



NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE

2006 Annual Report Use of Force Analysis

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A. OVERVIEW

The number and nature of Use of Force reports has changed over the past few years. Training methods, the type of calls for service and use of force options available to front-line officers have all influenced these changes. The following information is gathered through reports submitted by the involved officers and is used primarily to identify training needs.

B. USE OF FORCE REPORTS BY TYPE

The total number of occurrences requiring the submission of a Use of Force Report in 2006 increased by 50% relative to the previous two years. A total of 81 occurrences were reported versus the previous year's 54. A total of 89 reports were submitted in 2006, 29 more than in 2005. The increases are in the area of use of firearm (19) and the Taser (15).

REPORT TYPE	2004	2005	2006
Total Incidents (Number of Incidents Involving Use of Force)	54	54	81
Total Reports (Reports submitted by each Officer at Incident)	46	60	89
Reports Involving Firearms	37	24	43
Reports Involving Capsicum Spray	15	14	10
Reports Involving Asp	0	1	1
Reports Involving Empty Hand Tech.	3	3	5
Reports Involving Taser X26		15	30

Reports involving firearms have increased where occurrences required the officer or officers to draw or point a firearm to affect an arrest. The types of occurrences involved are Robberies, Break and Enters in progress, Mental Health Act arrests and disturbances where weapons are present or reported to be present. Officers will draw their firearms when responding to this type of call. This is consistent with the training received at the Ontario Police College and during annual Use of Force Training, which stress and promote officer safety as well as community safety. Also Emergency Response Team (ERT) call outs for serious occurrences and drug warrant execution, utilizing ERT, has increased the number of officers involved in each occurrence.

FIREARMS	OCCURRENCES			NUMBER OF OFFICERS INVOLVED		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
Discharged to destroy animals	21	11	20	22	13	23
Discharged Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pointing to Effect Arrest	6	11	16	49	51	67
Drawing to Effect Arrest	5	5	7	9	5	27

The number of reported uses of capsicum spray decreased from 14 to 10 in 2006. There were no problems with cross contamination of officers or members of the public reported. There was no change in the number of occurrences reporting the use of the ASP baton and a slight increase, from 3 to 5, in the reported use of empty hand techniques requiring a Use of Force Report.

C. INJURIES

There were no serious or fatal injuries reported over the past twelve months and none in the previous three years. There were 10 minor injuries reported in 2006, which is a slight increase from 2005. Five of the injuries resulted from the use of the Taser. Using the Taser in a "Drive Stun" mode will leave small blisters or burns. The subject can also receive injuries from falling to the ground, which is unavoidable when deploying the Taser.

PERSON INJURED	TOTAL		
	2004	2005	2006
Police Officer	0	1	3
Subject	2	4	7
Third Party	0	0	0

D. USE OF FORCE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING

In the spring of 2006 the Service purchased 1 additional Taser X26, which brings the total to 6 Tasers.

In the spring of 2006 the Emergency Response Team purchased 12 Blade Tech holsters for the Taser X26, due to several of the exoskeleton holsters breaking. These holsters were issued personally to the E.R.T. members.

The Winchester 12 Ga. shotguns are still stored in the gunroom and are kept as inactive service weapons as are the Mini-Ruger's. The ammunition in the cruiser gun cases has been restocked. All of the Service's long guns were cleaned and inspected in the fall of 2006. All of the service weapons are functioning properly.

In the spring of 2006, 89 officers participated in Use of Force re-qualification. In 2006 the simulator was not utilized. In the spring of 2006, 89 officers participated in .40 cal pistol re-qualification. 43 officers including 8 new recruits and 2 experienced officers hired from other police agencies were transitioned to the Glock G22. A total of 43 officers are now equipped with the Glock pistol. In the fall of 2006, 76 officers participated in Benelli Nova 12 ga. Shotgun qualification.

E. ANALYSIS OF OCCURRENCES BY TIME

In addition to looking at the type of force required to be used, an analysis of the occurrences by time and day of week is conducted. Of the 81 occurrences reported, 62% occur during the night shift (19:00 hours to 07:00) with 60% of those occurring between the hours of 22:00 and 04:00.

OCCURRENCES BY TIME OF DAY

TIME	2003	2004	2005	2006
07:00 – 19:00	21	21	13	31
19:01 – 06:59	28	25	10	50
22:00 – 04:00	17	19	26	30

In looking at the days of week analysis, it is clear that the likelihood of an occurrence requiring use of force by option is greater on a weekend than a weekday. The ratio of occurrences per day between Friday and Sunday is 11.66:1 while the ratio for Monday to Thursday is 9.2:1.

Thus, the likelihood of encountering an occurrence requiring a use of force response by an officer is greater on weekends between 22:00 and 04:00 hours.

OCCURRENCES BY DAY OF WEEK

DAY	2003	2004	2005	2006
Friday to Sunday	22	23	23	35
Monday to Thursday	26	24	27	46

F. CONCLUSION

The careful review of Use of Force reports and the circumstances that warrant this type of response from front-line officers is critical not only to identify training needs but also to measure the effectiveness of use of force options and in the strategic deployment of our personnel. Ensuring the appropriate level of staffing is available at the right time is needed to not only ensure the safety of the officers but the community as a whole.