<u>**FAQ and Data Dictionary for RPD Use of Force Data**</u>

How is the Highest Level of Force determined?

The use of a computer to choose the highest or most significant level of force used is not always substantively accurate but must follow a programmed hierarchy that reflects expert knowledge and community views on the levels of force. There is no federal or state guidance, and RPD continues to engage to ensure this is reflective of community views. The current hierarchy is:

1. Rifle	14. Joint Locks
2. Handgun	15. Suspect Taken to Ground
3. Impact Weapon	16. Hobble Restraint
4. OC-CS	17. Spit Hood
5. Taser	18. Other
6. K9	19. Handgun Display Only
7. Pepperball	20. Firearm Display Only (deprecated)
8. Less Lethal - 40 mm	21. Rifle Display Only
9. Leg Strike	22. Taser Display Only
10. Hand Strike	23. Pepperball Display Only
11. Shoulder Pin	24. Less Lethal Display Only
12. Pressure Point	25. LessLeth-40 mm Disp Only
13. Muscling	26. Verbal Direction

What do those terms mean?

1. **Rifle:** RPD utilizes an AR-15 rifle platform firing .223 caliber rounds. Use of this weapon, when an officer fires rounds at an individual or vehicle the individual is inside, is considered deadly force and must be justified according to statute and policy. *MSS 609.066, RPD Policy 306.3.2*
2. **Handgun:** RPD authorizes Officers to carry handguns manufactured by Glock. Models issued for carry are Glock 17/19 9mm or Glock 21 .45 caliber. Use of force with a handgun is when an officer fires a round or rounds at an individual or vehicle the individual is inside, is considered deadly force and must be justified according to statute and policy. *MSS 609.066, RPD Policy 306.3.1*
3. **Impact Weapon:** Control devices used or deployed to restrain or arrest a subject who is violent or who demonstrates the intent to be violent and the use of the device appears reasonable under the circumstances with the priority to minimize injuries and preserve the sanctity of life. Examples of an Officer using force with an impact weapon would include striking the common peroneal nerve (side of leg) with a baton. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 303.3*

4. **OC/CS:** CS is 2-chlorobenzalmalononitrile, a common type of tear gas, and OC stands for oleoresin capsicum, the active ingredient in pepper spray. These are used in control devices (such as aerosol or canisters) used to restrain or arrest a subject or group who is violent or who demonstrates the intent to be violent and the use of the device appears reasonable under the circumstances with the priority to minimize injuries and preserve the sanctity of life. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 303.7*

5. **Taser:** Conducted energy device used to restrain or arrest a subject who is violent or who demonstrates the intent to be violent and the use of the device appears reasonable under the circumstances with the priority to minimize injuries and preserve the sanctity of life. Examples of an Officer using force with a Taser would include firing probes at an individual in an attempt to achieve neuro-muscular incapacitation, causing the subject to stop the violent actions they displayed. Taser use of force also includes using the weapon in drive stun mode, meaning an Officer simply presses the metal contacts against a subject's skin as a pain compliance tool. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 304.5*

6. **K9:** RPD K9 may be utilized as either a show or use of force. An example of deploying a K9 as a show of force would include a K9 handler keeping the K9 on a 5-foot leash while issuing verbal commands to subjects that pose an imminent threat to Officers. K9 may also be utilized to apprehend subjects where there is reasonable belief the suspect poses and imminent threat of violence or serious harm to the public, Officers, or K9 handler. RPD *Policy 309.7 and 309.8*

7. **Pepperball:** Control/pain compliance device used to control, restrain, or arrest a subject or group who are violent or who demonstrate the intent to be violent and the use of the device appears reasonable under the circumstances with the priority to minimize injuries and preserve the sanctity of life. Pepperball rounds may be deployed for use as a pain compliance tool for area saturation or as an impact weapon. *MSS 609.06 RPD Policy 303.7*

