



Clallam County Sheriff's Office

WASPC Accredited Agency

223 East 4th Street, Suite 12
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015

Support Services: (360)417-2270
Fax: (360)417-2498

<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/497/Sheriff>

sheriff@clallamcountywa.gov

Ron Cameron
Undersheriff

Amy Bundy
Chief Criminal Deputy

Elizabeth Waknitz
Chief Civil Deputy

Don Wenzl
Chief Corrections Deputy

Brian King
Sheriff

FILE:

ANNUAL ANALYSIS 2022

To: Sheriff Brian King

Please find below our annual analysis for our agency. This addresses key statistical information and summaries that can serve as early warning signals to issues within our department.

Internal Investigations/Complaints during 2022

In 2022, the Clallam County Sheriff's Office had 13 total complaints. These complaints came from citizens, supervisors and staff and represent the operations and corrections sections of the Sheriff's Office. No complaints were reported involving our Support Staff or Emergency Management.

Complaints reported and investigated in 2022 were separated almost in half with six coming from corrections and seven from operations. Seven of the complaints were sustained, four were not sustained and one was unfounded. Most were policy related including attendance, discourtesy, neglect of duty, insubordination, a traffic complaint on a deputy, and one complaint that is alleged to be biased based.

Emp: Title/rank	Inc: Occurred date	Inc: Incident type	Alg: Allegation	Alg: Finding	Act: Action taken	Inc: Disposition
Corrections Deputy	01/04/2022	Employee Complaint	Insubordination	Sustained	Letter of Reprimand	Sustained
Corrections Deputy	05/30/2022	Internal Investigation	Attendance	Sustained	Suspended without pay	Sustained
Corrections Deputy	09/13/2022	Employee Complaint	Attendance	Sustained	Suspended without pay	Sustained
Corrections Deputy	12/24/2022	Employee Complaint	Attendance	Sustained	Documented Oral Counseling	Sustained
Corrections Sergeant	07/06/2022	Internal Investigation	Neglect of Duty	Sustained	Performance Improvement Plan	Sustained
Corrections Sergeant	07/22/2022	Internal Investigation	Discourtesy	Unfounded		Unfounded
Patrol Deputy	07/22/2022	Internal Investigation	Discourtesy	Not Sustained		Not Sustained
Patrol Deputy			Discourtesy	Sustained	Documented Oral Counseling	
Patrol Deputy	07/29/2022	Citizen complaint	Ethics	Sustained	Documented Oral Counseling	Sustained
Patrol Deputy	08/17/2022	Employee Complaint	Traffic	Sustained	Documented Oral Counseling	Sustained
Patrol Deputy	08/22/2022	Internal Investigation	Discourtesy	Not Sustained		Not Sustained
Patrol Deputy	08/19/2022	Internal Investigation	Discourtesy	Not Sustained		Not Sustained
Patrol Deputy			Discourtesy	Not Sustained	Training	
Patrol Deputy	09/04/2022	Citizen complaint	Bias Based	Not Sustained	Training	Not Sustained
Patrol Deputy	10/19/2022	Internal Investigation	Discourtesy	Unfounded		Unfounded

Patterns were discovered in the attendance and discourteous reports when we saw that one employee accounted for all the attendance reports and one represented many of the courtesy related ones. It should be noted that the discourtesy investigations from one employee resulted in three being not sustained and one unfounded.

Emp: Title/rank	Inc: Occurred date	Inc: Incident type	Alg: Allegation	Alg: Finding	Act: Action taken	Inc: Disposition
Corrections Deputy	01/04/2022	Employee Complaint	Insubordination	Sustained	Letter of Reprimand	Sustained
Corrections Deputy	05/30/2022	Internal Investigation	Attendance	Sustained	Suspended without pay	Sustained
Corrections Deputy	09/13/2022	Employee Complaint	Attendance	Sustained	Suspended without pay	Sustained
Corrections Deputy	12/24/2022	Employee Complaint	Attendance	Sustained	Documented Oral Counseling	Sustained

One employee entered into a performance improvement plan due to reported neglect of duty.

One Courtesy complaint had an element of bias in the allegation. The result of a traffic stop, the report from the citizen didn't explain why they felt there was bias attached to the interaction. This incident itself was not sustained, but the employee was given some counseling on the matter to be sure they understand citizen interactions and our policies related to these events.

