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EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE



REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: 2011 Feb 14

SUBJECT: 2010 Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics Year-End Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That this report be received for information.

INTRODUCTION:

On an annual basis the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) provides a statistical summary of use of force events. The information compiled for this report was generated using statistical data captured from control tactics occurrences reported between Jan 01 and Dec 31, 2010.

The EPS began capturing use of force data electronically in August of 2008. Electronic data capture has allowed for a more detailed analysis of our use of force events. This year-end report includes a quarterly comparative analysis of use of force for the years 2009 and 2010.

BACKGROUND:

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

1. Injury resulting to any person;
2. The force used was higher than empty hand (soft) control which is used for 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.

The inception of electronic use of force data collection has resulted in a more thorough collection of our use of force information. The 2010 year-end report contains the following information:

1. A quarterly comparison of the various control tactics that were utilized, the number of control tactics reports and occurrences;
2. A table depicting the ascending order of the control tactics utilized;
3. A monthly comparison depicting the geographical location of the various control tactics occurrences. This is not a reflection of the use of force by individual Divisions, Sections, Units, etc.
4. The top ten types of dispatched events where force was used. This is the classification of the event as it was initially evaluated;
5. The top ten actual event types where force was used. This categorizes the type of call by finalized event disposition or classification;

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

There were twelve use of force categories which showed a decrease when compared to 2009. The seven most prominent decreases in use of force are listed below:

Type of Force Used	Percentage Decrease	Number of Events 2009	Number of Events 2010
Canine contacts	- 50%	46	23
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) presence	- 27.7%	477	345
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) stuns	- 62.5%	8	3
Baton impacts	- 41.7%	60	35
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) deployed	- 43.8%	48	27
Disarming techniques	- 31.6%	19	13
Stun/Distracton	- 11.6%	645	570

There were three control tactics categories which increased when compared to the same time period in 2009:

Type of Force Used	Percentage Increase	Number of Events 2009	Number of Events 2010
Impact – Specialty Munitions	+ 20%	5	6
Takedowns	+ 11.4%	944	1052
Strikes	+ 20.2%	401	482

The highest increase in the use of tactics was within the category of ‘strikes’. At year-end there was a 20.2% increase in this category. However, since the second quarter of 2010 there has been a significant downward trend in this category.

The category of ‘communications’ showed a slight decrease (-3.5%). This indicates that police officers utilized communication slightly less in 2010 when compared to 2009.

In January of 2009 the Edmonton Police Service introduced Reasonable Officer Response (ROR) as a use of force framework. ROR is premised on the standard of ‘objective reasonableness’ and includes a supporting foundation based upon:

1. Lawful and Professional Presence,
2. Tactical Communications, and
3. Tactical Considerations.

It should be noted that the ROR use of force framework has gained both national and international interest from various police organizations.

The EPS also recognized that the need for engaged supervision involving use of force events is a critical link in the ROR process. In the fourth quarter of 2010 a pilot project was initiated in the five Patrol Divisions. This project, which is still on-going, provides for more engaged supervisory oversight for use of force events which meet the threshold for the submission of a control tactics report. It is anticipated that by the second quarter of 2011 the entire police service will have received this training.

CONCLUSION:

Over the past two years the Reasonable Officer Response use of force framework has been introduced to the entire police service. The latest Reasonable Officer Response initiative involves the supervisory oversight and engagement of use of force events. This new process will support the police officer’s ability to articulate their perception and response to subject behaviours.

The 2010 fourth quarter control tactics occurrences showed a decrease in 16 of 18 categories when compared to the same time frame in 2009. This appears to coincide with the introduction of more engaged supervisory oversight of use of force events.

It is our expectation that the Reasonable Officer Response framework will eventually become the Canadian standard for policing best practices.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – 2010 EPS Control Tactics Statistics

Written by: Inspector Bob Hassel
Training Branch



Approved by: Executive Director Stephen Jackson
Human Resources Division



Great news and results!