8. **Less Lethal:** 40 mm RPD utilizes 40mm exact impact rounds from a shoulder fired launcher. A 40mm round may be used against a subject who is violent or who demonstrates the intent to be violent and the use of the device appears reasonable under the circumstances with the priority to minimize injuries and preserve the sanctity of life. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 303.9*

9. **Leg Strike:** An Officer may use a leg strike to control individuals that are physically or actively resisting. The primary target areas for a leg strike are the outside of the upper thigh. The officer may use the shin or knee during a leg strike. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 300.3.4*

10. **Hand Strike:** An Officer may use a hand strike to control individuals that are physically or actively resisting. The primary target areas for a hand strike are the chest. The officer may use the heel of their hand or fist during a hand strike. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 300.3.4*

11. **Shoulder Pin:** An Officer may use a shoulder pin technique to control individuals that are physically or actively resisting. In this technique, officers use their shoulder placed

against the subject's shoulder in order to control the subject's movement. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 300.3.2 and 300.3.4*

12. **Pressure Point:** Officers apply pressure to specific nerve locations for pain compliance. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 300.3.4*

13. **Muscling:** Officers use their physical strength to overcome resistance. A common example of using muscling techniques would be when an officer positions a subject's arms behind their backs to handcuff while the subject resists the officer's attempt to do so. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 300.3.4*

14. **Joint Locks:** Joint locks are primarily used as a means of limiting movement of a subject's limbs and also potentially as a pain compliance technique. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 300.3.4*

15. **Suspect Taken to Ground:** Officers position a subject on the ground in a number of potential ways in order to control their movement and in a position for an arrest. Some ways that subjects are taken to the ground are high/low takedown, hip toss, or tackle. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 300.3.4*

16. **Hobble Restraint:** Officers place a nylon band around a subjects ankles and tighten the band in order to control leg movement. This is used when a subject is violent or potentially violent in order to restrain them during an arrest. A quick connect on the end of the band may then be fastened to a u-bolt on the squad car divider in order to limit leg movement while inside the squad car and during transport. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 302.7*

17. **Spit Hood**- A fabric hood specifically manufactured to be placed over the head of a person in custody when an officer reasonably believes that a person will bite or spit during the course of the arrest. *MSS 609.06, RPD Policy 302.5*

18. **Other:** This selection is used when an officer used force that is not specifically outlined somewhere on the response to resistance form. An example may be a carotid neck restraint. A carotid neck restraint is only used when deadly force is otherwise authorized. *MSS 609.066, RPD Policy 300*

19. **Handgun Display Only:** Verbal commands given while the handgun is drawn and pointed at or in the vicinity an individual. In some cases, the officer will complete a use of force upon merely un-holstering their weapon while it remains in a low-ready position. This is classified as a "show of force." *RPD Policy 300.3.2*

Below are similar to Handgun Display Only.

20. **Firearm Display Only:** Retained for legacy data purposes (handgun and rifle are now tabulated separately)

21. **Rifle Display Only:** Officer points a rifle at or in the direction of a subject and issues verbal commands until subject complies.

22. **Taser Display Only:** Officer points a taser at or in the direction of a subject and issues verbal commands until subject complies.

23. **Pepperball Display Only:** Officer points a pepperball weapon at or in the direction of a subject and issues verbal commands until subject complies.
24. **Less Lethal Display Only:** Officer points a less than lethal weapon at or in the direction of a subject and issues verbal commands until subject complies.
25. **LessLeth-40 mm Disp Only:** Officer points a 40mm less than lethal launcher at or in the direction of a subject and issues verbal commands until subject complies.
26. **Verbal Direction:** Officers gives verbal direction to a subject who is non-compliant. An example may be the command of "place your hands behind your back" during the course of handcuffing the individual. Variations in situation and judgement may result in incomplete reporting of this level of force.

Incident Types

Show of Force: Where an officer uses the display of an instrument of force to compel compliance with verbal directions. Occasionally, a response to resistance report may be listed as a show of force due to a data input error by the officer which is not easily fixable in our current systems architecture.

