



**Bend Police Department**  
**Force Response Report**  
**2016**

# Bend Police Department

## Force Response Report — 2016

### Introduction

“The Bend Police Department recognizes and respects the value and special integrity of each human life. Investing police officers with the lawful authority to use force to protect the public welfare requires a careful balancing of all human interests. Because the duties of a police officer often present situations in which the use of force, or even deadly force may be necessary, the law and department policy authorizes the use of force in certain circumstances and requires an officer be armed while on regular duty.” —Bend Police Department Policy 300, *Force Response*.

A law enforcement officer is authorized to respond with force in specific circumstances. An extensive investment is made to train an officer to make correct force response decisions and to employ the appropriate level of force under a variety of scenarios. An officer typically faces numerous incidents during their career when a force response (i.e., restraining violent combatants) is appropriate. Should the level of force exceed the level considered justifiable and reasonable under the circumstances, not only the officer, but also the department and law enforcement agencies around the country come under intense public, judicial and legislative scrutiny.

The people of the City of Bend and the State of Oregon have placed great trust in their law enforcement officers by granting officers the statutory authority to respond with force in a reasonable, prudent and justifiable manner. Violating this expectation jeopardizes the ability of a police officer to effectively and efficiently perform their duties and it undermines the ability of the department to protect our community. For police officers to effectively protect themselves and the community they serve, a quality relationship must be maintained. Public and officer safety, constitutional policing and community trust are, thus, interdependent.

Force response by a police officer is a necessary part of the profession. However, no other element in this field of service elicits such heartfelt emotion and attention. The majority of police officers choose a law enforcement career to serve their communities and fellow citizens. Police officers do not wish to injure anyone intentionally or accidentally. The force response statistics that follow show Bend Police officers truly wish to uphold the mission, vision and values of the Bend Police Department.



## Vision

We are progressive, innovative, community based  
and acknowledge our most valued asset  
is the men and women who work  
at the Bend Police Department.