Most cases of citizen complaints resulted in the reporting party being notified of the disposition. Those that were not contacted were because they did not respond or the complaint was anonymous.

Analysis: Our employees often meet people who are not acting on their best behavior. This results in the citizen, and sometimes the deputy or employee, to lose their composure and incidents like discourtesy arise. This doesn't excuse such behavior from our folks, but it does explain it.

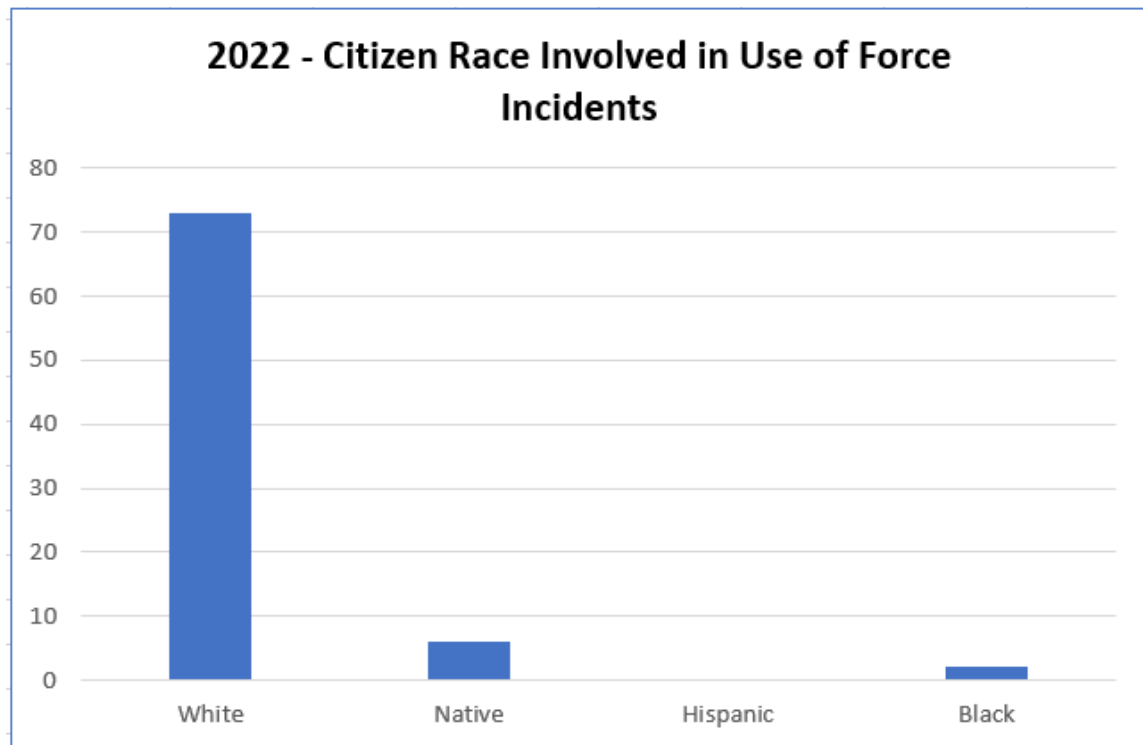
As stated earlier in this section, two employees accounted for more than 50% of all the complaints and these trends were addressed with the employees.

Use of Force during 2022

In summary, there were a total of eighty-eight (88) use of force reports for the year; forty-one (41) for Patrol, and forty-seven (47) for Corrections. Events have been broken down into incidents by Department Sections. Many of the incidents had multiple techniques utilized; therefore, there are more techniques utilized than the number of incidents.

