

Use of Force Incidents 2024 Report

Public Safety Article, Section 3-528(d)

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

July 1, 2025

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



DOROTHY LENNIG
Executive Director

July 1, 2025

The Honorable William C. "Bill" Ferguson IV
President of the Senate
State House, H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Adrienne Jones
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Public Safety Article § 3-528(d) (MSAR #15681)

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

As required by § 3-528(d) of the Public Safety Article, please find an enclosed copy of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's report, titled *Use of Force Incidents 2024 Report*. This report includes information from law enforcement agencies regarding each use of force incident for calendar year 2024 that resulted in a monetary settlement or judgment against the law enforcement agency.

Should you have any questions relating to the information provided in this report, please feel free to contact me at 410-697-9338.

As required, five color copies will be sent to the DLS Legislative Library.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dorothy J. Lennig".

Dorothy J. Lennig, Esq.
Executive Director

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)

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Introduction

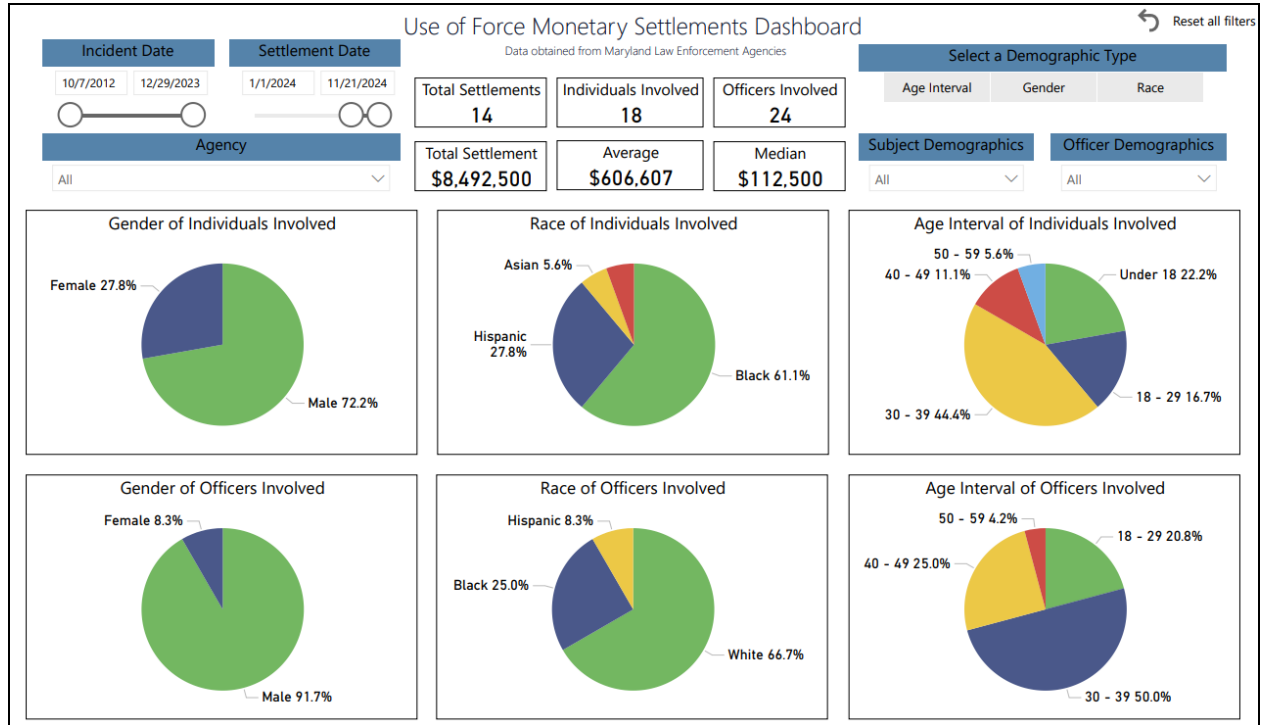
In accordance with § 3-528(d) of the Public Safety Article, the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (Office) must submit a report to the General Assembly by June 30 of each year, as it relates to each use of force incident reported by law enforcement agencies for the previous calendar year that resulted in a monetary settlement or judgement. For the purpose of this report, § 3-528(b) of the Public Safety Article requires law enforcement agencies to report the information to the Office by March 1 of each year.