## Mission

To protect and serve

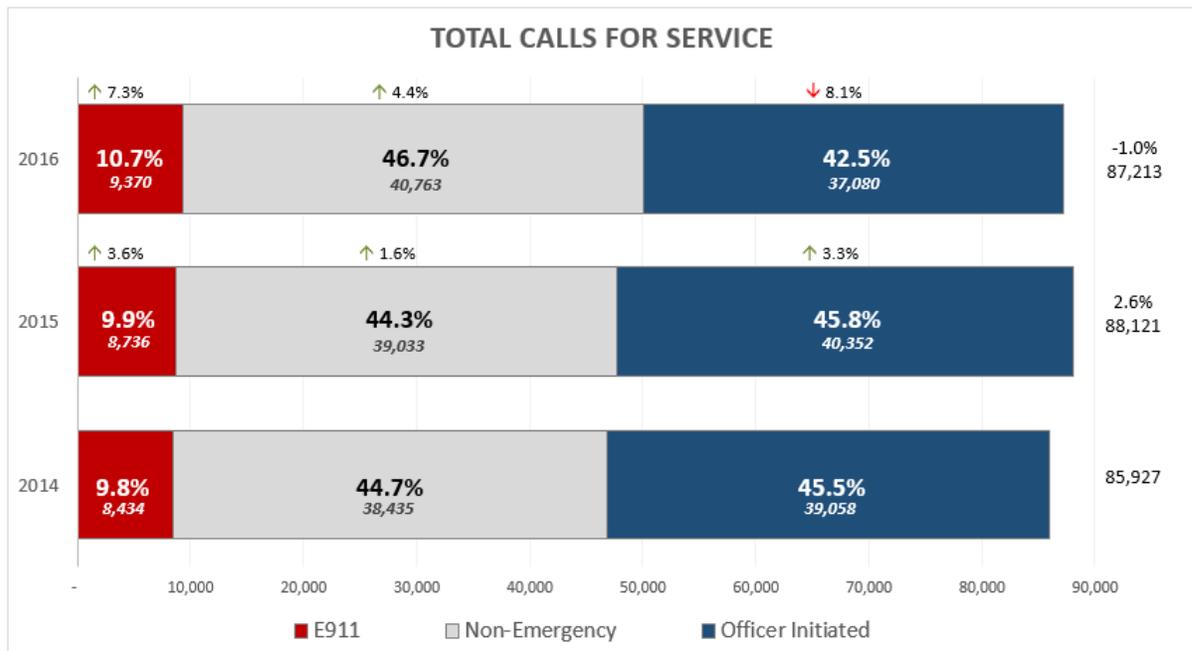
## Values

Teamwork, Integrity, Excellence

**Definitions.** To fully understand the information in this report, the following definitions are provided.

<b>THREAT</b>	Any person resisting arrest or being lawfully controlled, and/or demonstrating the intent, and having the means and opportunity to inflict injury, serious physical injury, or death.
<b>ACTIVE RESISTANCE</b>	The Threat physically resists an officer's verbal commands and/or attempts to gain physical control by means such as pulling away, attempting to run, or powering through a control hold.
<b>OMINOUS RESISTANCE</b>	The Threat demonstrates a willingness to engage in combat through verbal challenge, threat, or aggressive behavior (e.g., bites, pushes, punches, kicks, etc.).
<b>LETHAL RESISTANCE</b>	The Threat possesses both intent and means to inflict serious physical injury or death.
<b>OC SPRAY</b>	A chemical irritant used as physical control to gain compliance from actively resisting Threats. OC Spray (oleoresin capsicum) is the distilled resin of cayenne peppers in a solution carried by an aerosol propellant.
<b>TASER</b>	An electronic restraint device used as serious physical control to stun, restrain, control and incapacitate an actively resisting or combative Threat by way of delivering an electronic shock.
<b>FOCUSED BLOWS</b>	Strikes designed and used to distract, control, stun or incapacitate a suspect temporarily without causing severe physical injury or death. Strikes may include closed fist or open-hand punches, use of knees, elbows and/or head.
<b>IMPACT WEAPON</b>	Police baton, or ASP, or any other such instrument or device designed or used to block, jab, strike or temporarily restrain or control a suspect by way of physical impact or extending an officer's ability to use control holds.
<b>LESS-LETHAL PROJECTILES</b>	Fired from a firearm or similar device, less-lethal projectiles are designed to stun or incapacitate a suspect temporarily, without penetrating the body or causing serious physical injury or death.
<b>PATROL CANINE (K-9)</b>	A canine trained for and employed by specially trained law enforcement officers, the use of which includes, but may not be limited to, handler protection and location and apprehension of suspects.
<b>PHYSICAL CONTACT</b>	Directing a subject by touch or use of physical restraints (e.g., handcuffs) or controlling a subject with an escort hold.
<b>PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>	Use of chemical or organic weapons, pressure points, joint manipulation techniques or physical control holds.
<b>SERIOUS PHYSICAL CONTROL</b>	Use of focused blows and strikes, Taser, impact weapons, Police Canine and carotid restraint.
<b>DEADLY PHYSICAL FORCE</b>	Any force, in the manner in which it is used, that is readily capable of causing serious physical injury or death.