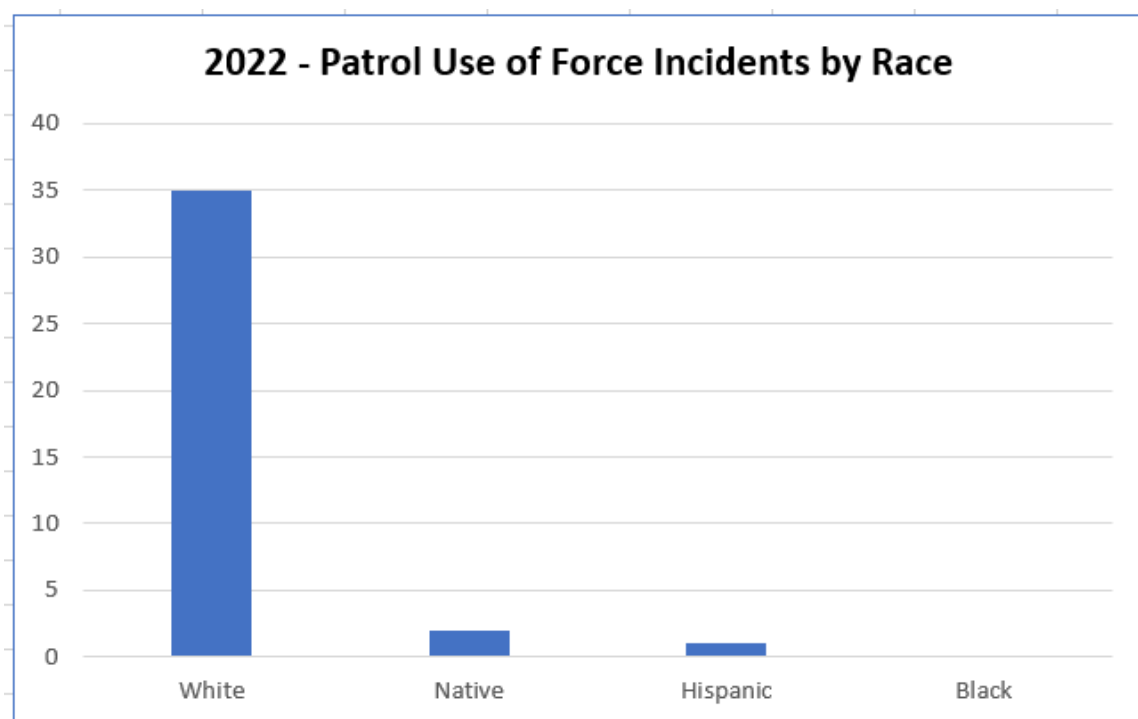
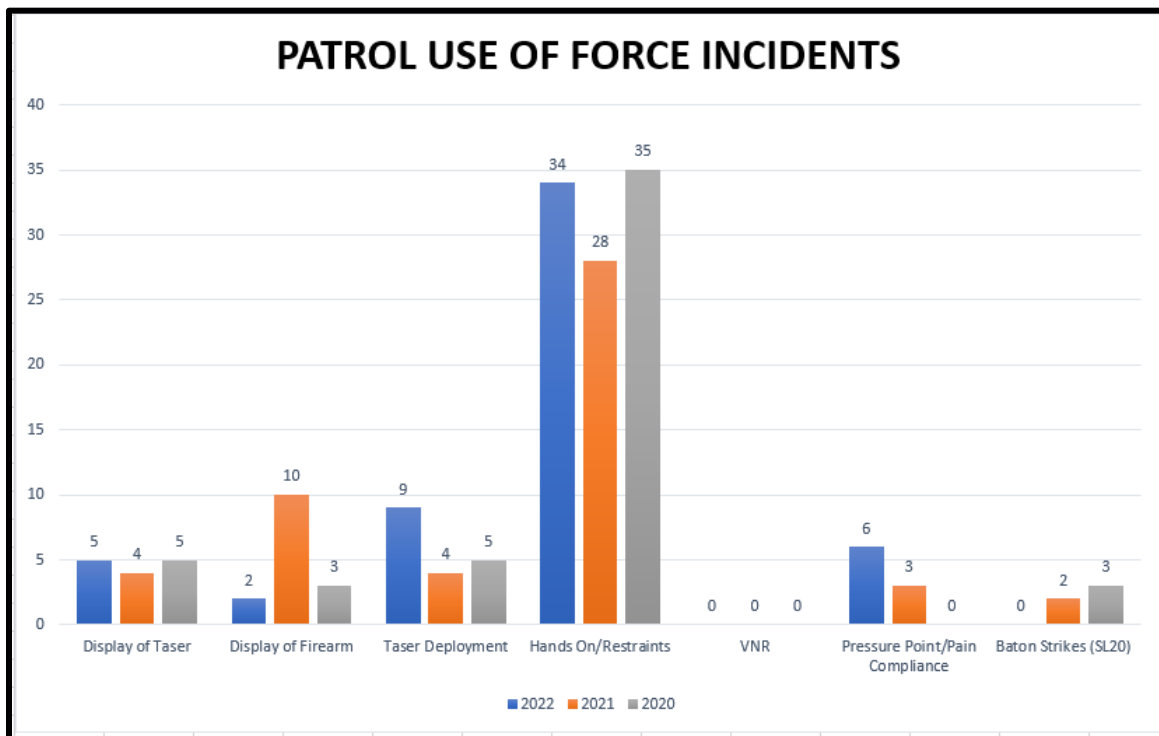
Across the board, Operations use of force incidents were slightly less in 2022 compared to 2021. Corrections has what appears to be a spike, but is, in fact, a combination in the way the data is now collected and the return to more capacity post COVID.

