2014 Law Enforcement Transparency Annual Report

Background and Key Findings: This report summarizes the 2014 Law Enforcement Transparency – tactical group deployment and forcible entry reporting results. Legislation creating this reporting requirement is authorized in 77-7-8.5.[1] The Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) was tasked with summarizing this information. For general questions about the survey or this report, please contact Richard Ziebarth at (801) 538-1812 or rziebarth@utah.gov.

The Utah Law Enforcement Transparency (LET) reporting interface was added to the Utah Criminal Justice Information System (UCJIS) in 2014. CCJJ paid to build the interface on UCJIS using federal grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice - Justice Assistance Grant. Law Enforcement agencies throughout the state utilized the UCJIS-LET site to report tactical group deployments and forcible entry incidents as they occurred throughout the year. A reportable incident was defined as*: 1) anytime a forcible entry is made while <u>serving a warrant</u> or 2) anytime a "Tactical Group" is deployed (SWAT, Drug Task Force, etc.) and/or makes a forcible entry <u>with or without a warrant</u>.*

77-7-8.5 directs all Utah Law enforcement agencies to report any time they deploy a Tactical Group even if a forcible entry is not made. 39% of 559 reported incidents recorded in 2014 did not result in a forcible entry. It is evident from the data collected that some agencies diligently reported each time they deployed a tactical group while others most likely only reported forcible entry incidents. For this reason, the total number of reported incidents (n=559) noted in this report may not be as accurate or significant as the total number of reported incidents leading to a forcible entry (n=339).

CCJJ contacted approximately 166 law enforcement agencies and task forces directing them to report on the UCJIS-LET site regardless of whether or not they had any reportable incidents for the year. 75 percent of the agencies contacted completed a report in 2014. The 25 percent that did not respond included 20 rural city law enforcement agencies, 3 rural sheriff's departments, 4 college campus police departments, 10 drug task forces and several state agencies. The city police departments, sheriff's offices, campus police departments are being contacted and asked to complete their 2014 reports. The drug task forces that did not directly report, in most cases, reported under the name of their lead agencies. Several of the state agencies not reporting do not serve forcible entry warrants and will be excluded from the agency contact list in 2015.

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[1] Available at: http://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title77/Chapter7/77-7-S8.5.html.

Key Findings from the 2014 Law Enforcement Transparency Report:

- **There were 339 forcible entries that occurred** out of the 559 total incidents reported in 2014.

- **Warrants were obtained in 96 percent of all reported incidents,** with forced entry being employed 61 percent of the time.

- **The vast majority of warrants were those related to drug crime (83%),** followed by non-violent person crimes (6%). Evidence was seized more than 85 percent of the time across task forces, tactical, and non-tactical groups, with task forces seizing evidence in 99 percent of all reported incidents.

- **"No-Knock-Night" and "Knock & Announce-Day" strategies were utilized in more than 70 percent of all incidents.** Tactical groups utilized forced entry at a higher rate than non-tactical groups.

- Weapons (including non-firearms) were brandished by suspects in 22 of the 559 reportable incidents (4%), while **firearms were used by suspects in 3 (0.5%) reportable incidents (two of which were forcible entries). Less than 1 percent of incidents resulted in officer shots**, with the average number of shots being 12.

- Three civilians were injured and three were killed in 2014 (by tactical groups only), with zero law enforcement fatalities/injuries. No animals were injured or killed.
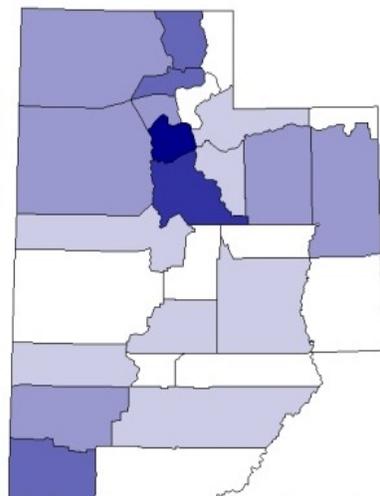
Organization: This report is divided into three parts. Part one summarizes the survey results in the aggregate. The second part examines incident characteristics by county, while the third part analyzes survey results by group type (tactical, non-tactical, or task force). It should be noted that this report only includes incidents that were _reported_ in 2014 and the information presented in this report is only as accurate as the information found in the incident reports (see Table 4 on page 17 for the questions asked in the incident report). [2]

1. AGGREGATE ANALYSIS

There were 559 unique incidents reported to the 2014 Law Enforcement Transparency survey representing agencies from 18 counties (see the list of individual agency names in Table 3 on p. 14). 58 agencies reported at least one incident while 67 agencies reported that they had no incidents in 2014 (a total of 125 agencies).

Warrants were obtained in 96 percent of all reported incidents, with forced entry being used 61 percent of the time (339 incidents leading to forcible entry). More than 90 percent of warrants were search warrants. Evidence was seized 94 percent of the time while property was seized in 17 percent of incidents.

A prior threat assessment was conducted in 82 percent of all cases. The average number of arrests per incident was 1.8 and the median was 1, with 15 percent of the reported incidents resulting in zero arrests. A map of total arrests (associated with warrants) in each county is shown in Figure 1. The Figure shows that Salt Lake County and Utah County had the largest number of arrests after incidents (n > 200), while the next highest number of arrests after incidents occurred in Washington County (125 arrests in 2014).

Less than 1 percent of incidents resulted in an officer or officers discharging their firearm. The average number of shots police fired in these incidents was 12 (min=1, max=43). [3] Shots fired by a suspect were identified in one of the reported incidents (4 shots). Suspects used firearms in 3 of the 559 incidents reported (0.5%), and there were 22 incidents (4%) during which a weapon (non-firearm included) was brandished. Three civilians were injured and three were killed in 2014 (all by tactical groups), with zero law enforcement fatalities/injuries. No animals were injured or killed. Select summary statistics are shown in Table 1.

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[2] It should be noted that in the interest of consistency, the total number of incidents (n=559) was used in many of the graphic labels throughout this report.
[3] Note that one of these incidents resulted in 43 officer shots. Removing this data point from the analysis brings the average number of shots down to 4.