## Bend Police Department's calls for service

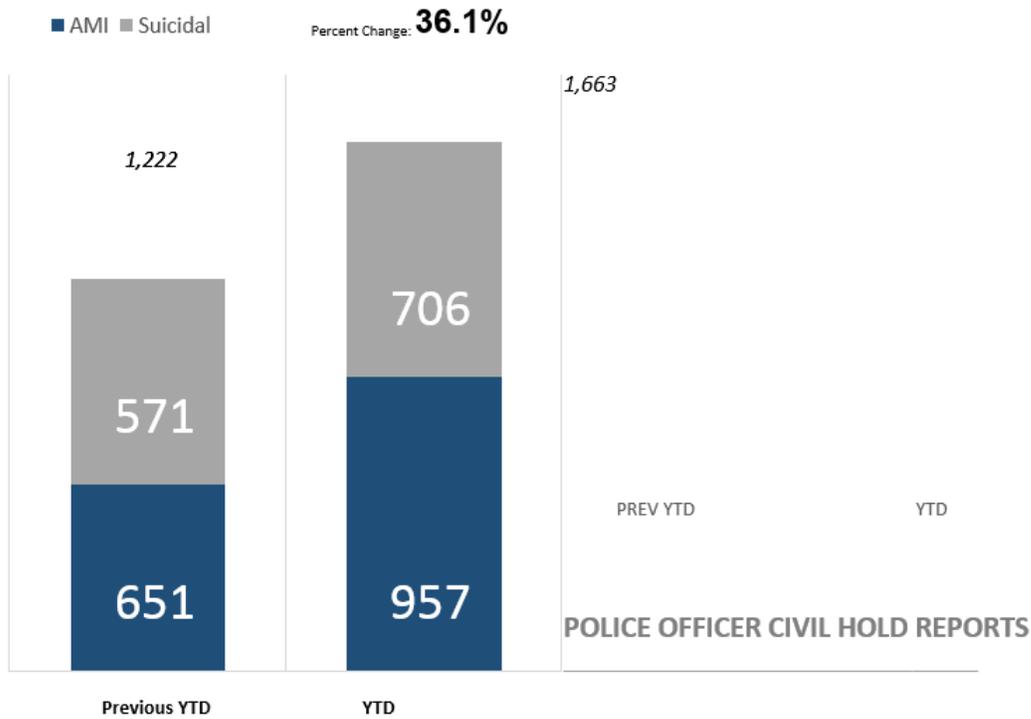


## How these types of calls impact the Bend Police Department

Calls come into the Deschutes County 911 Center and then they are dispatched to the Bend Police Department in three categories, 911 emergencies, Non-Emergency, and Officer Initiated. By looking at the graph above, you can see that the number of 911 emergencies increased by 7.3%, and the Non-Emergency calls increased by 4.4% between 2015 and 2016. Officer initiated calls dropped in that same time period by 8.1%. There are several factors that can attribute to this decline in Officer initiated calls for service. Some factors that affect this are that 911 emergency calls typically require more personnel to respond to these types of calls. Staffing shortages on patrol have reduced the number of officers on the street. And the increase of non-emergency calls, all reduces the officer non-directed patrol time.

Another growing trend in calls for service is in the area of mental health crisis and suicidal subjects. This trend has been on a steady increase in the last 5 years and that trend has continued into 2016. Calls for service that involve a person having a mental health crisis are entered into the system as an "AMI" call. "AMI" stands for "allegedly mentally ill". Calls for service for which a person has threatened to commit suicide, or has demonstrated the desire to kill themselves get entered into the system as a "Suicidal". Between 2015 and 2016 there was a 36.1% increase in AMI and Suicidal calls for service. These calls for service often involve intoxicated subjects, people with mental health disorders, and require the officer to transport the persons to the hospital for medical evaluation. These call for service are very time consuming and often involve multiple officers due to the potential threats posed by intoxicated people and people suffering from a mental illness.

The graph below demonstrates the increase for AMI and Suicidal subject between 2015 and 2016



## 2016 Bend Police Department Arrests

The table shown below details the total arrests made by the City of Bend Police Department for 2016, categorized by **race** and **gender**.

Total Arrests	Male		Female	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
American Indian Alaskan Native	23	17	9	20
Asian	11	4	6	3
Black	67	75	15	31
Hispanic	122	122	20	26
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	3	7	1	--
Unknown	19	21	8	9
White	2037	2010	822	803
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2282</b>	<b>2256</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>892</b>

Total Arrests %	Male		Female	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
American Indian Alaskan Native	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	2.2%
Asian	0.5%	0.2%	0.7%	0.3%
Black	2.9%	3.3%	1.7%	3.5%
Hispanic	5.3%	5.4%	2.3%	2.9%
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	--
Unknown	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%
White	89.3%	89.1%	93.3%	90.0%

## Bend Police Department Force Response

When assessing the department-wide force response information, several factors are considered. Multiple officers may respond to a single incident. Multiple officers may use a variety of force response options while attempting to gain compliance from a single threat. A single officer may be confronted by multiple threats at the same incident.

