



Saint Paul Police Department Police Use-of-Force Incidents Summary Report

**FY-2016
FY-2017**

Chief Todd Axtell

ST. PAUL POLICE
Trusted service with respect





February 15, 2019

Dear Community Partners:

On behalf of the women and men of the Saint Paul Police Department, I present the first ever use-of-force report published by the Saint Paul Police Department. I would like to thank Mayor Melvin Carter and our City Council for their support, high expectations and willingness to assist us in delivering the trusted service with respect that you have come to expect from us every day.

Last year, the Saint Paul Police Department created a draft use-of-force policy. We invited the public to review and comment. We specifically asked for your feedback as we sought to implement a use-of-force policy that truly represents our shared values.

Throughout that process, we listened and incorporated dozens of your ideas and suggestions into the final version of the policy, which is in effect today. We also heard that you wanted to know more about the department use-of-force trends to determine what impact the new policy would make.

The data presented in this report was collected from several sources and did not exist before this report was created. Due to limitations related to types of the data we are able to collect, the report focuses on three distinct use-of-force areas:

- physical force applications
- firearms pointing incidents, and
- firearm discharges at a person

In the coming months, I look forward to the department publishing a similar report that captures use-of-force incidents occurring in 2018. The department is finalizing its work on implementing a new records management system that will go live in 2019. This new system will allow the department to collect and report more comprehensive data related to use-of-force incidents.

Thank you for the continued support of your police department as we work to constantly live up to our pledge to deliver trusted service with respect each and every day.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Axtell".

Todd Axtell
CHIEF OF POLICE

Quick Facts and Findings

The Saint Paul Police Department is committed to providing trusted service with respect in all of the policing services it provides. The department is also committed to building trust with its community.

The purpose of this report is to further our commitment to transparency by sharing our findings on police use-of-force incidents in Saint Paul. The collection of data in this report did not previously exist in this format and was gathered using several sources of information and by reading individual reports describing incidents that occurred in 2016 and 2017.

Key findings include:

- Nine officers were involved in four officer-involved shooting incidents in 2016 and 2017 combined. In each of the four incidents, the independent investigation found the subject was either pointing a firearm or shooting a firearm at officers at the time the officers discharged their firearms. All four subjects sustained fatal injuries.
- Subjects of force were not injured in 77 percent of cases in both 2016 and 2017. Combined with minor injuries, this percentage rises to more than 92 and 95 percent in 2016 and 2017, respectively.
- In 2016 and 2017 combined there were a total of 877 use-of-force incidents involving physical force (2016-454 and 2017-423). The department received seven complaints from people who believed the force used in a particular incident was excessive. These cases were investigated by the internal affairs unit and presented to the City's Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission (PCIARC), which determined that the force used did not violate department policy in six of those cases.
- Physical force was not used by Saint Paul police officers in 99.98 percent of all the incidents to which they responded in 2016 and 2017. In cases where the subject was booked into jail, use of force resulted in approximately 3 to 4 percent of the incidents (three or four incidents for every 100 arrests made).
- Weaponless, non-injury causing techniques such as takedowns, control techniques and escort holds were the most common types of physical force used in both 2016 and 2017.
- More than 30 percent (37 percent in 2016 and 35 percent in 2017) of people on which force was used were not booked into jail following the incident in both 2016 and 2017. Physical force is often necessary as a control technique for persons in crisis or suffering from other medical conditions and officers resolved matters without booking into a jail facility.

DATA NOTE: The data and tables being shared in this report are the police department's best effort to show and understand the data that has been collected. While reviewing the information, please note:

- Tables were created using raw data and errors exist
- Race and gender is based on officers' perceptions
- Fields indicating "unknown" may be due to:
 - Data was only collected when a detention occurred
 - Technical errors
 - Lack of available information

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Report Overview

This report is a first-of-its-kind description and analysis of incidents involving Saint Paul police officers who used force on persons with whom they had contact while providing police services.