Policy requires careful review of all uses of force, no matter which section is reporting this. Utilizing the new software, extreme detail is captured for reviewers to see and determine if the use of force is justified. Use of force is first reviewed by first level supervisors who pass it on to the Chief of their section. The Chief makes the final sign off to approve if the amount of force applied is justified. Only then, is the Use of Force report filed and cleared. I conferred with the Chiefs of Operations and Corrections on these findings and they concur.



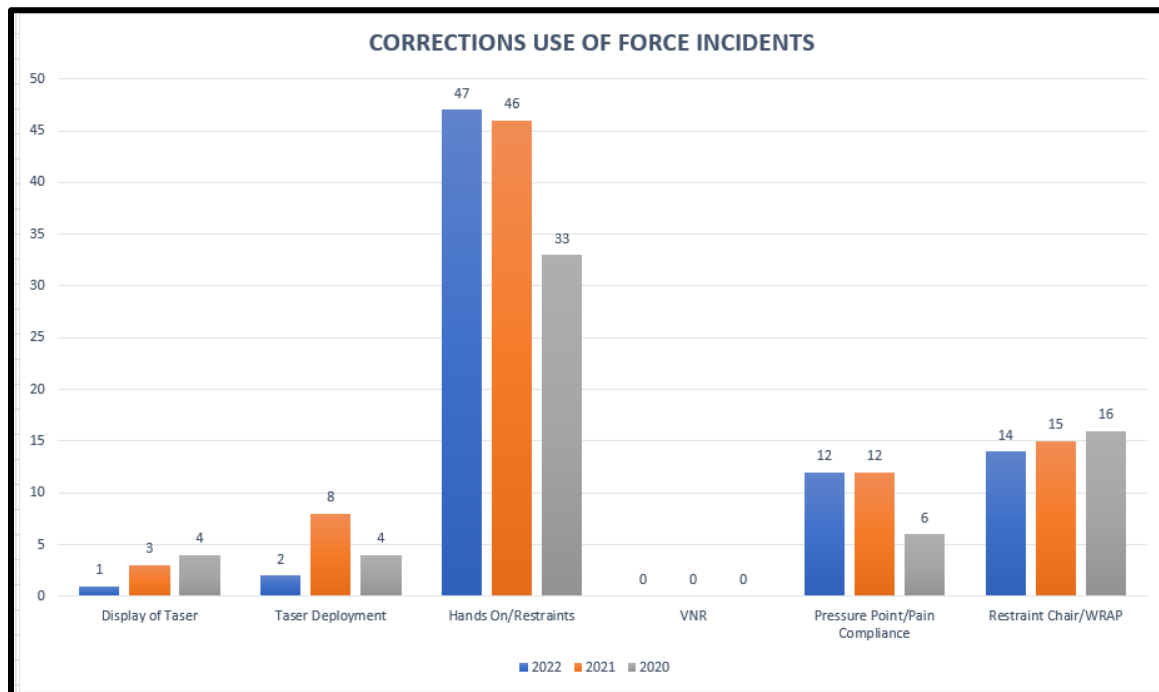
These are department totals, meaning the corrections and field bureaus are combined. However, working through the numbers, and comparing them to our area's demographics, the incidents seem to match up with population percentages.