**During 2016, reports reveal that 77 force responses were used during 65 force incidents.**

By comparison, during this same time frame in 2015 there were 61 force responses. In 2014, Bend Police officers used 72 force response options. In 2013, officers used 71 force responses, and in 2012, officers used a total of 135 force responses.

A force response is characterized as an incident wherein an officer uses a level of force equal to or greater than physical control. According to Bend Police Department, Policy 300–*Use of Force*, OC Spray and takedowns are considered physical control. Changes in patrol tactics, increases in scenario based training, CIT training and force response legal updates have helped reduce our force responses. ***Between 2012 through 2016 there has been a 44% reduction in the force responses by Bend Police Officers.***

## Force Response by Race and Gender

The table shown below details a race and gender breakdown of the suspects who were involved in a force response **incident**.

Force Response	Male		Female	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
American Indian Alaskan Native	--	--	--	--
Asian	--	--	--	--
Black	--	1	--	--
Hispanic	1	5	--	--
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	--	--	--	1
Unknown	--	1	--	--
White	45	61	10	8
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>

Force Response %	Male		Female	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
American Indian Alaskan Native	--	--	--	--
Asian	--	--	--	--
Black	--	1.5%	--	--
Hispanic	2.2%	7.4%	--	--
Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander	--	--	--	11.1%
Unknown	--	1.5%	--	--
White	97.8%	89.7%	100.0%	88.9%

## Types of Force

The next table shows the breakdown of different force response options used in 2016. As in previous years, *Other Takedowns* are the most common form of force employed by officers. *Other Takedowns* is the term used to describe the force response option where an officer uses a grabbing or shoving technique to take a suspect to the ground. This specific technique accounted for highest percentage of all force options used by officers in 2016.

The table below compares the previous five (5) years by **type of force option** used by Bend Police officers.

Type of Force	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Pepper Spray	8	2	2	5	<b>18</b>
Joint Takedown	38	8	7	10	<b>4</b>
Hair Takedown	5	4	3	0	<b>2</b>
Other Force Used	0	0	0	2	<b>4</b>
Other Takedown	36	31	35	31	<b>31</b>
Taser	22	9	15	9	<b>12</b>
Focused Blows	16	8	7	1	<b>4</b>
K9 Capture	8	8	0	2	<b>1</b>
Impact Weapon	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Less Lethal Projectile	2	0	1	1	<b>0</b>
Carotid Restraint	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Deadly Force	0	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
Pressure Points	0	0	1	0	<b>0</b>
Road Block	0	0	1	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>77</b>

## Total Arrests and Total Force Responses

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Arrests	3353	3297	3126	3353	<b>3148</b>
Total Force Responses	135	71	72	61	<b>77</b>
Total Force Incidents	87	57	57	56	<b>65</b>

<sup>1</sup>A single arrest may require multiple uses of force to physically detain a suspect (i.e., OC Spray application + takedown to apply handcuffs equals two [2] uses of force).

## Suspect Race and Force Response Information

An examination of suspect demographics is important to assure our community that the Bend Police Department is conducting business in a professional, ethical and fair manner. Police officers need to be impartial, reasonable and professional when dealing with the public regardless of age, sex, race, color, national origin or sexual preference. Especially when the force response by police officers is considered, the department owes our community professional conduct in an unbiased and just manner. The following tables show a breakdown of the **type of force option** used by **suspect race and gender**.

