SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION
22-IA-0004

BACKGROUND SUMMARY

On May 9, 2022,[1] I was assigned this investigation by Lieutenant Brandon Cutting of the Professional Standards Bureau. He requested I conduct an Internal Affairs investigation regarding Deputy Cole Aikens' conduct during an arrest. Specifically, I was to investigate the force Deputy Aikens used during the arrest of a suspect, identified as Ryan Uhl, which resulted in Uhl sustaining serious bodily injury.

The incident in question began on May 6, 2022, at approximately 2011 hours, at the Chevron gas station located at [redacted] Old Redwood Highway in Larkfield (Santa Rosa), CA. Multiple callers reported Uhl was at the business trying to hurt people, he was punching windows and he was attempting to enter multiple vehicles.

The Sheriff's Office helicopter arrived in the area and began to search for Uhl from the air. Tactical Flight Officer F. Wonneberger quickly located Uhl and maintained a visual on him while he directed patrol units to Uhl's location.

Deputy Aikens was the first patrol deputy on scene at the ground level. He drove his patrol car into the Chevron and parked. As he was getting out of his patrol car, he observed Uhl standup and strike a person, identified as [redacted]. Deputy Aikens gave Uhl commands to get on the ground. Uhl did not respond to Deputy Aikens' commands and appeared to maintain his focus on [redacted], whom he just attacked.

Deputy Aikens quickly tackled Uhl and brought him to the ground, preventing any further attack. As a result of being tackled, Uhl fell to the ground and Deputy Aikens landed on top of him. Uhl was placed into handcuffs without any other force being applied.

Once Uhl was handcuffed, Deputy Aikens observed Uhl appeared to be unconscious. Deputy Aikens, Deputy Vrabel and Deputy J. Tamayo rolled Uhl into a position of recovery and Emergency Medical Services, who were previously staged in the area by responding deputies, were requested to respond to the scene.

Uhl was transported via ambulance and admitted to the Intensive Care Unit at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, where he was diagnosed with a skull fracture and a brain bleed.

[1] An underlined date indicates it is a part of my investigation – Sgt. Brent Kidder, Internal Affairs

COMPLAINT / AUTHORITIES

While there were no specific allegations made at the time this investigation was initiated, the purpose of this Internal Affairs investigation was to determine whether or not Deputy Aikens violated Sheriff's Office Rules and Regulations, Office-Wide Policy, Division Police and/or State Law, more specifically:

Rules and Regulations Regarding Conduct

5. **PROCEDURES**

B. DUTIES, CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY

3. Obey Policies and Procedures: Members shall obey and carry out all lawful Sheriff's Office and County policies, procedures, and other orders whether written or oral. Specifically:

300.3 - Use of Force: Deputies shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the deputy at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose (Penal Code § 835a).

The reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable deputy on the scene at the time of the incident. Any evaluation of reasonableness must allow for the fact that deputies are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force that reasonably appears necessary in a particular situation, with limited information and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation a deputy might encounter, deputies are entrusted to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force in each incident. Deputies may only use a level of force that they reasonably believe is proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance (Government Code § 7286(b)).

It is also recognized that circumstances may arise in which deputies reasonably believe that it would be impractical or ineffective to use any

of the approved or authorized tools, weapons, or methods provided by the Office. Deputies may find it more effective or reasonable to improvise their response to rapidly unfolding conditions that they are confronting. In such circumstances, the use of any improvised device or method must nonetheless be objectively reasonable and utilized only to the degree that reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

While the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter is to avoid or minimize injury, nothing in this policy requires a deputy to retreat or be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force.