Figure 1. Total Number of Warrant-Related Arrests by County
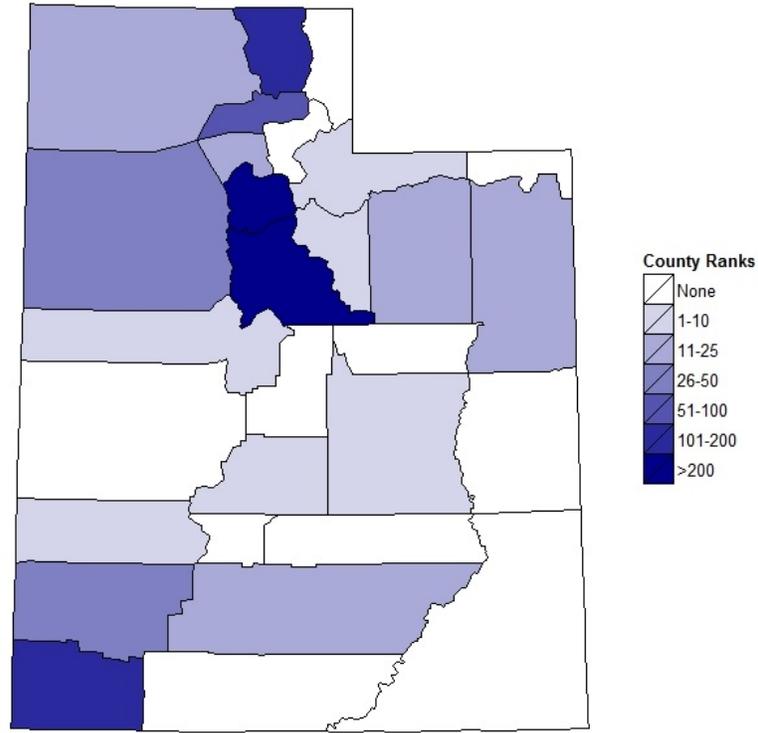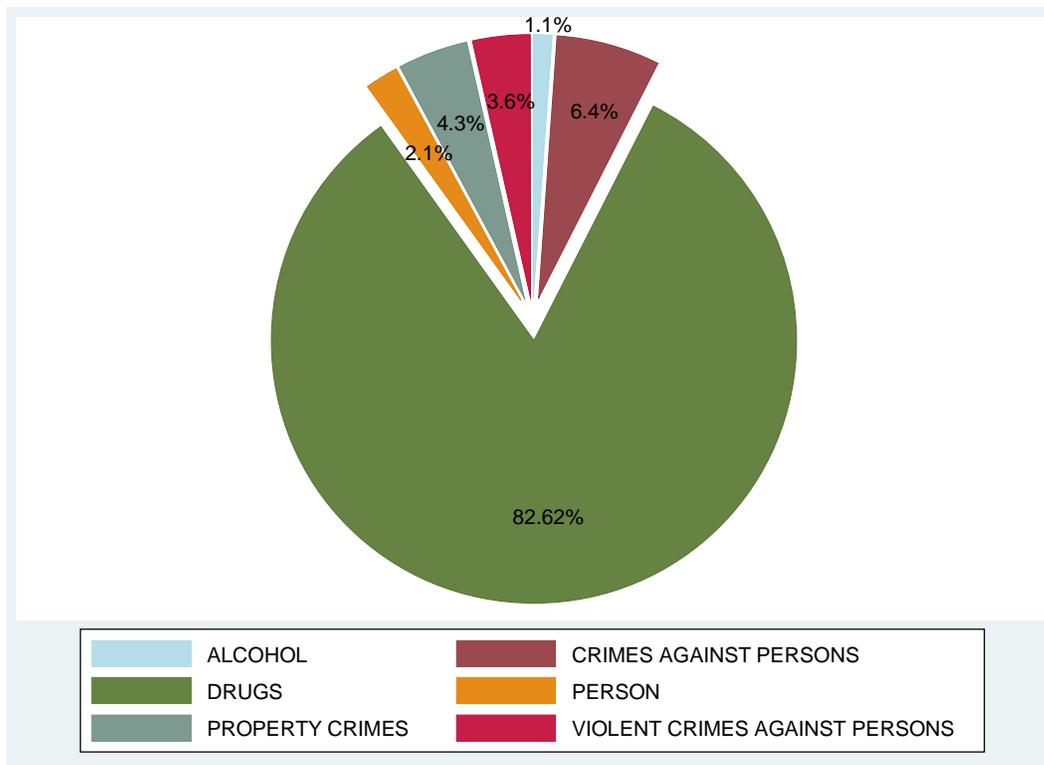

Table 1. Selected Aggregate Statistics (n=559)

Warrants Utilized	Mean # of Arrests per Incident	Forced Entry	Evidence Seized	Weapons/Firearms Utilized
96%	1.8	61%	94%	0.5%

The vast majority of warrants were those related to drug crime (83% as seen in Figure 2). The second largest category was for crimes against persons, which occurred in 6 percent of all reported incidents (note that this crime category does not include *violent* person-related crimes). Figure 3 provides the reason for law enforcement deployment, with the highest percentage pertaining to drugs (78%), followed by deployment for the purpose of gathering evidence (7%).

The warrant types, "No-Knock-Night" (38%), and "Knock & Announce-Day" (36%) were utilized in more than 70 percent of all incidents, followed by "Knock & Announce-Night (18%). Less than one percent of all reported incidents fell into the "Arrest without a search warrant" category.

Figure 2. Reason for Warrant (n=559)

ALCOHOL		CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	
DRUGS		PERSON	
PROPERTY CRIMES		VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	

Figure 3. Reason for Law Enforcement Deployment (n=559)