	OC Spray		Hair Takedown		Focus Blows		K9 Captures
Male White	15	Male White	2	Male White	3	Male White	1
Female White	1	Female White	0	Female White	1	Female White	0
Male Black	0	Male Black	0	Male Black	0	Male Black	0
Female Black	0	Female Black	0	Female Black	0	Female Black	0
Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	0
Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0
Male Native American	0	Male Native American	0	Male Native American	0	Male Native American	0
Female Native American	1	Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0
Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0
Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0
Male Other	1	Male Other	0	Male Other	0	Male Other	0
Female Other	0	Female Other	0	Female Other	0	Female Other	0

Impact Weapon		Carotid Restraint		Deadly Force		Other Force	
Male White	0	Male White	0	Male White	1	Male White	2
Female White	0	Female White	0	Female White	0	Female White	1
Male Black	0	Male Black	0	Male Black	0	Male Black	0
Female Black	0	Female Black	0	Female Black	0	Female Black	0
Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	1
Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0
Male Native American	0	Male Native American	0	Male Native American	0	Male Native American	0
Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0
Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0
Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0
Male Other	0	Male Other	0	Male Other	0	Male Other	0
Female Other	0	Female Other	0	Female Other	0	Female Other	0
<b>Total Use Impact Weapons</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total Use Carotid Restraint</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total Use Deadly Force</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Total Use Other Force</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total Use OC Spray</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Total Use Hair Takedown</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Total Use Focus Blows</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Total K9 Captures</b>	<b>1</b>

Type of Force Option Used by Suspect Race and Gender (continued)

Type of Force Option Used by Suspect Race and Gender (continued)

Less Lethal Projectile		Taser		Joint Takedown		Other Takedown	
Male White	0	Male White	8	Male White	4	Male White	25
Female White	0	Female White	0	Female White	0	Female White	5
Male Black	0	Male Black	1	Male Black	0	Male Black	0
Female Black	0	Female Black	0	Female Black	0	Female Black	0
Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	3	Male Hispanic	0	Male Hispanic	1
Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0	Female Hispanic	0
Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0	Female Native American	0
Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0	Male Asian	0
Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0	Female Asian	0
Male Other	0	Male Other	0	Male Other	0	Male Other	0
Female Other	0	Female Other	0	Female Other	0	Female Other	0
<b>Total Use Less Lethal Projectile</b>		<b>Total Use Taser</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Total Use Joint Takedown</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Total Use Other Takedown</b>	<b>31</b>

## Conclusion

During 2016, slightly over 89.1% of incidents in which officers used force, the suspect was male and his race was white. Male Hispanic suspects represented 7.8 % percent of these incidents. Black males represented 1.6 % of these incidents. Asian and American Indian suspects were not involved in any force response incident.

Officers are trained to use a reasonable force response based on the level of threat presented. Bend Police Department policy dictates that officers use a reasonable amount of force when a force response is justified.

The results of this report show that only a small percentage of police contacts with suspects involve a law enforcement force response.

- In 2016, Bend Police Department officers arrested **3,148** suspects and used force in **65** of those events (i.e., .02% percent).
- 72% of all the force response involved an intoxicated or AMI subject or suicidal subjects
- Moreover, of the averaged **87,000** citizen contacts, reasonable force was required in only **65** incidents.

When a force response was applied, Bend Police Department officers typically used lower levels of force, such as physical control techniques. As a result, suspects were often uninjured or minimally injured (e.g., small bruises, abrasions or Taser-probe penetration).

While a force response is sometimes unavoidable, Bend Police officers strive to de-escalate a situation and find a peaceful resolution. **Since 2012, the Bend Police Department has focused its crisis intervention techniques toward de-escalation through a multi-modal approach. By implementing scenario-based training and Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), officers focus on creating time and distance to gain greater compliance, rather than having an event rise to the level of a need for force. CIT techniques allow an officer to implement creative, patient and flexible responses toward crisis resolution.** These two methods are also combined with forced response legal updates to provide a comprehensive response to threats.

The Bend Police Department finds that these minimal force responses are results of our commitment to Crisis Intervention training and its progressive training efforts, which are all in alignment with the department vision, mission and values.