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EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE



REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: 2010 April 09

SUBJECT: 2009 Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics Year End Report

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That this report be received for information.

INTRODUCTION:

On an annual basis the EPS provides a statistical summary on use of force events. The information in this report was generated using statistical data captured from occurrences reported between Jan 01 and Dec 31, 2009.

The Edmonton Police Service began collecting use of force data electronically in August of 2008. Therefore, the 2009 year end report will include a monthly comparative analysis from the time the EPS started the electronic capture of this data. This new reporting process will now provide the EPS with additional information regarding use of force events.

This report will also contain a five year comparative analysis of use of force events. It should be noted that the control tactics report form has seen several changes over the years, including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult. With the current electronic version collecting all of the use of force data there will be the ability to offer timely data collection and more detailed analysis in the future.

BACKGROUND:

The EPS captures use of force data via an electronic control tactics reporting process. Control tactics reports are submitted when a police officer utilizes force where one or more of the following circumstances are present:

1. Injury resulting to any person;
2. Force used was higher than empty hand control or cooperative handcuffing;
3. Use of control tactics such as strikes, stuns, joint manipulations, chemical agents, conducted energy weapon (CEW), holding techniques, impact weapons, special impact munitions;
4. Firearm was drawn, displayed, pointed or discharged;
5. In the opinion of the investigating member and/or supervisor, unusual circumstances exist that necessitate the submission of the report.

In August of 2008 the control tactics report data started to be captured electronically rather than manually. This electronic data collection has resulted in a more thorough collection of use of force information. For instance, the 2009 year end report contains the following information:

1. A month by month comparison of the various use of force applications in ascending order;
2. The top ten dispatched events where force was used;
3. The top ten actual event occurrence types where force was used at the dispatched events;
4. A monthly comparison of use of force occurrences and control tactics report submissions;
5. A monthly comparison of use of force events from the time the EPS started electronic data capture (August, 2008).

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

There have been some notable comparisons between the 2009 year end report and the year end report from 2008. For example:

<u>Technique Used</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Percent Change (%)</u>
CEW Presence	420	476	13
CEW Darts/Probe	72	29	-59
CEW Stun	19	8	-58
Firearm Low ready	916	1144	25
Firearm Pointed	351	389	11
Firearm Fired	2	2	0
Baton deployments	41	60	46
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC)	61	48	-21
Stunning/Strikes	1499	1044	-30
Canine Contact	57	46	-19

CONCLUSION:

There are several contributing factors that may have influenced the yearly differences in use of force:

- In August of 2008, data collection using an electronic control tactics report within our current EPROS computer system began. The new reporting process has generated additional details regarding control tactics events and offers a more thorough analysis. It has also led to a higher reporting compliance.
- Within Edmonton the overall Violent Crime Indicator (assaults, homicides, robberies, and sexual assaults) increased by 4% in 2009.
- In 2009 the EPS achieved an average response time of 8.3 minutes for all units and 6.1 minutes for the first responder. This rapid response to calls should lead to an increase in on-scene arrests.
- There was an overall increase of sworn member staffing within the EPS by 9.8% in 2009 (1551.5) when compared with 2008 (1413). Community Policing Bureau increased its sworn member staffing by 10.7% in 2009 (1023.5) as compared to 2008 (924.5). With the increase in the overall total number of members responding to calls one could reasonably expect a greater number of interactions leading to a greater likelihood of arrests and/or physical control techniques being utilized. The proportion of use of force incidents per member in 2009 would therefore be lower as compared to 2008

- In 2008 there were 293 EPS members who were issued Conducted Energy Weapons. In 2009 there were 278 members who were issued Conducted Energy Weapons.
- Dispatched calls for service remained relatively consistent from 2008 (216,490) compared to 2009 (216,560).

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2009 Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics Statistics.
2. Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics five year comparison.

Written by: Inspector Bob Hassel
Training Branch
2010 Apr 09

Approved by: Deputy Chief David Korol
Corporate Services Bureau

Chief of Police: _____

Date: _____

14 April 2010

CONTROL TACTICS REPORTS

Year	Total Incidents Reporting Use of Force	Total Control Tactics Reports
2009	3226	5834
2008	2448 978*+1470**	3865 1408*+ 2457**
2007	1,678	2,679
2006	1,922	2,934
2005	1,260	1,448
2004	1,023	1,183

Note – Electronic data collection began in Aug 2008

** Note – Data collected using the old paper forms*

*** Note – Data collected using electronic forms*

It should be noted that all aforementioned data presented is a compilation of all information submitted to the Officer Safety Unit via a Control Tactics Report form

Note: The Control Tactics Report Form has seen many changes over the years including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult. In order to allow for more detailed analysis the information that was collected on one paper form (pre August 2008) may now require multiple reports i.e. multiple subjects or multiple locations on single occurrence # now require separate reports so that the data may be linked to individuals and specific locations.