INVESTIGATION

On May 9, 2022, I was assigned this investigation by Lieutenant Brandon Cutting of the Professional Standards Bureau. Once assigned this investigation, I read Deputy Aikens' incident report, as well as the associated supplemental reports written by other deputies.[2] Deputy Aikens' report (SD220506-013) read as follows:

> "On 05/06/2022 I was driving a marked Sheriff's Office vehicle while working uniformed patrol. At approximately 2016 hours I responded to the Chevron gas station located at 4840 Old Redwood Highway regarding the report of a man, later identified as Ryan Uhl, who had been drinking and trying to hurt people.
>
> "This Chevron station is in a multi business shopping center, which includes a grocery store, and multiple restaurants.
>
> "Dispatch advised that Uhl tried to punch in the glass at Blue Beagle Coffee and tried to enter multiple vehicles. Uhl then hit someone in the face and was actively fighting with that person.
>
> "Uhl was described as a white male adult in his 30's, 5'10, average build wearing a blue shirt and Jeans.
>
> "While in route, another person called 911 to report that Uhl had jumped on their vehicle and started punching the windshield, but did not cause any damage.
>
> "An additional 911 caller reported there was a drunk, 5'7, white male assaulting everyone in the area.
>
> "While in route, Deputy Vrabel requested medical personnel stage.
>
> "At approximately 2019 hours the Sheriff's Office helicopter "Henry One" arrived on scene. From Henry One, Deputy Wonneberger advised that he was able to see Uhl in the driveway of the Chevron challenging people to fight. Deputy Wonneberger advised that Uhl was being held down by bystanders, but then stood up and went out of sight Henry one. The last update Deputy Wonneberger gave prior to my arrival was that Uhl had his pants down, tripping over the curb and fighting a bystander. (See Deputy Wonneberger's Supplemental report for further information.)
>
> "As I received the information from dispatch and the updates from Deputy Wonneberger I believed the safety of the bystanders in the area was at risk, and feared Uhl would further attack people, cause injuries and damage property. I

[2] A copy of Deputy Aikens Incident Report and all supplemental reports can be found in Exhibits.

activated my vehicle's overhead emergency lights and siren and responded to the Chevron code 3.

"Due to the reports of Uhl attacking people and trying to enter into vehicles, I believed he was attempting to carjack these people.

"Upon my arrival at approximately 2024 hours, I pulled into the south driveway of the Chevron and saw Uhl seated on the ground near the south side of the building. As I pulled closer to Uhl, he stood up with his pants around his ankles. Uhl quickly approached [redacted] in an aggressive manner. Uhl lunged toward [redacted] and used his hands to strike him aggressively.

"As I exited my patrol vehicle, I ordered Uhl to get on the ground. [redacted] pushed Uhl away. I noticed Uhl's knees were scrapped and bloody. Uhl stepped away from [redacted], continued to look at him and did not get on the ground.

"In order to prevent Uhl from further attacking anyone, prevent his escape, and detain him; I tackled him to the ground.

"Uhl fell to the ground and I landed on top of him. I rolled Uhl onto his stomach and grabbed hold of his left arm. Deputy Vrabel took hold of Uhl's right arm and Deputy Tamayo placed Uhl into handcuffs.

"Uhl appeared to be unconscious, his eyes were open and his body was limp.

"We placed Uhl onto his side in the position of recovery and requested Code 3 medical.

"Deputy Vrabel and Deputy Tamayo stayed with Uhl.

"I contacted the group of people standing by the store to make sure no one else was injured.

"No one else at the scene requested medical attention.

"Sonoma County Fire ambulance 577 responded and transported Uhl to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital.

"I began speaking with [redacted] who told me the following in summary: At approximately 2017 hours, his boss called him and requested he respond to the Chevron because there was someone fighting inside the store. [redacted] went to the Chevron and saw Uhl standing outside near the back door. Uhl approached [redacted], assumed a fighting stance and struck him one time on the back of his head. [redacted] said he has not seen Uhl before and does not know who he is. [redacted] initially stated he would like to press charges against Uhl for striking him. [redacted] declined medical attention. [redacted] later refused to sign a citizen's arrest form.

"I spoke with the Chevron store clerk [redacted]. [redacted] did not speak much English, therefore [redacted] interpreted my interview. [redacted] said the following in summary: [redacted] was working inside the store when Uhl came inside and starting yelling bad words. Uhl approached the counter and pushed over a display stand then walked outside. [redacted] then called the gas station owner [redacted] to report the incident.

