



NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE

2008 Annual Report Technical Services Section

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A. Mandate of the Unit

To provide technical and forensic support to both the Investigative Support Section and the Operations Section of the North Bay Police Service.

To Submit DNA samples to the National DNA Data Bank.

The Section endeavours to remain current with on-going technical change to maintain a consistent and reliable level of expertise in keeping with the Mission Statement and Values of the North Bay Police Service.

B. Executive Summary

The type of occurrences to which the Technical Services Section has responded has remained consistent throughout 2008.

Over the past few years there appears to be an increase in the level of violence associated to robberies, assaults and home invasion type crimes that the members of the Section are called upon to investigate. Due to the nature of these types of investigations, the examination of scenes for fingerprints, blood and other DNA related evidence takes greater time and resources than before.

C. Activities

In 2008, the Technical Services Section registered 102 Sex Offenders, a slight increase from 2007. Administration of the Sex Offender Registry was transferred to the Victim Assistance and Domestic Violence Coordinator. Forensic Identification Officers will continue to assist with Sex Offender registrations.

A total of 97 DNA samples were obtained and processed for inclusion in the DNA Data Bank. The DNA Data Bank responded with five positive hits from crime scene samples submitted by the Section for analysis.

Digital cameras were provided to each platoon and I.S.S. for general duty use and a process was developed to download and store captured images.

A process was initiated to document exhibits stored in the Technical Services area and to dispose of exhibits and files that are no longer required.

The supervision of the Technical Support Section was transferred to the Investigative Support Section Detectives in 2008. This realignment may present some challenging supervisory and communication issues in the near future.

On advice from the Ministry, the designation of Special Constables for the two Identification Officers was discontinued in 2008. The impact on the lawful authority for custody of exhibits and crime scenes, collection of National DNA Data Bank samples and the execution of Judge's Orders and warrants has yet to be determined.

D. Performance Indicators

A chart documenting the type and number of incidents with which the Section was involved from 2006 to 2008 is attached.
(Please refer to Appendix A)

E. Anticipated Issues for the Future

Changes to the Ministry training standards now require certification for Forensic Identification Officers every three years commencing in 2008. Increased training will be required to ensure that the knowledge, skills and abilities of Technical Services members are current and adequate in preparation for certification.

Budgetary approval has been received for the acquisition of a Forensic Alternative Light Source and research into the required equipment will be conducted. Training for the use of this equipment will also be required.

Access authority has been obtained for the production of Photographic Line-ups on the Niche-RMS system but further training is required for the implementation of this process.

Crime scene fingerprints will in the near future be forwarded to the R.C.M.P. Latent Fingerprint/CPSIC Operations for searching through the Fingerprint Data Bank. This activity will require the acquisition of a high resolution laser printer to produce fingerprint images with sufficient detail for uploading. This process will increase the number of fingerprint identifications of suspects and consequently increase the number of solved crimes.

F. Performance Objectives for the Next Year

In the next year, training will be provided to Patrol and I.S.S. officers regarding the collection of exhibits and digital photography.

A software program has been developed to record statistics of the activities of the Technical Services Section to facilitate accurate recording and simplify retrieval of data for administrative purposes.

There will be ongoing efforts to ensure that the collection and processing of evidence and exhibits by members is in compliance with Service operating procedures.

APPENDIX A

Incidents	2006	2007	2008
Sudden Deaths	39	32	31
Sexual Assaults	9	7	Not tracked
Calls for Service	271	222	186
Persons Fingerprinted – Criminal	1210	1190	1006
Persons Fingerprinted – Non-Criminal	145	131	183
DNA Data Bank Samples	82	61	97
DNA Consent Samples	6	11	Not tracked
Sex Offender Registrants	90	98	102
Photo Line-ups	61	47	Not tracked
Prepared Fingerprint Charts / Reports for Court	1	1	0
Centre of Forensic Science Submissions	36	57	40