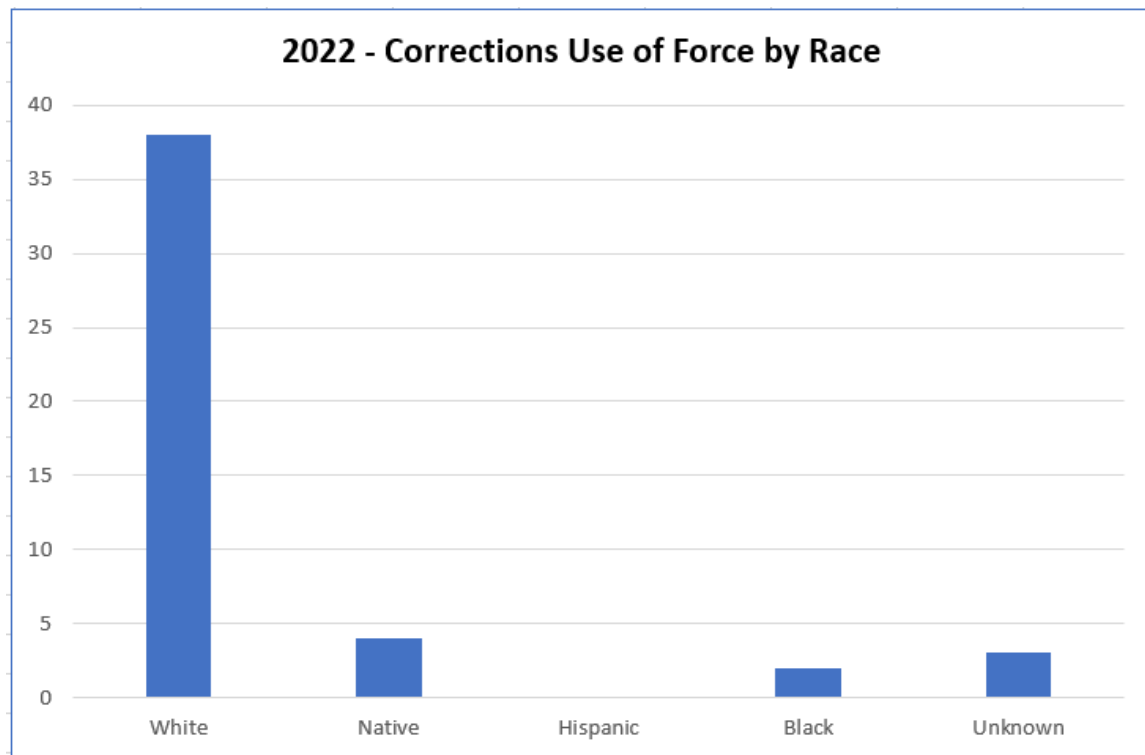
PATROL USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS			
	2022	2021	2020
Total Incidents	41	48	40
TECHNIQUES UTILIZED			
Display of Taser	5	4	5
Display of Firearm	2	10	3
Taser Deployment	9	4	5
Hands On*	34	28	35
VNR	0	0	0
Pain Compliance	6	3	0
Baton Strikes (SL20)	0	2	3



There have been no applications of Lethal Force in the last five reporting cycles.

CORRECTIONS USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS			
	2022	2021	2020
Total Incidents	47	50	32
TECHNIQUES UTILIZED			
Display of Taser	1	3	4
Taser Deployment	2	8	4
Hands On*/Restraints	47	46	33
VNR	0	0	0
Pressure Point/Pain Compliance	12	12	6
Restraint Chair/WRAP	14	15	16





*Hands on is inclusive of take downs, handcuffing, and leg restraints.

The analysis involved focusing on the number of individual events. Our software reports the number of employees applying Use of Force in the same incident. While this is viewed and noted, the actual events are significantly less than the total the software will tally.

I located one incident where a display of a firearm by an operations deputy was out of policy. It was addressed to the deputy by his supervisor and approved by the Chief Criminal Deputy. The violation, while against policy, did not result in any complaints or injury, just that the situation did not call for the display.

I went a bit further and had Chief Corrections Deputy Wenzl review applications in the jail to see if there were anomalies that arose. He found nothing that would lead us to believe any of the events were troubling and all were appropriate actions.

There is nothing throughout the review that would indicate that there are concerning trends regarding applications of force. In each case, the applications of force were appropriate and justified for both the operations and the corrections sections or addressed as needed. I believe the increase in incidents from corrections is the direct result of us moving from COVID restrictions and systematically re-opening of the jail as the pandemic eased and the more accurate collection of detail from the use of the up-to-date software reporting system.

