



NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE

2008 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 2008 has maintained steady from the previous year. A total of 55 occurrences were reported down by 1 occurrence in 2007. A total of 57 reports were submitted in 2008, 4 less than in 2007. The decrease is in the area of use of ASP baton (0) and the Taser (5).

REPORT TYPE	2006	2007	2008
Total Incidents (Number of Incidents Involving Use of Force)	81	56	55
Total Reports (Reports submitted by each Officer at Incident)	89	61	57
Reports Involving Firearms	43	34	35
Reports Involving Capsicum Spray	10	7	7
Reports Involving Asp	1	3	0
Reports Involving Empty Hand Tech.	5	2	3
Reports Involving Taser X26	30	20	15

Reports involving firearms have maintained steady due to the fact that there were the same amount of animals destroyed due to injury. There were also the same amount of 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 2008 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 2008 than 2007 as a full team, thus reducing the number of officers involved in total occurrences for 2008.

FIREARMS	OCCURRENCES			NUMBER OF OFFICERS INVOLVED		
	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
Discharged to destroy animals	20	16	25	23	20	29
Discharged Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pointing to Effect Arrest	16	13	7	67	56	46
Drawing to Effect Arrest	7	5	7	27	7	7

The number of reported uses of capsicum spray and the ASP baton were again very low. OC use remained the same 7 in 2008. There were no problems with cross contamination of officers or members of the public reported. The ASP baton has decreased as there were no reports of it being used in 2008. Empty hand techniques is up by 1 in 2008, requiring a Use of Force Report.

C. INJURIES

There was no serious injury in 2008. There were 2 minor injuries reported to the subject, and no injuries report to officers. This is a decrease of 7 injuries to subjects and 2 to officers in 2007. 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		
	2006	2007	2008
Police Officer	3	2	0
Subject	7	9	2
Third Party	0	0	0

D. USE OF FORCE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING

The Service purchased 8 new Pelican Cases in 2008 for the aging Bushmaster .223 cases and to accommodate 2 Colt C8 CQB that the service purchased in the fall of 2008. The C8's are scheduled to arrive in March of 2009

The Winchester 12 Ga. shotguns and the Mini rugers have been sold to Police Ordnance, with the exception of 3 shotguns and 4 Mini Rugers. These Firearms have been held by the service for use in Training, ERT, and the Colour Party.

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 2008. All of the service weapons are functioning properly.

In the fall of 2008 46 Glock G22 were inspected and cleaned. All are functioning

properly. The remaining 54 will be inspected in the spring of 2009.

In the spring of 2008, 89 officers participated in Use of Force and .40 cal pistol re-qualification.

In the fall of 2008, 76 officers participated in Benelli Nova 12 ga. Shotgun re-qualification.

Through out the course of the year 27 officers were re-qualified on the Taser X26 which included members of the Emergency Response Team

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 55 occurrences reported, 34.5% occurred during the day shift (0700 hours to 1900 hours). 32.7% occur during the night shift (19:00 hours to 07:00) and 32.7% occurred between the hours of (22:00 and 04:00) resulting in a total of 65.4%. during night time hours.

OCCURRENCES BY TIME OF DAY

TIME	2005	2006	2007	2008
07:00 – 19:00	13	28	22	19
19:01 – 06:59	10	14	13	18
22:00 – 04:00	26	39	21	18

In looking at the days of week analysis, there was an increase in occurrences on weekends as they rose from 17 to 31. The weekday occurrences dropped from 39 to 24. Statistically, the likelihood of an occurrence requiring use of force by option is greater on a weekend than during the week, with 17 occurrences occurring during the 6 hour period of (2200hrs and 0400hrs).

OCCURRENCES BY DAY OF WEEK

DAY	2005	2006	2007	2008
Friday to Sunday	23	35	17	31
Monday to Thursday	27	46	39	24

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.