78.35%

■ ACTIVE SHOOTER (0.36%)	■ ALCOHOL (1.25%)
■ BARRICADED SUSPECT (0.54%)	■ DRUG (78.35%)
■ EVIDENCE (7.16%)	■ FELONY WARRANT (1.07%)
■ HOSTAGE (1.43%)	■ MISDEMEANOR WARRANT (0.36%)
■ PERSON (3.94%)	■ PROPERTY (3.58%)
■ ROBBERY (0.36%)	■ SUICIDAL SUBJECT (1.25%)
■ VIOLENT FELONY WARRANT (0.36%)	
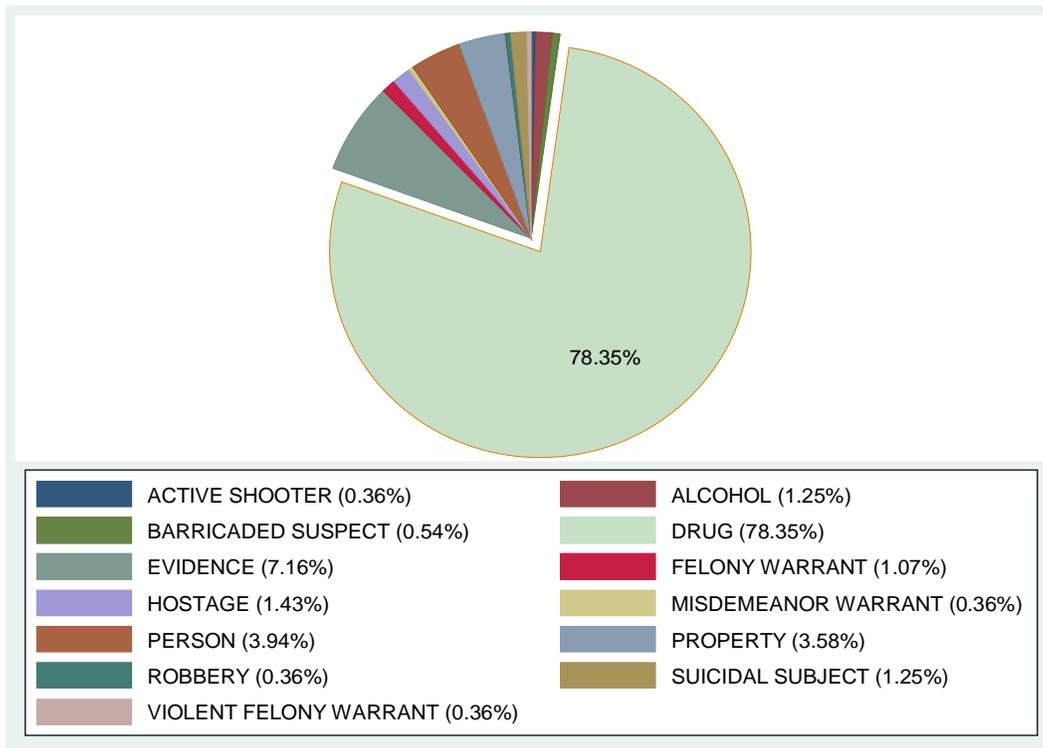
Figure 4. Warrant Type (n=559)

38.13%   35.51%

7.66%   18.13%

■ ARREST W/O SEARCH WARRANT	■ KNOCK & ANNOUNCE - DAY
■ KNOCK & ANNOUNCE - NIGHT	■ NO-KNOCK - DAY
■ NO-KNOCK - NIGHT	
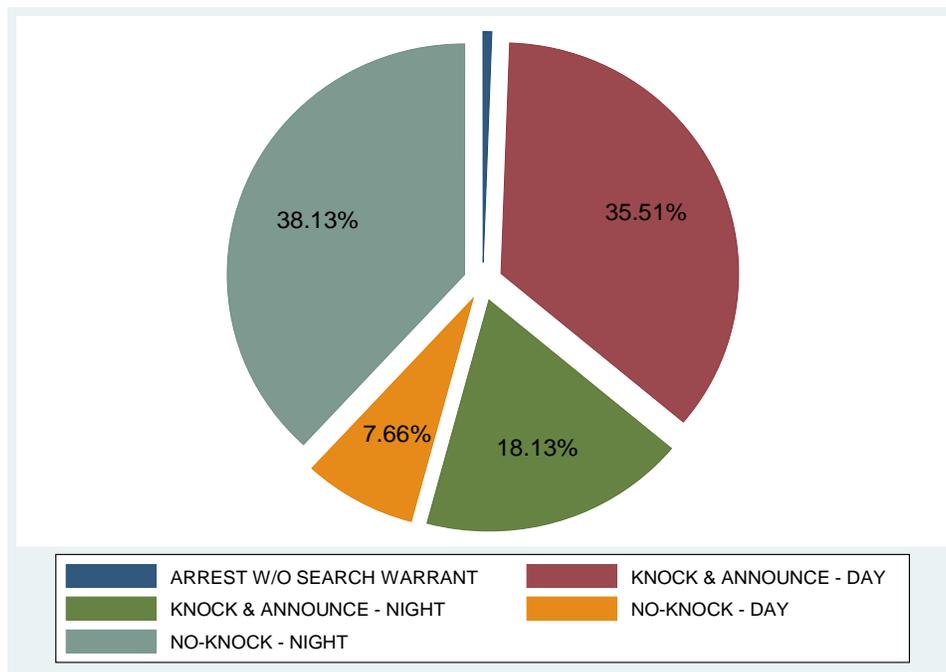
2. COUNTY ANALYSIS

The following Figures show reported incidents by county and the same metrics adjusted to control for county population (Figures 5 and 6). The largest volume of incidents reported was in the Wasatch front, with Salt Lake County having the highest number of incidents reported (n=192). Adjusting for population, the counties with the highest number of per capita incidents were Washington, Garfield, Cach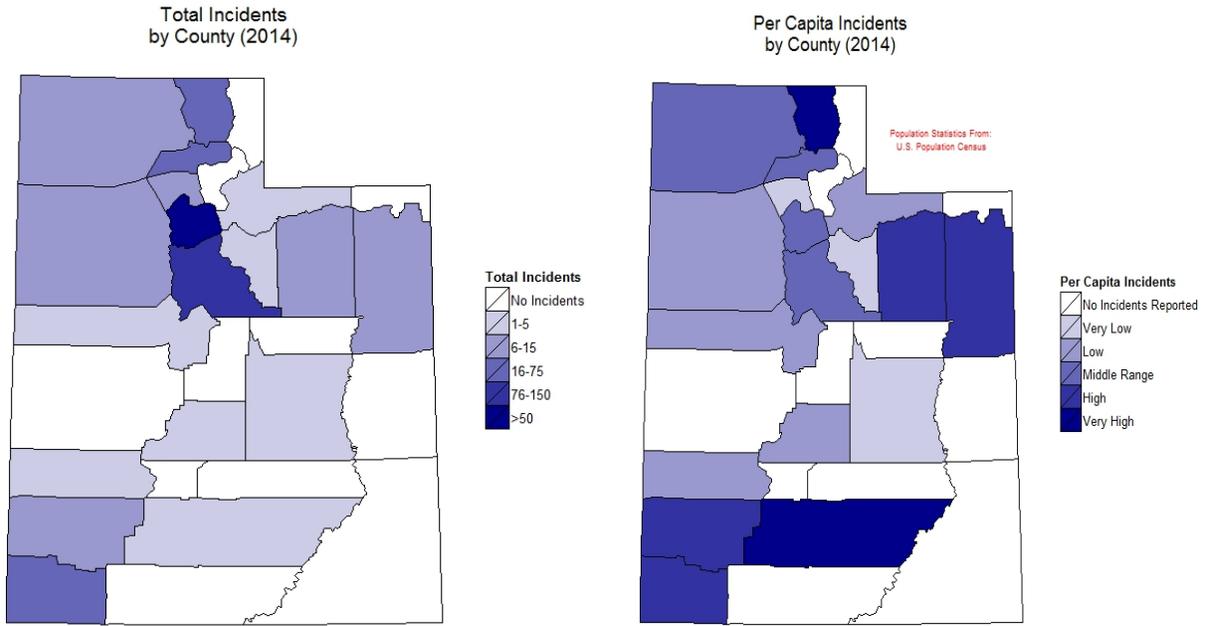e, and Duchesne County.[4] It should be noted that counties with small populations may show higher incidents per capita as a result of having a small population.

