



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Police Training and Standards Commission

USE OF FORCE COMPLAINTS REPORT - 2023

Public Safety Article §3-514(b)(2)

HB 670/Ch. 59, 2021

MSAR# 13162

July 1, 2024

**Governor Wes Moore
Lt. Governor Aruna Miller
Secretary Carolyn J. Scruggs**



POLICE TRAINING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION

USE OF FORCE COMPLAINTS REPORT

MSAR# 13162

2023 REPORT TO THE STATE OF MARYLAND

January 1 – December 31, 2023

INTRODUCTION

Public Safety Article §3-514 requires law enforcement agencies to collect data of police officers' use of force and report to the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission (MPTSC) the data, aggregated by numbers of complaints administratively charged, not charged, unfounded, and exonerated. This includes aggregated data of all use of force complaints and not just those considered serious officer-involved incidents.

USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

The Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC) staff developed a reporting process for agencies to report this information. On January 5, 2024, agency heads were emailed an informational reporting guide and reporting link to a Google Doc reporting system where the required data was entered by each agency and uploaded into a system maintained by staff of MPCTC. Agencies were required to report the number of events for the following during calendar year 2023:

- (1) Number of use of force complaints administratively charged*
- (2) Number of use of force complaints not charged*
- (3) Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded*
- (4) Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated*
- (5) Number of complaints pending*

2023 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTING

There were 157 agencies employing approximately 16,000 Commission certified police officers in 2023. However, not all of the agencies were identified as being required to comply with Public Safety Article §3-514 (b)(2) as some of the agencies have employees who are certified as law enforcement officers by the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission, but are not defined as law enforcement agencies under Public Safety Article §3-101(e). Additionally, several small agencies were inactive, as they were unable to staff their authorized positions. Therefore, a total of 133 agencies that were required to report use of force complaints were identified for the 2023 reporting year. All of the required agencies filed a report with the MPTSC.

In 2023, 36 agencies reported having use of force complaints, compared to 38 agencies in 2022. There was a significant reduction in the total number use of force complaints received by law enforcement agencies. In 2022, agencies reported 621 use of force complaints, compared to 456 complaints reported in 2023, representing a 26% reduction. Despite fewer use of force complaints reported in 2023, there was a 75% increase in the number of officers being administratively charged. Twenty-four officers were administratively charged in 2022, compared to 42 in 2023.

Below is a statewide summary of use of force complaints reported by law enforcement agencies, followed by individual agency reporting of data. This information will also be posted on Public Safety Education and Training Center website <https://mdle.net>.

Statewide Agency Summary of Use of Force Complaints	
Agencies That Reported No Use of Force Complaints	96
Agencies Reporting Use of Force Complaints	36
Total Number of Use of Force Complaints	456
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	42
Number of complaints NOT charged	266
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	56
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	79
Number of use of force complaints pending (as of 12/31/23)	148

Agencies with Use of Force Complaints Detailed Data

Annapolis Police (005)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	3
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	2

Anne Arundel County Police (009)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	2
Number of complaints NOT charged	7
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	3
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	4
Number of use of force complaints pending	2

Baltimore City Police (011)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	23
Number of complaints NOT charged	93
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	5
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	15
Number of use of force complaints pending	64

Baltimore City School Police (406)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	25
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Baltimore City Sheriff (304)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	3
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	3
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Baltimore County Police (013)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	37
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	13
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	20

Number of use of force complaints pending	19
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Bladensburg Police (025)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	2
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Cecil County Sheriff (314)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	2
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	1
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Charles County Sheriff (316)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	6
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	4
Number of use of force complaints pending	2

District Heights Police (067)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	1
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Elkton Police (073)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	2
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	1
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Forest Heights Police (081)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Frederick City Police (083)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Frederick County Sheriff (320)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Fruitland Police (088)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Gaithersburg Police (091)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Glenarden Police (093)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	1
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Greenbelt Police (099)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	2
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	2
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Hagerstown Police (103)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	2
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	2
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Hancock Police (107)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Howard County Police (111)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	3
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	2
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Hyattsville Police (115)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	1
Number of use of force complaints pending	2

Maryland Capitol Police (007)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	1
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Maryland State Police (141)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	3

Maryland Transit Administration Police (145)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	2
Number of complaints NOT charged	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	2

Maryland Transportation Authority Police (143)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	34
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	34

Montgomery County Police (151)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	2
Number of complaints NOT charged	17
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	14
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	3
Number of use of force complaints pending	7

Montgomery County Sheriff (330)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

North East Police (165)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	4
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	4
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	4
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Prince George's County Police (181)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	2
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Prince George's County Sheriff (332)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	3
Number of complaints NOT charged	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	1
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Queen Anne's County Sheriff (334)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

Saint Mary's County Sheriff (338)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

Salisbury City Police (199)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0

University of MD Baltimore Police (221)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	1
Number of complaints NOT charged	12
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	0
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	12
Number of use of force complaints pending	1

University of MD College Park Police (225)	
Number of use of force complaints administratively charged	0
Number of complaints NOT charged	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints unfounded (if determined)	1
Of those NOT charged, number of complaints exonerated (if determined)	0
Number of use of force complaints pending	0