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# EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE



## REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: 2012 January 25

SUBJECT: 2011 Edmonton Police Service Control Tactics Year-End Report

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### 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 2011 January 01 and 2011 December 31.

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 2010 and 2011.

### 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, 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. Attachment 1 contains the following information:

1. A 2010 vs. 2011 quarterly comparison of the various control tactics that were utilized;
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 thirteen control tactics categories which showed a decrease when compared to 2010.

Type of Force Used	Percentage Decrease	Number of Events 2010	Number of Events 2011
Canine contacts	- 13%	23	20
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) presence	-28%	347	250
Firearm, Low Ready	-29%	1064	751
Firearm, Pointed	-50%	368	182
Baton Deployed	-23%	35	27
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) deployed	-26%	27	20
Takedown	-40%	1062	638
Disarming techniques	-30%	13	9
Strikes	-22%	484	378
Joint Manipulation	-51%	795	392
Holding techniques	-49%	1485	751

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Type of Force Used	Percentage Decrease	Number of Events 2010	Number of Events 2011
Stun/Distracton	-44%	571	318
Impact – Specialty Munitions	-100%	6	0

There were four control tactics categories which increased when compared to the same time period in 2010:

Type of Force Used	Percentage Increase	Number of Events 2010	Number of Events 2011
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) probes	26%	27	34
Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) stuns	467 %	3	17
Canine Presence	100%	83	166
Firearm, Fired	50%	2	3

The incidents relative to Conducted Energy Weapon use were examined and it was determined that of the 17 stuns that were reported 11 of them occurred immediately following the ineffective deployment of probes. In essence the CEW was deployed but one or both probes failed to connect resulting in the member following up, making direct contact with the CEW onto the subject in accordance with training. Based on a review of the files all deployments were justified and there are no concerns with this increase. In consultation with Professional Standards Branch it was determined that although there has been an increase in 2011 CEW deployments, there was only 1 formal complaint and 2 informal complaints in relation to CEW deployment. This is consistent with 2010.

In relation to Canine Presence there was a significant increase in events from 2010 to 2011. This was attributed to increased response by canine members to assist operations. Even though canine presence had doubled from 2010 to 2011 the number of canine contacts over the same period saw a decline of 13%.

The incidents in relation to firearms fired all relate to matters in which an EPS Officer fired a firearm at a subject. These matters were subject of ASIRT investigations.

## **CONCLUSION:**

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.

In 2011, the EPS recognized that the need for engaged supervision involving use of force events is a critical link in the ROR process and implemented a service wide system to ensure supervisory oversight and review of all use of force events.

Overall there were 1969 Edmonton Police Service occurrences in 2011 in which force was used. This was a 36% reduction from the 3096 occurrences in 2010. In addition to the overall reduction of use of force events there has been a 41% decrease in use of force complaints. In 2010 there were 53 complaints and in 2011 there were 31.


It is believed that this reduction can be attributed to the professional awareness of Edmonton Police Service members in relation to the use of force along with thorough reporting and supervisory oversight.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ATTACHED:**

Attachment 1 – 2011 EPS Control Tactics Statistics

**Written by:** Inspector Kevin Kobi  
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**Approved by:** Superintendent Darren Eastcott  
Human Resources Division