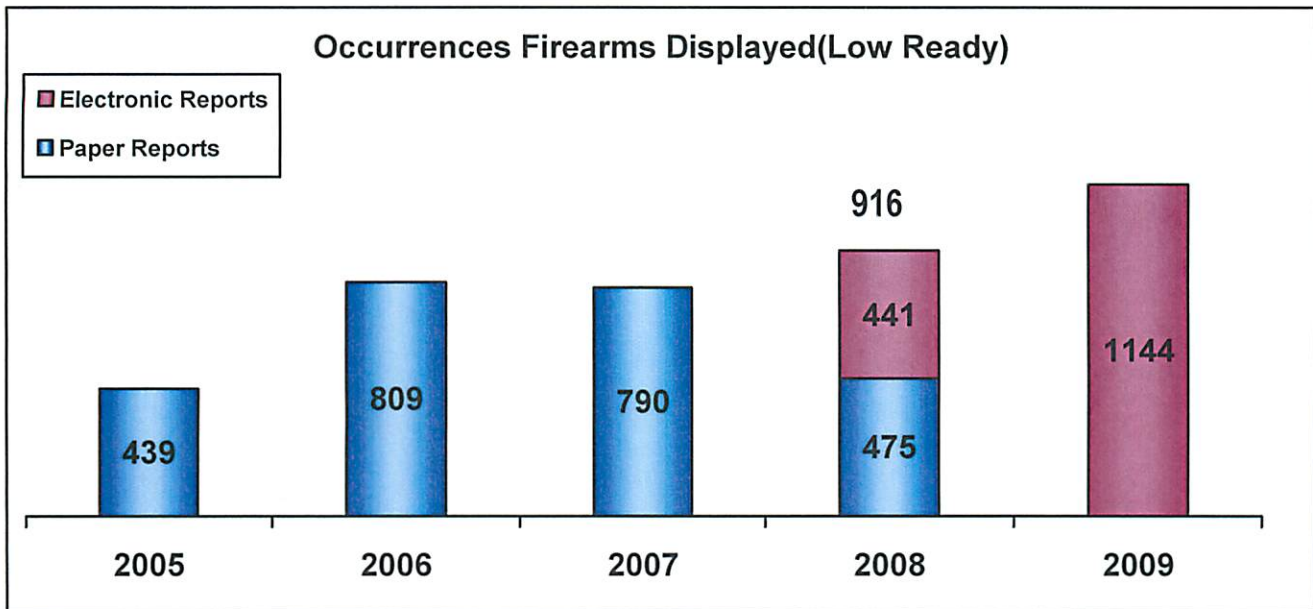


FIREARM DEPLOYMENTS

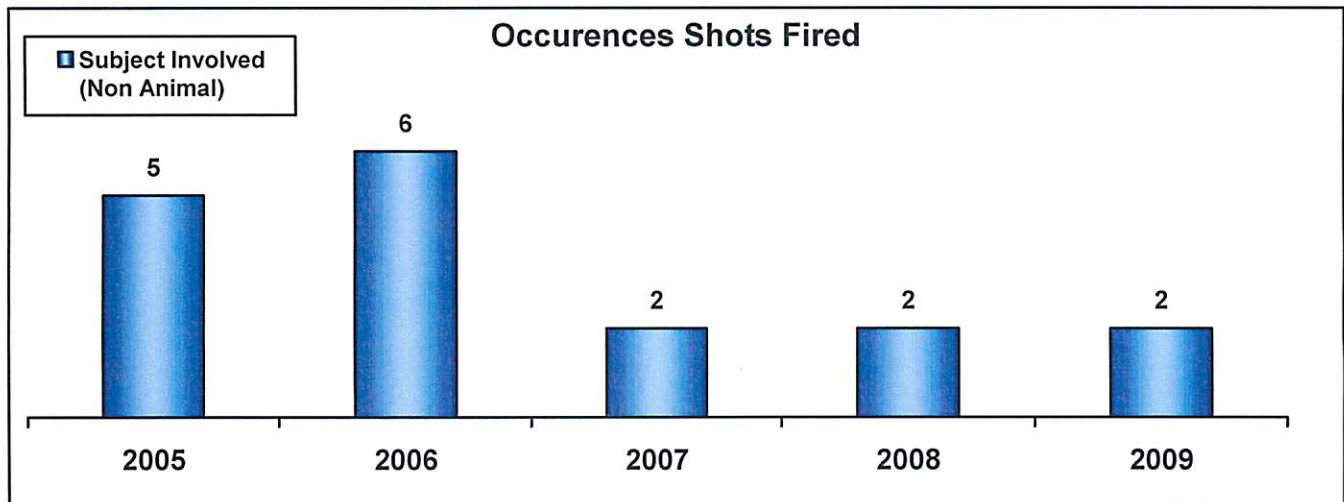
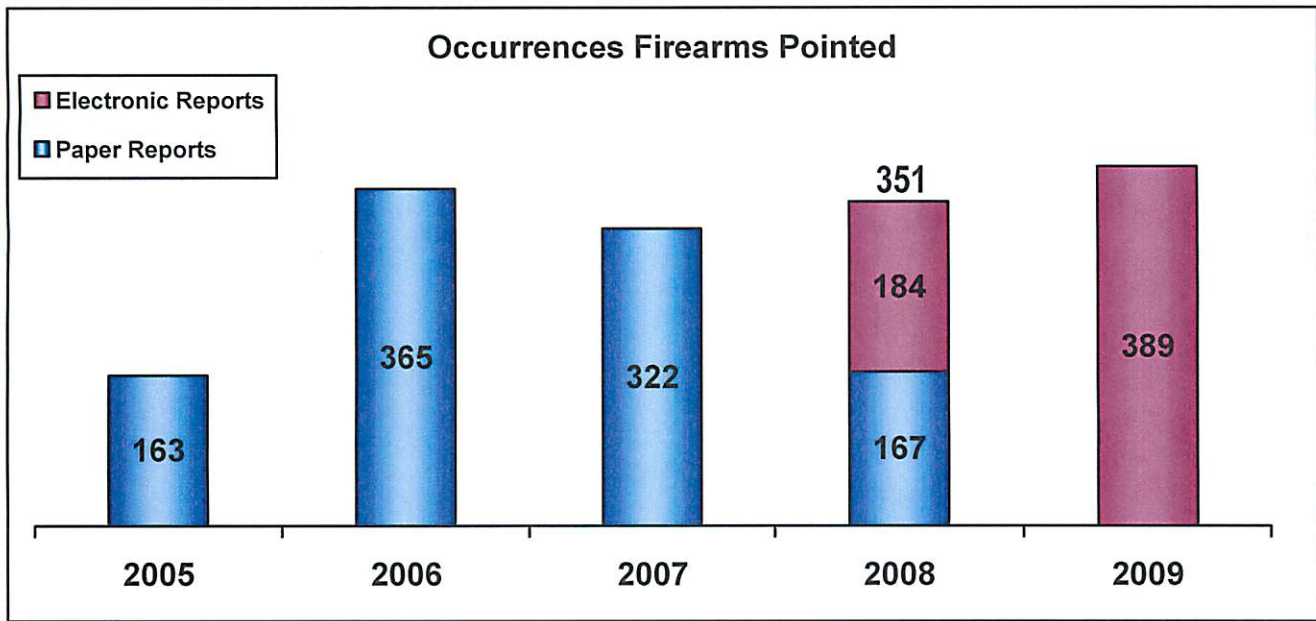
“Firearm” encompasses the following Police issued weapons: Glock .40S&W Handgun, Sig-Sauer 9mm Handgun, Patrol Carbine, 12 Gauge Shotgun and MP5 Assault Weapon.

“Occurrences” refers to one specific situation where officers responded and utilized their firearm in one or more of the following methods: low ready position, pointed or fired. Multiple officers are grouped together

