



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF



January 27, 2016

Bill Clifton  
Law Offices of James S. Muller  
225 E. Broadway, Suite 107F  
Glendale, California 91205

Dear Mr. Clifton:

This letter is in response to your request for records dated and received by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Discovery Unit on January 20, 2016.

In your request you are seeking the following:

- "The number of citizen complaints of excessive force being used by LASD deputies during the previous four years (2012 - 2015) and the number of those that were sustained by LASD internal review."

**Response:** When a public member contacts the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to make a complaint, the complaint is documented on a Watch Commander's Service Comment Report. There are several complaint categories, including "Unreasonable Force."

The total number of public complaints about "Unreasonable Force" during the years you requested are:

2010: 124  
2011: 150  
2012: 90  
2013: 92  
2014: 111  
2015: 62

Please be advised that complaints about unreasonable force could range from an allegation of force to criminal misconduct, such as Assault Under Color of Authority. Additionally, there were no cases sustained by internal review.

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Of the above total, the following number of complaints resulted in a finding that the employee's conduct could have been better or should have been different:

2010: 8  
2011: 15  
2012: 7  
2013: 9  
2014: 11  
2015: 5

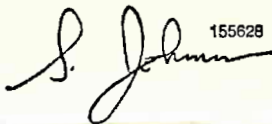
Definition of "could have been better": The employee's actions were in compliance with procedures, policies, guidelines. The complaint could have been minimized if the employee had employed tactical communication principles or common sense.

Definition of "should have been different": The employee's actions were not in compliance with established procedures, policies, guidelines or training. Watch Commander will take appropriate action.

If you have any questions, please contact Lieutenant Kallenberger of the Discovery Unit at (323) 890-5000.

Sincerely,

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF



Scott E. Johnson, Captain  
Risk Management Bureau