



2022 CPS Year End De-Escalation and Use of Force Report

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BUREAU OF PEOPLE & ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AT A GLANCE

The Calgary Police Service (CPS) is committed to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement in de-escalation and use of force (DEUoF) policy, training, and practices. This report provides a summary of force used by our officers in 2022. It also includes advancements achieved, initiatives in progress and an outline of future work. Internally, the report informs ongoing organizational learning, the research and adoption of best practices, and response to local and global trends.

Key 2022 Achievements

- The last three years show a trend of substantial decreases in the overall volume of both physical control methods, as well as of intermediate force options. This shift is a tangible result of the coordinated sustained focus on de-escalation, training, accountability, and improvements in force reporting.
- Performed an in-depth review and significant expansion of the following policies: DEUoF, the DEUoF Training & Qualifications, the Code 900 (Officer Involved Serious Injury or Death), and the Firearm Ranges.
- Ensured comprehensive DEUoF continuous learning opportunities integrate the principles of de-escalation into all training (recruit, in-service, police training officer program, re-qualifications, etc.), and use realistic scenarios with immediate operational debriefs.
- To improve officer and public safety, new technology and equipment was researched, selected, and implementation has commenced. (i.e., conducted energy weapon (CEW), baton launchers, new rifle duty ammunition, patrol rifle suppressors and pistol optics).

Key Trends in 2022 (compared to 5-year average)



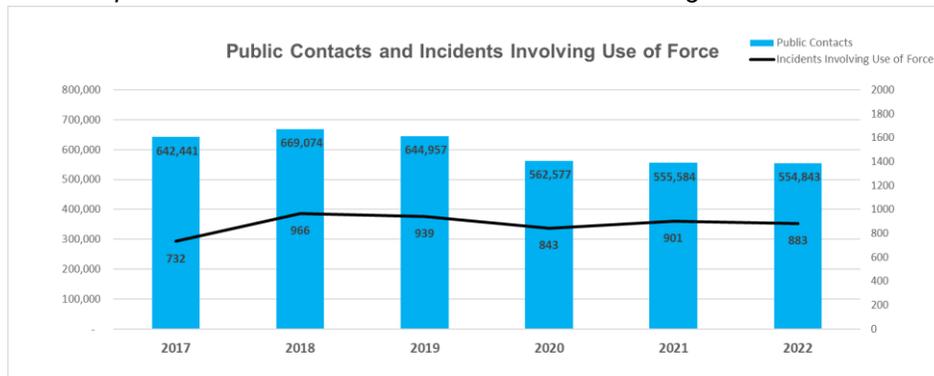
- The use of dynamic takedowns increased by 23% (avg=248, n=304), which indicates approximately one additional use each week. This increase correlates with the discontinuation of Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint® (LVNR®) and sustained efforts to promote the deployment of methods less likely to cause serious injury.
- CEW use increased by 10% (avg=140, n=155) but trended at par with previous year (n=158).



- Stuns/strikes use was 15% lower than average (avg=191, n=162).
- Strip search use at the Arrest Processing Unit (APU) decreased 83% (avg=60, n=10).
- Restraint ring use at APU was discontinued and LVNR® was removed from CPS use of force tactics.
- Leg restraint, baton use, police service dog contacts and the use of spit masks all recorded lower than average.

ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

Figure 1: Annual Comparison of Public Contacts and Incidents Involving Use of Force¹