Approved by: A/Deputy Chief Chris Kellett
Corporate Services Bureau



A/ Chief of Police:  _____

Date: 17 FEBRUARY 2011



2010 Control Tactics

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)		1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Totals
Canine Contact	2009	9	12	14	11	46
	2010	6	4	9	4	23
	Change	-3	-8	-5	-7	-23
	% Change	-33.3%	-66.7%	-35.7%	-63.6%	-50.0%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Presence/Laser	2009	135	124	128	90	477
	2010	102	100	80	63	345
	Change	-33	-24	-48	-27	-132
	% Change	-24.4%	-19.4%	-37.5%	-30.0%	-27.7%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Probes	2009	5	7	11	6	29
	2010	6	9	8	4	27
	Change	1	2	-3	-2	-2
	% Change	20.0%	28.6%	-27.3%	-33.3%	-6.9%
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) Stun	2009	1	2	1	4	8
	2010	1	1	1	0	3
	Change	0	-1	0	-4	-5
	% Change	0.0%	-50.0%	0.0%	-100%	-62.5%
Firearm, Low Ready	2009	274	279	302	294	1,149
	2010	289	296	259	216	1,060
	Change	15	17	-43	-78	-89
	% Change	5.5%	6.1%	-14.2%	-26.5%	-7.7%
Firearm, Pointed	2009	96	107	94	92	389
	2010	115	90	106	55	366
	Change	19	-17	12	-37	-23
	% Change	19.8%	-15.9%	12.8%	-40.2%	-5.9%
Firearm, Fired (Subject Involved Shooting)	2009	0	1	0	1	2
	2010	2	0	0	0	2
	Change	2	-1	0	-1	0
	% Change	NA	-100%	0%	-100%	0%
Impact, Baton Deployed	2009	10	17	23	10	60
	2010	14	7	8	6	35
	Change	4	-10	-15	-4	-25
	% Change	40.0%	-58.8%	-65.2%	-40.0%	-41.7%
Impact, Other	2009	3	3	3	5	14
	2010	2	5	4	3	14
	Change	-1	2	1	-2	0
	% Change	-33.3%	66.7%	33.3%	-40.0%	0.0%
Impact, Specialty Munition	2009	1	1	2	1	5
	2010	1	1	3	1	6
	Change	0	0	1	0	1
	% Change	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	20.0%

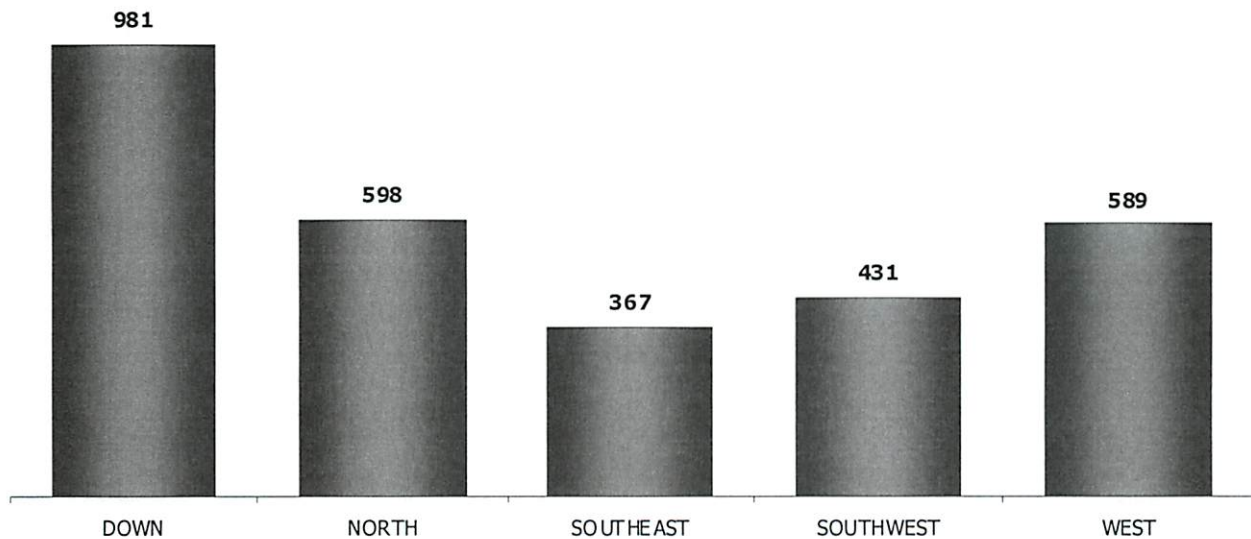
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray	2009	7	9	16	16	48
	2010	10	5	6	6	27
	Change	3	-4	-10	-10	-21
	% Change	42.9%	-44.4%	-62.5%	-62.5%	-43.8%
Takedown	2009	234	207	253	250	944
	2010	271	265	293	223	1,052
	Change	37	58	40	-27	108
	% Change	15.8%	28.0%	15.8%	-10.8%	11.4%
Disarming Technique	2009	2	10	4	3	19
	2010	3	5	2	3	13
	Change	1	-5	-2	0	-6
	% Change	50.0%	-50.0%	-50.0%	0.0%	-31.6%
Holding Technique	2009	357	372	373	376	1,478
	2010	401	395	397	280	1,473
	Change	44	23	24	-96	-5
	% Change	12.3%	6.2%	6.4%	-25.5%	-0.3%
Joint Manipulation	2009	212	213	217	226	868
	2010	216	221	214	140	791
	Change	4	8	-3	-86	-77
	% Change	1.9%	3.8%	-1.4%	-38.1%	-8.9%
Strike	2009	77	94	105	125	401
	2010	153	126	122	81	482
	Change	76	32	17	-44	81
	% Change	98.7%	34.0%	16.2%	-35.2%	20.2%
Stun/Distraction	2009	167	135	163	180	645
	2010	164	151	163	92	570
	Change	-3	16	0	-88	-75
	% Change	-1.8%	11.9%	0.0%	-48.9%	-11.6%
Communication	2009	684	702	768	729	2,883
	2010	736	758	732	556	2,782
	Change	52	56	-36	-173	-101
	% Change	7.6%	8.0%	-4.7%	-23.7%	-3.5%
# Control Tactics Reports	2009	1,375	1,423	1,497	1,558	5,853
	2010	1,636	1,579	1,571	1,172	5,958
	Change	261	156	74	-386	105
	% Change	19.0%	11.0%	4.9%	-24.8%	1.8%
# Control Tactics Occurrences	2009	771	808	854	810	3,243
	2010	799	834	796	603	3,032
	Change	28	26	-58	-207	-211
	% Change	3.6%	3.2%	-6.8%	-25.6%	-6.5%

