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EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE



REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: 2010 Aug 16

SUBJECT: 2010 (January – June) Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics Statistics

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That this report be received for information.

INTRODUCTION:

Every six months the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) submits a report to the Edmonton Police Commission (EPC) that outlines all instances of reported use of force. The information contained in this year's six month report was generated using statistical data captured via the electronic control tactics reports that were submitted between Jan 01 and Jun 30, 2010.

The EPS started collecting use of force data electronically in August of 2008. Therefore this 2010 six month interim report will include a monthly comparison of the current use of force data with the previous year's data.

The 2010 year end report will include a more detailed use of force analysis and yearly comparison of use of force statistics.

BACKGROUND:

The EPS captures use of force data via our electronic control tactics reports. 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 (soft) control which is used for cooperative handcuffing;

3. Use of control tactics such as stunning techniques, direct mechanical techniques, chemical agents, aerosol agents, conducted energy weapon (CEW), control instruments, 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.

The inception of electronic use of force data collection has resulted in a more thorough collection of the use of force information. This year's six month report contains the following information:

1. A monthly comparison of the various control tactics that were utilized;
2. A chart depicting the ascending order of the control tactics utilized over a six month period;
3. The top ten EPS events (dispatched and self initiated) where force was used;
4. A monthly comparison showing the geographical location of the various control tactics occurrences. It should be noted that this comparison is of the geographical location of the use of force and is not a reflection of the use of force by individual Divisions, Sections, Units, etc.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

There were several control tactics occurrences that revealed a significant decrease when compared to the same time period in 2009:

Type of Force used	Percentage decrease	Number of events 2009 (Jan-Jun)	Number of events 2010 (Jan Jun)
Canine contacts	-57.1%	9	21
Conducted Energy Weapon presence	-23.2%	259	199
Conducted Energy Weapon stuns	-33.3%	3	2
Baton impacts	-25.9%	27	20
Disarming techniques	-33.3%	12	8

There were also several control tactics occurrences that showed a notable increase in use when compared to the same time period in 2009:

Type of Force used	Percentage increase	Number of events 2009 (Jan-Jun)	Number of events 2010 (Jan Jun)
Conducted Energy Weapon probes	25%	12	15
Balance displacement (takedowns)	20.4%	441	531
Strikes	60.8%	171	275

The most significant increase in use of tactics was in the category of 'strikes' with a 60.8% increase. There are many factors that could reasonably influence this trend:

- Shift from paper reporting to more accurate electronic reporting;
- Increase in the number of arrests and proactive enforcement;
- Special projects targeting potential for violent/high risk crimes in-progress with greater propensity for officer involved use of force.

When reasonable, in a use of force event verbal communication is utilized first (whenever possible), followed by the appropriate response to the situation. This could also include higher level use of force options. In determining a reasonable response an officer considers all of the facts and circumstances surrounding the event. These considerations can be broken into three categories: Environmental; Subject; and, Officer factors. Edmonton Police Service use of force numbers have increased in two empty hand control categories (strikes and balance displacement takedowns), but are similar (to 2009) or down in other use of force categories.

The EPS Officer Safety Unit will continue to monitor, analyze and report on these trends as more accurate data is captured.

CONCLUSION:

The current electronic control tactics reports will be further modified so that it ultimately reflects the current *Reasonable Officer Response* training that has been introduced to the entire service. These changes coupled with the new Reasonable Officer Response report writing guidelines will support the officer's ability to articulate their perception and response to subject behaviours.

This change in electronic data capture will also allow us to identify "real time" trends/occurrences regarding use of force and will allow us to react to these trends either through training, early intervention or immediate information sharing. It will also allow us to audit all use of force events in a timely fashion.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – 2010 (January – June) EPS Control Tactics Statistics