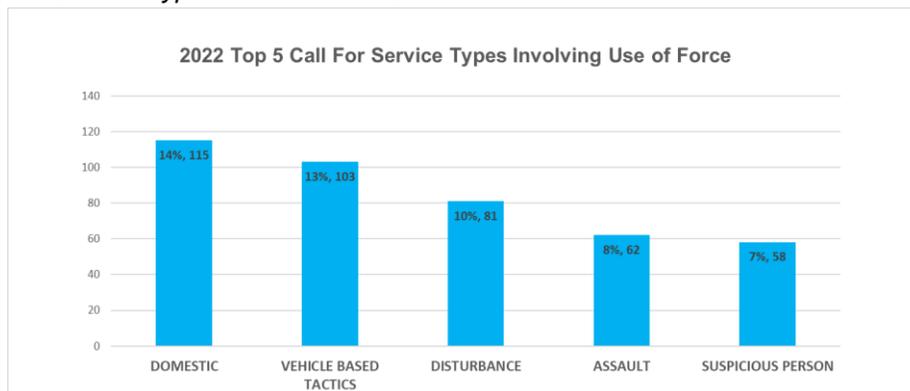


Source: CPS Corporate Data & Analytics Unit, February 2023

Reporting obligations outlined in the CPS DEUoF policy indicate Subject Behaviour/Officer Response (SBOR) reporting is required² when any use of force method is deployed.³ During 2022, there were 554,843 public contacts with CPS officers (a decrease of 10% or n=60,084 from the 5-year average of 614,927) and force was used in approximately 1 in 628 of these interactions.⁴ A total of 883 incidents involving the use of force were reported in 2022. Of those, 757 incidents (84%⁵) were reviewed by the Force Review Officer (FRO) to ensure compliance with training, policies, and SOPs related to deployment and reporting of force.

Over several years, Calgary has experienced increases in the volume and severity of violence⁶ (e.g., rising number of calls for service involving weapons), an increased frequency of complex calls (e.g., mental health and addictions issues; persons in crises; repeat locations/subjects involved), and growth in the size and population of the city.

Figure 2: Call for Service Types in Relation to Use of Force



Source: CPS Corporate Data & Analytics Unit, February 2023

¹ Public contacts are calculated as a sum of dispatched calls for service (public-generated), on-view calls for service (officer-generated), traffic stops, walk-ins, officer-issued summonses (no automated enforcement) and persons charged. The actual public contact counts are higher than this calculated sum as certain types of in-person officer-public interactions are not quantifiable. The 2022 total count of public contacts will increase somewhat once the officer-issued summonses annual total will become available in March 2023. All annual counts and comparisons will then be re-calculated and updated.

² See Appendix C for details regarding reporting requirements.

³ This report presents the counts of incidents where a given method was used, not the counts of officers deploying a specific method. In any incident, more than one method by one or more officers may be used, which means the sum of individual method counts will always be higher than the total incident counts.

⁴ Detailed data tables are found in Appendix A, and a glossary of terms in Appendix D.

⁵ As of January 31, 2023. The remaining reports are still in the review process.

⁶ Ten Year Crime Trends 2011 – 2021; CPS Quarterly Crime Statistics



Figure 2 above shows a breakdown of the 2022 top five call for service (CFS) types resulting in officer force deployment. Overall, these were predominantly public-generated CFS relating to domestic situations, disturbances, assaults, and suspicious persons. These incident types are generally dynamic and volatile. The vehicle-based tactics calls comprised mostly of calls received as suspicious vehicles, check on welfare calls, impaired drivers, and traffic stops. Officers must be lawfully placed and follow the principles of force being necessary, reasonable, and proportionate (NRP), and use policy and training to guide them in preventing or stopping the subject from inflicting serious harm to others or themselves.

When examining the totality of methods of force used, the last three years show a trend of substantial decreases in the overall volume of both physical control methods (2020-2022 avg=614 vs 2017-2019 avg=759), as well as of intermediate force options (2020-2022 avg=278 vs 2017-2019 avg=290). This shift is a tangible result of the coordinated sustained focus on de-escalation, training, accountability, and improvements in force reporting.

2022 ACHIEVEMENTS AND INITIATIVES UNDERWAY

Continuous improvement in de-escalation and use of force is a priority for the Service, with the approved budget supporting positions in training/development and facilities, demonstrating our commitment to resourcing these initiatives on a permanent basis. The focus is now to continuously improve our approach to training delivery, ensuring course content aligns with best practices and supporting our members. The CPS' commitment to trust and accountability is reflected in current initiatives aimed at achieving these goals in the following areas:

Achievements	Ongoing Improvements
<p>Policy</p> <p><i>The CPS is committed to revising and implementing de-escalation and use of force related policies that protects public safety and supports our members to deal with dynamic and challenging situations.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A comprehensive DEUoF policy was implemented. It includes a statement of principle, details on authority, focus on de-escalation and duty to intervene, expanded segments related to individual methods of force, enhanced subject aftercare, reporting obligations, lawful placement and NRP principles. ✓ The Code 900 (Officer-Involved Serious Injury or Death), Firearm Ranges and DEUoF Training & Qualifications policies were extensively reviewed and approved. ✓ Upgrades to the SBOR reporting system (IAPro/BlueTeam) were completed that streamlined reporting and support increased policy compliance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The DEUoF policy is continuously reviewed and amended to ensure recent changes are reflected, including neck restraints and new equipment (e.g. new CEWs). ➤ Communication and policy compliance continue to be emphasized through training, report review and feedback through operational leadership. The strengthened commitment to reviewing SBOR reports by the specialized FRO supports this communication. ➤ The Service Firearms and Service Weapon Discharge Investigations policies are being reviewed and will be completed and published in Q1 2023. These policies provide guidelines for best practice in firearm handling that support the policy advancements.
<p>Training and Development</p> <p><i>With the goal of enhancing public and officer safety, the CPS utilizes operational feedback, benchmarking, and research to continuously improve training protocols for de-escalation and use of force techniques and (re)qualifications for members across the Service.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All frontline members engage in DEUoF continuous learning opportunities through a revamped 30-week block training schedule. This allows facilitators to respond to trends and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The CPS DEUoF Committee will be expanding its representation of membership to include permanent additions from the plain clothes/undercover (UC) areas. This committee informs

Achievements	Ongoing Improvements
<p>support regular (re)qualifications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensured Crisis Intervention and psychological services support (i.e., Rise Up program) training content was incorporated into the Recruit Training Program syllabus. ✓ Strengthened relationships and inter-jurisdictional best practice learning by leading the delivery of DEUoF skills training and armourer courses for CPS partner organizations (e.g., Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Inspectors, Lethbridge Police Service, etc.). ✓ To reduce silos and improve learning, the Driver Safety & Compliance Unit has been structured under Chief Crowfoot Learning Centre (CCLC) to operationalize both the policy and requalification training in alignment with overall DEUoF commitments ✓ Held search and cell response training with the Arrest Processing Unit, the Airport Unit and WestJet Security to facilitate response to active assailant situational training. 	<p>the continuous improvement to training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A provincial and internal model of a training visual is being developed to support policy, training and understanding of the application of complex de-escalation and NRP principles. ➤ Developed a mandatory 4-hour in-service Subject Control Tactics training for all sworn members. Its content includes dealing with arrested subjects on the ground, turtling and resisting arrest (e.g., circumstances similar to a number of high-profile arrests). ➤ Delivered a pilot of the Covert Officer Safety Tactics Course to UC members from the Covert Asset Surveillance Team/Agent/Source Unit. The 40-hour course will be delivered in 2023 and is designed to be split into modules to make it easier for UC members to attend training and complete the course over multiple shorter sessions.
<p>Research and Equipment <i>Supporting our officers with information and tools to allow more time for de-escalation tactics, enhances both public and officer safety. We continually explore new technology and ideas that may impact the use of force.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A call diversion project is underway with the objective to divert calls for service better handled by non-police crisis management resources. This includes strategic communication training to The City of Calgary (CoC) departments that handle requests that are more appropriately handled by a partner agency (e.g., Distress Centre Calgary, CoC Parks). ✓ Facilitated sound suppression technologies to meet the minimal operation requirements until new, approved range facility can be built. ✓ Researched, proposed, and planned implementation for new technology and equipment (i.e., CEW, baton launchers, new rifle duty ammunition, patrol rifle suppressors and pistol optics) with the goal of improving both officer and public safety. The implementation will commence in 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Researched and proposed a new range facility that was approved into the 2023 budget and will ensure the Service will be able to meet its future recruit and training needs. ➤ Facilitated internal research on how the dispatch language used can influence use of force decisions by responding members. This may result in recommendations for C911 to change the language used in dispatching calls as well as in real-time transfer protocol. ➤ To continue leading the development of DEUoF, the CCLC has received approval for 3 additional positions that will explore best practices and inform our tactics and training from an evidence-based lens. ➤ A Service-wide initiative is in progress to determine a framework for the collection and reporting of race-based information. The anticipated systems-ready data collection is 2024.