Police use of force has become one of the most important national and local discussion topics among police departments and the communities they serve.

Chief Todd Axtell directed the publication of this report following numerous police/community meetings in 2018. The communities served by the Saint Paul Police Department made their voices heard clearly and they asked to know more about police use of force.

Until the publishing of this report, the Saint Paul Police Department has not previously reported, in detail, facts and circumstances of police use-of-force incidents.

This report provides summary data on all use-of-force incidents in 2016 and 2017 where any level of force was used above handcuffing an unresisting person.

Saint Paul Police Department

The Saint Paul Police Department (SPPD) was established in 1854 as the first police department in the State of Minnesota. There were 626 sworn police officers and 186 support staff in 2018. The department received tax funding in the amount of approximately \$92 million and served a city of more than 300,000 residents.

The department formally adopted and launched a Body Worn Camera (BWC) program in 2018 requiring all sworn police officers to wear a BWC while providing police services. The department publishes quarterly reports on its BWC program, which can be viewed online on the department's website: stpaul.gov/departments/police.

Committed to Transparency

Chief Todd Axtell was appointed as the 41st Saint Paul Police Chief by then-Mayor Chris Coleman on June 23, 2016. Chief Axtell immediately committed the department to transparency and to engaging the public at historic levels. Since his appointment, the department has worked toward delivering on this assurance of increased transparency.

Chief Axtell and his administration released 15 years of traffic stop data in 2017. The data was collected based on a 2001 agreement between the Saint Paul NAACP and the SPPD, but the data was not previously published.

The department also published a website comparing programming, priorities and initiatives with President Barack Obama's "Final Report on 21st Century Policing" and created an interactive online version of the police department policy manual for the public. Each of these initiatives included an online tool making it possible for members of the public to provide feedback to the department on its performance, policies and procedures.

Use-of-Force Complaints

The SPPD investigates all complaints against officers involving the use of police force. Complaints can be received from the public or initiated internally by the department.

There are many ways the public can make a complaint about police use of force. Complaints can be filed with several non-government groups that have partnered with the SPPD, with the City of Saint Paul Human Rights office or directly with the SPPD.

All investigated complaints regarding use of force are turned over to the Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission (PCIARC). The PCIARC is a body of nine Saint Paul residents selected by the Mayor of Saint Paul and confirmed by a majority vote of the City Council.

The role of the PCIARC is to evaluate the complaint and the documented investigation and make recommendations to the chief of police on 1) whether the police action violated policy and 2) if so, what disciplinary action they believe is warranted.

The PCIARC is provided unrestricted access to all materials related to an incident. This includes all police reports and other documentation, audio and video evidence and all investigative documents and materials.

The below table represents complaint data and final outcome of complaints received in 2016 and 2017.

EXCESSIVE FORCE COMPLAINTS	2016	2017
Complaints	7	0
Sustained	1	0
POLICY VIOLATION	1	0

Data reflects incident occurrence date and not the date of the filed complaint

You can find a detailed account of all complaints filed against members of the police department at the below link: <https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/human-rights-equal-economic-opportunity>.

Use-of-Force Reporting

The SPPD requires every officer to notify a supervisor and file a police report and a use-of-force report in each incident where they use force above un-resisted handcuffing.

A supervisor is required to respond to the location and interview both the officer and the subject. The supervisor evaluates the incident to ensure the force application and decision leading to the application were within department policy.

Use-of-Force Oversight

The SPPD has established several oversight measures to ensure incidents involving police use of force meet all department expectations.

Beyond the initial response and inquiry of the front-line supervisor, unit commanders are required to review each incident where physical force was used within their command. These incidents are then presented and reviewed by the department's use-of-force committee, whose members represent the senior leadership of each of the patrol districts and the training unit. The committee is chaired by the deputy chief of the operations division.

As a second measure of checks and balances, the department's internal affairs unit also reviews use-of-force incidents for potential policy violations. Any possible policy violations are presented to the deputy chief of the operations division.

