

# URSUS

## Use of Force Incident Reporting

### **Data Set Overview and History**

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC) collects information on use of force incidents that result in serious bodily injury or death or involved the discharge of a firearm. In late 2015, the California legislature passed Assembly Bill (AB) 71, adding Government Code (GC) section 12525.2. Effective January 1, 2016, all law enforcement agencies (LEAs) were required to begin collecting data on use of force incidents for submittal to the Department of Justice (DOJ) beginning January 1, 2017.

### **Statutory Authority**

The DOJ has the statutory authority to collect use of force data pursuant to California Government Code section 12525.2.

### **Data Characteristics and Known Limitations**

1. The data contained in URSUS is narrowly defined and does not represent the totality of use of force incidents that occur in California. LEAs are only required to report use of force incidents that result in serious bodily injury or death of either the civilian or the officer and all incidents where there is a discharge of a firearm. As such, caution must be used when using the data for comparisons or in calculating rates.
2. 2016 represents the first year of data collection and reporting. While every effort was made to provide access to all LEAs in the state, not all agencies reported. Additionally, there could be inconsistencies in reporting during the first year as training and outreach efforts are ongoing.
3. The URSUS system allows for multiple value selection for several data elements. The raw data file contains all values submitted for each data element. There is no order to the display of multiple selections, rather it's how the system exports the data.
4. For publication and statistical purposes, if multiple values are reported, a hierarchy of severity is used to identify the most severe value. Please reference the URSUS, 2016 Appendix for more detailed information regarding hierarchy. For individuals where multiple race/ethnic groups were selected, the race/ethnic group was converted to "multi-race".

**Data Elements and Values Defined****URSUS Incident File**

Cell Location	Data Element	Description/Definition	Value
A	Incident_ID	A unique system generated incident identification number.	Alpha-numeric
B	ORI	The number for the reporting Agency.	Nine digit alpha-numeric
C	Incident_Date_Str	The date the use of force incident occurred.	Date format
D	Incident_Time_Str	The time the use of force incident occurred.	24 hour time clock
E	City	The city in which the use of force incident occurred.	Alpha
F	County	The county in which the use of force incident occurred.	Alameda - Yuba
G	State	The state in which the use of force incident occurred.	CA
H	Zip_Code	The zip code in which the use of force incident occurred.	5-9 digit numeric
I	Multiple_Locations	Indicates whether the use of force incident involved multiple locations.	True False
J	On_K12_Campus	Indicates whether the use of force incident occurred on a K-12 campus.	True False
K	Arrest_Made	Indicates whether the underlying incident in which the use of force was used resulted in a civilian being arrested.	True False

DOJ CJSC URSUS Context

L	Crime_Report_Filed	Indicates whether or not the underlying incident resulted in an agency crime report.	True False
M	Contact_Reason	Primary reason for contact between involved civilian(s) and officer(s).	Ambush – No warning, Call for Service, Civil Assembly, Consensual Encounter / Public Contact / Flag Down, Crime in Progress / Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances, In Custody Event, Pre-Planned Activity (arrest/search warrant, parole/probation search), Vehicle / Bike / Pedestrian Stop, Welfare Check
N	In_Custody_Reason	Custody status for use of force incidents that occur in a custodial setting.	Awaiting Booking Booked – Awaiting Trial Booked – No Charges Filed In Transit Other Out to Court Sentenced Blank
O	Num_Involved_Civilians	The total number of civilians involved in the use of force incident.	Numeric Count
P	Num_Involved_Officers	The total number of officers involved in the use of force incident.	Numeric Count

**URSUS Civilian-Officer File**

Cell Location	Data Element	Description/Definition	Value
A	Incident_ID	A unique system generated incident identification number.	Alpha-numeric
B	Civilian_Officer	Indicator denotes if the record is for an involved civilian or involved officer.	Civilian Officer
C	ORI	The number for the reporting Agency.	Nine digit alpha-numeric
D	Gender	Civilian/officer gender	Female Male Blank
E	Race_Ethnic_Group	Civilian/officer race/ethnic group	American Indian Asian / Pacific Islander Asian Indian Black Hispanic White Other Blank
F	Asian_Race	Asian/Pacific Islander categories.	Cambodian Chinese Filipino Hawaiian Japanese Korean Laotian Other Asian Other Pacific Islander Samoan Vietnamese Blank
G	Age	Civilian/officer age group	10-17 18-20 21-25 26-30 31-35 36-40 41-45 46-50 51-55 56-60

			60-65 66-70 71-75 76-80 81-85 86-90 Blank
H	Injured	Indicates whether the involved civilian/officer received an injury as a result of the use of force incident.	True False Blank
I	Injury_Level	Level of injury sustained by the involved civilian/officer.	Death Injury Serious bodily injury Blank
J	Injury_Type	Type of injury sustained by the involved civilian/officer.	Abrasion Abrasion/Laceration Bone fracture Concussion Contusion Death Gunshot wound Internal injury Obvious disfigurement Stabbing wound Unconscious None Blank
K	Medical_Aid	Medical aid rendered to the civilian/officer involved in the use of force incident.	Admitted to hospital – critical injuries, Admitted to hospital – other circumstance, Admitted to hospital – precautionary measure only, Medical assistance – treated at facility and released, Medical assistance – treated on scene, No medical assistance or refused assistance, Blank