IN THE NEXT REPORT

The CPS looks forward to sharing progress updates on these initiatives in the 2023 CPS Mid-Year De-Escalation and Use of Force Report in October, as we maintain public trust. There will be a continued focus on increasing data analysis and updating specifically on policy, training and equipment.



Appendix A – Detailed Data Tables

Annual Report	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 vs 2021	5Yr Avg	2022 vs 5yr Avg	Trend
SBOR REPORTS										
SBOR Reports Submitted	732	966	939	843	901	883	-2.0%	876	0.8%	
PUBLIC CONTACTS										
Dispatched CFS	275,990	275,212	274,886	263,391	260,875	251,197	-3.7%	270,071	-7.0%	
On-View CFS	56,303	56,116	60,811	67,228	57,754	54,737	-5.2%	59,642	-8.2%	
T-Stops and T-Stats	97,119	105,792	92,052	77,137	80,427	88,221	9.7%	90,505	-2.5%	
Walk-In CFS	46,460	50,027	45,815	27,195	30,013	38,797	29.3%	39,902	-2.8%	
Officer-Issued Summons	149,290	159,297	144,619	105,404	102,684	96,319*	-6.2%	132,259	-27.2%	
Persons Charged	17,279	22,630	26,774	22,222	23,831	25,572	7.3%	22,547	13.4%	
TOTAL	642,441	669,074	644,957	562,577	555,584	554,843	-0.1%	614,927	-9.8%	
PROPORTION										
SBOR Reports Submitted to Public Contacts	1 in 878	1 in 693	1 in 687	1 in 667	1 in 617	1 in 628		1 in 702		
Public Contacts Resulting in an SBOR Submission	0.11%	0.14%	0.15%	0.15%	0.16%	0.16%		0.14%		

*2022 Manned Summonses Issued are a Nov2022 YTD total. The annual count will be available later in 2023, at which point the counts will be updated and the total and comparisons will be re-calculated.

Note: • Highest value in 6yr period • Lowest value in 6yr period.

***Public contacts** are calculated as a sum of dispatched calls for service (public-generated), on-view calls for service (officer generated), traffic stops, walk-in, summonses issued (officer enforcement only; no automated enforcement) and persons charged (counted as unique charge counts of per person per day). Persons charged is calculated as charged person count per day, unique values only. The actual public contact counts are higher than this calculated sum as certain types of in-person officer-public interactions are not quantifiable. 2022 Officer-issued summonses Issued are a Nov2022 YTD total. The annual count will be available later in 2023, at which point the counts will be updated and the total and comparisons will be re-calculated.