Use-of-Force Data

Throughout 2016 and 2017, the SPPD used a record management system (RMS) implemented in 2001. The functionality of this system met the record and data needs of the time in which it was designed.

In more recent years, there has been significant evolution to policing and the interest in understanding policing trends. The RMS used in 2016 and 2017 did not have the capacity to adequately collect or report on these evolving trends. Additionally, the legacy RMS has limitations in supporting this research and the collection and reporting of data.

The SPPD is in the process of building out and deploying a new RMS, which will go live in 2019. The new RMS will be designed to capture and report use-of-force data. The department has a goal of increasing the reporting frequency of use-of-force data to the public.

The data required for this reporting was collected from multiple sources and combined into one report. The reportable data is presented in a summary format.

The police incident data contained in police reports was recorded to accommodate any data requests made under the MN Government Data Practices Act related to this report.

Department Policies

The SPPD created a draft use-of-force policy in the spring of 2018 and posted this policy for the public to evaluate. The department also hosted several public meetings to discuss this draft policy so that the community subjected to the policy could weigh in. The department collected more than 100 feedback points and incorporated many of them.

The foundation of the revised policy was built on the principles within the articles of the United States Constitution, and both state and federal law. Policy development was also guided by President Obama's "Final Report on 21st Century Policing."

The revised policy captured many new elements not present in earlier policies. It includes more language focused on de-escalation and speaks specifically to when an officer can use deadly force.

The revised policy also places a greater emphasis on protecting the sanctity of life, de-escalation and includes guidelines to help officers determine the appropriate level of force based on observed behavior.

Updated in April, 2018, the new policy also contains a new visual model that illustrates levels of responses matched to subject actions.

The policy is online for the public to view and the online policy solicits electronic feedback from the public.

You can find the policy on the police department's website, www.stpaul.gov/books/24600-officer-response-resistance.

The 2016 and 2017 use-of-force incidents reported in this document took place under the previous version of the policy. Changing trends resulting from the policy revision will be reported in a 2018 use-of-force report.

Use-of-Force Training

At the time of hire, SPPD officers are eligible to be licensed by the State of Minnesota. They have a minimum of a two-year college degree and have successfully completed the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) required skills training.

SPPD officers begin their careers in a 16-week police academy where they receive approximately 100 hours of use-of-force training. After the police academy, officers receive quarterly use-of-force training in addition to annual in-service training.

Officers are required to demonstrate both understanding and proficiency of department policies and accepted practices. These include appropriate use-of-force techniques, firearms training, de-escalation, crisis intervention and other related topics.

Officer training places a heavy emphasis on using time and distance to de-escalate situations and using multiple officer tactics so fewer, potentially injury-causing, techniques are required.

As stated earlier in this report, officers are also taught to identify and recognize subject behaviors in order to determine appropriate responses.

DID YOU KNOW...

Officer training places a heavy emphasis on using time and distance to de-escalate situations and using multiple officer tactics so fewer, potentially injury-causing, techniques are required.

USE-OF-FORCE INCIDENTS

There are several distinct ways to report use-of-force data that include the number of incidents the SPPD responded to where force was used, the number of force actions taken by officers, the number of officers who used force and the number of persons subjected to police force.

This report captures each of these areas for each year for the reader to evaluate. Visual representations were added to improve understanding of the data.

Number of Incidents

Saint Paul police officers responded to 269,799 calls for service in 2016 and physical force resulted in 458 of those incidents. This can be reduced to one physical use-of-force incident occurring in every 589 police interactions or 0.17 (17 one hundredths of a percent of the time) percent.

Officers responded to 300,610 calls for service in 2017 and physical force resulted in 423 of those incidents. This can be reduced to one physical use-of-force incident occurring in every 710 police incidents or 0.14 (14 one hundredths of a percent of the time) percent.

You can also compare the use-of-force incidents to interactions that resulted in either arrest or citation.

