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RECEIVED BY  
PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD  
DATE June 11, 2018  
LOG No. 103 Police Services Board  
FILE CLASS PO1 For information

REPORT

File Class: 1-02-02-03

Cross-Reference File Class: 3-02-09-14

DATE: June 7, 2018  
SUBJECT: **2017 ANNUAL USE OF FORCE REPORT**  
FROM: David Jarvis, Deputy Chief, Corporate Services

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that this document be received as the 2017 Annual Use of Force Report by the Police Services Board.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Explanation of the reporting and training requirements for Use of Force.
- Statistical data and analysis.
- Strategies and plan for 2018 training.

**BACKGROUND**

Police officers may be required to use force to protect the public and themselves, and as such, are granted authority by the Criminal Code of Canada to use reasonable force when necessary to carry out their duties. Regulations issued by the Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services specifically address the reporting requirements of these events. Reported information is focused on identifying and evaluating training needs in general terms and/or specific to individual officers. This annual report provides a summary of all Use of Force incidents during 2017 involving the Peel Regional Police (PRP).

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Peel Regional Police Directive I-B-102(F) specifies when an officer shall submit a Use of Force Report as required by the Ontario Police Services Act, Regulation 926 Section 14.5(1).

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PRP Directive I-B-102 (F), section T (1) states:

***T. Provincial Use of Force Reports***

1. *Any force applied to a subject that results in injury, a complaint, or the anticipation of a complaint shall be reported to an immediate Supervisor on the P.R.P. #296 (as set out in the Equipment and Use of Force Regulation 926) within three days of the incident. If the member is incapacitated, the Provincial Use of Force Report shall be completed by the member's immediate Supervisor **within three days of the incident**. Regardless of injury or complaint, a Provincial Use of Force Report shall be submitted if a member uses any weapon, including:*

- (a) a handgun - drawn in the presence of a member of the public, excluding a member of P.R.P. who is on duty;*
- (b) a firearm – points a firearm at a person, or discharges a firearm and includes all negligent discharges regardless of circumstance;*
- (c) a weapon, other than a firearm, including a weapon of opportunity;*
- (d) physical force on another person that results in an injury requiring medical attention;*

*Note: The leader of a specialist team (Tactical Unit or Public Safety Unit only) may submit a team report.*

- (e) a baton – whenever a person is authorized to use force uses the baton against a person, regardless of whether any injury is sustained, or a complaint is received;*
- (f) a C.E.W. – in cartridge/probe mode, three point contact, and drive/push stun mode, regardless of whether there is an injury sustained or a complaint received; or as demonstrated force presence; or,*
- (g) an O.C. Spray – when used independently, or with any other use of force method, regardless of whether any injury is sustained or a complaint is received.*

**TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

*Ontario Policing Standards (OPS) AI-012 Use of Force Guidelines and the Equipment and Use of Force Regulation (Ontario Regulation 926/90), outlines standards regarding training, equipment, qualifications and re-qualifications.*

This regulation prohibits a member of a police service from using force on another person unless the member has successfully completed the prescribed training course. Use of force re-qualification is mandatory for every member who uses, or may be required to use force or carry a weapon. The use of force training courses provided by PRP meet, and in some cases exceeds, the requirements that are set out by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. Each member is required to pass the requalification course every twelve months.

## **ANNUAL USE OF FORCE TRAINING**

The design and delivery of Use of Force training is subject to an internal review on an annual basis. In identifying trends, the objective is to provide officers with the knowledge, skills and abilities to appropriately deal with situations they may encounter during the course of their duties. Learning and Development conducts annual environmental scans relating to police reviews and use of force encounters, including those involving armed individuals in crisis. As a result of these activities, specific training scenarios were designed to assist officers encountering emotionally disturbed persons (EDP) who are in crisis.

In June 2017, the Chief's Management Group (CMG) approved the transformation of the Use of Force Training Unit to be known as the Incident Response Training Unit (IRTU), which more accurately reflects the nature of training being provided to its officers. Included in this transformation was the addition of two additional days of training to the provincially mandated annual use of force training.