Source: CPS Corporate Data & Analytics Unit; February 2023

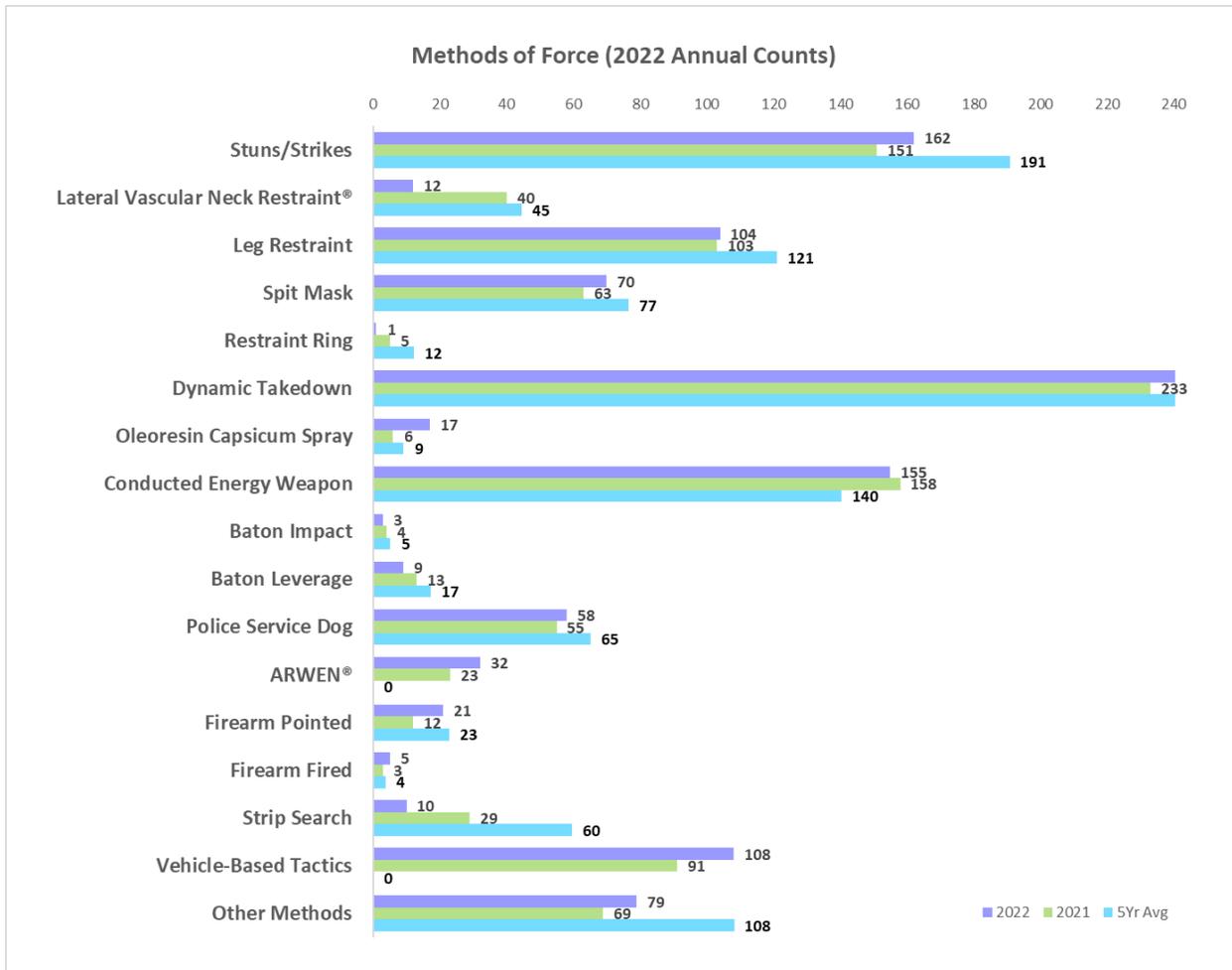
Annual Report	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 vs 2021	5Yr Avg	2022 vs 5yr Avg	Trend
PHYSICAL CONTROL METHODS										
Stuns/Strikes	220	230	197	156	151	162	7.3%	191	-15.1%	
Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint®	34	49	56	44	40	12	N/A	45	N/A	
Leg Restraint	143	137	134	88	103	104	1.0%	121	-14.0%	
Spit Mask	71	87	77	85	63	70	11.1%	77	-8.6%	
Restraint Ring	16	7	22	11	5	1	-80.0%	12	-91.8%	
Dynamic Takedown	323	260	214	209	233	304	30.5%	248	22.7%	
INTERMEDIATE FORCE OPTIONS										
Oleoresin Capsicum Spray	8	14	9	9	6	17	183.3%	9	84.8%	
Conducted Energy Weapon	111	152	142	139	158	155	-1.9%	140	10.4%	
Baton Impact	7	7	6	2	4	3	-25.0%	5	-42.3%	
Baton Leverage	24	16	19	14	13	9	-30.8%	17	-47.7%	
Police Service Dog	48	75	93	55	55	58	5.5%	65	-11.0%	
ARWEN®	N/A	17	27	17	23	32	39.1%	N/A	N/A	
Firearm Pointed	31	30	17	24	12	21	75.0%	23	-7.9%	
Firearm Fired	2	9	5	0	3	5	N/A	4	31.6%	
OTHER OPTIONS										
Strip Search	55	93	89	32	29	10	-65.5%	60	-83.2%	
Vehicle-Based Tactics	N/A	N/A	N/A	65	91	108	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Other Methods	167	153	83	69	69	79	14.5%	108	-27.0%	

Note: • Highest value in 6yr period • Lowest value in 6yr period.