"I spoke with the Chevron owner, [redacted] who informed me there are security cameras at the store than can be accesses at a later date.

Deputy Vrabel notified me that the odor of alcoholic beverages heavily emanated from Uhl.

"Deputy Sutherland spoke with [redacted] and [redacted]. Uhl tried to enter the cab of [redacted] truck during this incident. Prior to this incident, Uhl was drinking alcohol at [redacted] house and became angry and had his car keys taken from him. (See Deputy Sutherland's Supplemental report for further information.)

"Deputy Anderson spoke with [redacted] and [redacted]. During this incident Uhl struck both [redacted] and [redacted]. (See Deputy Anderson's Supplemental report for further information.)

"Sgt. Schemmel responded to the scene and I notified him of my use of force.

"I took digital photographs of inside the Chevron Store and victims on scene. I uploaded the photos to Evidence.com.

"Uhl was admitted to the ICU at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital for a skull fracture and a brain bleed. Due to Uhl's medical status and being mostly unconscious, I was unable to interview him regarding this incident.

"I authored a citation (#246430) against Uhl for 242 PC, 647(f) PC and 415(1) PC.

"Uhl was later cited and released from custody.

"I activated by Body Worn Camera during this incident.

"On 05/08/2022 at approximately 1820 hours I responded to the Chevron and met with [redacted] to review the surveillance footage. While watching footage of the incident, I saw Uhl strike [redacted] multiple times using his fists. [redacted] entered the driver seat of his own vehicle. Uhl appears to strike [redacted] multiple times and pull his hair as if he were trying to pull [redacted] out of the car to carjack him.

"On 05/08/2022 at approximately 2349 hours I contacted [redacted] by telephone who told me the following in summary: [redacted] went to the Chevron to get some

snacks on his lunch break. [redacted] saw Uhl arguing with the store clerk and then in a confrontation with [redacted]. When [redacted] was approached by Uhl, he felt Uhl was trying to challenge him to a fight. [redacted] went to get back into his own car because he wanted to leave the area. [redacted] opened the driver door to his car and started to get inside. Uhl began to punch [redacted] and pull his hair. [redacted] believed Uhl was only trying to fight him. [redacted] did not believe Uhl was trying to carjack him or enter his vehicle.

"On 05/09/2022 I responded to the Chevron and uploaded surveillance footage to a USB drive. The surveillance cameras also recorded audio. There are four camera angles captured. The first is from inside the store lobby. At approximately 2016 hours, Uhl entered Chevron Store and began yelling loudly. Uhl approached the checkout counter and pushed over a display case, causing it to tip over and its contents to fall out.

"The second camera angle is from the gas pump area facing pump #1 and #3. At approximately 0817 hours, Uhl exited the store and approached [redacted] near pump #3. Uhl approached [redacted] in an aggressive manner and stood face to face with him. The two go out of sight behind [redacted] van.

"The third camera angle is an exterior camera on the north east side of the building facing south. This angle showed [redacted] and Uhl walk back around the front of [redacted] van back to near the pumps. This camera angle later showed Uhl strike [redacted] multiple times and later showed Uhl confronting [redacted] in an aggressive manner.

"The fourth camera angle is from an exterior camera on the south side of the building facing south west. This camera angle showed [redacted] arrive at approximately 2017 hours and park his car on the south side of the parking lot. [redacted] exited his vehicle and walked toward the front entrance of the store. Later [redacted] is seen walking back toward his car and Uhl approached him from behind. Uhl is heard yelling and approached [redacted]. Without being provocation, Uhl punched [redacted] on the head and body. [redacted] continued toward his car, and was punched again by Uhl. [redacted] began to open the driver door to his car and Uhl continually tried to pull [redacted] away and pulled on the door. Once [redacted] was inside Uhl pulled [redacted] hair and punched him multiple times while inside the car. [redacted] closed the driver door, Uhl was able to open it from the outside but [redacted] was able to close the door again and prevent Uhl from entering. Uhl continually pulled on the driver door handle and did not walk away. [redacted] was able to start his car and drive away from Uhl. Uhl held onto the door handle, was pulled forward and fell to the ground. Uhl later stood up and walked south out of camera angle.