Written by: Inspector Bob Hassel and S/Sgt. Jerry Nash
Training Branch

Approved by: Deputy Chief David Korol
Corporate Services Bureau

Chief of Police: _____

Date: _____



Control Tactics Occurrences January to June, 2010

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)		January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Canine Contact	2009	2	3	4	3	4	5	21
	2010	2	2	2	0	1	2	9
	Change	0	-1	-2	-3	-3	-3	-12
	% Change	0.0%	-33.3%	-50.0%	-100.0%	-75.0%	-60.0%	-57.1%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Presence/Laser	2009	58	43	34	47	42	35	259
	2010	35	32	35	40	40	17	199
	Change	-23	-11	1	-7	-2	-18	-60
	% Change	-39.7%	-25.6%	2.9%	-14.9%	-4.8%	-51.4%	-23.2%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Probes	2009	2	2	1	3	3	1	12
	2010	2	1	3	5	2	2	15
	Change	0	-1	2	2	-1	1	3
	% Change	0.0%	-50.0%	200.0%	66.7%	-33.3%	100.0%	25.0%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Stun	2009	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
	2010	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
	Change	0	0	0	1	-2	0	-1
	% Change	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100%	-100.0%	0.0%	-33.3%
Firearm, Low Ready	2009	96	85	93	104	86	89	553
	2010	102	83	101	93	95	98	572
	Change	6	-2	8	-11	9	9	19
	% Change	6.3%	-2.4%	8.6%	-10.6%	10.5%	10.1%	3.4%
Firearm, Pointed	2009	28	37	31	42	36	29	203
	2010	39	33	43	34	25	30	204
	Change	11	-4	12	-8	-11	1	1
	% Change	39.3%	-10.8%	38.7%	-19.0%	-30.6%	3.4%	0.5%
Impact, Baton	2009	6	1	3	7	6	4	27
	2010	5	3	5	3	2	2	20
	Change	-1	2	2	-4	-4	-2	-7
	% Change	-16.7%	200.0%	66.7%	-57.1%	-66.7%	-50.0%	-25.9%
Impact, Other	2009	0	2	1	1	2	0	6
	2010	0	2	0	0	2	2	6
	Change	0	0	-1	-1	0	2	0
	% Change	0.0%	0.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	100%	0.0%
Impact, Specialty Munition	2009	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
	2010	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Change	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0
	% Change	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100%	-100.0%	0.0%
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Deployed	2009	4	1	2	2	5	2	16
	2010	6	1	3	3	1	1	15
	Change	2	0	1	1	-4	-1	-1
	% Change	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	-80.0%	-50.0%	-6.3%
Balance Displacement/Takedown	2009	84	72	78	73	73	61	441
	2010	94	83	94	87	88	85	531
	Change	10	11	16	14	15	24	90
	% Change	11.9%	15.3%	20.5%	19.2%	20.5%	39.3%	20.4%



Control Tactics Occurrences January to June, 2010

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)		January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Communication	2009	236	226	222	255	246	201	1386
	2010	255	216	261	250	253	238	1473
	Change	19	-10	39	-5	7	37	87
	% Change	8.1%	-4.4%	17.6%	-2.0%	2.8%	18.4%	6.3%
Disarming Technique	2009	0	0	2	5	3	2	12
	2010	0	2	1	1	2	2	8
	Change	0	2	-1	-4	-1	0	-4
	% Change		100%	-50.0%	-80.0%	-33.3%	0.0%	-33.3%
Holding Technique	2009	123	113	121	138	140	94	729
	2010	139	119	141	133	124	129	785
	Change	16	6	20	-5	-16	35	56
	% Change	13.0%	5.3%	16.5%	-3.6%	-11.4%	37.2%	7.7%
Joint Manipulation	2009	73	63	76	77	81	55	425
	2010	74	74	68	71	72	75	434
	Change	1	11	-8	-6	-9	20	9
	% Change	1.4%	17.5%	-10.5%	-7.8%	-11.1%	36.4%	2.1%
Strike	2009	27	24	26	37	35	22	171
	2010	51	53	48	47	32	44	275
	Change	24	29	22	10	-3	22	104
	% Change	88.9%	120.8%	84.6%	27.0%	-8.6%	100.0%	60.8%
Stun Technique/Distraction	2009	68	59	40	57	43	35	302
	2010	57	45	61	50	47	52	312
	Change	-11	-14	21	-7	4	17	10
	% Change	-16.2%	-23.7%	52.5%	-12.3%	9.3%	48.6%	3.3%