LVNR® was discontinued in early 2022, and the 2022 annual count only reflects the use during a part of 2022. ARWEN® was implemented mid-year in 2018, and no data exists for 2017 and for the first 7 months of 2018. Vehicle-Based Tactic (VBT) was implemented mid-year in 2020, and no data exists for 2017-2019 and the first half of 2020.

Source: CPS Corporate Data & Analytics Unit; February 2023





Source: CPS Corporate Data & Analytics Unit, February 2023

Fig.3

Appendix B – CEW (Taser®) Deployment Details

Annual Report	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 vs 2021	5Yr Avg	2022 vs 5yr Avg	Trend
CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON (CEW) USE - INCIDENT COUNT PER METHOD										
Display or Illumination	63	65	50	74	84	64	-23.8%	67	-4.8%	
Contact Mode	5	7	10	11	17	14	-17.6%	10	40.0%	
Probes	41	61	73	57	62	66	6.5%	59	12.2%	
Combination (Contact Mode/Probes)	13	27	5	13	21	27	28.6%	16	70.9%	
METHOD COUNT TOTAL	122	160	138	155	184	171	-7.1%	152	12.6%	
INCIDENT COUNT TOTAL	111	152	142	139	158	155	-1.9%	140	10.4%	
OFFICER COUNT TOTAL	122	160	158	158	177	172	-2.8%	155	11.0%	

Note: ● Highest value in 6yr period ● Lowest value in 6yr period.

Table 3

Source: CPS Corporate Data & Analytics Unit; February 2023



Appendix C – Reporting Requirements

CPS DEUoF policy requires officers to report the use of force by completing an SBOR report by end of shift in every instance, other than training or qualification where officer(s):

- a. apply any empty hand physical force to a subject above the level of handcuffing or low-level pain compliance such as joint locks or pressure points, including but not limited to:
 - i. stuns, punches, strikes or kicks; or
 - ii. leverage or impact (dynamic) takedowns where a person has been forcibly taken to the ground;
- b. use a chemical agent when a subject is present (for example, OC spray);
- c. strike a subject with a baton or use a baton as a leverage tool;
- d. use a leg restraint strap;
- e. use a restraint ring;
- f. use a spit mask;
- g. use a police vehicle to intentionally contact an occupied motor vehicle (per the Code 700 (Vehicle-Based Tactics) policy);
- h. point, illuminate, conduct a warning arc, or discharge a CEW at a person;
- i. point a firearm, specialty munition or impact munition at a person;
- j. discharge a firearm, specialty munition or impact munition. If using a firearm to dispatch an animal, an Info Post needs to be completed;
- k. deploy a police service dog and contact occurs;
- l. when force is used on a subject during a forced entry and/or when a subject is injured during a forced entry;
- m. are involved in an unintentional firearm discharge at a Service firearm range or an unintentional discharge of any other Service weapon;
- n. apply force to a subject that results in visible injury, loss of consciousness or medical distress; or
- o. any other use of force that is not an approved tactic but can be articulated in exigent or grievous body harm or death situations.

Source: CPS Policy Development Section; February 2023



Appendix D - Glossary of Terms and Definitions

ARWEN®: a non-lethal launcher designed by British Royal Small Arms Factory (RSAF) Enfield which fires 37mm non-lethal rounds of foam, wooden or tear gas payloads and was initially designed for riot control. ARWEN® represents another option in less-lethal use of force methods. CPS uses the munition variant ARWEN® AR-1 Impact Baton (i.e. standard, non-irritant, “rubber” munition).

Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW): an electronic device designed to physically incapacitate a subject to allow officers to restrain and gain control of the subject.

Dynamic takedown: a displacement technique which requires an officer to use a degree of measured force to take a subject from an upright position to the ground to gain lawful control over them. Taking a subject to the ground in a controlled manner lowers the risk of physical harm both to the subject and to the officer.

Force: The International Association of Chiefs of Police defines force as the “amount of effort required by police to compel compliance by an unwilling subject”.

Joint lock: a grappling technique involving manipulation of subject’s joints in a way that the joints (typically wrists, arms, or knees) reach their maximal degree of motion. These pain compliance holds typically include arm-, leg- and wristlocks and small joint manipulation.