L	Injury_From_Preexisting_Condition	Indicates whether the involved civilian/officer's injury was from a preexisting condition.	True False Blank
M	Received_Force_Location	Location on civilian/officer's body where use of force was received.	Arms/hands Front below waist/groin area Front legs/feet Front lower torso/abdomen Front upper torso/chest Head Neck/throat Rear below waist/buttocks Rear legs Rear lower torso/back Rear upper torso/back Not applicable Blank
N	Order_Of_Force_Specified	Indicates whether or not the involved civilian's received force was put into sequential order.	True False Blank
O	Order_Of_Force_Str	Indicates the order of force received by the involved civilian during the use of force incident.	Blunt / impact weapon, Carotid restraint control hold, Chemical spray (e.g. OC/CS), Discharge of firearm (hit), Discharge of firearm (miss), Electronic control device, Impact projectile, K-9 contact, Knife, blade, or stabbing instrument, Officer vehicle contact, Other control hold/takedown, Other dangerous weapon, Other physical contact (Use of hands, fists, feet, etc), Threat of firearm, Blank
P	Received_Force	Indicates whether the civilian/officer involved in a use of force incident received force.	True False

Q	Received_Force_Type	Type of force receive by civilian/officer during the use of force incident.	Animal, Blunt / impact weapon, Carotid restraint control hold, Chemical spray (e.g. OC/CS), Civilian physical contact, Civilian vehicle contact, Discharge of firearm (hit), Discharge of firearm (miss), Electronic control device, Impact projectile, K-9 contact, Knife, blade, or stabbing instrument, Officer vehicle contact, Other control hold/takedown, Other dangerous weapon, Other physical contact (Use of hands, fists, feet, etc), Threat of firearm, Blank
R	DISCHARGE_OF_FIREARM_INDIVIDUAL	Indicates if the individual civilian/officer was a recipient of a discharge of a firearm during the use of force incident.	True False
S	DISCHARGE_OF_FIREARM_INCIDENT	Indicates if the incident involved any discharge of a firearm whether it was the involved civilian(s) or officer(s).	True False
T	CIVILIAN_Mental_Status	Type of disability or impairment behavior observed in the actions of the civilian.	Signs of alcohol impairment Signs of developmental disability Signs of drug impairment Signs of mental disability None Blank
U	CIVILIAN_Assaulted_Officer	Indicates whether the involved civilian assaulted an involved officer(s).	True False Blank
V	CIVILIAN_Highest_Charge	Single most serious California statute the	See California Penal Code, Health & Safety Code,

		involved civilian was arrested for.	Vehicle Code, or Welfare & Institutions Code.
W	CIVILIAN_Crime_Qualifier	A qualifier associated with the single most serious statute the involved civilian was arrested for.	See California Penal Code, Health & Safety Code, Vehicle Code, or Welfare & Institutions Code.
X	CIVILIAN_Perceived_Armed	Indicates whether the involved civilian was perceived to be armed with a weapon.	True False Blank
Y	CIVILIAN_Perceived_Armed_Weapon	Type of weapon that civilian was perceived to be armed with.	Firearm Knife, blade, or stabbing instrument Other dangerous weapon Unknown Blank
Z	CIVILIAN_Firearm_Type	Type of firearm that civilian was perceived to be armed with.	Handgun Rifle Shotgun Blank
AA	CIVILIAN_Resisted	Indicates whether the involved civilian resisted at the time of the incident resulting in use of force.	True False Blank
AB	CIVILIAN_Resistance_Type	The level of the civilian's resistance at the time of the incident resulting in use of force.	Active resistance Assaultive Life-threatening Passive non-compliance Blank
AC	CIVILIAN_Custody_Status	Civilian's custody status following the use of force incident.	Cited and released Deceased Fled In custody (other) In custody (W&I section 5150) None of these Blank
AD	CIVILIAN_Confirmed_Armed	Indicates whether the involved civilian was confirmed to be armed with a weapon.	True False Blank
AE	CIVILIAN_Confirmed_Armed_Weapon	Type of firearm that civilian was confirmed to be armed with.	Firearm Firearm replica



			Knife, blade, or stabbing instrument Other dangerous weapon Unknown Blank
AF	CIVILIAN_K12_Type	If the incident occurred on a K-12 campus, this indicates the person type of the involved civilian.	A student A school employee Neither Blank
AG	OFFICER_Officer_Used_Force	Indicates whether the involved officer used force on a civilian.	True False Blank
AH	OFFICER_Officer_Used_Force_Reason	Reason involved officer used force on a civilian.	To effect arrest or take into custody To overcome resistance To prevent escape Blank
AI	OFFICER_On_Duty	Indicates whether the involved officer was on duty at the time the use of force incident occurred.	True False Blank
AJ	OFFICER_Dress	Type of dress/uniform the involved officer was wearing at the time the use of force incident occurred.	Patrol Uniform Plainclothes Tactical Utility Blank