



# A Glimpse Into Our Policies

## Our Commitment

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department is dedicated to building a culture of trust with our communities. The Department does not condone nor accept any racial profiling. Below is an overview of standards in place by the Sheriff's Department. The Department is also proactive in the identification of possible opportunities for change in our policies, procedure, and training to affect consistent positive outcomes. We are committed to impartial and compassionate enforcement of the law.

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**The Sheriff's Department banned the use of the carotid restraint on June 3, 2020**

*- SDCS Policies and Procedures is in the process of being updated to reflect this change*

De-escalation is a combination of tactical communication with a balanced use of force response to critical situations in order to achieve positive outcomes. This thought process has been taught for years to SDCS sworn personnel, but never completely formalized in naming, policy, or training until recently.

**First law enforcement agency in San Diego County to provide formal de-escalation training**

**"Whenever feasible, the deputy must first warn the suspect that force will be used if there is no compliance"**

*- Policies and Procedures Use of Force Policy Addendum F*

**"The higher the level of public voluntary compliance and cooperation, the less need for the use of force. To that end, the use of force must always be considered secondary to the desirability of voluntary compliance to law."**

*- Policies and Procedures Use of Force Policy Addendum F*

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**Deputies are trained throughout their careers to intervene when they observe another deputy using excessive force or demonstrating misconduct.**

*- The Sheriff's Department is memorializing this action in its Policy & Procedures Manual*

**"Shooting at, or from, a moving vehicle is generally prohibited, except when immediately necessary to protect persons from death or serious bodily injury."**

*- Policies and Procedures Sections 6 & 8*

**Employees shall not use more force in any situation than is reasonably necessary under the circumstances. Deputies may need to use a force option that exceeds the subject's force level. Deputies adhere to the Use of Force options including "Levels of Resistance" and "Principles of Control"**

*- Policies and Procedures Use of Force Policy Addendum F*

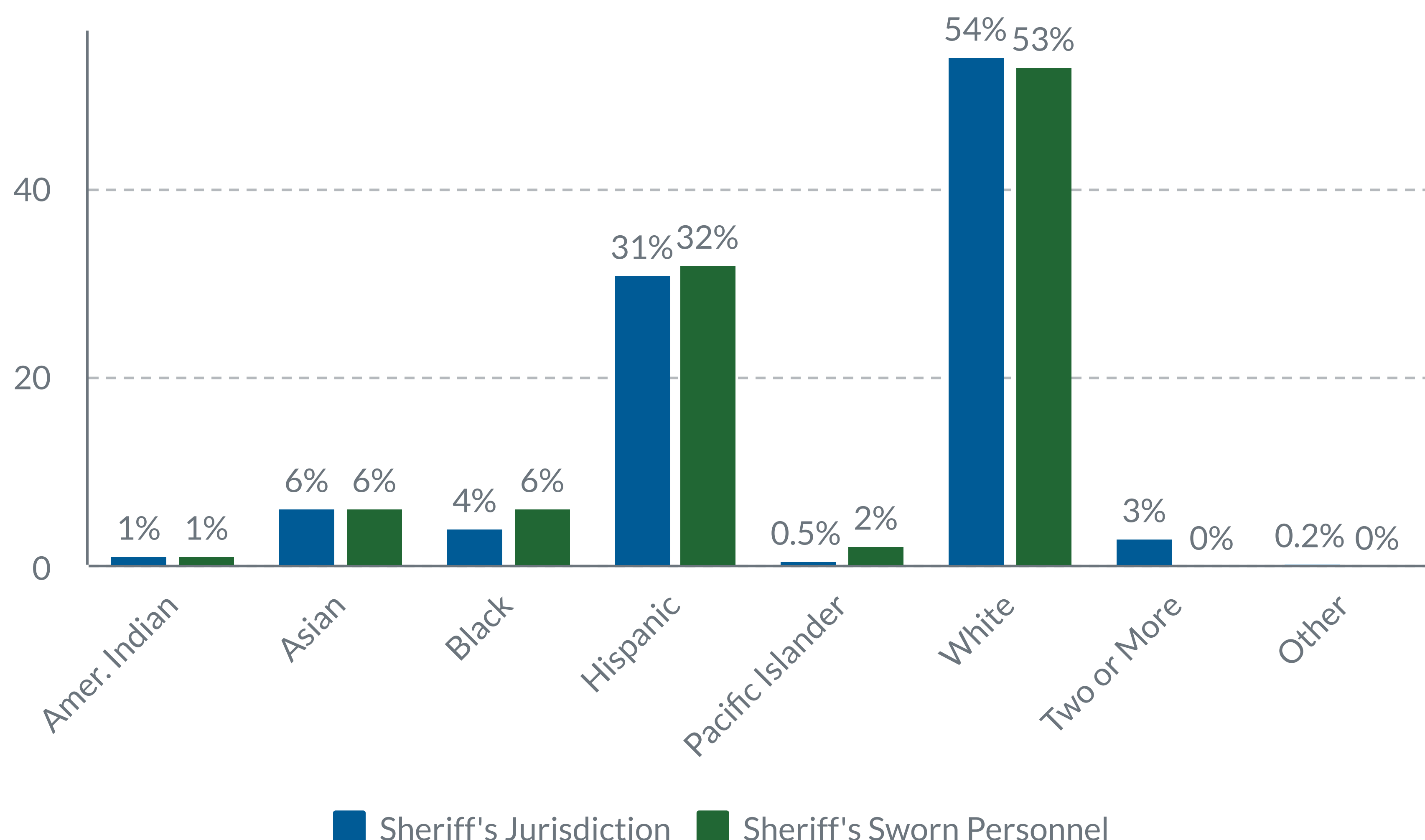
**Employees shall use force in accordance with law and established departmental procedures, and report all use of force in writing as well as notifying their supervisor.**

*- Policies and Procedures Section 2.49 & Use of Force Policy Addendum F*

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## DEPARTMENT DEMOGRAPHICS



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## BODY-WORN CAMERAS

**"The body-worn cameras shall be worn or used by uniformed personnel at all times during on duty hours in a law enforcement capacity..."**

*- Policies and Procedures Section 6.131*

*The San Diego County Sheriff's Department authorizes the use of Body Worn Camera (BWC) technology, with the goal of providing an additional layer of documentation for events, actions, conditions and statements made during critical incidents and to improve reports, collection of evidence and testimony in court. The use of the BWC technology is meant to assist and complement Deputy Sheriffs and Community Services Officers in the performance of their duties and is not meant to replace or relieve the Deputy or Community Services Officer of their responsibility of submitting any and all required written reports.*



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## OVERSIGHT

### Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board

San Diego County voters established the Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board (CLERB) in 1990 to independently receive and investigate citizen complaints against deputies and probation officers. CLERB is composed of eleven volunteer community members. CLERB has the power to subpoena and require the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents and papers pertinent to its investigations; and has the power to administer oaths.

### Internal Affairs

The Department's Internal Affairs (IA) is the central controlling point for filing, logging, assigning, and investigating complaints of alleged employee misconduct. All complaint investigations are conducted in a fair, thorough, and impartial manner.

### Critical Incident Review Board (CIRB)

The focus of the CIRB is to assess the Department's civil exposure as a result of a given incident and to improve service delivery. The CIRB carefully reviews the incidents from multiple perspectives including training, tactics, policies, and procedures with the goal of identifying problem areas and recommending remedial actions so that the potential liability can be avoided in the future.

### Division of Inspectional Services

The Division of Inspectional Services (DIS) assesses internal processes and reviews high-risk events in order to promote a more efficient, effective, and economical operational environment throughout the Department.

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