In 2016, there were 7,644 incidents where a subject was arrested and booked into jail. Of these incidents, 317 resulted in a use-of-force action. That equates to approximately 4 percent of the interactions.

In 2017, there were 8,248 incidents where a subject was arrested and booked into jail. Of these incidents, 295 resulted in a use-of-force action. That equates to approximately 3.5 percent of the interactions.

DID YOU KNOW...

**In 2017,
Saint Paul police
officers resolved
99.98 percent of
all calls without
using any physical
force.**

**And in the 423
cases where force
was used, 35% of
the subjects of
force were not
arrested by
officers.**

NUMBER OF FORCE ACTIONS

SPPD officers used and documented force in 755 physical use-of-force actions in 2016 and 758 in 2017. These incidents ranged from handcuffing a resisting person and control techniques up to physical strikes. The majority of force techniques was the use of control holds and escorts as depicted in the Use Of Force Types chart below.

Number of Officers Using Force

Data about officers using force was collected and is depicted in two separate ways. The first chart shows the number of officers using force in each incident. Most of the incidents involved a single officer using force against a subject in both 2016 and 2017.

OFFICERS USING FORCE IN EACH INCIDENT	2016	2017
1 officer	296	271
2 officers	116	106
3 officers	33	38
4 officers	7	6
5 or more officers	1	2
TOTAL INCIDENTS	453	423

Types of Physical Force

The SPPD collected data on the physical force techniques used by officers in both 2016 and 2017. There were 755 and 758 force actions in 2016 and 2017 respectively.

Most force actions involved control holds, escorts and taking a subject to the ground. Officers are trained to, whenever possible, control subjects using multiple-officer techniques rather than strikes or other potentially injury causing techniques.

USE OF FORCE TYPES	2016	2017
ASR	85	73
Body/Escort Hold	204	189
Canine	36	19
Body/Escort Hold Handcuff/Restraint	1	0
Handcuff/Restraint w/Resistance	108	107
Hard Empty Hand	56	33
Impact Weapon ASP/Other	10	5
Leg/Knee Strike	64	48
Less Lethal	2	2
Multiple Officer Takedown	0	23
Pressure Points	11	9
Rear Sentry Takedown	18	15
Single Officer Takedown	0	38
Soft Empty Hands	116	152
Taser	43	45
Vehicle	1	0
TOTAL	755	758

Subject Behavior

Officers often describe the actions and behavior of use-of-force subjects when reporting force incidents. A review of this data shows that subject behavior changed throughout the encounter. Subjects both escalated and deescalated through these events. The data, as reported by the officers, captures the subject's behavior at the time the force option was used. Officers often noted several subject behaviors in a single incident.

SUBJECT BEHAVIOR LISTED BY OFFICERS WHEN FORCE WAS USED	2016	2017
Active Resistance	321	315
Hard Hands	81	91
Biting	14	8
Fleeing	108	127
Verbal	126	163
Kicking	46	46
Spitting	15	17
Passive Resistance	143	148
Weapon	18	18

Subject Injury

Officers are required to report subject injury in each use-of-force incident, which is also evaluated by the responding supervisor. Also measured was the number of times a subject received treatment for injuries. Most cases showed the subject received either no injury or a minor injury. The department requires an injury be recorded if the subject complains of any pain even if no injury can be observed.

INJURY DATA	2016	2017
Dog Bite	34	19
Laceration	3	1
Minor	75	82
None	388	348
Possible Internal	0	1
Major Injury	1	0
Unknown	0	2
TOTAL INCIDENTS	501	453



Time and Location Data

The below tables depict data related to when and where force incidents occur.