"At approximately 2022 hours [redacted] and multiple other people arrive in a dark minivan and parked on the south side of the parking lot. The group exited the minivan and stood near the gas pumps, Uhl approached the group of men. The group stepped away from Uhl and formed a circle around him. Uhl began walked toward [redacted] and pulled his pants and underwear down. [redacted] walked away from Uhl. Uhl faced [redacted] with is genital completely exposed. Uhl then thrusted his hips multiple times with his genitals exposed. Uhl continued to follow [redacted] to the front of the store near the gas pumps. At approximately 2024 hours, Uhl approached [redacted] in an aggressive manner, [redacted] punched Uhl. [redacted] and Uhl separated then Uhl fell to the ground.

"At approximately 2027 hours I arrived on scene followed by Deputy Vrabel and Deputy Tamayo. As I drove into the south driveway toward the group of men, Uhl stood up, with his pants below his knees and approached [redacted]. Uhl used his right hand to punch [redacted] one time on the head, then I tackled Uhl to the ground. Uhl was taken into custody, placed in the position of recovery until medics arrived. (See footage loaded onto the USB drive.)

"After reviewing the footage and watching Uhl expose his genitals and thrust his hip in a public place while [redacted] was near him, I believe Uhl was in violation of 314 PC, indecent exposure. After reviewing the footage I was unable to get in contact with [redacted] to interview him regarding the indecent exposure and determine if he were offended during the incident.

"I booked the (CA-1) USB drive into evidence at the Sheriff's Office.

"I activated my body worn camera during this incident.

"Nothing further at this time.

"Forward to DA for prosecution.

On May 10, 2022, I reviewed Deputy Aikens' body worn camera footage related to this incident.[3] Deputy Aikens' video began while he was still responding to the Chevron, inside of his patrol car. Due to standard body worn camera settings, the first 30 seconds of this video, which included Deputy Aikens getting out of his vehicle and tackling Uhl, did not include audio. Below is a summary of Deputy Aikens' body worn footage.

When Deputy Aikens arrived, he parked his patrol car, immediately got out of the car and began running directly toward Uhl. Uhl's pants were around his ankles, he had an injury on his left cheek, which appeared to be bleeding, and he had abrasions on both of his knees. Deputy Aikens' BWC footage went dark as he tackled Uhl. When the video refocused, Uhl was on the ground, lying on his back. Deputy Aikens pulled Uhl's left arm across Uhl's body, in order to roll him onto his stomach. Deputy Aikens, Deputy Vrabel

[3] A link to this video footage can be found in Exhibits, titled "Deputy Aikens BWC Footage."

and Deputy Tamayo placed Uhl into handcuffs without further incident. Once Uhl was placed in handcuffs, Deputy Tamayo asked Uhl what his name was, but Uhl did not respond. Deputy Aikens used his patrol radio to request medical aid to the scene. Deputy Aikens told Deputies Vrabel and Tamayo to roll Uhl onto his side and he stated "he smacked his head fucking hard." Deputies Tamayo and Vrabel stayed with and monitored Uhl in the recovery position until EMS arrived on scene.

Other than Deputy Aikens tackling Uhl to the ground, I did not observe any other applications of force by Deputy Aikens, Deputy Vrabel or Deputy J. Tamayo during Uhl's arrest.

On May 10, 2022, I reviewed the video footage recorded via the Sheriff's Office Helicopter.[4] Below is a summary of this video footage.

Uhl was seen walking toward a group of bystanders. He was unsteady on his feet as he chased after the bystanders. He momentarily pulled his pants and underwear down, lifted up his shirt and exposed his penis, he chased bystanders around the Chevron parking lot and he fell to the ground numerous times.