## **STATISTICAL DATA AND ANALYSIS**

The data used to prepare this report is compiled from PRP Use of Force Reports from 2015 to 2017.

The report captures statistics in the following areas:

- Total number of use of force incidents
- Breakdown of types of calls for service
- Injuries to subjects and officers
- Number of incidents and types of weapons carried / used by the subject
- Officer assignments at time of the use of force incident
- Police presence at time of incident
- Number of subjects involved per incident

It should be noted that some categories in the Use of Force report allows for multiple entries within a particular classification, including categories such as: "Types of Calls for Service" and "Use of Force Options Utilized". For this reason, the sum of all category entries may exceed the number of actual Use of Force reports.

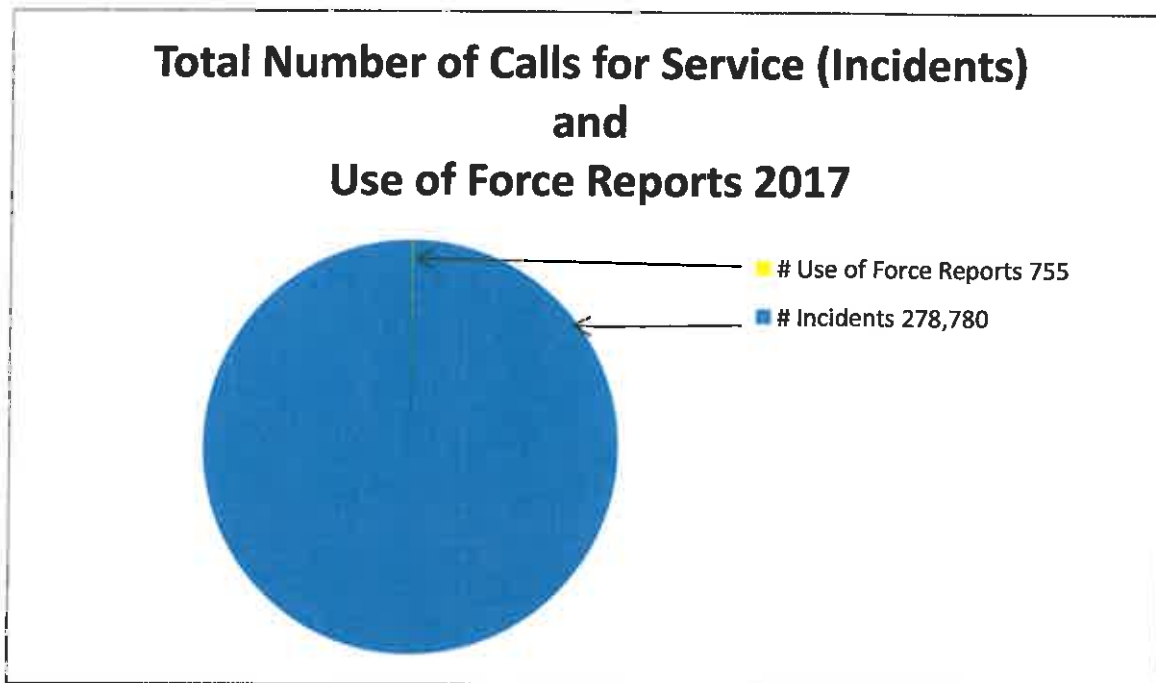
### **Total Number of Use of Force Incidents**

For this section, "incidents" refers to the total number of calls for service combined with total number of officer initiated traffic stops. The number of use of force incidents reflects the number of incidents where a level of force was used requiring a report to be submitted.

Use of Force Report Per Number of Total Incidents			
Year	Incidents	Number of Use of Force Incidents	Percentage of Incidents vs UOF Incidents
2015	286,728	620 (459*)	0.22% (0.16%*)
2016	280,023	654 (419*)	0.23% (0.15%*)
2017	278,780	755 (384*)	0.27% (0.13%*)
<b>3 Year Average</b>	<b>281,843</b>	<b>676 (420*)</b>	<b>0.24% (0.14%)</b>

\*With CEW "Draw/Displayed/Armed Only" data removed (CEW - Not used on a Subject)

While the combined total of incidents decreased slightly in 2017 the total Use of Force incidents increased by 3%. The increase can be directly attributed to the CEW expansion and reporting requirements. The reporting requirements for the CEW include when the CEW is "drawn/displayed/armed only" in addition to the number of incidents involving the CEW being used on a subject.