SCENE TYPES	2016	2017
Residential	164	135
Street	152	143
Commercial	52	22
Retail	41	45
Public Domain	19	25
School	10	15
Park	7	3
Government	5	4
Church	2	1
Hospital	0	7
Office/Commercial	0	19
Restaurant	0	1
Rec Center	1	3
GRAND TOTAL	453	423

MONTH	2016	2017
January	35	35
February	53	28
March	37	34
April	37	30
May	53	32
June	37	47
July	38	38
August	30	34
September	46	33
October	36	44
November	19	37
December	32	31
GRAND TOTAL	453	423

DAY OF WEEK	2016	2017
Monday	68	54
Tuesday	59	54
Wednesday	69	47
Thursday	73	53
Friday	69	74
Saturday	62	77
Sunday	54	64
GRAND TOTAL	453	423

TIME OF DAY	2016	2017
12 AM	31	15
1 AM	31	33
2 AM	21	16
3 AM	21	9
4 AM	8	5
5 AM	4	7
6 AM	3	11
7 AM	5	5
8 AM	5	10
9 AM	15	13
10 AM	17	16
11 AM	16	14
12 PM	18	16
1 PM	14	14
2 PM	13	24
3 PM	23	19
4 PM	20	22
5 PM	24	21
6 PM	27	24
7 PM	20	19
8 PM	32	35
9 PM	22	28
10 PM	26	28
11 PM	37	19
GRAND TOTAL	453	423

Call Types

The data showed that a significant number of incidents where force was used did not result in the subject being arrested and taken to jail. There were several indicators in the data to support the belief that persons in crisis can be involved in use-of-force incidents. These types of incidents represented the third largest category of use-of-force incidents in both 2016 and 2017.

ORIGINAL CALL TYPE	2016	2017
Non-Domestic Assault Crime	57	50
Auto or Vehicle Theft	13	18
Burglary	16	14
Criminal Damage to Property	8	6
Death Investigations	0	4
Disturbance Crimes	48	47
Domestic Assault/Family Matters	42	40
Drug Crimes	33	19
Driving Under the Influence	5	6
Fraud Related Crimes	7	3
Other Non-violent Crimes/Investigations	46	29
Obstructing a Legal Process	57	68
Robbery	9	4
Sex Offense	1	4
Theft Related Crimes	21	21
Traffic Violations/Accidents	8	5
Warrants	19	21
Weapons Calls	19	14
Medical/Persons in Crisis	44	50
TOTAL	453	423

OFFICERS WHO USE FORCE

Understanding trends and patterns can assist the department in reducing use-of-force incidents. Data was collected to understand the years of service, rank and gender of officers who use force.

Years of Service

More than half of the use-of-force incidents in both calendar years involved employees with five years or fewer years of service. This number is expected as this portion of the workforce represents the bulk of the patrol force.

OFFICER RACE	2016	2017
Asian	58	85
Black	41	57
Hispanic	30	26
Native American	3	1
Two Or More Races	43	33
White	487	479
TOTAL	662	681

OFFICER GENDER	2016	2017
Female	43	36
Male	619	645
TOTAL INCIDENTS	662	681

FORCE INCIDENT BY POLICE DISTRICT	2016	2017
West	151	141
Central	140	162
East	162	119
OOC	0	1
TOTAL INCIDENTS	453	423

YEARS OF SERVICE	2016	2017
Fewer than 12 months	16	0
1	141	1
2	72	119
3	77	0
4	15	148
5	18	47
6	22	61
7	8	33
8	79	25
9	7	0
10	25	67
11	4	8
12	2	14
13	5	3
14	33	1
15	16	0
16	23	22
17	41	31
18	13	5
19	6	22
20	12	27
21	6	6
22	6	15
23	5	0
24	0	13
25	0	2
26	5	0
27	2	0
28	0	6
29	2	5
31	1	0
TOTAL INCIDENTS	662	681

Subjects of Force

The demographics of the subjects of force in both 2016 and 2017 were similar. Younger community members were proportionally more likely to be subjects of physical force with nearly 78 percent under 40 years old and 38 percent between 20 and 29 years old. African American males also made up the highest number of incidents totaling 203 and 170 in 2016 and 2017 respectively.