“Low Ready” refers to when an officer deems it appropriate to draw their firearm but not necessarily appropriate to point it at the subject. The firearm may be pointed in the direction but below the subject.



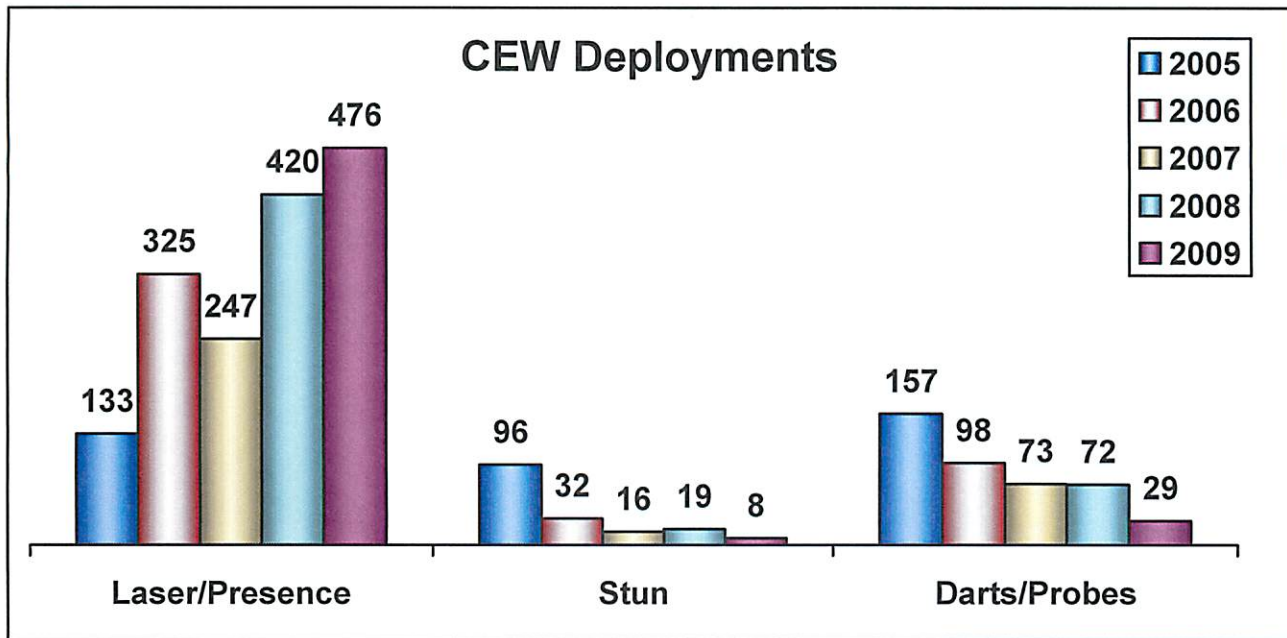
Note: The Control Tactics Report Form has seen many changes over the years including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult.