### Call for Service Types

When an officer completes a Use of Force Report, they have the option of selecting from multiple types of "Call for Service" or incident types. Therefore, the total number of types of "Call for Service" may exceed the total number of Use of Force reports, as was the case in 2017 with 1,222 different "Call for Service" types described in the 755 Use of Force reports.

"9-1-1 Calls" made up the most frequently reported "Call for Service" type at 232 (30.7%), followed by "Weapons Dangerous" at 160 (21.1%), "Arrests" at 118 (15.6%), and calls involving "Emotionally Disturbed Persons" (EDP) at 82 (10.8%). Reported Use of Force

incidents involving EDPs increased by 4 incidents from 2016.

In 2017, officers responded to 230,605 Calls for Service and 48,175 Traffic Stops. Incidents coded as involving Emotionally Disturbed Persons accounted for 5,866 of these incidents. As a result of these encounters 82 Use of Force reports were submitted for 1.39% of all incidents coded as involving an EDP. This is a reduction compared to the 1.53% reported in 2016. This may be an indication that the continued focus on mental health awareness, crisis intervention, and officer stress resilience training are achieving the desired outcomes.

### Injuries to Subjects & Officers

Officers are required to record any injuries sustained by any party in a use of force incident and whether medical attention was required as a result.

For the purpose of Use of Force reporting, only injuries requiring medical attention are recorded. Provincial reporting guidelines direct that if Police have a Use of Force encounter, injuries requiring medical attention, sustained by a citizen prior to the arrival or involvement of police must be noted on the report. These injuries could include either self-inflicted wounds or injuries caused by a third person. Statistical analysis of the data must be mindful of the effect of this reporting obligation. For the purposes of this report, data relating to injuries not caused by a police action or simple wounds caused by CEW probes have been removed. Reportable injuries resulting directly or indirectly from CEW deployment accounted for 92 of the total 138 injuries acquired during use of force encounters. The majority of injuries resulted from subjects resisting in a physical confrontation and were relatively minor in nature.

#### Use of Force Injuries

Subject Injuries			
	2015	2016	2017
Total Use of Force Incidents	620	654	755
Number of Reported Injuries	105 (16.9%)	115 (17.6%)	138 (18.3%)

Officer Injuries			
	2015	2016	2017
Total Use of Force Incidents	620	654	755
Number of Reported Injuries	59 (9.5%)	78 (11.9%)	50 (6.6%)

### Number of Incidents and Type of Weapons Carried/Used by Subject

In 2017 there was a 18% increase in incidents where officers encountered subjects carrying or using a weapon.

There were **235** incidents where a subject carried or used a weapon, compared to 2016 where there were a total of **199** incidents. The types of weapons carried by subjects in 2017 included:

- Firearms - 25 Handgun, 2 Long Gun, 21 Replica
- Edged Weapon - 113
- Bat / Club-like Weapon - 11
- Motor Vehicle - 34
- Other Weapon - 29

### Use of Force Options

The most frequent use of force option reported was pointing a firearm, which is similar to 2016. The second most used option was the CEW – drawn/displayed only. Due to the expansion of the CEW program, an increase in CEW deployment is predictable as officers may choose the CEW over and above physical force or other options as a safer alternative in some situations.

