

**Sheriff**  
John F. Matz

**Chief Deputy**  
Todd A. Christopherson



# Winnebago County Sheriff

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TO: Sheriff Matz and Chief Deputy Christopherson

FROM: Lt. Eichman

DATE: January 23, 2023

RE: Annual Use of Force Report (Corrections) – 2022

Pursuant to General Order 5.05, USE OF FORCE/ REPORTING AND REVIEW, all use of force reviews conducted for 2022 incidents in the Corrections Division have been reviewed. A use of force review is completed for any of the following incidents:

- Reported injuries to a suspect based on use of force
- An Electronic Control Device (ECD) is pointed or discharged
- Chemical Agents are utilized (Oleoresin Capsicum)
- Intermediate weapons are used
- K-9 units are used as force
- Specialty impact munitions are pointed or deployed
- Vehicle Pursuits and/or induce or force to stop techniques are used
- A firearm is pointed or discharged
- While not specified, use of force reviews are completed on any use of force deemed to necessitate further analysis

Reviews are conducted to ensure that a deputy's actions are consistent with Winnebago County Sheriff's Office General Orders, applicable federal, state and local laws, and the State of Wisconsin Principles of Subject Control (POSC) system.

The information utilized for this report was collected from the L.E.A. Data Technologies software used to document use of force incidents for the Sheriff's Office. Individual reviews were conducted based on submitted use of force reporting forms as well as the

associated incident reports and any captured video footage. Twenty-seven (27) use of force reviews were conducted in 2022 for incidents that met the reporting criteria. This is a 125% increase from the 12 incidents for which a use of force review was completed in 2021. The 12 reviews in 2021 was a 29% decrease from the 16 use of force reviews completed in 2020.

The increase in use of force reviews in 2022 is accounted for by the increased use of Electronic Control Devices (ECDs) as well as an increase in chemical agent and chemical munitions deployments. The increase in the use of these devices is attributed to the pervasive uncooperative and combative nature of those housed within the Winnebago County Jail.

Additionally, due to the litigious nature of today's society the Sheriffs' Office saw a significant increase in the number of use of force reviews where an inmate claimed injury as a result of a use of force incident involving deputies. In total, there were eight (8) incidents where an inmate sustained or alleged injury. Of these, one required medical attention which entailed the application of a bandage for an injured toe. At the conclusion of all incidents in which an inmate sustained or alleged an injury a medical assessment was completed by a Jail Health Services Unit Nurse. On those occasions in which a Health Services Unit Nurse was unavailable the inmate was transported to an area hospital for an assessment.

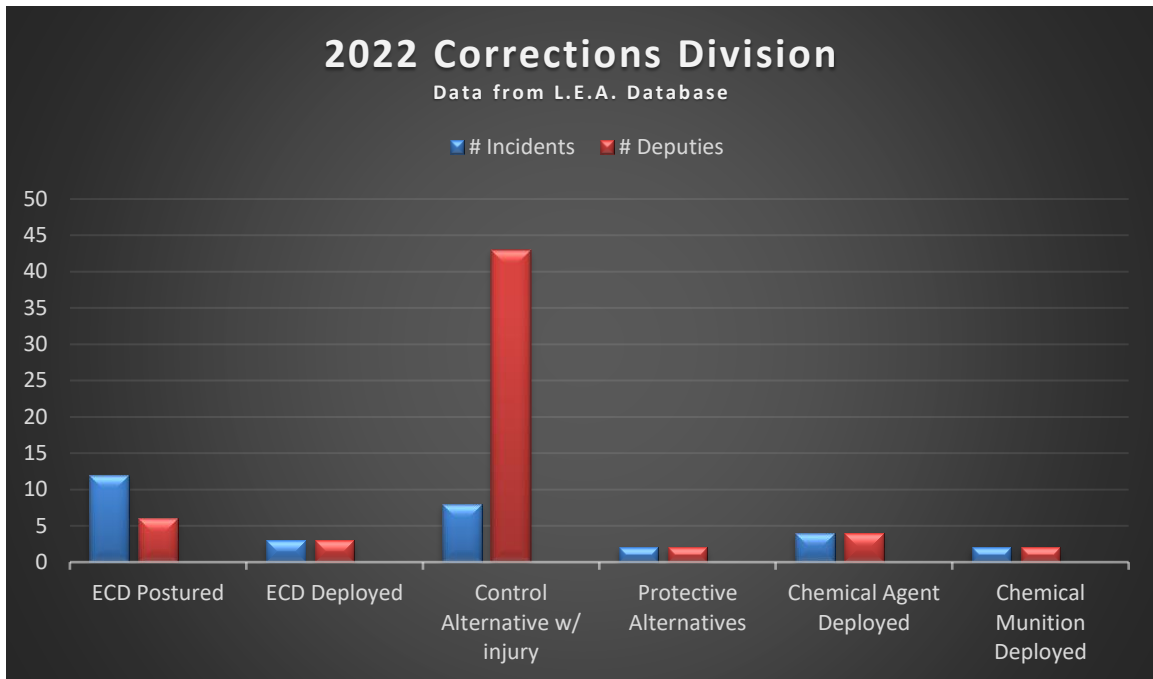
In all incidents in which an inmate sustained or alleged an injury the force used by deputies was found to be objectively reasonable.