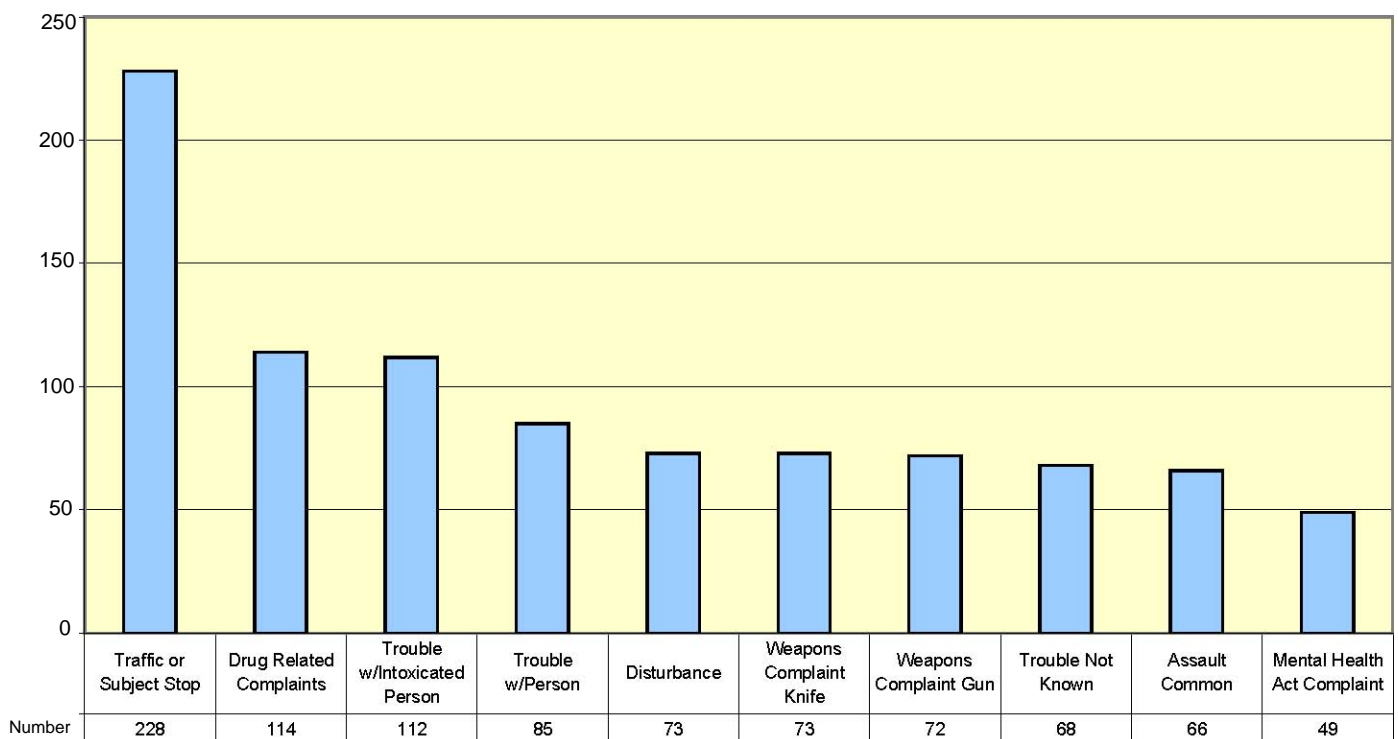


Control Tactics Occurrences January to June, 2010

Least to Most Used Type of Force

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
CEW Stun	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Impact, Specialty Munition	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Impact, Other	0	2	0	0	2	2	6
Disarming Technique	0	2	1	1	2	2	8
Canine Contact	2	2	2	0	1	2	9
CEW Probes	2	1	3	5	2	2	15
OC Deployed	6	1	3	3	1	1	15
Impact, Baton	5	3	5	3	2	2	20
CEW Presence/Laser	35	32	35	40	40	17	199
Firearm, Pointed	39	33	43	34	25	30	204
Strike	51	53	48	47	32	44	275
Stun Technique/Distracton	57	45	61	50	47	52	312
Joint Manipulation	74	74	68	71	72	75	434
Balance Displacement/Takedown	94	83	94	87	88	85	531
Firearm, Low Ready	102	83	101	93	95	98	572
Holding Technique	139	119	141	133	124	129	785
Communication	255	216	261	250	253	238	1473