Response to Resistance: Where an officer encounters resistance to a lawful order and use a level of force in an attempt to compel an outcome.

Service Types

Call for Service: Where an officer is dispatched to a call from a citizen to 911, non-emergency dispatch or when flagged down by a citizen. The large majority of RPD's activity (and use of forces) result from responding to calls for service.

Investigative Stop: Where an officer stops a citizen in direct relation to an ongoing case investigation. For example, if an officer took a report of a motor vehicle theft and then later observed the vehicle traveling, they would likely conduct an investigative stop.

Search Warrant: Where an officer is executing a legally obtained warrant from a judge after demonstrating probably cause to believe evidence of specified criminal activity will be found at that location. These are typically in response to ongoing investigations that are spurred either by a report of a crime or information from other investigations or sources.

Self-Initiated Activity: Where an officer independently develops reasonable suspicion of a crime and detains a citizen in the investigation of that crime. The most common example of this is a traffic stop.

Special Assignment: When an officer is assigned to a role outside their normal duty and shows or uses force. This may be as a member of the Emergency Response Unit or Mobile Response Team.

Field Names and Definitions:

What does the column UOF_Details show?

EXAMPLE VALUE: *Officer Number 141 White-Male-29 Yrs Old, 3 Yrs Employed, Back Up Officer: Firearm Display Only, Effective: Yes, Justification: Effect Arrest) ////*

Since the "By Citizen" report table shows a row for each citizen-incident combination, it leaves a one to multiple relationship open for the officers involved in using or showing force against that citizen. The details of those actions are captured in this text field. It goes through each officer's force use. In the example above the officer information/demographics and employment are listed, then their role in the incident (Back Up Officer), their use of force (Firearm Display) and that force's information (effectiveness and justification). For every use of officer-force combination used against that citizen (the row), a data strip like this is generated, separated by '////'. While this isn't easily displayed on the charts, it attempts to tell the story of that citizen's force experience. For a "graph-able" version of this data, users should look at the "All Actions" report which has a row for each incident-citizen-officer-force combination. Hence that table is much larger and may be better suited to telling the story of RPD actions vs. citizen experience.

What are fields starting with "CIT"?

These fields describe the citizen. For example, CIT_INFL_ASSMT is the officers evaluation of the citizen's suffering from any chemical/substance/mental/medical condition that would impact their ability to make sound judgments.

What do fields with a value of "NULL" indicate?

These are responses on the "Response to Resistance or Show of Force forms that were not filled out by the officer. The existing software package does not mandate all fields and a NULL response can typically be expected to mean "no," "not present," or "not applicable." Efforts are underway to improve consistency of data completion.

What are Citizen and Officer Numbers?