SUBJECT RACE AND GENDER	2016	2017
ASIAN	27	33
Female	0	4
Male	27	29
BLACK	249	222
Female	46	52
Male	203	170
HISPANIC	34	41
Female	2	7
Male	32	34
NATIVE AMERICAN	4	11
Female	2	4
Male	2	7
UNKNOWN	34	17
Female	10	3
Male	22	14
Unknown	2	0
WHITE	153	128
Female	30	23
Male	123	105
OTHER	0	1
Other	0	1
TOTAL	501	453

Subject Age Data

The youngest subject of force in either 2016 or 2017 was 10 years old, the oldest was 65 years.

SUBJECT AGE DATA	2016	2017
10 to 14	20	23
15 to 17	34	61
18 to 19	43	25
20 to 29	189	161
30 to 39	108	96
40 to 49	42	42
50 to 59	24	24
60 and older	6	6
Unknown	35	15
TOTAL	501	453

Several use-of-force incidents involved people who were not taken into custody or identified. One scenario where this could occur might involve crowd control, where officers release chemical gas to regain order and the subjects fled or were not detained.

SUBJECT DISPOSITION	2016	2017
Cited	38	34
Detox	2	3
Hospital	70	65
LEC	317	295
Other	33	14
Released	40	37
Other	1	5
TOTAL	501	453

Many subjects of force were not arrested by the police officers who used force following the incident. Officers frequently turned juveniles over to their parents, assisted those in crisis to care facilities or found other remedies that best fit individual situations.

SUBJECT RESIDENT OF ST. PAUL	2016	2017
Non-Resident	97	86
Unknown	52	25
Unsheltered	50	46
St. Paul Resident	302	296
TOTAL	501	453

SUBJECT RACE	2016	2017
Asian	27	33
Black	249	222
Hispanic	34	41
Native American	4	11
Unknown	34	17
White	153	128
Other	0	1
TOTAL	501	453

DID YOU KNOW...

Most force actions involved control holds, escorts and taking a subject to the ground. Officers are trained to, whenever possible, control subjects using multiple-officer techniques rather than strikes or other potentially injury causing techniques.

FIREARMS POINTING

Although the pointing of a firearm is not a physical application of force, the SPPD does consider the action a reportable use of force.

Officers documented incidents where they pointed a firearm in the direction of another person. This did not include times when officers merely unholstered their firearm or carried it in the “low ready” position when subjects may have been present.

Firearms are used during times when officers are searching for potentially dangerous suspects of crimes who could be armed, when conducting high-risk felony traffic stops and other times when it is reasonable to effect the arrest of a subject.

Considerable training is provided to officers related to safe weapons handling. Officers are trained to not place their fingers inside the trigger guard of any weapon until a decision is made to discharge their firearm.

In 2016, officers pointed department issued weapons at subjects 457 times. Worth noting is that five officers discharged their firearms in 2016 in two incidents that are described later in this report.

In 2017, officers pointed department issued weapons at subjects 491 times. Worth noting is that four officers discharged their firearms in 2017 in two incidents which are also described later in this report.

The SPPD fully understands the serious impact of pointing a firearm at a subject, which is why the department chooses to document and review these incidents as reportable force incidents.

Monitoring firearm pointing is not an industry standard because many departments do not consider firearms pointing to be a reportable use of force. However, the SPPD monitors and reviews every instance of pointing a firearm at an individual.

There was less available data in these incidents as with the physical force data. Officers do not always identify all subjects when a firearm is pointed. An example is a scenario where an officer is searching an area and encounters several unrelated subjects. The officers often move past them to continue their search. Because the depth of the data, these incidents were reported separately from the physical force incidents.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

2016	269,799
2017	300,610

FIREARMS POINTING INCIDENTS

2016	457
2017	491

PERCENTAGE OF INCIDENTS

2016	0.17%
2017	0.16%

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS

No officer ever wants to discharge their firearm while performing their duties.