Figure 7 shows the total reported incidents associated with a forced entry in each county. As would be expected, the highest density of forced entries can be seen in counties with higher populations. A map of population-adjusted forced entries appears in Figure 8. The counties that reported the highest per capita forced entries in 2014 include Garfield, Duchesne, Iron, and Weber County, while the three lowest counties (other than those that reported no incidents) were Summit, Wasatch and Davis. As mentioned above, counties with small populations may show higher forcible entries per capita as a result of having a small population.

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[4] Note that 11 counties reported no incidents in 2014 and were hence, coded as zero (white color).

Figures 5 and 6. Total and Per Capita Incidents

Total Incidents
by County (2014)

Total Incidents
- No Incidents
- 1-5
- 6-15
- 16-75
- 76-150
- >50

Per Capita Incidents
by County (2014)

Population Statistics From:
U.S. Population Census

Per Capita Incidents
- No Incidents Reported
- Very Low
- Low
- Middle Range
- High
- Very High

Figures 7 and 8. Total and Per Capita Forcible Entries

Total Forced Entries
by County (2014)

Total Incidents
- No Forced Entries
- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-15
- 16-30
- 31-60
- >120

Forced Entries
Adjusted for Population (2014)

Population Statistics From:
U.S. Population Census

Rate of Forced Entry
- No Forced Entries
- Very Low
- Low
- Middle Range
- High
- Very High
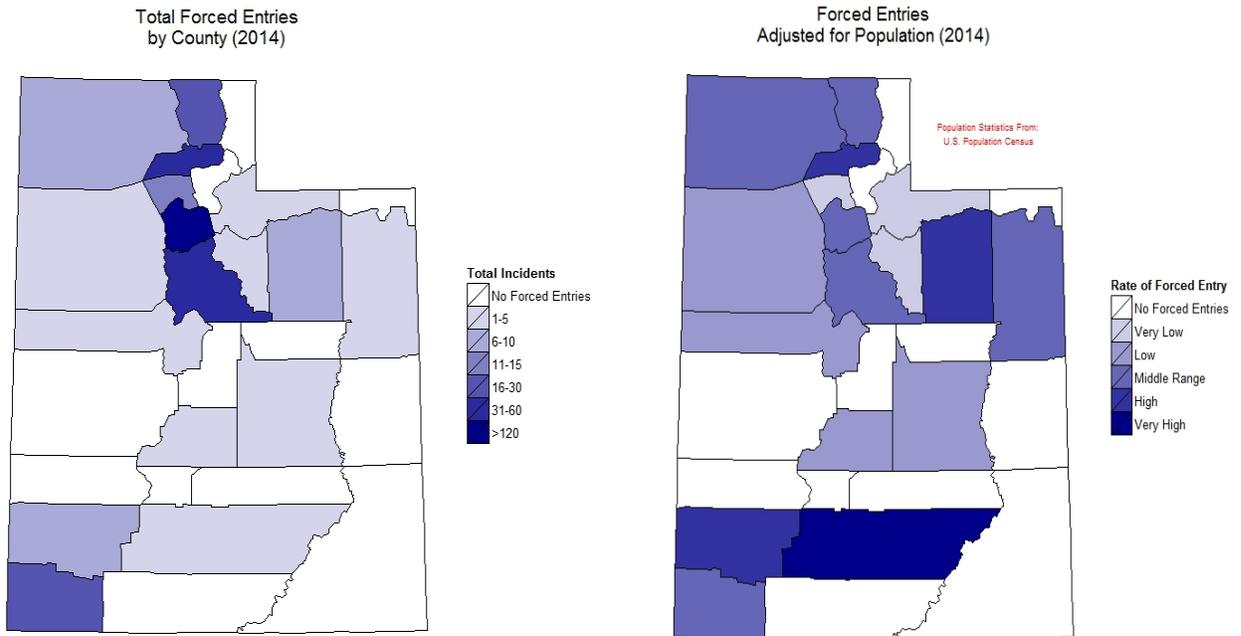
The frequency of the various warrant types utilized varied across counties (seen in Figure 9). Counties with the highest number of incidents, SLC and Utah County (n > 100), utilized "No-Knock-Night" and "Knock & Announce-Day" the majority of incidents reported (>75%). Washington (n=61) and Weber (n=50) County relied on the "Knock & Announce-Night" and "No-Knock-Night" respectively approximately 50 percent of the time.