As Deputy Aikens drove into the Chevron driveway, Uhl quickly got up from lying on the ground. Once on his feet, Uhl used his right hand/arm to strike [redacted] in the head for no apparent reason. Deputy Aikens ran toward Uhl and tackled him by wrapping his arms around Uhl's upper torso. Deputy Aikens' momentum, and the fact that Uhl's pants were around his ankles, caused Uhl to lose his balance. Both Uhl and Deputy Aikens fell to the ground as a result of the tackle. Deputy Vrabel and Deputy J. Tamayo approached Deputy Aikens and Uhl as the camera panned away. Due to the canopy of a tree, the impact between Uhl and the ground was not observed in this footage.

Other than Deputy Aikens taking Uhl to the ground, the video footage from the Sheriff's Office Helicopter did not show any other application of force by any other deputy on scene.

On May 23, 2022, I reviewed the video footage from Chevron's video surveillance system,[5] which was recorded on Deputy Aikens' BWC. Below is a summary of the footage I reviewed.

This video showed Uhl's behavior, including him harassing [redacted], before [redacted] was able to drive away in his vehicle. When [redacted] drove away, Uhl was holding onto the vehicle. The force from the moving vehicle caused Uhl to fall to the ground and it is unclear if he was caught under the vehicle. However, Uhl ultimately got up and walked out of the camera's view. After approximately one minute, Uhl reappeared in the

[4] A link to this video footage can be found in Exhibits, titled "Henry-1 Video"
[5] A link to this video footage can be found in Exhibits, titled "Chevron Video Surveillance Footage-Wagner."

camera's view and continued chasing bystanders and pulling his pants down. This video stopped before it showed Deputy Aikens take Uhl into custody.

On May 23, 2022, I viewed a different BWC video submitted by Deputy Aikens,[6] which was also footage from the Chevron video surveillance system. This video was a continuation of the prior surveillance video, showing Uhl harassing [redacted]. It ultimately contained the same footage recorded by the Sheriff's Office helicopter, just from two different camera perspectives. Below is a summary of the video surveillance footage that was not captured on the previously reviewed footage.

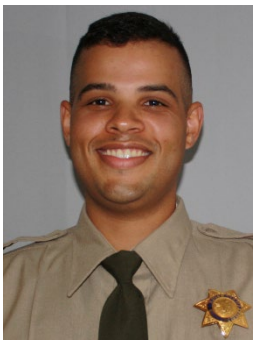
The second cameras perspective was of the area around some of the gas pumps and in front of the gas station's convenience store. From this perspective, Uhl was seen chasing after and attempting to fight multiple people. It also showed [redacted] punch Uhl, as Uhl continued to challenge him. When Uhl left the second camera's perspective, the video switched back to the first camera's perspective.

The perspective of the first camera captured Deputy Aikens tackle Uhl and it clearly showed the back of Uhl's head as it impacted the ground. It ultimately confirmed Deputy Aikens, Deputy Vrabel and Deputy Tamayo did not use any other application of force on Uhl.

[6] A link to this video footage can be found in Exhibits, titled "Chevron Video Surveillance Footage."

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22-IA-0004

CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS



DEPUTY COLE AIKENS

Date of Hire: October 19, 2021

Last two evaluations:

None.

This investigation was initiated due to Uhl sustaining a serious bodily injury when Deputy Aikens took him to the ground, in order to effect his arrest. The scope of this investigation was focused on evaluating the amount of force used, to determine whether or not Deputy Aikens acted within State Law and Sheriff's Office policy.

At the time of this incident, California Penal Code Section 835a(a)(4) stated: *"That the decision by a peace officer to use force shall be evaluated from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation, based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time, rather than with the benefit of hindsight, and that the totality of the circumstances shall account for occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgements about using force."*

California Penal Code Section 835a(b) stated: *"Any peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use objectively reasonable force to effect the arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance."*

Sonoma County Sheriff's Office Use of Force Policy 300.3 stated: *"Deputies shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the deputy at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose (Penal Code § 835a).*

The reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable deputy on the scene at the time of the incident. Any evaluation of reasonableness must allow for the fact that deputies are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force that reasonably appears necessary in a particular situation, with limited information and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation a deputy might encounter, deputies are entrusted to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force in each incident. Deputies may only use a level of force that they reasonably believe is

proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance (Government Code § 7286(b)).