During 2022, deputies from the Corrections Division of the Sheriff's Office recorded 848 formal incidents according to Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) records. This constitutes a 49% increase in CAD recorded incidents from 2021. Twenty-seven (27) of those incidents, or 3.2%, resulted in force being used. In comparison, the Corrections Division use of force percentage for 2021 was 2.1%.

A total of 66 deputies used force during the 27 incidents in 2022. The following chart illustrates the types of force utilized that required a formal review.

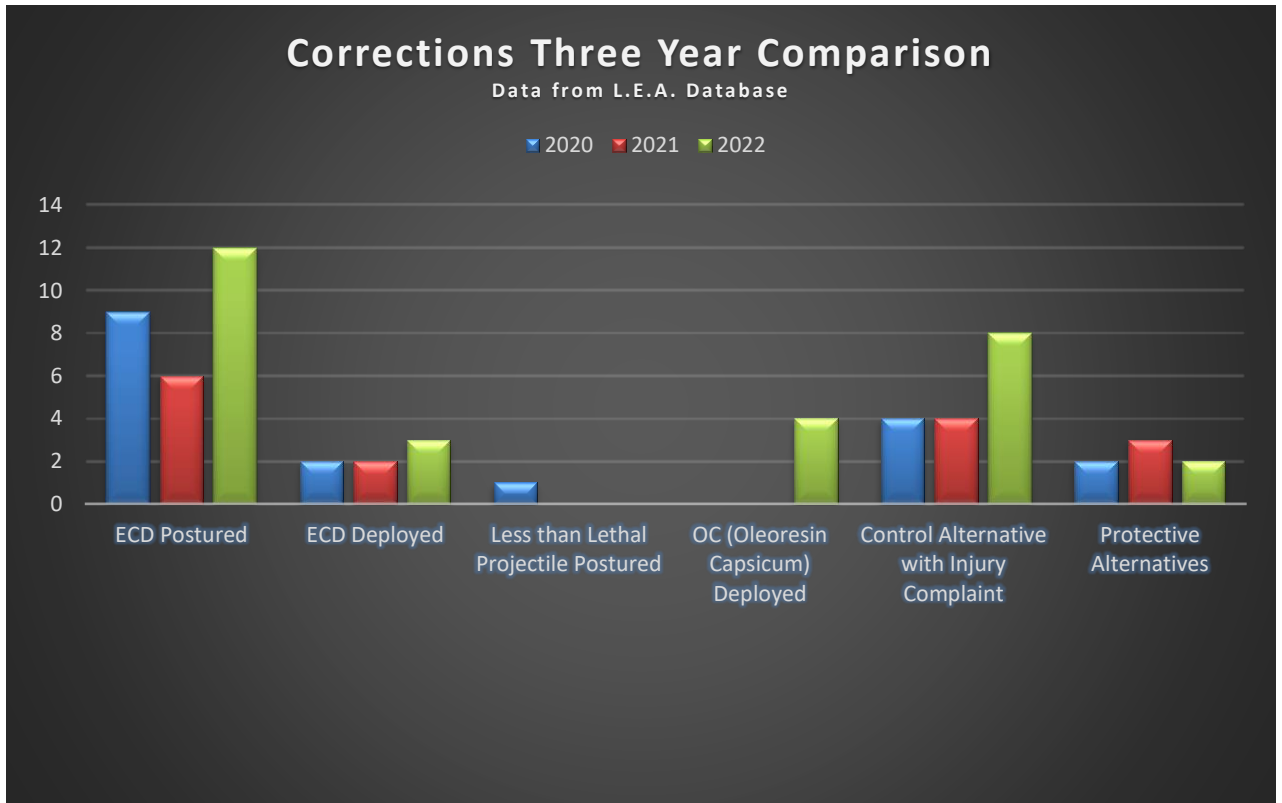
Note: several incidents had multiple uses of force meeting the Sheriff's Office's General Order regarding use of force review. As such, the numbers below are higher than the total 27 use of force incidents noted above:

<b>Force Option</b>	<b># Incidents</b>	<b># Deputies</b>
ECD Postured	12	12
ECD Deployed	3	3
Control Alternative w/ injury	8	43
Protective Alternatives	2	2
Chemical Agent Deployed	4	4
Chemical Munition Deployed	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>66</b>



The most common force used in the Corrections Division in 2022 continued to be Electronic Control Device (ECD) posturing. Of the 27 uses of force for which a review was conducted, 44% involved a deputy posturing with an EDC towards a person. To further evaluate use of force for the Sheriff's Office Corrections Division, the following chart lists all actions taken by deputies for the previous three years.

Force Option	2020 Corrections	2021 Corrections	2022 Corrections
ECD Postured	9	6	12
ECD Deployed	2	2	3
Less than Lethal Projectile Postured	1	0	0
OC (Oleoresin Capsicum) Deployed	0	0	4
Control Alternative-Injury Complaint	4	4	8
Protective Alternatives	0	3	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>



Deputies utilizing an ECD in deployments and posturing continue to be the most consistent use of force over the previous three years.

One of the twenty-seven incidents reviewed in 2022 for the Corrections Division required counseling for the deputy involved. This incident involved a deputy posturing with a Taser outside State of Wisconsin POSC and Sheriff's Office General Order guidelines. As a result of this incident the deputy received coaching and remedial training on proper Taser use.

The Training Division will continue to monitor use of force incidents utilizing them as a guide to develop new trainings for the agency.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lt. Tim Eichman