

# Columbia Heights Police Department



## Use of Force Summary Report



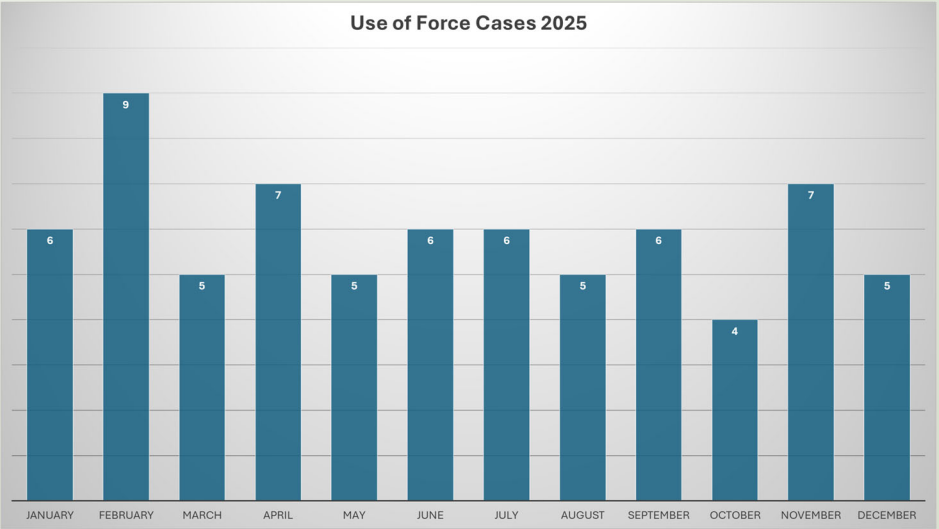
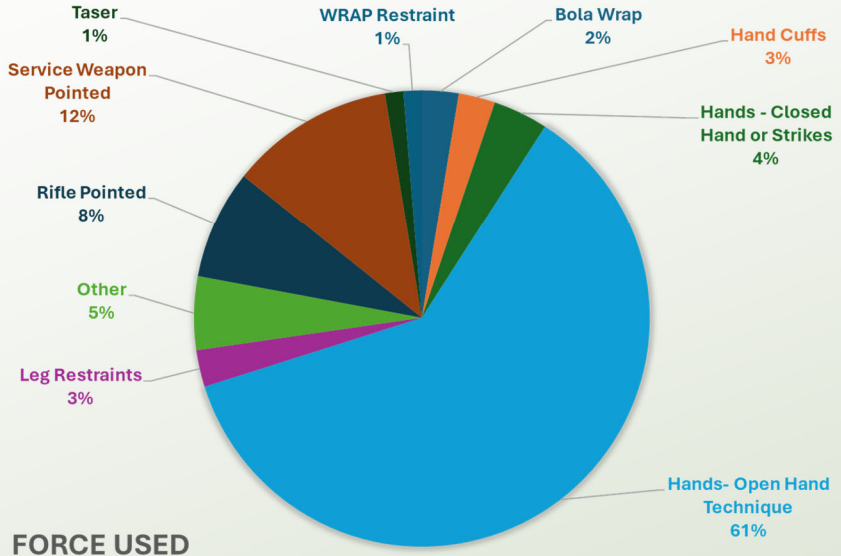
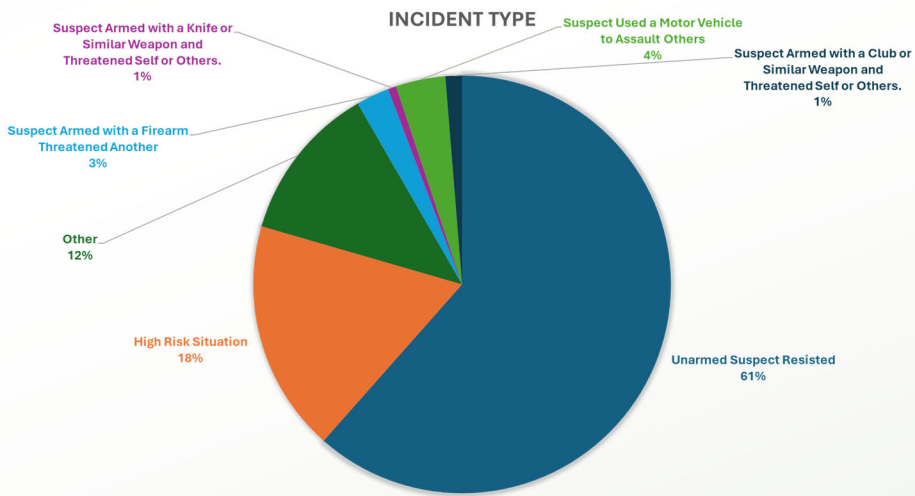


Columbia Heights officers continue to hold the highest regard for the dignity and liberty of all persons, and place minimal reliance on the use of force. The police department respects the value of every human life, and the application of deadly force is a measure to be employed in the most extreme circumstances. The Columbia Heights Police Department goes beyond the state and federal reporting requirements to monitor our use of force incidents and ensure compliance with state and federal law and department policy. I would like to share the following information for 2025.

