



**A DATA-DRIVEN APPROACH TO
UNDERSTANDING USE OF FORCE:
INFORMING POLICY MAKERS AND
THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

**NC STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
CENTER FOR REDUCTION OF LAW
ENFORCEMENT USE OF FORCE**

**UPDATE TO THE
NC GOVERNOR'S CRIME COMMISSION
MARCH 2021**



USE OF FORCE
CENTER
MISSION
STATEMENT

To proactively develop, advocate, and support the implementation of evidence-based measures to reduce law enforcement use of force and in doing so enhance the safety of both members of the general public and law enforcement officers.



CENTER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The **SBI Use of Force Center** has created an advisory committee representing a diverse group of stakeholders to inform its work and advise the **SBI leadership team** ...

- **NC Sheriff's Association**
- **NC Police Chiefs Association**
- **NC Chapter of the NAACP**
- **ACLU of NC**
- **National Alliance for Mental Illness NC**
- **El Centro Hispano**
- **NC Conference of District Attorneys**
- **Conservatives for Criminal Justice Reform**
- **NC Internal Affairs Investigators Association**
- **NC Office of Indigent Defense Services**
- **NC Criminal Justice Education & Training Standards**
- **NC Sheriff's Education & Training Standards**
- **NC Justice Academy**
- **Research Triangle Institute (RTI)**
- **UNC-Chapel Hill School of Government**
- **NC Central University Criminal Justice Department**
- **NC State University Public Safety Leadership Initiative**



USE OF FORCE CENTER OBJECTIVES

- **Collect data, conduct behavioral and situational analysis, and produce applied research** on the precursors and outcomes of law enforcement use of force in North Carolina
- **Promote training** for law enforcement officers that will reduce potential use of force within North Carolina and assure the mutual safety and well-being of members of the general public and sworn
- **Promote transparency**, mutual understanding, and public engagement related to law enforcement use of force issues, with a focus on outreach to minority communities as well as individuals with mental illness
- **Pursue collaborations and partnerships** with law enforcement partners, higher education institutions, and community organizations to advance the public policy and research agenda of the Center



DATA DRIVEN INITIATIVES

- Design and implement a **standardized state-wide use of force reporting model** including detailed reporting criteria and data elements to be captured
- Identify and develop necessary **infrastructure and resources** to implement the reporting model
- Propose a **statutory use of force reporting mandate** for all NC law enforcement agencies
- Develop companion **public dashboard** to provide transparent and accurate access to use of force data
- Develop **analytical capabilities** to better understand use of force predicates and outcomes in order to inform future policy making and best practices



SUPPORTING INITIATIVES

- Develop a discussion guide and related training for law enforcement executives on engaging with community members and stakeholders on use of force issues
- Offer actionable recommendations to the NC Sheriffs and NC Criminal Justice Training & Standards Commissions and NC Justice Academy on potential enhancements to law enforcement officer use of force-related training ...
 - Unconscious/implicit bias
 - Encounters involving mental health issues
 - De-escalation
 - Defensive tactics and use of force techniques
 - Interpersonal communications skills
- Promote model use of force policies through agency accreditation standards being pursued by the State's law enforcement training and standards bodies



KEY POINTS

- Develop systemic approaches to collect accurate and valid use of force data to move toward informed, evidence-based decision making rather than inference or anecdotal observation
- Engage with a broad spectrum of law enforcement and community stakeholders to obtain ideas on best practices and align initiatives to community need
- Develop mechanisms to share use of force data more broadly in order to provide public transparency and trust
- Connect law enforcement with the higher education and research community to take advantage of advanced subject matter expertise, especially in the areas of data science and analytics



➤ For more information ...

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