Pursuits during 2022

In 2022 the Clallam County Sheriff's Office initiated six vehicle pursuits. This compares with eight that occurred in 2021. Most of these occurred after the new restrictive pursuit RCW was put into law in July of 2021.

The pursuits are summarized as follows:

A41.22.01:

- Deputies involved: 5.
- Reason for pursuit: Suspected DUI
- Distance: beyond 10 miles
- Max speed: 60
- Termination dispo: Vehicle Stopped for deputy.
- P.I.T.: No.
- Injuries: no.
- Notes: Deputy Justified after review by supervisors and command staff.

A41.22.02:

- Deputies involved: 2
- Reason for pursuit: wanted subject.
- Distance: 1 to 2 miles.
- Termination dispo: Suspect eluded.
- P.I.T.: No.
- Injuries: None
- Notes: Justified after review by supervisors and command staff.

A41.22.03:

- Deputies involved: 1
- Reason for pursuit: Suspected DUI.
- Distance: less than 5 miles
- Termination dispo: pursuit aborted due to public safety.
- P.I.T.: no.
- Injuries: None.
- Notes: Justified after review by command staff. However, the deputy that initiated the pursuit was himself, a supervisor and, contrary to policy, did not receive permission from his next in command. The pursuit lasted only a moment or so, and the supervisor did not maintain the pursuit, instead finding that the suspect vehicle had crashed a few miles down the road.

A41.22.04:

- Deputies involved: 2.
- Reason for pursuit: suspected DUI
- Distance: less than 5 miles.
- Termination dispo: suspect vehicle crashed
- Notes: Justified after review by supervisors and command staff.

A41.22.05:

- Deputies involved: 4.
- Reason for pursuit: Wanted subject
- Distance: beyond 10 miles.
- Termination dispo: suspect vehicle crashed
- Injuries: None.
- Notes: Justified after review by supervisors and command staff.

A41.22.06:

- Deputies involved: 1.
- Reason for pursuit: Suspected DUI
- Distance: 1 to 2 miles.
- Termination dispo: suspect stopped
- Injuries: None.
- Notes: Justified after review by supervisors and command staff.

Of the six pursuits, all are initiated by different deputies. This indicates there is no pattern of a single deputy utilizing high speeds more than others. I also noted that the rate of terminating pursuits either by the supervisor or the deputy themselves was well utilized to keep the community safe. There is nothing specific I can draw from this particular subject analysis that would raise red flags or cause to review deputies' actions.

Pursuits fell only a bit following the enactment of the new Pursuit Law in 2021. As the legislature has eased some of the restrictions they put in place, it could be we see a slight increase in pursuits in the coming years, but I am not convinced this rise will be significant due to our staff's adherence to policy, good judgment, and the law.

Biased Based Policing 2022

In careful review of the complaints against personnel in 2022, I found one that was reported to have some basis for bias. This was not sustained. Still, the deputy received training by review of policy and expectations by this agency.

I researched arrests made in 2022 by race. Through computer-based recall, we found a total of 651 cases cleared by arrest by deputies in 2022. This is very close to the same number made in 2021 (659). For 2022, the race of the defendants arrested breaks down as follows:

White, non Hispanic	544 or	83.5 %
Asian	5 or	<1%
Black	7 or	1%
Hispanic	18 or	< 3%
Native American	53 or	8%
Hawaiian / Pac. Islander	3 or	<1%
Unknown	21 or	3.2%

A similar check of Traffic Events during 2022 produced slightly different percentages. From a total of 337 events reported:

White, non Hispanic	266 or	79%
Asian	7 or	2%
Black	6 or	<2%
Hispanic	5 or	1.5%
Native American	31 or	9%
Hawaiian/Pac. Islander	1 or	<1%
Unknown	21 or about	6%

Remainder is classified as unknown

Traffic events were significantly more in 2021 compared to 2022. A traffic event can be a citation, notice of infraction or a warning.