**A/Chief of Police:**  \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** 08 FEBRUARY 2012



# 2011 Control Tactics

# Occurrences		1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year Totals
Canine Contact	2010	6	4	9	4	23
	2011	3	4	8	5	20
	Change	-3	0	-1	1	-3
	% Change	-50%	0%	-11%	25%	-13%
Canine Presence	2010	15	19	29	20	83
	2011	37	45	43	41	166
	Change	22	26	14	21	83
	% Change	147%	137%	48%	105%	100%
CEW Presence/Laser	2010	102	100	81	64	347
	2011	79	72	51	48	250
	Change	-23	-28	-30	-16	-97
	% Change	-23%	-28%	-37%	-25%	-28%
CEW Probes	2010	6	9	8	4	27
	2011	8	10	4	12	34
	Change	2	1	-4	8	7
	% Change	33%	11%	-50%	200%	26%
CEW Stun	2010	1	1	1	0	3
	2011	4	7	3	3	17
	Change	3	6	2	3	14
	% Change	300%	600%	200%	N/A	467%
Low Ready	2010	289	296	259	220	1064
	2011	207	203	174	167	751
	Change	-82	-93	-85	-53	-313
	% Change	-28%	-31%	-33%	-24%	-29%
Pointed	2010	115	90	106	57	368
	2011	44	61	42	35	182
	Change	-71	-29	-64	-22	-186
	% Change	-62%	-32%	-60%	-39%	-51%
Fired (Subject Involved Shooting)	2010	2				2
	2011	2		1		3
	Change					1
	% Change	0%		N/A		50%
Baton	2010	14	7	8	6	35
	2011	8	8	6	5	27
	Change	-6	1	-2	-1	-8
	% Change	-43%	14%	-25%	-17%	-23%
Impact, Other	2010	2	5	4	3	14
	2011	2	3	1	2	8
	Change	0	-2	-3	-1	-6
	% Change	0%	-40%	-75%	-33%	-43%
Specialty Mmunition	2010	1	1	3	1	6
	2011	0	0	0	0	0
	Change	-1	-1	-3	-1	-6
	% Change	-100%	-100%	-100%	-100%	-100%