Figure 9. Warrant Type by County
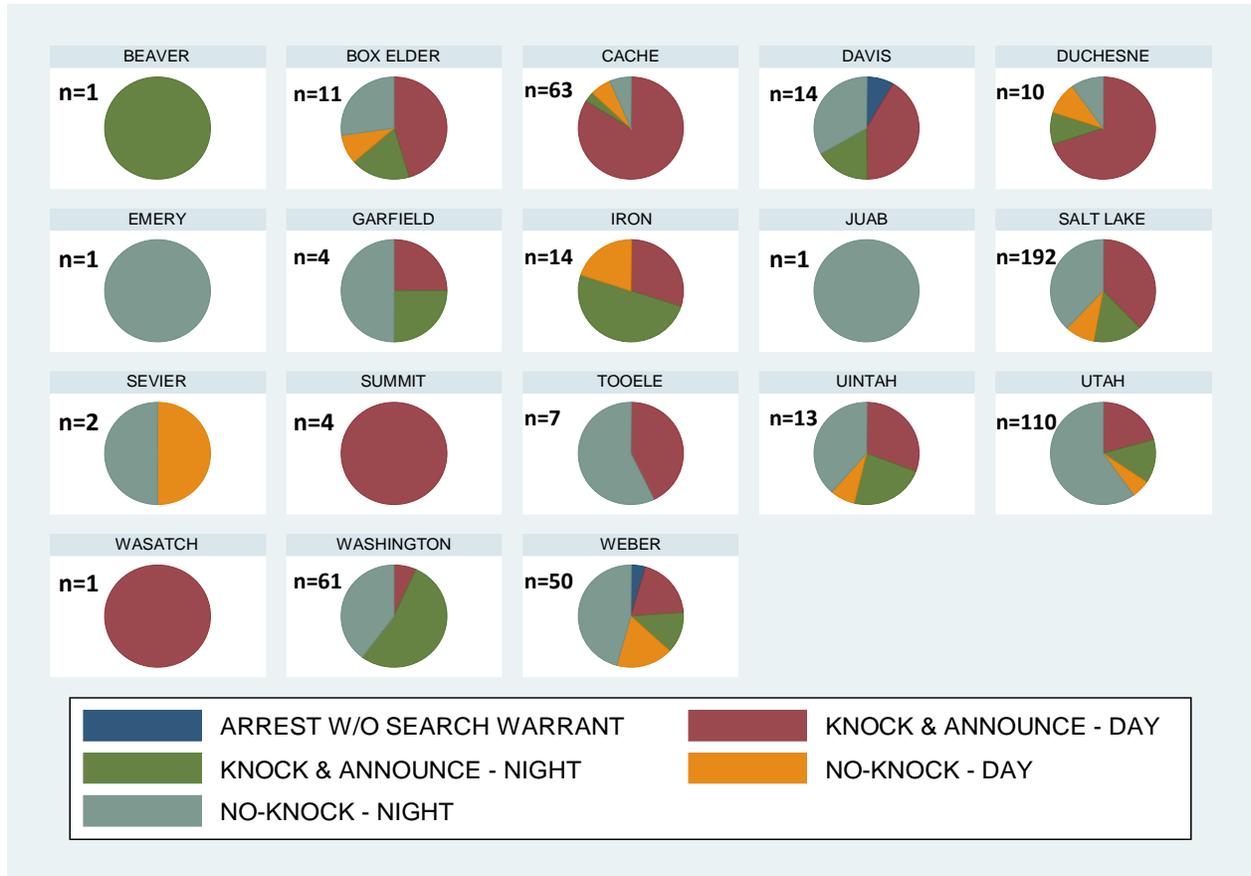
When examining the reason for warrants by county, those with the highest number of reported incidents (SLC, Utah, and Cache) showed a similar pattern as the aggregate, with drug warrants representing more than 80 percent of all warrants (see Figure 10).[5] The vast majority for the reason for law enforcement deployment in these counties pertained to drugs, followed by deployment for the express purpose of gathering evidence (see Figure 11). Incidents in Iron County (n=14) had the highest share of alcohol-related warrants (21%).

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[5] It should be noted that several counties (e.g., Beaver, Emery, Juab, and Wasatch) reported very few incidents. Hence little to no weight should be given to the overall outcome of those specific counties.

Figure 10. Reason for Warrant by County

BEAVER — n=1	BOX ELDER — n=11	CACHE — n=63	DAVIS — n=14	DUCHESNE — n=10
EMERY — n=1	GARFIELD — n=4	IRON — n=14	JUAB — n=1	SALT LAKE — n=192
SEVIER — n=2	SUMMIT — n=4	TOOELE — n=7	UINTAH — n=13	UTAH — n=110
WASATCH — n=1	WASHINGTON — n=61	WEBER — n=50		

Legend:
- ALCOHOL
- DRUGS
- PROPERTY CRIMES
- CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS
- PERSON
- VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS
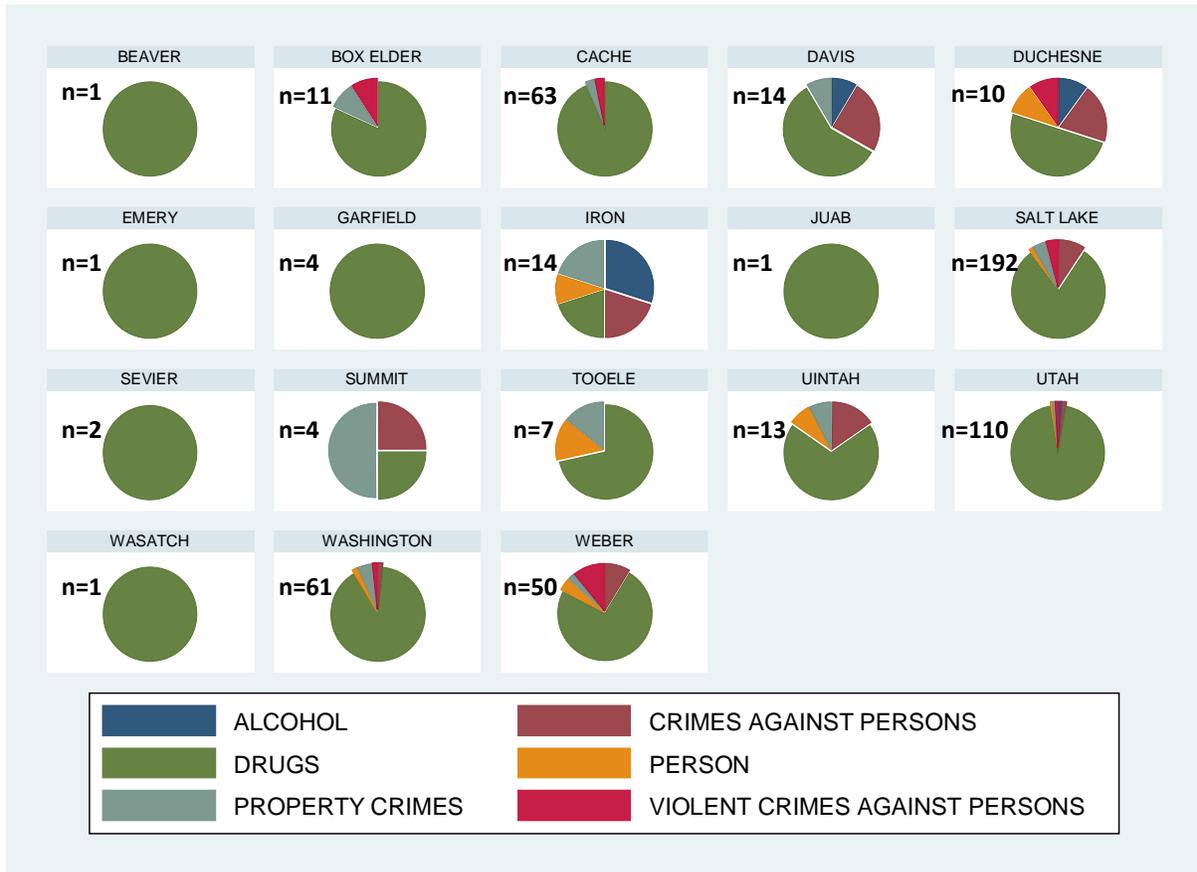
Figure 11. Reason for Law Enforcement Deployment by County