In comparison, I checked with the US Census Bureau records to compare activity with our ethnic population. The 2022 population estimates are the latest available and break down as follows:

White, non Hispanic	86.4%
Asian	2.1%
Black	1.2%
Hispanic	7.6%
Native American	5.8%
Hawaiian/Pac. Islander	0.2%

Note: some individuals reported mixed or multiple race which slightly skews the total
Source: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/clallamcountywashington/PST045216>

I juxtaposed the percentages of the ethnicity of those arrested with the reported population of Clallam County by the US Census Bureau. Population estimates are as of July, 2022.

Percentages are very close to the same as previous years, and well within what we can consider tolerances of evenly placed enforcement in most cases. Native Americans remain slightly out of balance, and this seems to be an annual trend. Clallam County is home to four federally recognized tribes, and, while a fifth tribe is situated in western Jefferson County, the City of Forks, located in Clallam County, is where they would go for shopping, or even visiting and doing any business. The tribe's tribal center is not on the reservation, but in Forks which makes the process of doing business between the tribe and the community much easier than on the reservation itself. Having five different Indian Nations in our jurisdiction may not answer why our interaction with Native Americans are higher compared with other ethnicities, but it does show that the Native American population is distributed and present throughout Clallam County.

While race is only one factor in biased police monitoring, besides the Native American anomaly, there is little that is pointing in a direction that would make it seem deputies are profiling any group, race, religion, etc. in their enforcement duties.

The computer recall method used in this analysis is not scientific. Capturing specific information from street level to reporting level can vary for a number of reasons. But I do believe this gives a reasonable snapshot of our field deputy's performance in the field. These numbers, along with no reports of biased policing complaints would indicate that such activity is not occurring.

Evidence Report 2022

While Chief Civil Deputy Alice Hoffman was responsible for the Evidence Room in 2022, our new Chief Civil Deputy, Beth Waknitz provided you with a report earlier this year. The summary of that report states:

As of 12/31/22, there was a total of 7972 items held in custody in Sheriff's Office evidence. 2767 of those items were received in 2022.

In 2022, the number of items disposed of from the Property and Evidence Department is broken down as:

<u>Disposition</u>	<u>Number of items</u>
Returned to Owner	366
Destroyed	1085
Donated	34
Deposited to Treasurer	9
Released to other agency	36
Auctioned	<u>265</u>
Total	1795

CCD Waknitz and Evidence Deputy Nicole Salim, continue to arrange for drug destruction at the Solid Waste Facility in Spokane. This is an acceptable and secure means of destroying such items, but is a long way to travel and takes up to two business days for two people. Beth is exploring the possibility of finding means and locations to conduct such destruction at a closer location.

255 firearms were auctioned from 6/15/22 through 6/25/22 leaving 47 firearm items pending auction as of 12-31-22.

There were many other events in 2022 that were captured in the memo from CCD Waknitz to you.

Some goals for 2023 are: Complete a full inventory to allow full access by the new Chief Civil Deputy Elizabeth Waknitz, following the retirement of Chief Civil Deputy Alice Hoffman. Work with our security company to update digital passcodes at our different evidence sites. Cross train CCD Waknitz so that she can provide necessary coverage to our primary Evidence Manager. Obtain a currency counter for capturing evidentiary quality images of paper money, that will integrate with our FileOnQ inventory software.

This will be the last year the Evidence Report will be included in our Professional Standards Report. Accreditation requirements have changed to submitting an annual memorandum directly to the Sheriff detailing this matter.

Analysis Summary 2022

The year 2022 continued the theme of law enforcement (and corrections) accountability from every corner of our social sphere. On the surface, this demand seems appropriate and well-intended. But, in reality, calls for this accountability seemed to have grown recently to a point where police are finding it harder and harder to do law enforcement work. Laws are making it more difficult and dangerous to conduct field operations. And the lack of demand for consequences for violators, make it difficult to deal with them in a correctional setting when they are incarcerated as they believe penalties and jail are unfair.

However, our staff has reacted to these challenges with an extremely professional attitude. In every category, the statistics I reviewed give evidence that our staff are working hard to be patient and exhibit extremely honorable behavior no matter the circumstance.

It is apparent, Sheriff, that you are continuing the demand of professional excellence established by previous Sheriff's. Your firm approach in making our folks accountable is the cornerstone that makes our department among the leaders in our service delivery.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ronald R. Cameron, Undersheriff

Concur:

Sheriff's Signature _____ Date: _____