Top Ten Dispatched & Self Initiated Events Where Force Was Used

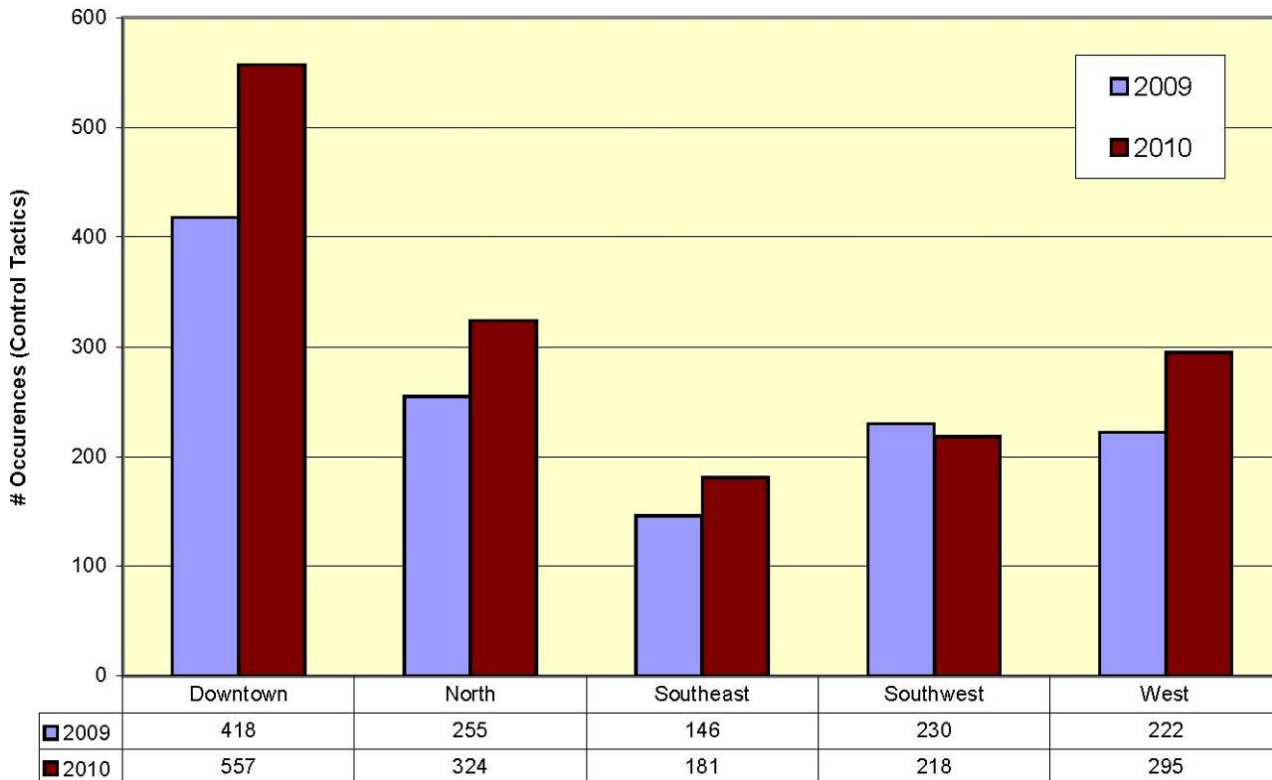




Control Tactics Occurrences January to June, 2010

Comparison of Number of Occurrences from January to June, 2009 & 2010

NOTE: This is a geographical representation and not a Divisional use of force.



of Occurrences (Control Tactics) for 2009

	January	February	March	April	May	June	TOTAL
DOWNTOWN	49	30	81	83	107	68	418
NORTH	28	20	54	53	54	46	255
SOUTHEAST	16	13	26	39	24	28	146
SOUTHWEST	31	15	48	49	54	33	230
WEST	21	19	41	60	43	38	222

1271

of Occurrences (Control Tactics) for 2010

	January	February	March	April	May	June	TOTAL
DOWNTOWN	106	82	100	91	88	90	557
NORTH	49	47	57	58	59	54	324
SOUTHEAST	29	23	34	32	34	29	181
SOUTHWEST	39	28	33	48	41	29	218
WEST	48	51	57	44	53	42	295

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