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CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON (CEW) DEPLOYMENTS



“CEW” refers to the Taser X26.

“Darts/Probes” refers to when a cartridge attached to the CEW is deployed, with 2 barbed probes discharged from the cartridge at a suspect.

“Stun” refers to when the cartridge is either removed or fired and left attached to the CEW, and the unit is deployed directly against the subject as pain compliance.

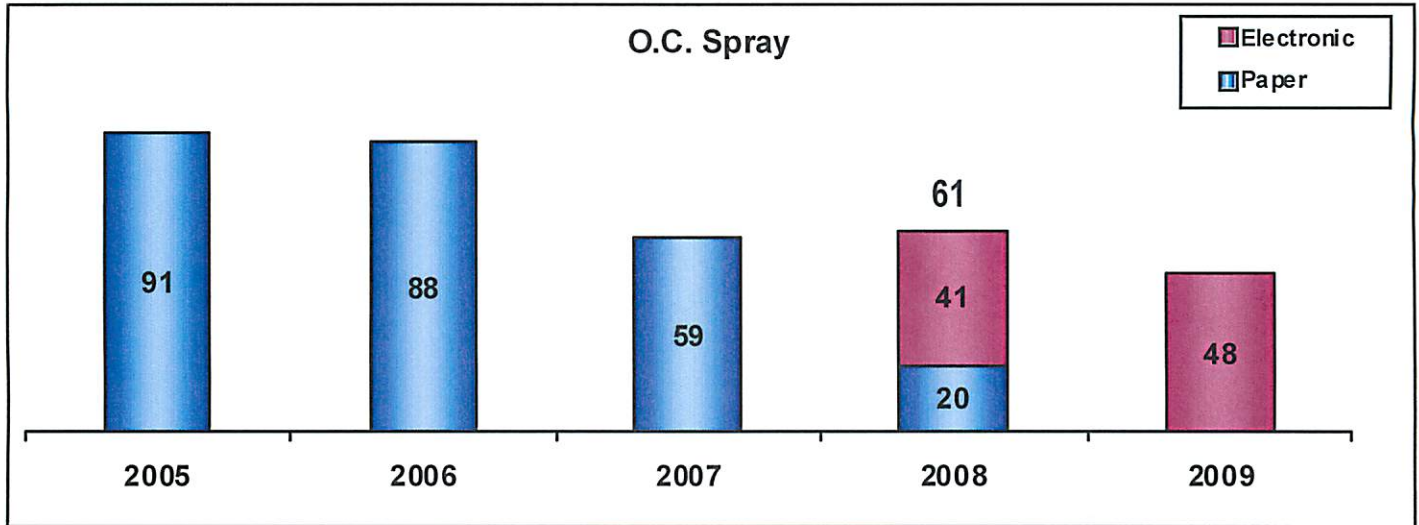
“Laser/Presence” refers to when the CEW is removed from the holster and displayed either by mere presence, or with the laser sight activated and pointed at a subject (no actual deployment of the weapon occurs in this fashion).

“Incidents” refers to one specific occurrence where a CEW was deployed. This also encompasses a situation where there is more than one deployment (Presence is ineffective, with Darts subsequently deployed).

Note: The Control Tactics Report Form has seen many changes over the years including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult.



OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (O.C.) DEPLOYMENTS

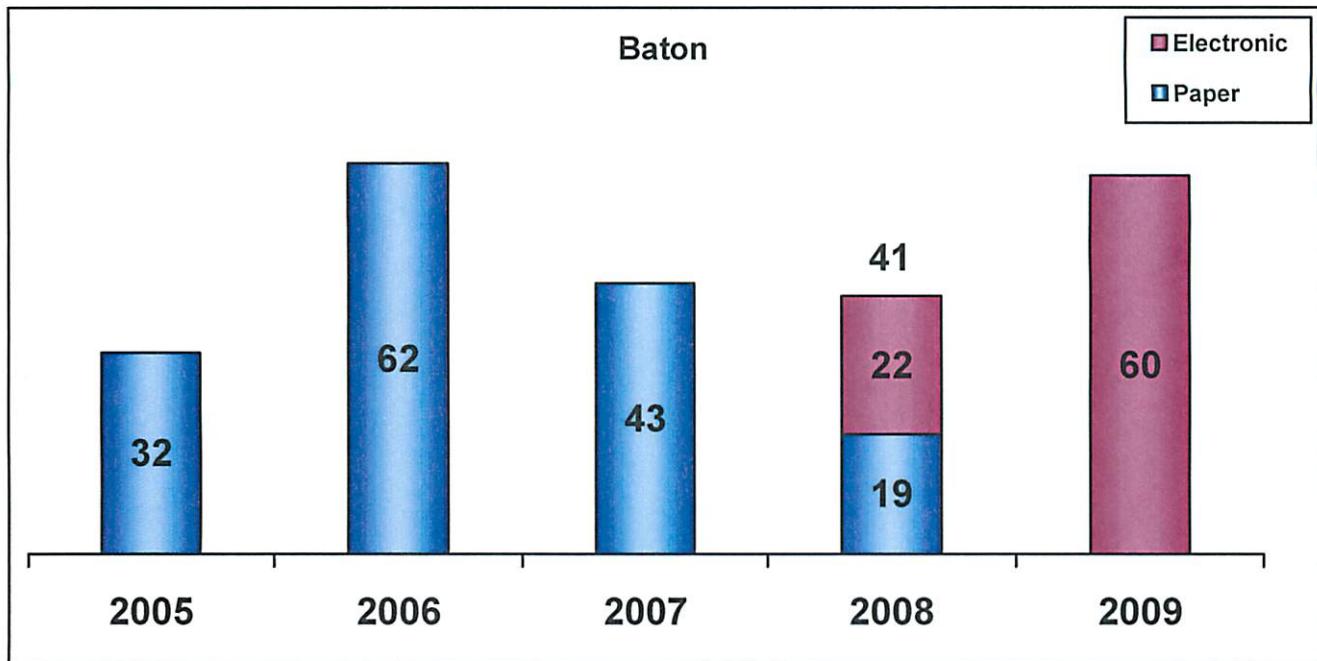


“O.C.” refers to the following weapons utilized by the EPS: First Defense MK-3 (1.8oz), First Defense MK-9 (16oz).

Note: The Control Tactics Report Form has seen many changes over the years including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult.



BATON DEPLOYMENTS



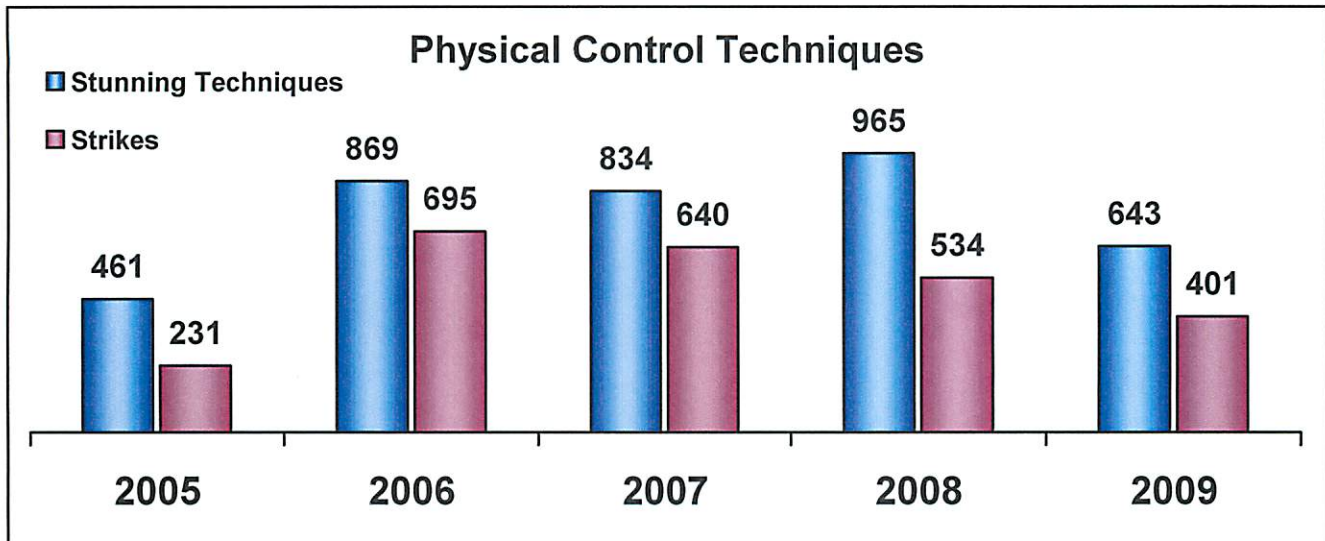
“Baton” refers to the following weapons utilized by the EPS: Monadnock 22 inch baton and the ASP 16 inch baton