Legend:
- ACTIVE SHOOTER
- ALCOHOL
- BARRICADED SUSPECT
- DRUG
- EVIDENCE
- FELONY WARRANT
- HOSTAGE
- MISDEMEANOR WARRANT
- PERSON
- PROPERTY
- ROBBERY
- SUICIDAL SUBJECT
- VIOLENT FELONY WARRANT
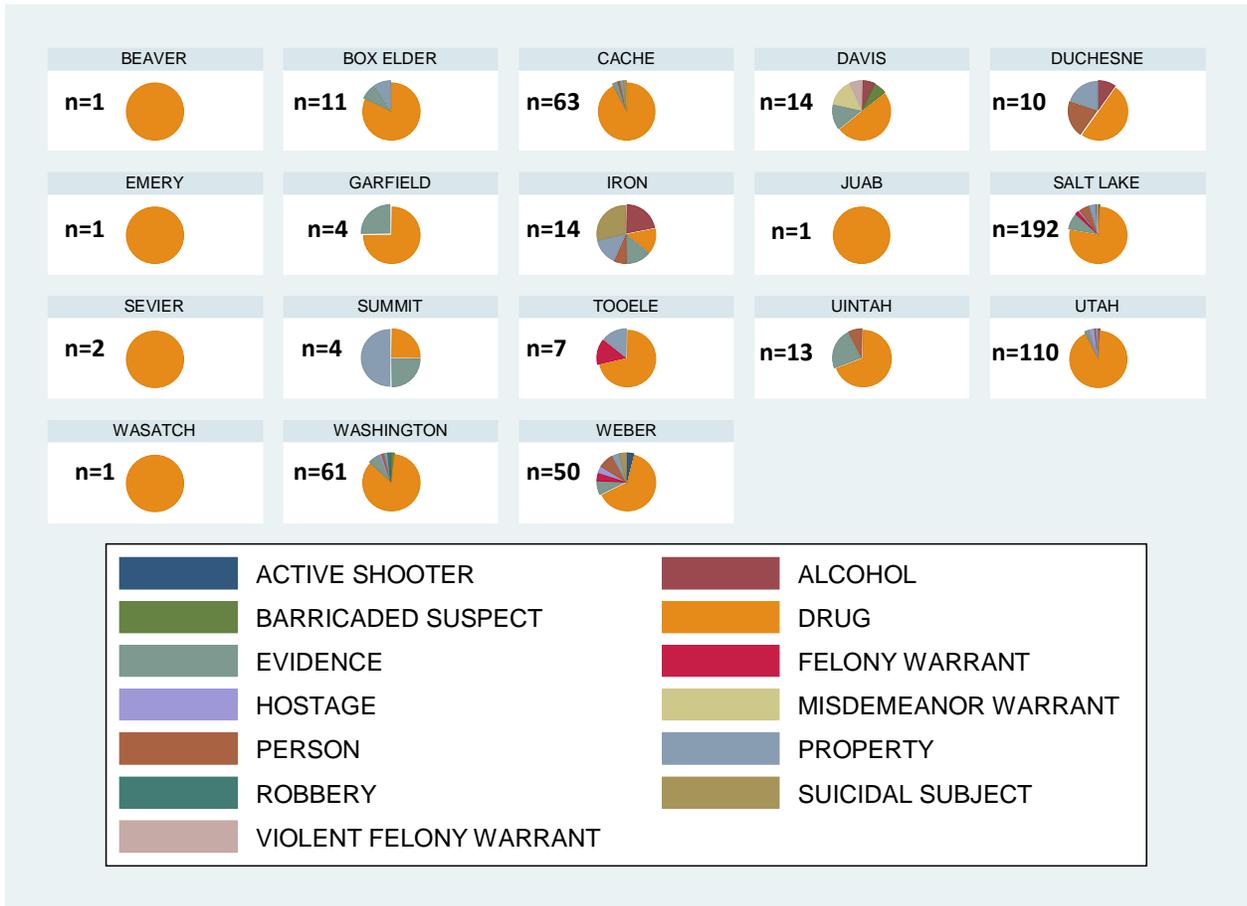
3. GROUP TYPE ANALYSIS

The agency group types that responded in each incident fall into one of three categories: Tactical, Non-Tactical, and Task Forces. The deployment of task forces, non-tactical, and tactical groups was authorized with a warrant 100, 96, and 85 percent of incidents respectively. Forced entry was authorized and used around 60 percent across all groups (Task Forces=62%, Tactical=65%, Non-Tactical=58%).

Evidence was seized in more than 94 percent of incidents, with task forces seizing evidence in 99 percent of incidents. Property was seized less frequently, at approximately 17 percent across all agency group types. The mean number of arrests was less than two arrests per incident across groups.

