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# County of San Diego

## CITIZENS' LAW ENFORCEMENT REVIEW BOARD

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June 9, 2021

People's Association of Justice Advocates  
ATTN: Reverend Shane Harris

RE: Public Records Request of April 19, 2021

Dear Reverend Harris:

The San Diego County Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board (CLERB) is in receipt of your letter dated April 19, 2021, seeking records pursuant to the California Public Records Act. Specifically, you requested information pertaining to general use of force incidents and deputy-involved shooting incidents by employees of the San Diego Sheriff's Department (SDSD).

CLERB's database extends back to its formation in 1990. Current and former sworn members of the SDSD are not differentiated in CLERB's data, therefore, it is reasonable to assume that some employees captured in the data are no longer members of the SDSD. It should also be noted that for many years in the 1990's, CLERB only received the complainant's version of events, therefore, the preponderance of evidence did not include information from SDSD, thus resulting in Sustained findings.

CLERB's findings are defined as follows:

**Action Justified:** If the investigation shows the alleged act did occur but was lawful, justified, and proper.

**Not Sustained:** If the investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation.

**Procedurally Closed:** If a lodged complaint is not returned signed under penalty of perjury, therefore, not investigated.

**Summary Dismissal:** If CLERB lacks jurisdiction or the allegation clearly lacks merit.

**Sustained:** If the investigation disclosed evidence sufficient to prove the allegation by a Preponderance of the Evidence.

**Unfounded:** If the investigation clearly established that the allegation is not true.

CLERB's responses to the requests are as follows:

1. We are requesting a breakdown on how many officers and employees within the San Diego County Sheriff's Department from the Sheriff down in its entirety have 2 or more sustained use of force incidents on their record? Sustained meaning there was sufficient evidence to justify disciplinary action against the officer(s).

**Response:**

CLERB has identified one deputy with two or more cases in which excessive force was sustained.

2. How many of those within the San Diego County Sheriff's Department from the Sheriff down in its entirety have 2 or more unfounded claims on their record for use of force?

**Response:**

CLERB has identified nine deputies with two or cases in which excessive force was unfounded.

After a conversation with Reverend Harris, CLERB identified 200 deputies with two or more cases in which allegations of excessive force were found to be anything other than sustained, i.e., action justified, not sustained, procedurally closed, summarily dismissed, or unfounded.


3. How many of those same people in the department that I have mentioned above have also been involved in an officer involved shooting?

**Response:**

Of the nine deputies with two or more cases in which excessive force was unfounded, two of those deputies were involved in deputy-involved shootings resulting in a death.

Of the 200 deputies with two or more cases in which allegations of excessive force were found to be anything other than sustained, 21 of those deputies were involved in deputy-involved shootings resulting in a death.

Sincerely,



Paul R. Parker III  
CLERB Executive Officer