The baton is classified as an impact weapon and is designed to establish control by applying mechanical impact to an assailant. When using a baton, reasonable care must be taken to avoid striking an individual on the head, neck, spine or groin areas. The primary target areas are to the arms or legs of the subject.

Note: The Control Tactics Report Form has seen many changes over the years including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult.



PHYSICAL CONTROL TECHNIQUES



“Stunning” refers to a technique that temporarily distracts a suspect during the attempt of gaining physical control; open hand strike and/or a knee strike.

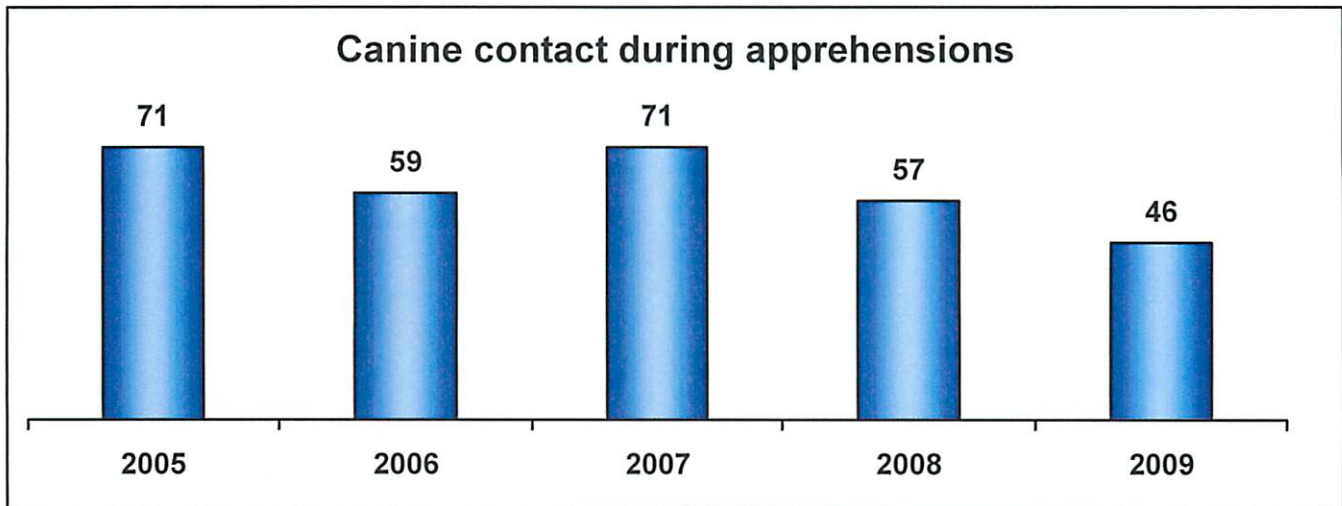
“Strikes” refers to the following delivery systems: punch, kick, elbow and knee strikes.

Note: The Control Tactics Report Form has seen many changes over the years including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult.



CANINE DEPLOYMENTS

“Canine” refers to all EPS approved handler/dog partnerships that are deployed at the street-level.



“Contact” refers to when a Canine Unit successfully apprehends a suspect using physical force.

The Control Tactics Report Form has seen many changes over the years including different categories, making some direct comparisons with previous years difficult. With the electronic version collecting all of the data in since August 2008 we now have the ability to offer timely data collection and more detailed analysis.

