

80



FORWARDED TO POLICE SERVICES BOARD	RECEIVED BY PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD
DATE <u>29 May 17</u>	DATE <u>May 30 2017</u>
<u>J Jarvis</u> CHIEF OF POLICE	LOG No. <u>269</u>
	FILE CLASS <u>PO1</u>

REPORT
Police Services Board
For Information

File Class: 1-02-02-03

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

DATE: May 17, 2017

SUBJECT: 2016 ANNUAL USE OF FORCE REPORT

FROM: David Jarvis, Deputy Chief, Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this document be received as the 2016 Annual Use of Force Report.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

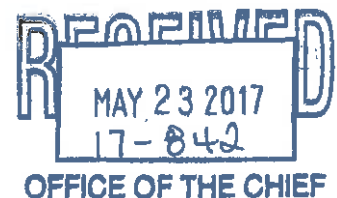
- The total number of Use of Force incidents reported during 2016 increased primarily due to the implementation of the Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) expansion program which commenced in April 2016.
- In 2016, training scenarios were designed to assist officers encountering individuals living with mental illness in a crisis situation. The focus of the training was on containment, communication and de-escalation techniques, along with transitioning through various use of force and de-escalation options as the situation evolves.

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 2016 involving the Peel Regional Police (PRP).

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Ontario Police Services Act, Regulation 926 Sec. 14.5 (1) and Peel Regional Police Directive I-B-102(F) specifies when an officer shall submit a Use of Force Report:



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.

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. In 2016 the annual review also included an Active Assailant Immediate Rapid Deployment (IRD) exercise held at Pearson International Airport and the collaborative research project with the University of Toronto regarding officer stress responses and their cognitive abilities during critical encounters with armed subjects. As a result of these activities, specific training scenarios were designed to assist officers encountering emotionally disturbed persons (EDP) who are in crisis.

STATISTICAL DATA AND ANALYSIS

The data used to prepare this report is compiled from PRP Use of Force Reports for the period 2014 – 2016 inclusive. 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.

In July of 2014, PRP broadened the requirements of Use of Force reporting to capture the impact and effectiveness that the presence of the Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) has during an incident. Since that time, officers have been required to file a Use of Force Report when a CEW is drawn from its holster and displayed during an encounter with a member of the public, even if it is not used on the subject. This change has increased the total number of Use of Force reports filed in subsequent years. The analysis of this data supports that the CEW can be an effective option in resolving some situations simply by being displayed. An environmental scan indicates that a number of other police services, including the majority of those in the GTA have now also self-imposed similar reporting standards.

In February of 2014, the Police Services Board approved the expansion of the number of CEWs that PRP could deploy from 100 to 130. Paralleling the increase in CEW inventory the PRP initiated a transition process moving from the older X26 Taser to the newly provincially approved X2 Taser. This process was completed by February of 2016.

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 inclusively. 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.

At the beginning of 2016 there were 130 CEWs in inventory. During 2016 the CEW inventory was increased by 100 units and 545 officers were qualified on the X2 Taser. At the time of this report there were 433 CEWs deployed through a combination of pooled resources (142) and personal issue (291). The entire CEW inventory is presently 501 units with the remaining 68 units held in inventory pending the qualification of officers for personal issue.

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

Number of Use of Force Incidents

While the combined total of “Citizen Initiated Events and Traffic Stops” decreased slightly in 2016 the total Use of Force incidents increased by 5.5%. The increase can be directly attributed to the CEW expansion and reporting requirements. When the reporting rates are comparatively reviewed based on the provincially mandated reporting criteria, the number of Use of Force incidents was actually down 8.4% from 2015.

Use of Force Report Per Citizen Initiated Events and P2 Traffic Stops

Year	CIE & TS	Number of Use of Force Incidents	Percentage of CIE & TS
2014	292,646	526 (457*)	0.18% (0.16%*)
2015	286,728	620 (459*)	0.22% (0.16%*)
2016	280,023	654 (419*)	0.23% (0.15%*)
3 Year Average	286,465	600 (445*)	0.21% (0.16%*)

*With CEW "Draw/Displayed/Armed Only" data removed (CEW - Not 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 2016 with 1,170 different "Call for Service" types described in the 654 Use of Force reports. "9-1-1 Calls" made up the most frequently reported "Call for Service" type at 180, followed by "Arrests" at 116, "Weapons Dangerous" at 112, and calls involving "Emotionally Disturbed Persons" (EDP) at 78. Reported Use of Force incidents involving EDPs decreased by 22 incidents from 2015.

In 2016, officers responded to 280,023 Citizen Initiated Events and P2 Traffic Stops. Incidents coded as involving Emotionally Disturbed Persons accounted for 5,090 of these incidents. As a result of these encounters 78 Use of Force reports were submitted or for 1.53% of all incidents coded as involving an EDP. This is a reduction compared to the 1.78% reported in 2015. 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

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 34 of the total 115 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.

Injuries Per Use of Force Incidents

Year	Use Of Force Incidents	Subject Injuries*	Officer Injuries
2014	526	94 (17.9%)	53 (10.1%)
2015	620	105 (16.9%)	59 (9.5%)
2016	654	115 (17.6%)	78 (11.9%)
3 Year Avg.	600	105 (17.5%)	63 (10.5%)

* Data relating to injuries not caused by a police action and simple wounds caused by CEW probes have been removed.