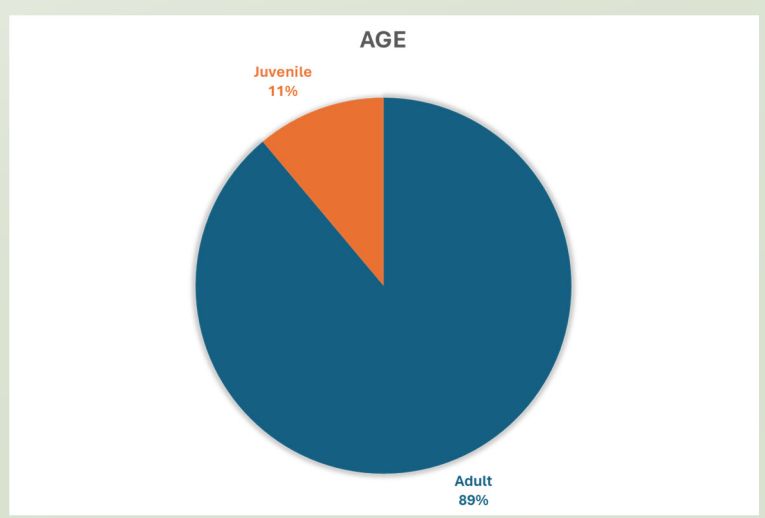
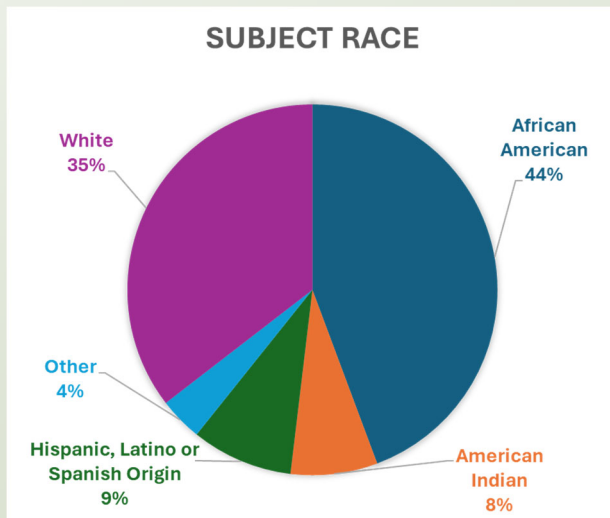
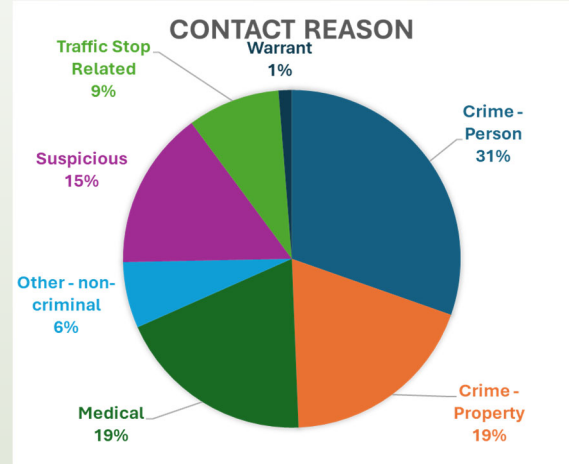
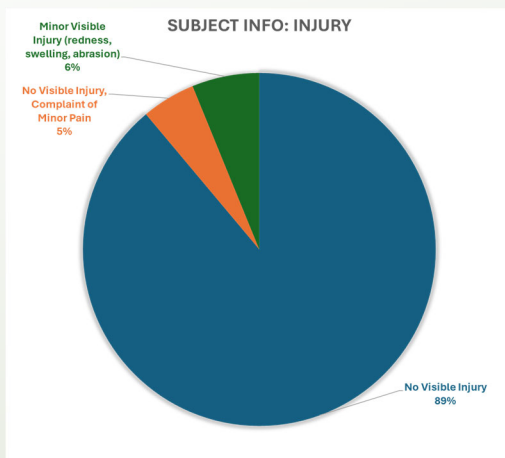
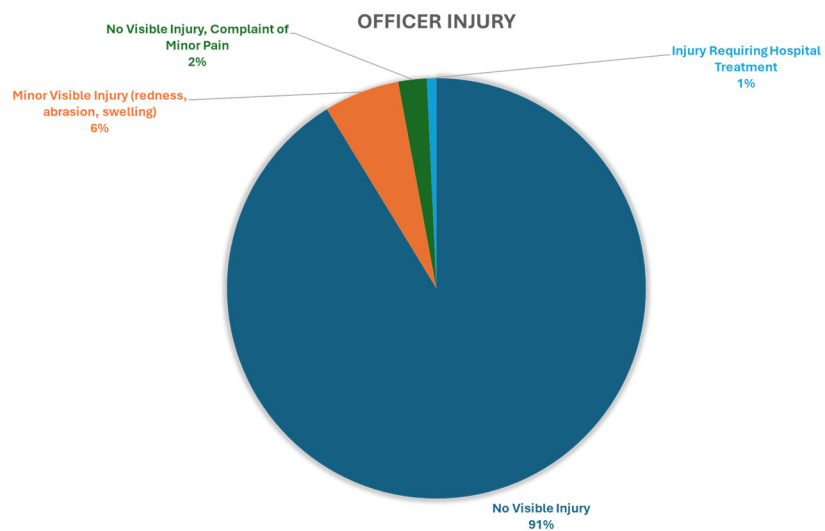
- The CHPD responded to 24,520 calls for service (Anoka County Communications)
- A minimal amount of force was used in 0.32% of these calls, with a total of 79 incidents for the year.
- Open hand techniques was the most common type of force used.
- 89% of the subjects involved, where force was used, reported no injury. Of those that reported injuries, minor pain or abrasions was the most common.