The use of deadly force is life changing for officers and their families. Officers are also aware that these incidents are life changing for the subjects and their families.

Unfortunately, subjects will sometimes make decisions that require officers to respond with deadly force, such as discharging their firearm.

When this happens, the SPPD involves a third-party, independent investigator who investigates the officer's action as a criminal matter. The investigation is then turned over to the Ramsey County Attorney. Following the criminal investigation, the SPPD conducts its own investigation to evaluate if the actions were in accordance with department policy.

In 2016 and 2017, the department experienced four officer involved shootings, with two in each calendar year. All were investigated by a third party and reviewed by a prosecutor or a grand jury who determined no laws were violated. Those incidents are briefly described:

2016 Shooting Incidents

May 9, 2016

Subject: Jaffort Smith

Four officers discharged firearms

Officers responded to a 911 call about a man with a gun. Officers located the 33-year-old man who was with a woman.

Officers saw the man shoot the woman in the head and then flee into a nearby yard where he fired at officers. Four officers returned fire and the man sustained fatal injuries.

The case was investigated by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and presented to a Washington County Grand Jury, which determined the officers' actions were lawful.

The investigation showed a 49-year-old woman was shot in the head by the handgun recovered near the man, Jaffort Smith. The woman survived her injury. The investigation also reported officers ordered Mr. Smith to drop the gun before being shot by officers.

May 26, 2016

Subject: Eugene Smith III

One officer discharged firearm

Officers were at a residence in the 2100 block of Minnehaha Street and had two people under arrest outside the home. Continuing their investigation, officers entered the home and encountered a 29-year-old man when opening an interior bedroom door. The investigation showed the man was pointing a shotgun in the officer's direction when the officer fired. The man sustained fatal injuries.

The Ramsey County Attorney reported the third-party investigation conducted by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension found the man, Eugene Smith, fired one round from a 20-gauge shotgun (having no serial number) in the direction of the officer.

The investigation also reported Mr. Smith was under the influence of methamphetamine and amphetamines and reported to his girlfriend about an hour before the shooting he was contemplating suicide.

A shotgun was located and recovered near Mr. Smith by investigators.

2017 Shooting Incidents

March 15, 2017

Subject: Cordale Handy

Two officers discharged firearms

Officers responded to a 911 call in the 700 block of East Sixth Street where a woman was reported to be screaming for help. The woman was arguing with a 29-year-old who fired 16 rounds from a semi-auto handgun inside their apartment. Officers located the man outside and he pointed a gun in the direction of one of the officers after being told to drop the gun. Two officers fired at the man who sustained fatal injuries.

The Ramsey County Attorney reported the third-party investigation conducted by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension determined the man, Cordale Handy, in fact fired 16 shots inside the building and was under the influence of both drugs and alcohol.

The investigation also reported Mr. Handy did not drop the firearm when ordered by officers and he raised an unloaded firearm in the direction of one of the officers causing both officers to fire their handguns.

A handgun was located and recovered near Mr. Handy by investigators.

October 5, 2017

Subject: Phume Lee

Two officers discharged firearms

Officers responded to a 911 call in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood where a woman reported a man held her and her three young children hostage. She also reported the man fired a handgun in her direction.

Officers located a 28-year-old man who fired a handgun in their direction when confronted. Two officers fired at the man who sustained fatal injuries.

The Ramsey County Attorney reported the third-party investigation conducted by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension found the man, Phume Lee, was under the influence of both drugs and alcohol, terrorized his girlfriend and their three young children for two days, threatened to kill them and fired a handgun in their direction.

Video of the officer involved shooting shows Mr. Lee walking in the direction of officers "slightly raising his hands" and then is seen quickly reaching into his pants pocket and retrieving an object. Officers can be heard yelling "drop it" and the video clearly shows a flash emanate from the object held by Mr. Lee.

There was a .38-caliber revolver located and recovered near Mr. Lee by investigators.