A prior threat assessment was conducted more than 75 percent of the time across all groups. Task forces performed a threat assessment more frequently than the two other groups (89% vs. 79% of tactical and 78% of non-tactical). Selected summary statistics are shown in Table 2 below.
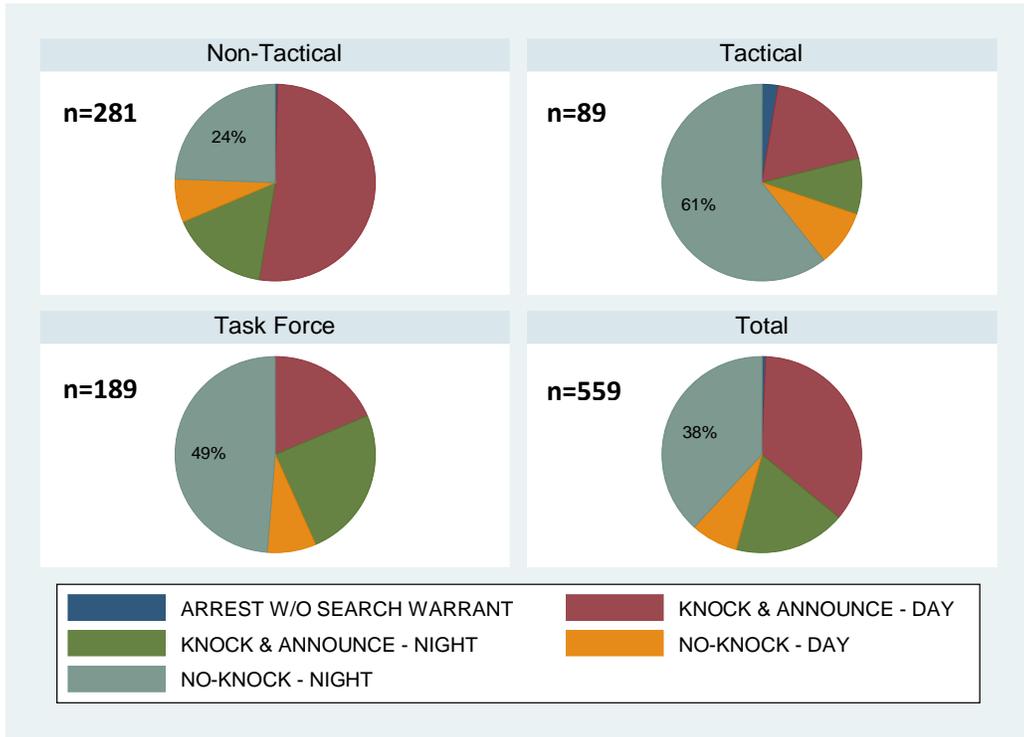
Table 2. Selected Summary Statistics by Group Type

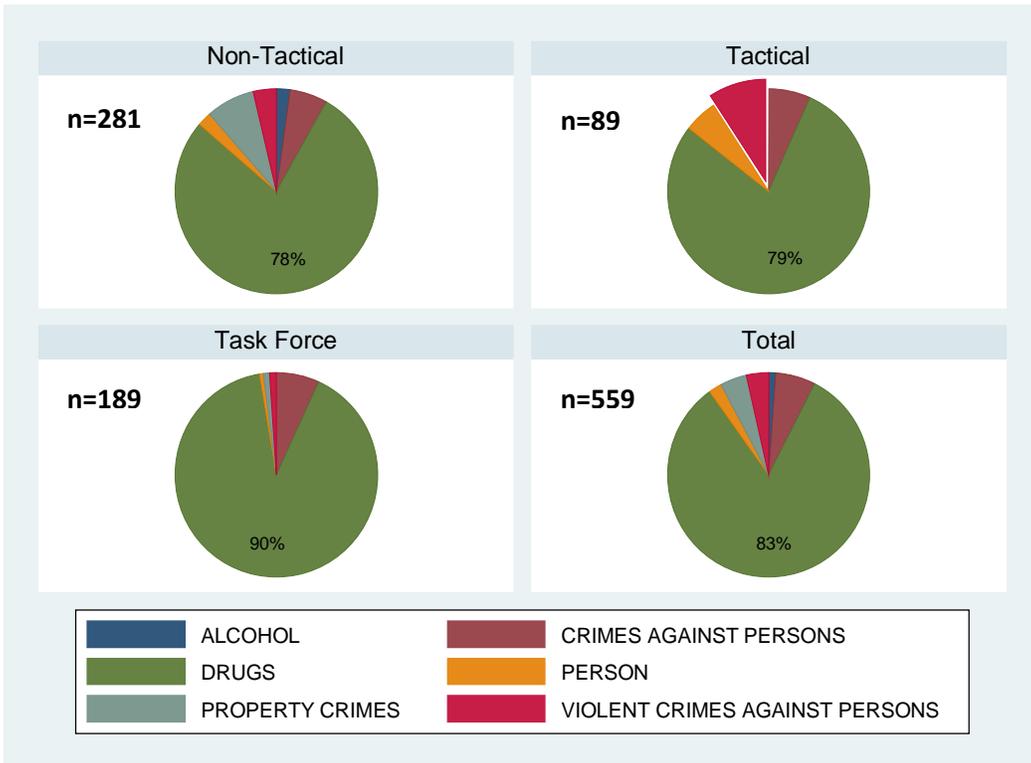| Group Type	Had Warrant	Forced Entry	Evidence Seized	Property Seized	Threat Assessment
Task Force (n=189)	100%	62%	99%	16%	89%
Tactical (n=89)	85%	65%	87%	17%	79%
Non-Tactical (n=281)	96%	58%	93%	18%	78%

Task Forces obtained "No-Knock at Night" warrants nearly 50 percent of the time while tactical groups used this same tactic 61 percent of the time (seen in Figure 12), and non-tactical groups obtained it 24 percent of the time, relying primarily on the "Knock & Announce-Day" (>50% of all reported incidents). Non-tactical groups and task forces utilized "Arrest w/o Search Warrants" the least (< 2% across all groups).

Similar to the aggregate, the vast majority of warrants pertained to drugs across the three groups, with task forces obtaining a drug warrant 90 percent of the time (seen in Figure 13). Tactical groups obtained drug warrants 79 percent of the time and had a larger share of warrants related to violent crimes against persons than the other two groups (9% vs. 4% of non-tactical and 1% of task forces).

