



NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE

2007 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 2007 has decreased slightly from the previous two years. A total of 56 occurrences were reported versus the previous year's 81. A total of 61 reports were submitted in 2007, 20 less than in 2006. The decreases are in the area of use of firearms (9) and the Taser (10).

REPORT TYPE	2005	2006	2007
Total Incidents (Number of Incidents Involving Use of Force)	54	81	56
Total Reports (Reports submitted by each Officer at Incident)	60	89	61
Reports Involving Firearms	24	43	34
Reports Involving Capsicum Spray	14	10	7
Reports Involving Asp	1	1	3
Reports Involving Empty Hand Tech.	3	5	2
Reports Involving Taser X26	15	30	20

Reports involving firearms have decreased slightly due to the fact that there were less animals destroyed due to injury. There were also less arrests involving one or more officers, where occurrences required the officer or officers to draw or point a firearm to affect an arrest.

The types of occurrences involved in 2007 were similar to last year's occurrences. Examples include 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.

Emergency Response Team (ERT) call outs for serious occurrences and drug warrant execution has decreased, as ERT was utilized less in 2007 as a full team, thus reducing the number of officers involved in total occurrences for 2007.

FIREARMS	OCCURRENCES			NUMBER OF OFFICERS INVOLVED		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Discharged to destroy animals	11	20	16	13	23	20
Discharged Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pointing to Effect Arrest	11	16	13	51	67	56
Drawing to Effect Arrest	5	7	5	5	27	7

The number of reported uses of capsicum spray and the ASP baton were again very low. OC use decreased from 10 to 7 in 2007. There were no problems with cross contamination of officers or members of the public reported. The ASP baton has increased slightly from 1 to 3 in 2007. Empty hand techniques have decreased from 5 to 2 requiring a Use of Force Report.

C. INJURIES

There was one serious injury in 2007 to a subject and 1 injury to an officer, that required medical attention for both. There were 9 minor injuries reported, which includes 1 injury to an officer. This is a slight decrease of 1 from 2006. Subject's injuries are as a result 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		
	2005	2006	2007
Police Officer	1	3	2
Subject	4	7	9
Third Party	0	0	0

D. USE OF FORCE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING

In the spring of 2007 the Service purchased 1 additional Taser X26, for court section purposes, which brings the total to 7 Tasers.

The Service purchased 10 new Pelican Cases in 2007. These cases have replaced the aging shotgun cases in the cruisers. The old cases have been stored and will be sold in the next police auction.

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 2007. All of the service weapons are functioning properly. In the fall of 2007 61 Glock G22 were inspected and cleaned. All are functioning properly. The remaining 39 will be inspected in the spring of 2008.

In the spring of 2007, 89 officers participated in Use of Force and .40 cal. pistol re-qualification. 46 officers, including 1 new recruit, were transitioned to the Glock G22. All sworn North Bay Police Service officers are now equipped with the Glock pistol.

In the fall of 2007, 73 officers participated in Benelli Nova 12 ga. Shotgun re-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 56 occurrences reported, 39.2% occurred during the day shift (0700 hours to 1900 hours). 23.2% occur during the night shift (19:00 hours to 07:00) and 37.5% occurred between the hours of (22:00 and 04:00) resulting in a total of 60.7% during nighttime hours.

OCCURRENCES BY TIME OF DAY

TIME	2004	2005	2006	2007
07:00 – 19:00	21	13	28	22
19:01 – 06:59	25	10	14	13
22:00 – 04:00	19	26	39	21

In looking at the days of week analysis, there was a decrease in occurrences on weekends as they dropped from 35 to 17. The weekday occurrences dropped as well from 46 to 39. Statistically, the likelihood of an occurrence requiring use of force option is greater on a weekday than a weekend, with 21 occurrences occurring during the 6 hour period of (2200hrs and 0400hrs).

OCCURRENCES BY DAY OF WEEK

DAY	2004	2005	2006	2007
Friday to Sunday	23	23	35	17
Monday to Thursday	24	27	46	39

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.