Type of Force Used	2015	2016	2017	Average
<b>Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW)</b>				
Drawn/Displayed Not Deployed	171	231	371	277
Drive Stun and/or Probes Deployed	66	133	201	133
<b>Physical Control</b>				
Physical Control Soft Only	326	370	265	320
Physical Control Hard Only	288	286	272	282
<b>Firearm</b>				
Firearm Pointed at Person	493	548	685	575
Handgun - Drawn Only	100	90	127	106
Firearm Discharge - Intentional	19	21	18	19
<b>Other Types of Force</b>				
Oleoresin Capsicum Spray	53	42	32	42
Impact Weapons	10	10	3	8
Arwen	12	8	5	8
Police Service Dog	9	12	11	11
Other Types of Force	7	8	5	7

### Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) as a Use of Force Option

The CEW was utilized in 527 incidents, an increase over 2016 in which there were 290 incidents. This increase was anticipated due to an increase in the number of CEWs available to patrol officers (415) in 2017, as part of the CEW expansion program. The number of deployments reflected in the chart is greater than the number of incidents due to multiple officer deployments reported in a single incident.

In April 2016, the Police Services Board approved a strategic expansion of the CEW program and user group to take place over a five year period, 2016 through to 2020 inclusive. The user group was expanded to include all sworn personnel. The program directs that all Front Line Officers will be provided with a CEW as part of their personal issue while in that function, and CEW equipment pools will remain for other bureaux and units.

The expansion program is designed to accommodate an increase in overall CEW inventory and trained officers as follows:

2016 - 100 additional CEW units, and a total of 100 new users trained  
2017 - 400 additional CEW units, and a total of 400 new users trained  
2018 - 400 additional CEW units, and a total of 400 new users trained  
2019 - 197 additional CEW units, and a total of 400 new users trained  
2020 - 0 additional CEW units, and a total of 300 new users trained

### **Firearms as a Use of Force Option**

Pointing a firearm was the single most frequently reported use of force option used during 2017. In the reporting period there were 18 incidents where 18 officers discharged their firearm, a slight decrease when compared to 2016, where there were 20 incidents involving 22 officers.

It is believed that the increase in reports of pointing firearms at a subject is related to an increase in requests for the Tactical Unit to support high risk events. Officers are also being trained to support the less lethal option of a CEW with a lethal backup, should the situation warrant it while employing crisis intervention strategies.

The breakdown of the Incidents of firearm discharges in 2017 is as follows:

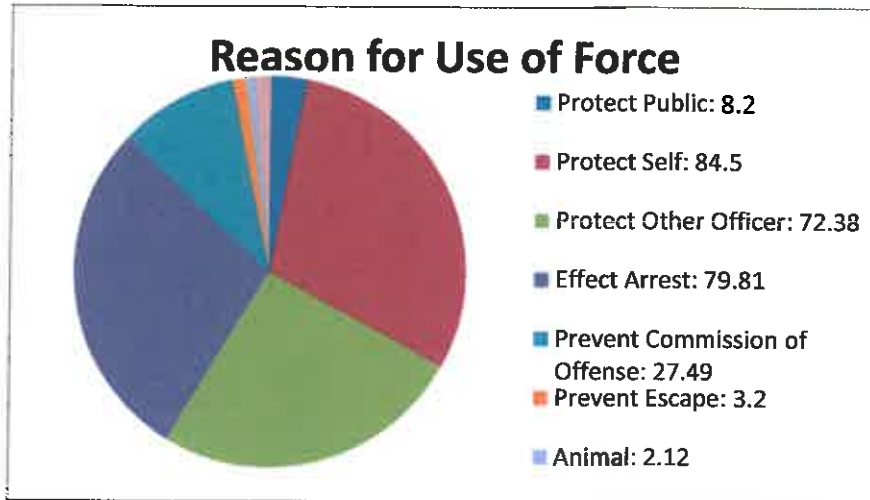
- 11 incidents of injured/suffering animals (includes an attack by a dog).
- 7 incidents involving armed persons.
- 0 incidents involving a suspect vehicle.
- 0 accidental discharge.

### **Physical Control as a Use of Force Option**

There was a downward trend in officers submitting reports relating to the use of "Physical Control - Soft Only" and no significant change relating to the use of "Physical Control - Hard Only".

### **Reason Force as Used**

The use of force report issued by the Ministry of Community and Safety and Correctional Services permits the selection of multiple reasons for the use of force. In 2017, the reasons for using force are as follows:



### Officer Assignments

Officers assigned to uniform patrol accounted for 483 Use of Force incidents, a slight increase from 2016. Assignment areas reporting an increase in Use of Force incidents in 2017 included the Tactical and Rescue Unit, Canine Unit, Investigation - Drugs, and Paid Duty.

