November 19, 2020

RE: August 20 – November 18, 2020 – cases reviewed

The Independent Police Auditor (IPA) has reviewed a total of 59 (16 administrative and 43 use of force) cases with 15 of the use of force cases falling into more than one category. The cases are categorized as follows:

- **Firearm Discharge** – 2
- **Taser (ECD)** – 5
- **Pepper (OC) Spray** – 12
- **K-9 Deployment** - 2
- **Physical use of force** (the officer uses take down and control techniques to achieve compliance) – 27
- **Show of Force** (force not actually used but pointing a weapon at the citizen) – 10

After the review of the cases the IPA has determined that the use of force by the officers was in accordance with Topeka Police Department policy as well as current case law. One of the cases rose to the level of referral to the City Manager and a full report was prepared by the IPA.

The IPA has also completed:

- 16 administrative investigation reviews
  - 5 - Citizen complaints to IPA
  - 11 - Review of civilian complaint to PSU or internal review of potential misconduct

Attended 0 NIA/NA meetings and a number of other community meetings (COVID-19)

A breakdown of forced used (other than physical and show of force) and administrative complaints are listed below as well as police discipline for this reporting period.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward M. Collazo
Administrative review of use of deadly force

- Officer shot at an individual who while running away from the officer, turned towards the officer and aimed a firearm at the officer. Officer fired one shot and missed; the subject dropped the weapon and was arrested. (W/M)

Administrative complaints:

- Citizen complaint regarding professionalism
- Citizen complaint regarding professionalism
- Citizen complaint, felt harassed
- Citizen complaint regarding professionalism
- Citizen complaint regarding officer removing evidence and not advising what was seized
- Citizen complaint regarding inaction by LEO due to race
- Citizen complaint regarding contact in front of the municipal court after court hearing
- Citizen complaint that LEO added charges after ticket was contested
- Citizen complaint that COVID positive LEO attended event
- Citizen complaint that LEO lied causing her son to be arrested
- LEO made an insensitive remark
- Citizen complaint about officer working commercial business while on duty
- Citizen complaint regarding traffic stop
- Citizen complaint regarding professionalism
- Citizen complaint regarding no arrest for a domestic (to IPA & PSU)

Firearm Discharge:

- LEO shot at fleeing subject (W/M) who had turned and aimed weapon at LEO (noted above)
- LEO euthanized deer that had been struck by a car

Electronic Controlled Device (ECD) Taser:

- Subject armed with a knife (W/M)
- Unruly violent juvenile (W/M)
- Burglary suspect with his arms inside a broken window, refused orders and had large screw driver (B/M)
- Subject entered apartment that was being held as evidence, refused orders to leave (B/M)
- Domestic violence call acted aggressively towards LEO and refused orders (NA/M)

Pepper (OC) Spray:

- Subject was a possible suspect of a homicide, refused orders and struggled with LEO (W/M)
- Male half of a domestic violence call, refused orders and struggled with LEO (W/M)
- Bar fight between two sisters, refused orders and continued trying to fight (W/F)
- Male half of domestic violence call, refused orders and struggled with LEO (W/M)
- Subject armed with a knife, refused orders (W/M)
- Rear seat passenger in a traffic stop refused orders to exit the vehicle (W/M)
- Unwanted subject in residence (previously evicted) threatened LEO with hammer (B/F)
- Subject had a pipe and had swung at victim (W/M)
- Domestic violence, struck mother, refused orders and struggled with LEO (NA/M)
- Felony car stop, unruly and uncooperative rear seat passenger (W/M)
- Shoplifter at Walmart refused orders and struggled with LEO (W/M)
- Acting erratically on top of a moving vehicle refused orders and struggled with LEO (W/M)

K-9 deployment:

- LEO responded to a burglary in progress, officers gave command for anyone present to make themselves known several times. No response, K-9 searched and located subject. K-9 held subject by the leg until officers arrested the subject (W/M).
- Felony car stop, driver uncooperative. After exiting the vehicle and walking towards LEO as ordered to do so, he broke free when arrest was attempted and ran back to the vehicle where he attempted to flee in the vehicle. K-9 grabbed subject by the arm and pulled him down where he was arrested (B/M).

Police Discipline/corrective actions – not due to excessive use of force:

- Terminations: 1
- Caution/Counsel: 9
- Coaching: 2

Police Discipline/corrective actions – due to excessive use of force:

- NONE

Acronyms:

B/M – black male 
B/F – Black Female
W/M – white male 
W/F - White Female
NA/M – Native American Male 
NA/F – Native American Female
LEO – Law Enforcement Officer