We continue to have a supervisor review every reported use of force to ensure legal and policy requirements are met. At the same time, we look for new tools and techniques we can use to minimize the times we are required to use force. In 2022 the police department added a co-responder program with full time mental health professionals to continue to help reduce the need to use force.

~ Chief Matt Markham



In 2025, we responded to 24,520 calls for service (down 1,157 from 2024) and used force 79 times.



Starting in July of 2018, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension began to formally collect use of force data from MN Law Enforcement Agencies for inclusion in the FBI National Use-of-Force Data Collection. Agencies are asked to report incidents which include:

- Use of Force resulting in death or serious bodily injury of a subject
- The discharge of a firearm at or in the direction of a subject.

The Columbia Heights Police Department did not have any incidents meeting these criteria for 2025. This report outlines our internal tracking, which is significantly more detailed than required by state or federal reporting. Open hand techniques (escorts holds joint locks, etc.) continue to be the most common use of force employed by the police department.

## De-Escalation

The police department places a high emphasis on using de-escalation prior to using force whenever practical. The table below represents officer reporting of the de-escalation methods attempted by officers prior to using force. Many instances had several techniques attempted.

Dialogue	60
Dialogue,Isolation	2
Dialogue,Other	2
Distance,Dialogue	8
Distance,Dialogue,Isolation	2
Other	4
Social Worker,Dialogue	1
Tactical Reposition	4
Tactical Reposition,Distance,Dialogue	9
Time,3rd Party - Not social worker,Dialogue	1
Time,3rd Party - Not social worker,Dialogue,Other	1
Time,Dialogue	18
Time,Dialogue,Isolation	3
Time,Distance,Dialogue	10
Time,Distance,Dialogue,Other	1
Time,Social Worker,Dialogue	2
Time,Social Worker,Dialogue,Isolation	2
Time,Social Worker,Tactical Reposition,Dialogue	2
Time,Tactical Reposition	4
Time,Tactical Reposition,3rd Party - Not social worker,Dialogue	1
Time,Tactical Reposition,Dialogue	3
Time,Tactical Reposition,Dialogue,Isolation	4
Time,Tactical Reposition,Distance	10
Time,Tactical Reposition,Distance,3rd Party - Not social worker,Dialogue	1
Time,Tactical Reposition,Distance,Dialogue	1
Time,Tactical Reposition,Distance,Dialogue,Isolation	10
Time,Tactical Reposition,Distance,Dialogue,Isolation,Other	1

## Columbia Heights Police Department

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