Officer Assignment	2015	2016	2017	Average
Uniform Patrol	424	416	483	441
Tactical	137	142	163	147
Canine	24	29	51	35
Investigation - CIB	25	33	32	30
Other	22	13	22	19
Courts	10	19	9	13
Investigation - Drugs	8	13	17	13
Paid Duty	5	3	12	7
Traffic	12	15	7	11
Station Duty	12	14	9	12
Off Duty	0	1	0	0

During the last two years there has been an increase in the demand for the Tactical Unit to support high risk incidents and investigations. The increase in Tactical Use of Force reports is related to the increase in these events and the changes to CEW reporting criteria. Likewise the Canine Unit frequently attends the same high risk events; however Canine Unit officers are not included in Tactical Unit Team Use of Force reports. In these cases Canine Unit officers submit their own individual UOF reports as required. The Canine Units moved to 24 hour coverage in June of 2015 and subsequent personal issue of CEWs in 2017 also contributed to the increase in their UOF reporting.



## **Police Presence at Time of Incident**

In 85.7% of the Use of Force incidents, more than one officer was present, down 2.4% from 2016. By comparison, more than one officer is dispatched to a Call for Service 69.9% of the time. This is consistent with statistical observations relating to "Call for Service" types and supports a continued focus on officer communication skills during Use of Force training.

## **Number of Subjects Involved per Incident**

There was no significant change in the ratio of involved subjects per Use of Force incident. Incidents involving a single subject being 79%, two subjects at 11%, and three or more subjects at 10%.

## **Conclusion**

PRP has procedures in place that ensure the regular review of Use of Force Reports by supervisors and trainers. Additionally the PRP Use of Force Review Committee will continue to review all Use of Force Reports and assess the circumstances and outcomes for trends and patterns. This information will be integrated into various training scenarios to ensure members are properly prepared to deal with situations that arise requiring the appropriate incident response. There were no significant issues identified in 2017.

In conclusion, PRP is in compliance with the Ontario Policing Standards Manual, the Ontario Police Services Act and PRP Directive 1-B-102 (F) Use of Force.

## **2018 – PLANNED TASKS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Incident Response Training Program**

In June 2017, CMG approved Learning and Development to transition from the 1 day Use of Force training model to a 3 day Incident Response training program. CMG also approved that Use of Force annual requalification training be renamed "Incident Response Requalification Training".

This direction was adopted in order to exceed obligations under the Ontario Policing Standards, the anticipated outcomes resulting from the ongoing crisis intervention and de-escalation review being conducted by the Ministry, and anticipated licensing requirements with the University of Toronto to deliver iPREP training material.

In January 2018, the Incident Response Requalification Training Program (IRRTP) was implemented. The expanded IRRTP incorporates annual training requalification related to:

- Breaching & Immediate Rapid Deployment.
- Conducted Energy Weapon.
- Crime Scene Management.
- Crisis Intervention and De-escalation.
- Crisis Negotiation.

- Fair and Impartial Policing, Incident Command.
- iPREP.
- Use of Force.

### Three Day Incident Response Syllabus

Day One – Eight Hours	Lecture, Theory & Case Study
Response principles theory review, instruction and case study analysis.	Incident Response Principles related to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breaching &amp; Immediate Rapid Deployment</li> <li>• Conducted Energy Weapon</li> <li>• Crime Scene Management</li> <li>• Crisis Intervention and De-escalation</li> <li>• Crisis Negotiation</li> <li>• Fair and Impartial Policing</li> <li>• Incident Command</li> <li>• iPREP</li> <li>• Use of Force</li> </ul>
Day Two – Eight Hours	Weapons & Defensive Tactics
Weapons and defensive tactics skills training and requalification, box drills to condition weapons transitions and “shoot” “don’t shoot” judgment skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baton</li> <li>• Breaching</li> <li>• Conducted Energy Weapon</li> <li>• Defensive Tactics</li> <li>• Firearms</li> <li>• Pepper Spray</li> </ul>
Day Three – Eight Hours	Scenario Training & Note Taking
Scenario training and evaluation of Incident Response principles, and notes.	Incident Response Principles related to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breaching &amp; Immediate Rapid Deployment</li> <li>• Conducted Energy Weapon</li> <li>• Crime Scene Management</li> <li>• Crisis Intervention and De-escalation</li> <li>• Crisis Negotiation</li> <li>• Fair and Impartial Policing</li> <li>• Incident Command</li> <li>• iPREP</li> <li>• Use of Force</li> </ul>