Control Tactics Reports Control Tactics Occurrences for 2009

Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
Based on Occurrence Reported Date

Information as at Date:
13 Mar 2010 23:59

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Firearm, Fired					1							1	2
Impact, Specialty Munition	1					1	2					1	5
CEW, CEW Stun	1				2			1			1	3	8
Impact, Other		2	1	1	2		2		1	1	2	2	14
Physical, Disarming Technique			2	5	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	19
CEW, CEW Probes	2	2	1	3	3	1	5	2	4	1	1	4	29
Canine, Canine Contact	2	3	4	3	4	5	4	8	2	2	6	3	46
OC, OC Deployed	4	1	2	2	5	2	4	6	6	6	4	6	48
Impact, Baton Deployed	6	1	3	7	6	4	10	6	7	4	3	3	60
Firearm, Pointed	28	37	31	42	36	29	27	37	30	34	25	33	389
Physical, Strike	27	24	26	37	35	22	44	35	26	38	39	48	401
CEW, CEW Presence/Laser	58	43	34	47	42	35	41	46	41	30	23	36	476
Physical, Stun Technique/Distracton	68	59	40	57	43	35	54	65	44	51	49	78	643
Physical, Joint Manipulation	73	63	76	77	81	55	77	70	70	77	65	84	868
Physical, Balance Displacement/Takedown	84	72	78	73	73	61	88	83	82	83	75	90	942
Firearm, Low Ready	96	85	93	104	86	89	109	95	97	102	99	89	1,144
Physical, Holding Technique	123	113	121	138	140	94	140	121	112	129	108	139	1,478
Communication	236	226	222	255	246	201	276	252	239	255	221	248	2,877

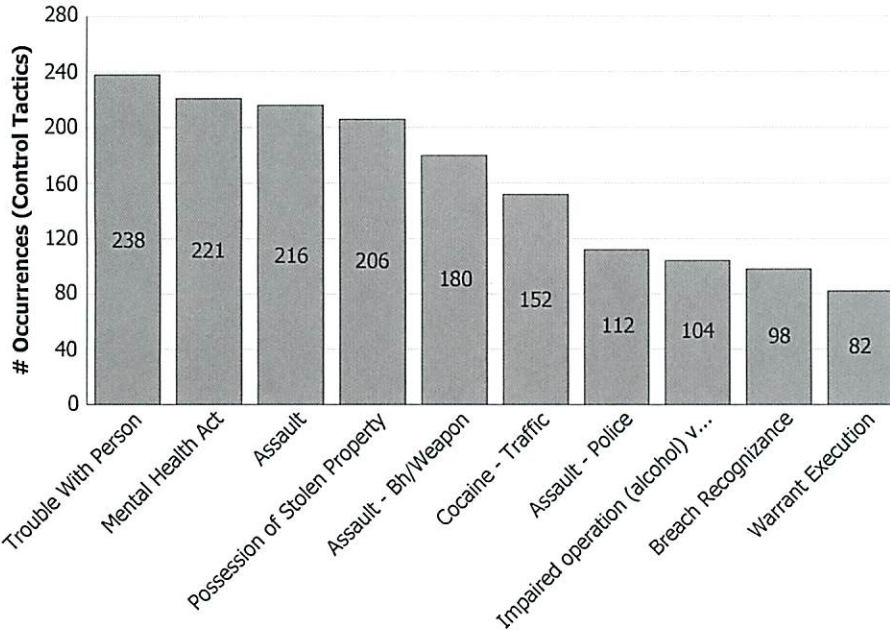
Control Tactics Reports Control Tactics Occurrences for 2009

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EPROS Control Tactics
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Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
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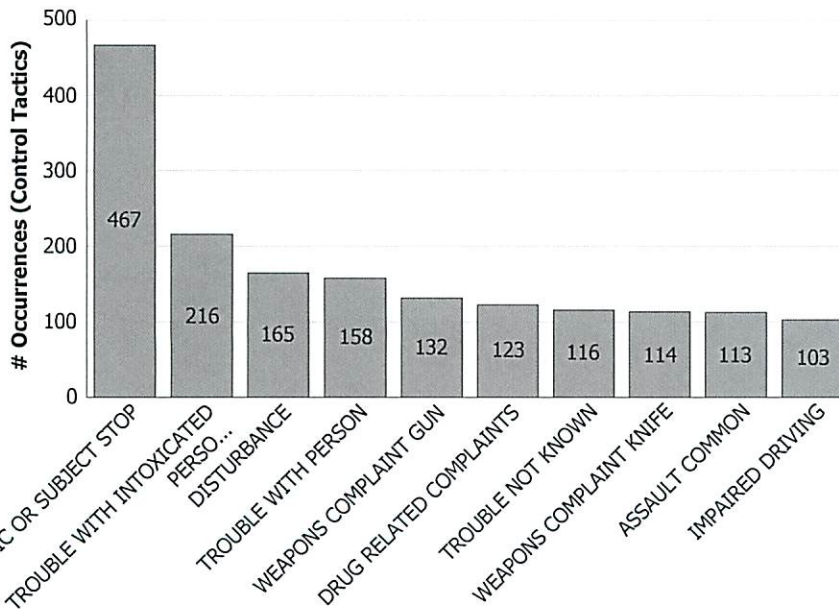
Information as at Date:
13 Mar 2010 23:59