These are internal tracking numbers within our system that are used to anonymize protected data. One aspect that can be gleaned is the fact that if the same citizen or officer number appears, they have been involved in more than one use of force situation.
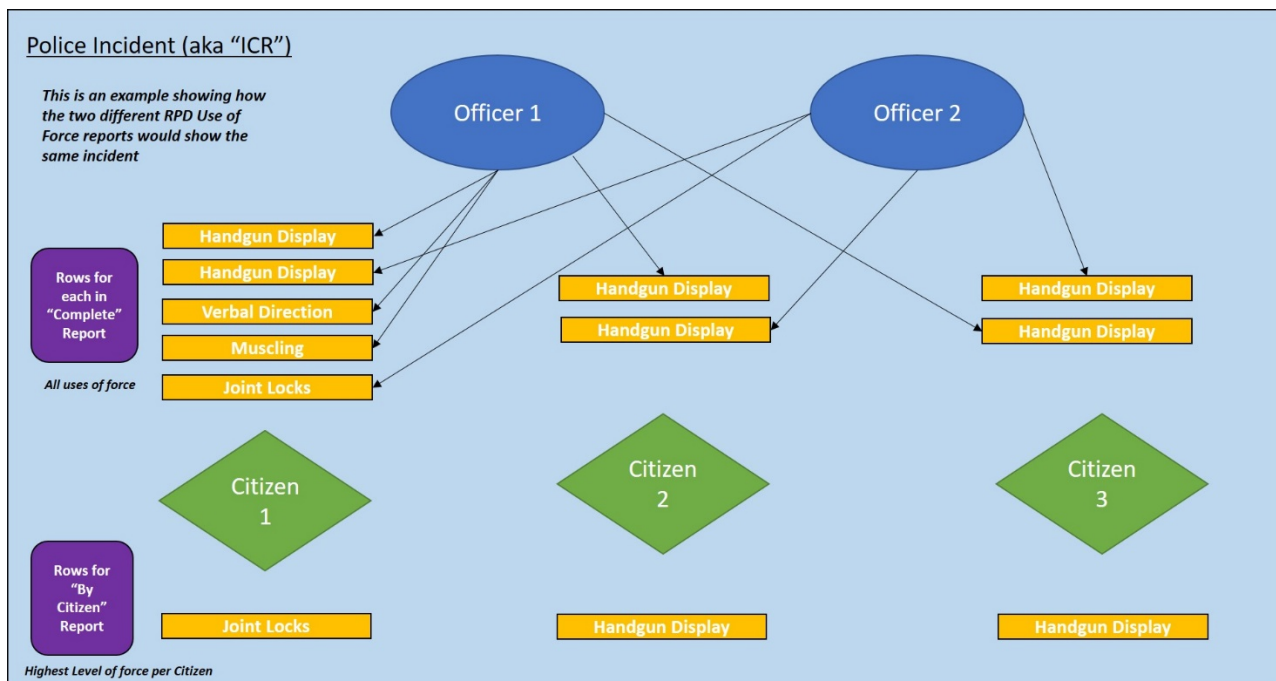
Why are there multiple reports for Use of Force?

In an effort to be make the data useable to citizens through the web interface, while maintaining full transparency where summarization of the data occurs, two views are offered regarding Use of Force data. When we say "Use of Force" in this document, we mean both Use of Force (recorded in our database as a "Response to Resistance"; where an actual level of force was used against a citizen; ex. Deploying a taser) and Show of Force (where a level of force was not used, just shown; ex. Un-holstering of a handgun).

The "Complete" report (#2 link) shows every Use of Force reported by every RPD officer during the given time period. This potentially creates a one-to-many relationship between force used, citizen and officers. The below chart shows how this data is complete, but may be less useful for analysis (depending on purpose).

The "By Citizen" report (#1 link) I summarized to show the highest level of force experienced by a citizen, for each police encounter documented. This allows analysis at the citizen and incident level. A summary of actions by officer-force combination is listed in a detailed text column in the by citizen report for reference.

Example

RPD Use of Force Data Links:

1. **Citizen-based Use of Force (single highest level of force used/shown per 1 citizen per 1 police encounter):**

https://controlpanel.opengov.com/transparency-reporting/rochestermn/87d0c03e-c53b-414a-aed2-431c0f931b86/4dc8773a-b2ac-4ba3-85b2-77768e510b15?savedViewId=86f7edea-fb8f-4568-ab90-a1f7705e4428

*Response to resistance and Show of Force = Use of Force

2. **Complete Use of Force-Officer-Citizen occurrences (often multiple officers/forces per citizen):**
https://controlpanel.opengov.com/transparency-reporting/rochestermn/66620d54-45b7-4b1e-9f2b-95a8894c2957/8cfc639e-f13d-45e5-8edc-8329246da775?savedViewId=038bb26d-1aaa-4bc6-96cf-c4d40513d7f5

*Provided for transparency, raw data that is used to create #1.

3. **Vehicle Pursuits**
https://controlpanel.opengov.com/transparency-reporting/rochestermn/aa72d1ed-87c0-44d9-b215-b2064efd195b/4ae1380b-5871-4257-9788-73413e47c80d?savedViewId=4565de22-6997-4c6b-ad70-dbc77cd7e54c