Pursuant to its charge, this *Use of Force Incidents 2024 Report* includes information from law enforcement agencies regarding each use of force incident for calendar year 2024 that resulted in a monetary settlement or judgment against the agency. It also provides a follow-up to previously submitted reports. To view these reports on the Office’s website, as required by § 3-528(e) of the Public Safety Article, please visit: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/reports-and-publications/>.

Use of Force Incidents

For the purpose of this report, the Office distributed an electronic survey to all law enforcement agencies in the State to gather information for the 2024 calendar year (January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024). The survey requested information on incidents in which a monetary settlement was resolved in 2024, regardless of the original incident date. It also allowed agencies to provide notification if no applicable incidents occurred during the reporting period. For more information regarding the electronic survey, please visit the Office’s website at: <https://gocpp.maryland.gov/mandated-reporting-requirements/>.

For the 2024 calendar year, three law enforcement agencies within Charles County, Montgomery County, and Prince George’s County reported a total of 14 settlements that involved 18 individuals and 24 officers (*as illustrated in the **Use of Force Monetary Settlements Dashboard** on the following page*). The remaining law enforcement agencies provided notification that no applicable incidents occurred in 2024. Of the individuals involved in the use of force incidents, 72.2% were male and 27.8% were female. Most of the individuals were Black (61.1%), and nearly half were between 30 and 39 years old (44.4%). In addition, the majority of law enforcement officers involved in the use of force incident were male (91.7%). Two-thirds of the officers involved were White (66.7%), and half were between 30 and 39 years old (50%). For more information, please refer to the **Use of Force Monetary Settlements Dashboard** at: <https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjojOTFhZDU4MzMtZDc4Ni00MDcxLTgzMTktNTlhNWZlNTFlZjQxIiwidCI6IjYwYWZlOWUyLTQ5Y2QtNDliMS04ODUxLTY0ZGYwMjc2YTJlO CJ9>.



In 2024, the total settlement or judgment awarded in the three counties (Charles County, Montgomery County, and Prince George’s County) consisted of \$8,492,500 (*as illustrated in Table 1*). For descriptive information pertaining to each incident, please refer to **Table 2**.

Table 1: Calendar Year 2024 Settlements or Judgements Awarded					
Agency	Incident Date	Incident Time	Filing Date	Settlement Date	Settlement Total
Charles County Sheriff's Office	3/1/2015	4:45 PM	12/16/2017	11/21/2024	\$6,000,000
Montgomery County Department of Police	7/26/2017	12:00 AM	9/23/2020	8/4/2024	\$200,000
	10/25/2018	1:31 AM	10/25/2021	8/7/2024	\$15,000
	9/13/2019	4:22 AM	5/5/2021	6/11/2024	\$195,000
	2/18/2020	11:59 AM	2/17/2023	11/14/2024	\$30,000
	4/4/2020	3:45 AM	3/8/2023	6/26/2024	\$30,000
Prince George's County Police Department	10/7/2012	7:00 PM	12/11/2014	2/20/2024	\$100,000
	8/9/2018	9:13 PM	5/7/2021	1/2/2024	\$125,000
	5/28/2019	10:30 PM	5/26/2022	7/25/2024	\$35,000
	8/19/2019	5:00 AM	8/1/2022	7/21/2024	\$1,250,000
	8/30/2019	3:30 PM	7/19/2021	4/19/2024	\$90,000
	1/5/2020	3:00 AM	3/28/2022	5/8/2024	\$225,000
	2/16/2020	9:30 PM	2/8/2023	8/22/2024	\$50,000
	10/20/2020	9:25 PM	10/17/2023	10/25/2024	\$147,500
Total					\$8,492,500