This direction was strategically designed to leverage other training initiatives, specifically:

- The 2015 initiation of Cohort Foundation Training which will be fully implemented in 2018 eliminating the need to run “Open Enrollment” courses and thereby reducing the number of Mental Health Awareness, Advance Patrol Training, Basic Investigative Techniques,

and General Investigative Techniques course from six per year to three. This will allow more opportunities for Training Bureau Instructors to support Incident Response training.

- The 2016-20, CEW expansion program and personal issue to all Front Line Officers annually increasing the need for CEW requalification training peaking 2021.
- The 2016-17 Service wide delivery of Fair and Impartial Policing training as a stand-alone course to all members of the organization, and development of an annual re-certification curriculum.
- The 2016-17 review of the existing Mental Health Awareness course compared to British Columbia's CID course and evaluation tools, along with locally developed annual re-certification curriculum.
- The ongoing incorporation of Incident Response principles that commenced in 2016 as part of annual Use of Force requalification.
- Development of evaluation tools to be applied within the Incident Response scenarios that can be used to measure an officers ability to apply the principles of UOF, iPREP, FIP, CID and Incident Command.
- Peel Regional Police is a member of an expert technical committee with the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services' (MCSCS) in formulating a response to the Ombudsman Report on De-escalation in Conflict Situations.

### **University of Toronto – iPREP**

Peel Regional Police and the University of Toronto's *'Health, Adaptation, Research on Trauma Lab (HART Lab)'* have been involved in a collaborative research project concerning resilience training for police officers. The focus of the research has been on a program known as the "International Performance Resilience and Efficiency Program" (iPREP) which examines how to mitigate the cognitive and sensory distortions experienced during situations involving critical stress or life threatening encounters. In June of 2016, the Ministry of Labour sponsored an 18 month collaborative research project between the University of Toronto and the Peel Regional Police entitled "Improving Occupational Health and Safety Among Police Officers". This project provided access to approximately 1,000 front line officers who voluntarily participated.

The University of Toronto is anticipating their research to be completed and released by the end of 2018.

### **Crisis Intervention and De-escalation**

The Peel Regional Police has entered into a licensing agreement with the British Columbia Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General for the purpose of securing the rights to their Crisis Intervention and De-escalation course including all content, lesson plans, and student

evaluation tools. The process is currently underway to conduct a comparative review against the Peel Regional Police, Mental Health Awareness program. In 2018, this training has been introduced into the 3 day Incident Response Training and a 2 hour video training module will be released for all sworn officers to complete.

## CONCLUSION

The Peel Regional Police have made it a priority to focus on providing education and training to officers in relation to de-escalating situations involving individuals in crisis. These efforts have included activities such as; specific training scenarios designed around officers encountering an individual in crisis and living with a possible mental health illness, intrinsic bias training delivered through Fair and Impartial Policing, our Mental Health Awareness training program, and strategies designed to increase an officer's stress resiliency during critical incidents through the University of Toronto's iPREP program.

Early data indicates that the expansion of the CEW user group, coupled with the expansion of crisis and de-escalation training is providing positive results. These programs will continue to be developed, expanded, and disseminated through a variety of training platforms.

The Peel Regional Police continues to provide its officers with training that meets and exceeds legislative standards as set out by the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services. By continuing to identify and evaluate our training needs we have committed to evolve and deliver our training programs to ensure our officers are prepared to meet the needs and concerns of the community with professionalism.

### Approved for Submission:



David Jarvis, Deputy Chief, Corporate Services

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