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

In 2016 there were a total of 199 incidents where a subject carried or used a weapon, compared to 2015 where there were a total of 182 incidents. The types of weapons carried by subjects in 2016 included:

- Bat / Club-like Weapon 12
- Edged Weapon 84
- Motor Vehicle 34
- Firearms 37
- Other Weapon 32

Firearms as a Use of Force Option

Pointing a firearm was the single most frequently reported use of force option used during 2016. In the reporting period there were 20 incidents where 22 officers discharged their firearm, a slight increase when compared to 2015, where there were 19 incidents involving 19 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, and, officers 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 2016 is as follows:

- 12 incidents of injured/suffering animals
- 2 incidents involving armed persons
- 5 incidents involving a suspect vehicle
- 1 accidental discharge

Use of a Firearm	2014	2015	2016	Average
Firearm Pointed at Person	432	493	548	491
Handgun - Drawn Only	50	100	90	80
Firearm Discharge - Intentional	25	19	21*	21.6
Total	507	612	661	593

* There was 1 additional unintentional (accidental) discharge in 2016

CEW as a Use of Force Option

The CEW was utilized in 290 incidents, an increase over 2015 in which there 237 incidents. This increase was anticipated due to an increase in the number of CEWs available to patrol officers (100) in 2016, as part of the CEW expansion program. The number of deployments reflected in the chart below is greater than the number of incidents due to multiple deployments reported in a single incident.

Use of CEW	2014	2015	2016	Average
Drawn/Displayed Not Deployed*	69*	171	231	157
Drive Stun and/or Probes Deployed	85	66	133	95
Total	154*	237	364	252

* Reporting requirements came into effect in July of 2014.

Physical Control as a Use of Force Option

There was an upward 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".

Use of Physical Control	2014	2015	2016	Average
Physical Control Soft Only	275	326	370	324
Physical Control Hard Only	248	288	286	274
Total	523	614	656	598

Other Use of Force Options

Other use of force options used in 2016 included the following:

Use of Other Options	2014	2015	2016	Average
Oleoresin Capsicum Spray	49	53	42	48
Impact Weapons	9	10	10	10
Arwen	4	12	8	8
Canine	1	9	12	7
Other Types of Force	0	7	8	5

Officer Assignments

Officers assigned to uniform patrol accounted for 416 Use of Force incidents, a slight decrease from 2015. Assignment areas reporting an increase in Use of Force incidents in 2016 included the Tactical and Rescue Unit, Canine Unit, Station Duty, and Traffic duties.

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 UOF 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 UOF reports. In these cases Canine Unit officers submit their own individual UOF report as required. Additionally, Canine Unit officers received personal issue CEWs in 2016 which also contributes to the increase of their UOF reporting due to PRP's CEW reporting policy. The Canine Unit also moved to 24 hour coverage in June of 2015.

Officer Assignment	2014	2015	2016	Average
Uniform Patrol	327	424	416	389
Tactical	119	137	142	133
Canine	8	24	29	20
Investigation - CIB	40	25	33	33
Other	14	22	13	16
Courts	14	10	19	14
Investigation - Drugs	13	8	13	11
Paid Duty	3	5	3	4
Traffic	7	12	15	11
Station Duty	5	12	14	10
Off Duty	0	0	1	0

Police Presence at Time of Incident

In 88% of the Use of Force incidents, more than one officer was present, up 3% from 2015. By comparison, more than one officer is dispatched to a Call for Service 68% 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 67%, two subjects at 18%, and three or more subjects at 13%.

2017 – PLANNED TASKS AND ACTIVITIES

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 requires the Peel Regional Police to provide access to a minimum of 1,000 front line officers by the end of October (2017) to voluntarily participate in this research project.

Crisis Intervention and De-escalation

The Peel Regional Police has entered into a licensing agreement with the Policing and Security Training Standards Branch of the British Columbia Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General for the purpose of securing the rights to British Columbia's 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.

Incident Response Training Strategy Review

In 1999, the Ontario Policing Standards became the baseline for police training curriculum in Ontario. Since that time, changes in technology, best practices and community expectations have evolved, making it incumbent on the policing profession to continue developing best practice guidelines. Learning and Development is currently conducting a review of our education and training curriculum as part of our on-going efforts to advance the profession of policing, maintain and enhance public confidence and provide quality service to our communities. This review will focus on the broader topic of Incident Response education, training and requalification.

OIRPD Review

The 2015 Annual Report advised that The Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD) had expanded its systemic review of police training, focusing on de-escalation techniques when dealing with individuals living with mental health issues, emotionally disturbed people and people in crisis. The OIPRD released its Systemic Review Interim Report titled 'Police Interactions with People in Crisis and Use of Force' on March 31st, 2017. This report is

currently being reviewed by members of Corporate Learning and Development and our Use of Force Review Committee. The PRP has provided course overviews relating to iPREP, Basic Constable Training and annual UOF requalification to the OIPRD.

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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