Table 2: Calendar Year 2024 Incident Descriptions		
Agency	Incident Date	Description
Charles County Sheriff's Office	3/1/2015	The officer responded to assist EMS personnel aid a recipient of a single-vehicular crash. EMS reported that the recipient had a handgun. The recipient was combative and refused commands. The officer deployed a taser in drive-stun mode. The recipient continued to be combative, and then became unresponsive. The recipient was taken to a hospital and died several months later. The plaintiffs claimed that the recipient's death was caused by the taser use.
Montgomery County Department of Police	7/26/2017	Information not available.
	10/25/2018	Officers responded to a burglary in progress. The suspect fled but was apprehended. Officers ordered the suspect to the ground, and when he attempted to flee, officers used a taser. The suspect resisted arrest, and officers wrestled with him to get him into handcuffs.
	9/13/2019	Officers were executing a search warrant of a basement apartment of a residence for CDS charges. Officers entered the residence through the front door, announced themselves, and told the residents to "get down." A male exited a bedroom and was confrontational toward the officers. The male refused to comply with officers' commands, and officers used force to handcuff him. The agency did not provide additional details on the type of force officers used.
	2/18/2020	Officers responded to a female in distress. The suspect was screaming and having a panic attack. Officers determined she had a mental illness and was a threat to herself. When officers attempted to take the subject to the hospital, she resisted and continued to scream. Officers used force to put the subject into handcuffs and take them to a hospital. The agency did not provide additional details on the type of force officers used.
	4/4/2020	Officers responded to a domestic dispute between a wife and husband. The wife asked officers to stand by while she returned to the residence to get her belongings. When the officer questioned the husband, the husband started to leave, and the officer grabbed his arm. Because the suspect tried to break free and was resisting the officer, the officer used force to maintain control of the situation. The agency did not provide additional details on the type of force officers used.
Prince George's County Police Department	10/7/2012	The officer responded to a call for service, reporting that a woman was assaulted by the father of her child. While the officer spoke with the woman outside of her apartment, the father of the child walked towards them with a knife. After backing up and repeatedly ordering the father of the child to drop the knife, the officer shot him, which resulted in injury.
	8/9/2018	Acting upon information from a confidential informant identifying an individual selling illegal drugs and threatening residents with a gun, officers arrived at the apartment complex. Upon their arrival, officers observed a man who matched the description provided by the informant walk out of an apartment building. When the man observed the officers in plain clothes, he ran. One officer chased the man and tackled him to the ground. While attempting to handcuff the man, the man turned to grab his weapon. The officer quickly moved off the man and fired two rounds, which struck the man. As a result, he succumbed to his injuries.

	5/28/2019	Officers responded to a domestic call for service and encountered the plaintiff and her boyfriend. After the plaintiff was escorted to her boyfriend's vehicle to retrieve her belongings, she was ordered to stand back and allow her boyfriend to leave. The plaintiff ignored the officers' orders and attempted to retrieve more of her alleged belongings from the vehicle. When one officer attempted to stop her to allow her boyfriend to leave, a physical struggle ensued, and the plaintiff was injured.
	8/19/2019	The plaintiff experienced a medical crisis and went to his neighbor's house for help. The neighbor called the police. Officers arrived and handcuffed the plaintiff upon the arrival of an ambulance. When the plaintiff was lying on his stomach on the ground, he became unresponsive and went into cardiac arrest. He was unable to be revived by emergency medical technicians on the scene.
	8/30/2019	The father of the plaintiff's children obtained a temporary restraining order from the Circuit Court for Charles County, awarding him custody of his sons. The father then called the Prince George's County non-emergency line to obtain police assistance in retrieving his sons. Officers met the father outside the plaintiff's mother's house, where the children were located. When officers attempted to retrieve the children, the plaintiff intervened and had to be physically restrained and eventually arrested.
	1/5/2020	The plaintiff was the backseat passenger of a vehicle that was the subject to a traffic stop. When the plaintiff disputed the basis of the officer's traffic stop, he was forcibly removed from the vehicle, and a physical altercation ensued. Other officers assisted by holding and handcuffing the plaintiff.
	2/16/2020	The plaintiff was the passenger of a vehicle that was the subject of a traffic stop. When the plaintiff complained that the traffic stop was taking too long, the officer ordered the plaintiff from the vehicle and forcibly removed him from the vehicle. A physical altercation ensued, which caused the plaintiff injuries to his face.
	10/20/2020	The officer was on the lookout for an armed individual that fled from police when he observed the plaintiff and his friends on the sidewalk of an apartment building. The officer drove toward them and exited his vehicle. The plaintiff fled and was stopped by other officers. When the plaintiff was handed off to an officer for transport, the officer grabbed him by his neck, which caused injuries.

Conclusion

The Office will continue to work with Maryland law enforcement agencies to ensure all required information is received, submitted in a report to the General Assembly, and published on its website each year.