Leg restraint: a device applied to legs or ankles that, just like handcuffs, limits the subject’s movement. It greatly reduces the chance of escape, reduce injury to officers, self-injury to subjects and damage to transportation vehicle. CPS does not apply leg restraint strap in the maximum restraint position.

Leg restraints allow a subject to walk only, and with a restricted stride. CPS officers use leg restraints to prevent subjects from kicking out at other persons or at objects/pieces of equipment such as a silent partner inside of a police vehicle or vehicle doors. Applying leg restraints effectively prevents a subject from injuring another person or themselves, as well as from damaging CPS property.

Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint® (LVNR®): The LVNR® is a method of controlling a resisting subject’s head and utilizing their neck to shift body balance to rear and gain compliance. It can be used standing, kneeling or on the ground. (Not to be confused with a chokehold that affects the respiratory system.)

The LVNR® is a technique officers use to control combative individuals that considers the subject’s age and health. CPS officers are trained, certified and periodically re-qualified (mandatory) in the use of LVNR® System, a trademarked and patented method of the National Law Enforcement Training Center.

OC spray: Oleoresin capsicum is a naturally occurring biodegradable substance used as lachrymatory agent that causes physiological reactions such as involuntary swelling of eyes and of airway mucous membranes in subjects, allowing for easier restraining and gaining compliance.

Other methods: include techniques such as joint locks and pressure points.

Police Service Dog (PSD): PSD deployment is an effective use of force option often deployed in the tracking and subsequent apprehension of subjects fleeing dumped stolen vehicles. In incidents involving a PSD contact, the arrestable subjects failed to comply with officer commands and attempted to evade apprehension despite opportunities to surrender peacefully.

Pressure point: A technique using application of pressure to a subject’s sensitive areas of body, e.g. behind the ear, under the nose or jaw, at the collar bone, to gain compliance.

Restraint ring: a wall-mounted handcuff restraint ring consists of a ring and a mounting bracket,



usually made from steel. The ring is attached to the wall, usually at police station, prison, jail, etc. A person can be attached to the ring by using handcuffs to keep the person in place. A restraint ring is used to control detainee behaviour in those who are (often intoxicated by drugs and/or alcohol) attempting self-harm or displaying precursor behaviours, being combative or violent, damaging CPS property and/or obstructing security cameras in cells; or creating a biohazard (mostly by spitting/transferring blood or bodily fluids onto cell walls/floors).

Spit mask: a protective head covering which prevents the transfer of saliva, blood, and mucus from one person to another.

Strip search: Strip searches are triggered by suspicious subject behavior in cells, consistent with drug consumption and/or drug sharing; or when items are recovered during the initial detainee booking-in search (including self-admitted items, items found during personal search and items alerted to by a metal detector wand) when there is a strong belief and indicia of more items concealed on a subject. Strip searches are only performed upon approval of a staff sergeant rank supervisor.

Generally, most strip searches performed do not reveal hidden items, but a portion of the searches reveal concealed drugs, drug packaging, lighters, sharp objects, and other dangerous or potentially life-threatening items.

Unintentional discharge: an inadvertent firing of a service weapon, whether it be a firearm, CEW or a less lethal device for any reason including user induced and/or mechanical malfunction and/or discharge of a CEW or CEW cartridge due to static electricity and/or due to an undetermined cause.

Vehicle-Based Tactics: refers to a range of measures officers can employ to safely apprehend the driver of a motor vehicle. These include prevention and intervention techniques and may include the use of preventative tools or tactics (ranging from disengagement to positioning police vehicles to block a subject vehicle (without contact), vehicle disabling devices and tire deflation devices) or an intentional vehicle contact. Based on a need for training of patrol members facing high-risk vehicle events on a regular basis, the CCLC developed a two-tiered training program that encompasses VBT. The basic level is mandatory for all frontline patrol members. The advanced level includes several additional tactics and members are selected for this training. Code 700 (VBT) include both preventative tactics as well as instances of intentional vehicle contact as methods to intervene on stationary and mobile vehicles engaged in criminal activity. It is often deployed to avoid police pursuits and prevent escalation of use of force which potentially present increased public and officer safety risks.