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Chief of Police



Key West

POLICE DEPARTMENT

TO: Sue Srch, Executive Director CRB
FROM: Sgt. J. Tripp, Professional Standards Division
SUBJECT: TASER Usage 1st Quarter 2013
DATE: April 1, 2013

Here are the TASER usage stats for 1st quarter 2013. I went a little further than normal, because of our recent discussions.

For this quarter, there were 50 TASER events recorded by dispatch. Probes only had to be deployed 10 times and the drive stun mode just 3 times, an apparent testament to the deterrence effect of brandishing the TASER.

Response to resistance reports for probe deployments and drive stuns were generated and forwarded to the Professional Standards Division for review and filing. All were in compliance.

There were a total of 29 use of force reports generated, the majority of which were for take-downs (14). The TASER itself was not responsible for any injuries (other than "signature marks" from drive stuns and probe punctures), although 5 were scraped from falling or wrestling on the ground after being TASERed. There were 10 injuries from other force options, mostly scrapes from takedowns, punctures from dog bites and a missing tooth, knocked out unintentionally while trying hands-on techniques. With all of the options, the possibility and severity of injury increases until the subject complies. In other words, the subject's reluctance (initial and continued) to follow lawful orders dictates the possibility and severity of injury.

Other subjects were treated for pre-existing conditions (nose-bleed, emotional disturbances) injuries occurring before the officer became involved (crash, fighting with others).



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