Exploring the Utility of Force Factors for Community Engagement about Police Use of Force

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Background

- Recent police shootings and other high-profile uses of force
- FBI database on fatal police shootings – Lack of complete and accurate data
- President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing & Police Data Initiative
- Disconnect between police and public perception of police behavior
Background

- Graham v. Connor - Objective reasonableness standard - Hard to explain

- Need for police departments to actively engage their communities in discussions about why and how their officers use force

- Proportionality as a means of bridging the gap

- Utility of force factors and force justification scores
Police Force Analysis System™
Demonstration
Toward a model process

- Collect data on force factors and force justification measures
- Incorporate into annual reports to the public
- Importance of comparative data
- Encourage discussion about the tails, but also about the core
- Demographic and geographic analysis of force factors
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