It is also recognized that circumstances may arise in which deputies reasonably believe that it would be impractical or ineffective to use any of the approved or authorized tools, weapons, or methods provided by the Office. Deputies may find it more effective or reasonable to improvise their response to rapidly unfolding conditions that they are confronting. In such circumstances, the use of any improvised device or method must nonetheless be objectively reasonable and utilized only to the degree that reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

While the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter is to avoid or minimize injury, nothing in this policy requires a deputy to retreat or be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force."

Through this investigation, the facts Deputy Aikens knew prior to and at the time force was used were: Uhl was potentially intoxicated, he was trying to hurt people, he was punching windows and he was trying to get into vehicles. In his report Deputy Aikens wrote: *"I believed the safety of the bystanders in the area was at risk, and feared Uhl would further attack people, cause injuries and damage property*."

Deputy Aikens had reasonable cause to believe Uhl was violent, aggressive, potentially intoxicated based on the information provided by dispatch. When he arrived, Deputy Aikens witnessed Uhl commit a violent public offense, when Uhl punched [redacted]

Using the reasonable officer standard outlined in Penal Code Section 835a(a)(4), it was reasonable for Deputy Aikens to take Uhl to the ground in order to effect his arrest, overcome resistance and prevent his escape. Furthermore, Deputy Aikens' application of taking Uhl to the ground by tackling him was reasonable and consistent with Sheriff's Office training.

Once on the ground, Deputy Aikens rolled Uhl over and, with the help of other deputies, secured him in handcuffs. Deputy Aikens did not administer any other application of force on Uhl after taking him to the ground.

Once Uhl was handcuffed, Deputy Aikens appropriately called for emergency medical personnel to respond. Uhl was placed into the recovery position and monitored until medics arrived. Deputy Aikens also appropriately reported the use of force to Sgt. Schemmel, who responded to the scene.

When evaluating the reasonableness of force, Sheriff's Office Policy 300.3.2 stated: *"When determining whether to apply force and evaluating whether a deputy has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration, as time and circumstances permit (Government Code § 7286(b)). These factors include but are not limited to:*

a. *The apparent immediacy and severity of the threat to deputies or others (Penal Code § 835a).*
b. *The conduct of the individual being confronted, as reasonably perceived by the deputy at the time (Penal Code § 835a).*
c. *Deputy/subject factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, the number of deputies available vs. subjects).*
d. *The conduct of the involved deputy leading up to the use of force (Penal Code § 835a).*
e. *The effects of suspected drugs or alcohol.*
f. *The individual's apparent mental state or capacity (Penal Code § 835a).*
g. *The individual's apparent ability to understand and comply with deputy commands (Penal Code § 835a).*
h. *Proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.*
i. *The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and his/her ability to resist despite being restrained.*
j. *The availability of other reasonable and feasible options and their possible effectiveness (Penal Code § 835a).*
k. *Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual prior to and at the time force is used.*
l. *Training and experience of the deputy.*
m. *Potential for injury to deputies, suspects, bystanders, and others.*
n. *Whether the person appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the deputy.*
o. *The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape.*
p. *The apparent need for immediate control of the subject or a prompt resolution of the situation.*
q. *Whether the conduct of the individual being confronted no longer reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to the deputy or others.*
r. *Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence.*
s. *Any other exigent circumstances.*

After reviewing the facts in this case, I determined the following: Uhl was an immediate threat to the bystanders on scene, Uhl's conduct was aggressive, Uhl was reportedly under the influence of an intoxicating substance or substances, the potential for injury to the arriving deputies and other bystanders on scene was prevalent and there was an immediate need to control Uhl's violent and aggressive behavior. After considering the factors above, I determined Deputy Aikens' decision and application of taking Uhl to the ground was reasonable, necessary, was within policy and was lawful, which ultimately brought the situation under control. Therefore, the finding should be **Exonerated**.

RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING CONDUCT

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FINDING: EXONERATED