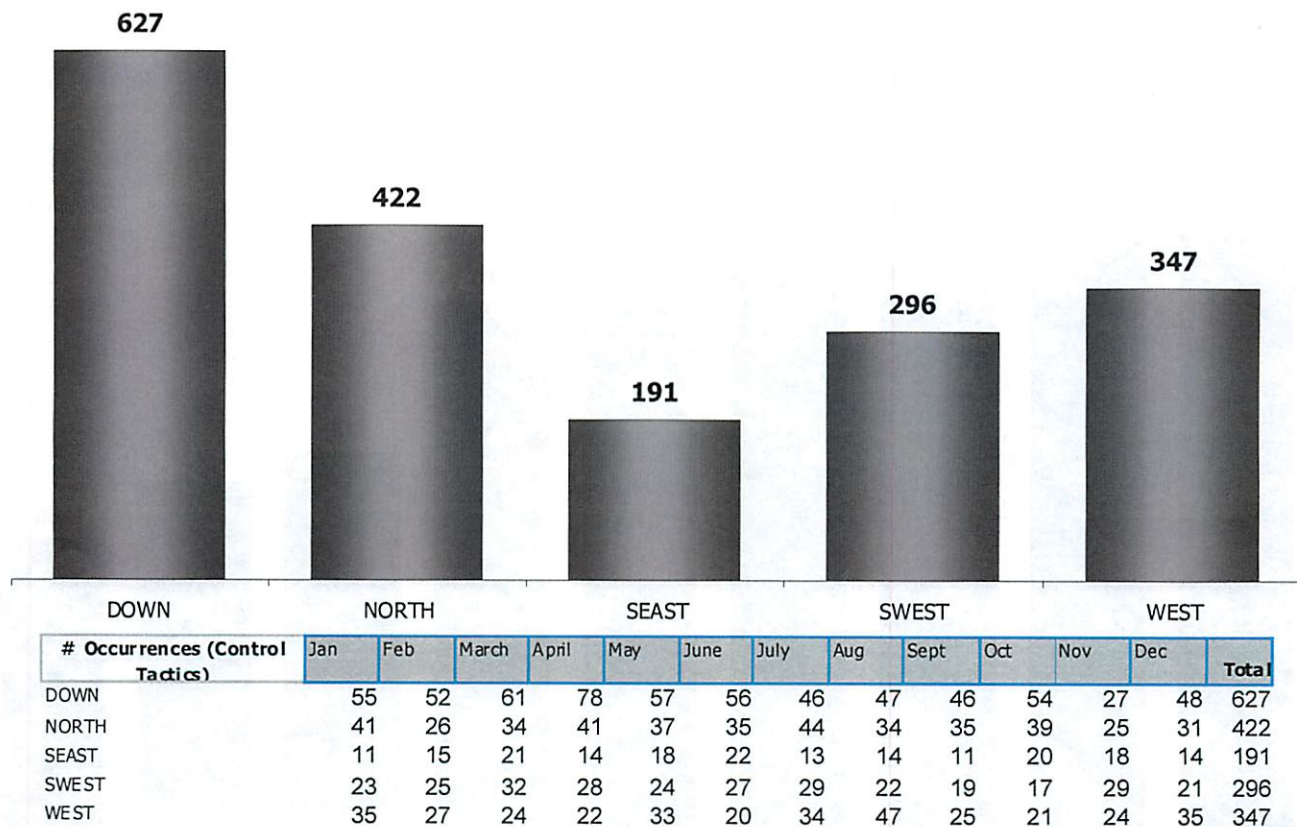
# Occurrences		1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year Totals
OC Deployed	2010	10	5	6	6	27
	2011	8	4	5	3	20
	Change	-2	-1	-1	-3	-7
	% Change	-20%	-20%	-17%	-50%	-26%
Takedown	2010	271	265	293	233	1062
	2011	157	178	155	148	638
	Change	-114	-87	-138	-85	-424
	% Change	-42%	-33%	-47%	-36%	-40%
Disarming Technique	2010	3	5	2	3	13
	2011	5	3	0	1	9
	Change	2	-2	-2	-2	-4
	% Change	67%	-40%	-100%	-67%	-31%
Holding Technique	2010	401	395	398	291	1485
	2011	187	193	186	185	751
	Change	-214	-202	-212	-106	-734
	% Change	-53%	-51%	-53%	-36%	-49%
Joint Manipulation	2010	216	221	214	144	795
	2011	93	105	99	95	392
	Change	-123	-116	-115	-49	-403
	% Change	-57%	-52%	-54%	-34%	-51%
Strike	2010	153	126	122	83	484
	2011	99	96	100	83	378
	Change	-54	-30	-22	0	-106
	% Change	-35%	-24%	-18%	0%	-22%
Stun Technique	2010	164	151	163	93	571
	2011	72	94	83	69	318
	Change	-92	-57	-80	-24	-253
	% Change	-56%	-38%	-49%	-26%	-44%
Control tactics Reports	2010	1653	1597	1595	1219	6064
	2011	910	942	824	746	3422
	Change	-743	-655	-771	-473	-2642
	% Change	-45%	-41%	-48%	-39%	-44%
Occurrences	2010	807	848	810	631	3096
	2011	506	527	484	452	1969
	Change	-301	-321	-326	-179	-1127
	% Change	-37%	-38%	-40%	-28%	-36%

## Control Used

*Least to Most*

# Occurrences (Control Tactics)	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Firearms Fired			1	1						1			3
Impact, Other			1	1	1	2			1			2	8
Disarming Technique			3	2		1	2			1			9
CEW, CEW Stun		1	2	1	1	1	5	2		1		2	17
Canine Contact			2	1	1	2	1	5		3	2		20
OC Deployed		1	5	2		2	2	2	2	1	1	1	20
Baton		2	5	1	1	2	5	3	2	1	1	1	27
CEW, CEW Probes		2	3	3	1	4	5	2	2		3	4	34
Canine Presence		11	10	16	24	8	13	17	12	14	17	10	166
Firearm, Pointed		13	17	14	20	22	19	16	17	9	10	12	182
CEW Presence/Laser		27	23	29	23	25	24	16	23	12	20	14	250
Stun Technique/Distracton		20	27	25	27	33	34	34	25	24	23	21	318
Strike		35	30	34	26	32	38	31	42	27	26	21	378
Joint Manipulation		32	30	31	28	40	37	39	30	30	32	24	392
Balance Displacement/Takedown		51	48	58	60	64	54	54	54	47	50	43	638