Control Used

Least to Most

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2010 Total
CEW, CEW Stun	1			1			1						3
Impact, Specialty Munition	1				1		2		1			1	6
Disarming Technique		2	1	1	2	2	1		1		1	2	13
Impact, Other		2			2	3	1	2	1	2	1		14
Canine, Canine Contact	2	2	2		1	3	3	5	1	2		2	23
CEW, CEW Probes	2	1	3	5	2	2	3	2	3	2	1	1	27
OC, OC Deployed	6	1	3	3	1	1	2	1	3	4	1	1	27
Impact, Baton Deployed	5	3	6	3	2	2	3	4	1	3	1	2	35
CEW, CEW Presence/Laser	35	32	35	40	40	20	18	35	27	18	22	23	345
Firearm, Pointed	39	33	43	34	25	31	34	29	43	23	15	17	366
Strike	51	53	49	47	32	47	42	45	35	27	25	29	482
Stun Technique/Distraction	57	45	62	50	47	54	61	59	43	33	28	31	570
Joint Manipulation	74	74	68	71	72	78	72	69	73	64	40	36	791
Balance Displacement/Takedown	94	83	94	87	88	90	98	98	97	87	68	68	1,052
Firearm, Low Ready	102	85	102	93	96	107	89	86	84	79	64	73	1,060
Holding Technique	139	120	142	133	125	137	132	137	128	116	85	79	1,473
Communication	255	219	262	250	255	253	242	250	240	210	173	171	2,780

Geographic Breakdown of CTR Occurrences



# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	Geographic Division												Total
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
DOWN	106	84	100	91	88	95	81	82	82	64	53	55	981
NORTH	49	47	57	58	60	58	51	47	50	59	26	36	598
SOUTHEAST	29	23	34	32	35	30	34	39	29	22	30	25	367
SOUTHWEST	39	28	33	48	41	30	35	42	42	38	31	24	431
WEST	48	51	57	44	54	44	59	55	52	37	41	47	589

*Out of town or unverified addresses are not captured in the chart above

