forward. As it appears, we continue to achieve our goal of keeping inventory at around 10,000 items with focused attention to the purging of property as quickly and carefully as possible.

Summary

Analysis of all internal investigations, use of force incidents and pursuits found no common thread indicating any single individual is responsible for an inordinate or unusual number of reports in any category or any reoccurring issue

that needs to be dealt with more directly other than what was determined by examination of pursuits.

There are also no indications of an inordinate number of reports across the four reporting issues, (Use of Force, A36, Biased Based Policing & Pursuit) that would indicate any particular individual deputy is experiencing an inordinate number of incidents.

Finally, the new reporting subject of evidence status would indicate that the performance of the property room is also in line with expectations.

Recommend reaffirming Command Staff's intent that all persons contacted be treated with courtesy, dignity and respect.

Recommend instructions to first line supervision to ensure pursuit policy and code response policy are discussed and reaffirmed throughout the year as reminders of Command Staff expectations.

Recommend continued monitoring use of force reports in Corrections to determine whether reports subside as standardization of reports has had a year to become established practice.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ronald R. Cameron, Undersheriff

Sheriff's Signature Ronald R. Cameron Date: 3/1/16
WJ Benedict 3/7/16

Concur with findings

Do not concur with findings