Figure 12. Warrant Type by Group

Non-Tactical — n=281
Tactical — n=89
Task Force — n=189
Total — n=559

Legend:
- ARREST W/O SEARCH WARRANT
- KNOCK & ANNOUNCE - DAY
- KNOCK & ANNOUNCE - NIGHT
- NO-KNOCK - DAY
- NO-KNOCK - NIGHT

Figure 13. Reason for Warrant by Group

Non-Tactical — n=281
Tactical — n=89
Task Force — n=189
Total — n=559

Legend:
- ALCOHOL
- CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS
- DRUGS
- PERSON
- PROPERTY CRIMES
- VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

Table 3. List of Reporting Agencies

Agency Name	# of Incidents Reported	# of Incidents Resulting in Forced Entry
AGENCIES THAT REPORTED INCIDENTS		
AMERICAN FORK/CEDAR HILLS PD	5	3
BEAVER COUNTY SHERIFF	1	0
BLUFFDALE PD	2	1
BOX ELDER COUNTY SHERIFF	5	5
BRIGHAM CITY PD	1	1
CACHE-RICH DRUG TASK FORCE	56	10
CEDAR CITY PD	11	6
COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS PD	2	2
DAVIS COUNTY TASK FORCE	6	6
DUCHESNE COUNTY SHERIFF	1	1
EMERY COUNTY SHERIFF	1	1
ESCALANTE PD	4	2
GRANTSVILLE PD	2	0
HURRICANE PD	2	0
IRON COUNTY SHERIFF	2	2
LAYTON PD	3	2
LEHI PD	6	4
LOGAN PD	6	5
LONE PEAK PD	2	2
MURRAY PD	4	4
NEPHI PD	1	1
NORTH OGDEN PD	5	3
NORTH PARK PD	1	1
OGDEN PD	25	17
OREM DPS	3	3
PARK CITY PD	5	0
PLEASANT GROVE PD	17	7
PROVO PD	16	12
ROOSEVELT PD	8	4
ROY PD	4	4
SALEM PD	3	0
SALT LAKE CITY PD	37	22
SANDY PD	6	3
SANTA CLARA IVINS PUBLIC SAFETY	2	2
SARATOGA SPRINGS PD	3	3
SEVIER COUNTY SHERIFF	2	2

SOUTH JORDAN PD	1	1
SOUTH OGDEN PD	1	1
SOUTH SALT LAKE PD	7	6
SPANISH FORK PD	5	5
SPRINGVILLE PD	14	4
ST. GEORGE PD	7	3
SYRACUSE PD	1	1
TOOELE PD	5	5
TREMONTON PD	5	1
UHP SALT LAKE CITY	2	1
UINTAH COUNTY SHERIFF	2	1
UNIFIED POLICE DEPT OF GREATER SALT LAKE	95	71
UTAH ATTY GENERL-SALT LAKE	14	14
UTAH COUNTY MAJOR CRIMES TASK FORCE	48	37
UTAH COUNTY SHERIFF	1	0
VERNAL PD	12	5
WASATCH COUNTY SHERIFF	1	1
WASHINGTON COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE	48	15
WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF	2	2
WEBER COUNTY SHERIFF	15	11
WEST JORDAN PD	4	4
WEST VALLEY PD	9	9
AGENCIES THAT REPORTED NO INCIDENTS		
AIRPORT AUTHORITY-SALT LAKE	0	
ALTA MARSHAL	0	
BOUNTIFUL PD	0	
BYU - PD	0	
CARBON COUNTY SHERIFF	0	
CENTERVILLE PD	0	
CLEARFIELD PD	0	
CLINTON PD	0	
DAGGETT COUNTY SHERIFF	0	
DAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF	0	
DEPT PUBLIC SAFETY - MIS	0	
EAST CARBON PD	0	
ENOCH PD	0	
FAIRVIEW PD	0	
FARMINGTON PD	0	
GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF	0	
GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT PD	0	
HARRISVILLE PD	0	
HEBER CITY PD	0	
HIDEOUT PD INACT NO USERS	0	

HILDALE PD	0
IRON COUNTY TASK FORCE	0
JUAB COUNTY SHERIFF	0
KAMAS PD	0
KANAB PD	0
KANE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
KAYSVILLE PD	0
LINDON PD	0
MANTUA PD	0
MAPLETON PD	0
MILLARD COUNTY SHERIFF	0
MOAB PD	0
MONTICELLO PD	0
MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF	0
MT. PLEASANT PD	0
NORTH SALT LAKE PD	0
PAROWAN PD	0
PAYSON PD	0
PERRY PD	0
PIUTE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
PLEASANT VIEW PD	0
PRICE PD	0
RICH COUNTY SHERIFF	0
RICHFIELD PD	0
RIVERDALE PD	0
SALINA PD	0
SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL	0
SAN JUAN COUNTY SHERIFF	0
SANTAQUIN PD	0
SMITHFIELD PD	0
SNOW COLLEGE PD	0
SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY PD	0
SPRINGDALE PD	0
SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF	0
SUNSET PD	0
TOOELE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
UHP - BEAVER	0
UHP - CEDAR CITY	0
UHP - KANAB	0
UHP - ST. GEORGE	0
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH PD	0
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY LOGAN	0
WASHINGTON CITY PD	0

WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
WEST BOUNTIFUL PD	0
WILDLIFE RESOURCE - LED	0
WOODS CROSS PD	0

Table 4. UCJIS-LET Incident Report Questions

No Incidents to Report

*No Incidents for the Year   *Year

*Agency   *Submitter

Incidents Entry

*Agency   *Case Number

*Responsible Agency ORI   *Submitter
*Incident Date
*Region   *Agency/Task Force/Tactical Group Deployed
*Region   *Law Enforcement Agencies Involved or Providing Resources
*County   *City   *ZIP
*Reason for Deployment   *Reason Detail
*Warrant: Yes/No   (if yes) *Warrant Type   *Nature of Warrant
*Judge/Magistrate Authorizing Warrant
*Threat Assessment Completed: Yes/No   *Number of Arrests   *Evidence Seized: Yes/No
*Property Seized – Not as Evidence: Yes/No   *Forcible Entry: Yes/No
*Firearm Discharged by Officer(s): Yes/No (if yes) *Shots Fired - Officer (1)
*Weapon Brandished by Non-LEO: Yes/No
*Weapon Used Against LEO: Yes/No   (if yes) *Was the Weapon a Firearm: Yes/No (if yes) *Shots Fired - Suspect (1)
*LEO Injured or Killed: Yes/No   (if yes) *Number of Persons Injured   *Number of LEO's Killed
*Person Injured or Killed by LEO: Yes/No   (if yes) *Number of LEO's Injured   *Number of Persons Killed
*Domestic Animal Injured or Killed by LEO: Yes/No   (if yes) *Number of Animals Injured *Number of Animals Killed
Comments (optional)