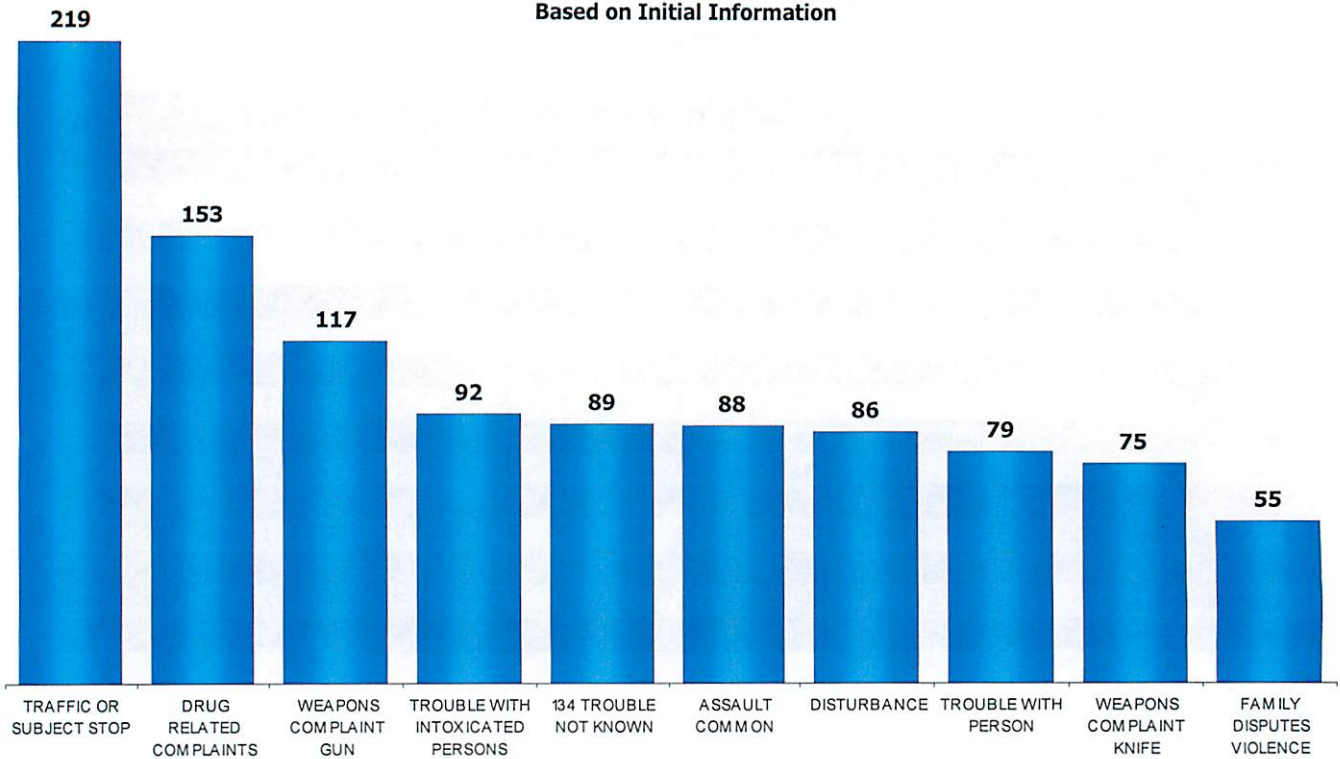
### Geographic Breakdown of CTR Occurrences



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



**Top Ten Dispatched Events  
Based on Initial Information**



**Top Ten Actual Event Types  
Based on Uniform Crime Reporting Evaluation**

