

## University of Colorado Boulder Police Department 2019 Response to Resistance Year-End Review

The 2019 Response to Resistance year-end review provides a broad analysis of CUPD's response to resistance incidents and issuances. Response to resistance standards are based upon the United States Constitution, Colorado Revised Statutes and department policy directives.

The CU Boulder Police Department's communication center generated 22,500 calls for service in 2019. Of the 22,500 calls for service, there were 33 cases involving a response to resistance. Within those incidents, 27 originated from CUPD cases while six of the incidents stemmed from CUPD officers assisting other law enforcement agencies. Therefore, CUPD officers applied force in approximately 0.15% of the total call for service and assists.

All the response to resistance reports were reviewed by the professional standards division of CUPD. The purpose of the review is to ensure the police actions align with CUPD policies, state statutes and individual rights. Additionally, reports were analyzed to identify trends, improve training, and increase employee safety.

Within the 33 cases, eight separate categories of responses were identified. These categories were documented 44 times. There were also 66 individual officer response actions. The information indications that in several cases more than one officer responded to the resistance and in a limited number of cases, an officer used more than one type of response.



Officers drew their firearm in 10 separate cases. However, officers only influenced a person's behavior by presenting the firearm in 4 of those cases. None of the cases involved a CU student or affiliate. One case involved an aggressive homeless person attempting to fight with an officer just off campus, one case involved arresting a car thief suspect just off campus and 2 cases involved breaking up a drug distribution operation during a summer concert. In the remaining six, the officers unholstered their weapons as a matter of procedure, did not point the firearm at anyone, and were required to document it per policy.

All but one incident was found to be aligned with policies, statutes and individual rights. The one non-justified response to resistance came from an out-of-policy vehicle pursuit. The pursuit was terminated by the sergeant on duty due to the suspect being known and initial traffic violations being non-felonious. Nationwide, not all law enforcement agencies include vehicle pursuits as a response to resistance. However, CUPD more broadly defines a response to resistance to include vehicle pursuits.

Additionally, within the 33 incidents involving responses by CUPD officers, six of them were in support of the Boulder Police Department. In these six incidents, five required a lethal weapon



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presentation due to the nature of the call for service and one required a display of a conducted electrical device.

CUPD has several officers assigned to a multijurisdictional SWAT team. In 2019, there was one non-fatal, SWAT involved shooting. A CUPD officer fired the one round in the incident. Although the suspect in that incident died, according to the Boulder County Coroner's report, the injuries sustained from the shooting were superficial.

The data points captured in this report are based off national standards and requirements from the FBI and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation for Criminal Justice Information Service reporting purposes. Recommendations were made to draw comparisons to CUPD's response to resistance uses in relation to CU Boulder's population based off race, sex, age and ethnicity. However, CU Boulder's Office of Data Analytics does not categorize these data points according to the FBI and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation standards. Therefore, comparisons between CUPD officer's response to resistance and CU Boulder's affiliate demographics would be supposition. Further conversations are recommended to discuss a means of obtaining data from CU Boulder's Office of Data Analytics correlated to Criminal Justice Information Service reporting requirements.

Patrol assignments generated 92.42% of response to resistance reports with the second highest, 6.06%, coming from special events. All but one of the event-based responses were from officers assigned to work the Dead and Company concert in 2019. The one remaining event-based response was during a high school basketball game in which a student was escorted out of the CU Events Center. There was one response to resistance incident generated from a SWAT call-out resulting in superficial injuries to the suspect.

DIVISION/UNIT	Individual Responses to Resistance	Percentage
Patrol	61	92.42%
Events	4	6.06%
SWAT	1	1.52%

Response to resistance uses occurred most often on weekends, primarily between, 9 p.m. to 7 a.m., within the patrol division. Approximately, 25 of the 33 incidents occurred within Clery geography reporting requirements. It should be noted that Clery geography is similar to but not the same as CUPD primary jurisdiction. Clery geography includes CUPD jurisdiction and the adjoining sidewalk-street-sidewalk that fall outside of University property.

In review of the 33 incidents, the majority of incidents, 52%, were responses involving nonaffiliates of CU Boulder's campus. There was one incident which involved an individual associated with a sister campus from Colorado Springs.

The majority of response to resistance incidents, 43.94%, involved officers dispatched to a subject under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances. The second highest type of incident involving response to resistances uses, or 12.12% each, were a result of self-initiated traffic stops and dispatched welfare checks.



Nearly all responses to resistance, 94%, involved white binary males.

The age range of suspects involved in response to resistance uses were primarily between 18-29 years of age, which correlates to the age range of the majority of CU Boulder's student population per CU Boulder's Office of Data Analytics Fall 2019 statistics.



Of the 66 total documented response to resistance uses, most responses were for the age group 18-29 years. This statistic correlates with the age range of CU Boulder's population and the expected age range officers would be making the most contacts with. Application of pain compliance techniques per policy was used most in response for the age range of 18-29 years. Lethal weapon presentation, as defined in policy, was used most among the age range of 30-39 years. There was one response to resistance of the application of pain compliance techniques,



which involved a juvenile. The response was used at the Fairview High School versus Boulder High School basketball game which occurred at the CU Events Center.



Of the 66 documented response to resistance uses, five responses occurred on African Americans, three on subject of an unknown race, and 58 responses on those who were white. The three unknown responses were a result of supporting the Boulder Police Department on a call where the subject sustained a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The subject was never seen by CUPD officers and, therefore, no known race was documented. Of the 66 documented response to resistance uses, 10 were Hispanic and 56 were non-Hispanic individuals.





CUPD values the partnerships and collaborative engagement of the community in which we serve. This report is designed to achieve transparency of CUPD's internal and external processes and provide an understanding of the performance of CUPD's officers as it relates to response to resistance reporting. More information or communication regarding the analysis of this data may be requested at any point in time by contacting the University of Colorado Boulder Police Department professional standards division.