Top 10 Occurrence Types



	# Occurrences (Control Tactics)
Trouble With Person	238
Mental Health Act	221
Assault	216
Possession of Stolen Property	206
Assault - Bh/Weapon	180
Cocaine - Traffic	152
Assault - Police	112
Impaired operation (alcohol) vehicle, vessel, aircraft	104
Breach Recognizance	98
Warrant Execution	82

Top 10 CAD Event Types



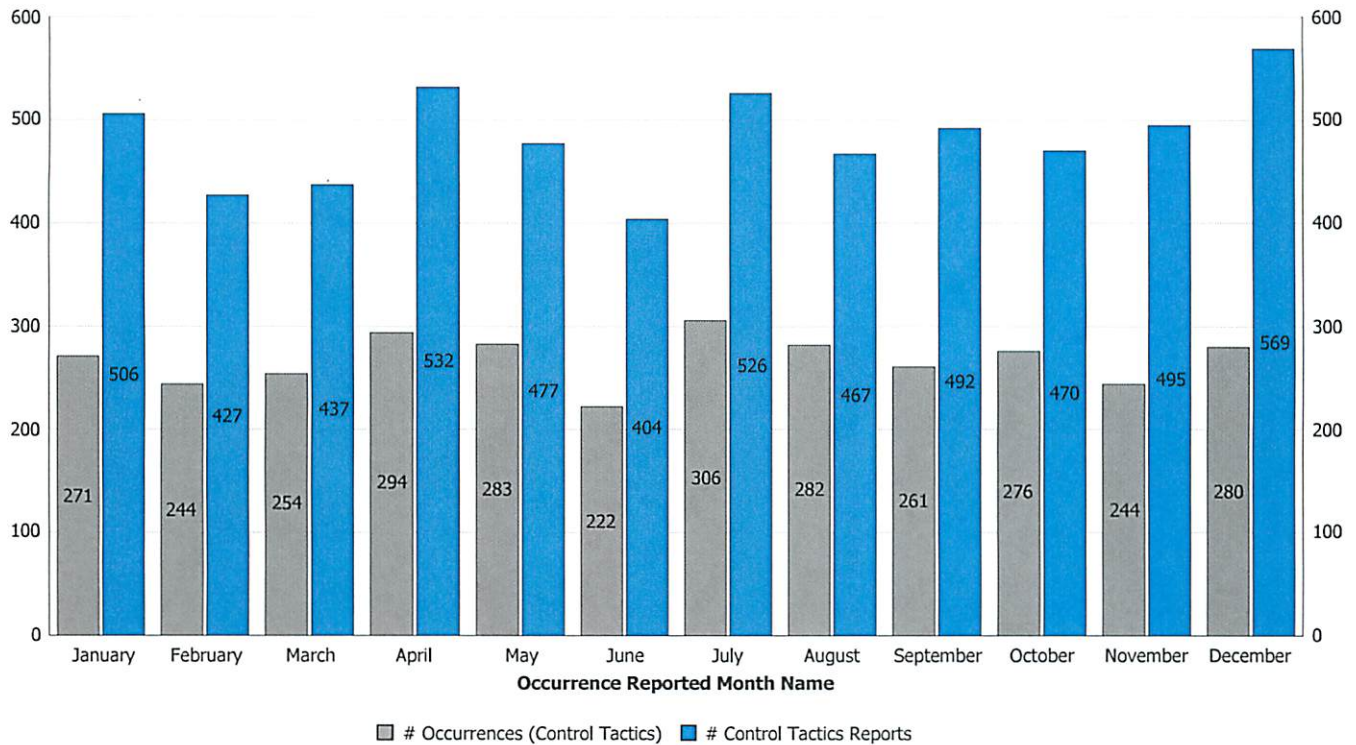
	# Occurrences (Control Tactics)
TRAFFIC OR SUBJECT STOP	467
TROUBLE WITH INTOXICATED PERSONS	216
DISTURBANCE	165
TROUBLE WITH PERSON	158
WEAPONS COMPLAINT GUN	132
DRUG RELATED COMPLAINTS	123
TROUBLE NOT KNOWN	116
WEAPONS COMPLAINT KNIFE	114
ASSAULT COMMON	113
IMPAIRED DRIVING	103

Control Tactics Reports Control Tactics Occurrences for 2009

Report Source:
EPROS Control Tactics
Run By: Larry Snidal

Geographic Division: City Wide District: All Districts
Report Type: Person and Tactical Entry Team
Based on Occurrence Reported Date

Information as at Date:
13 Mar 2010 23:59



# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
2009	271	244	254	294	283	222	306	282	261	276	244	280	3,217

# Control Tactics Reports	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
2009	506	427	437	532	477	404	526	467	492	470	495	569	5,802

* Multiple Control Tactics Reports may be generated for each occurrence due to multiple officers involved or multiple subjects.