



## 2015 Annual Use of Force Report

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TO: Barrie Police Services Board  
FROM: Chief Kimberly Greenwood  
DATE: April 12, 2016  
SUBJECT: 2015 Annual Use of Force Report

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### **BACKGROUND**

Provincial Adequacy Standard #AI-012 of the *Police Services Act*, requires that the Chief of Police report annually to the Board on the use of force by members of the Service.

“Use of Force” reports are required to be submitted by every member of the Service who uses force in any one of the following situations:

- A firearm is drawn in the presence of a member of the public (excluding other police officers or auxiliary members while on duty or a "ride along" observer);
- A firearm is pointed at any person;
- A firearm is discharged;
- A weapon other than a firearm, including a weapon of opportunity is used on another person;
- A Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW) is pointed at a subject to gain compliance; and,
- Physical force is used on a person resulting in an injury requiring medical attention.

Statistics on the use of force are maintained by the Training Unit. The statistics are compiled from the review, evaluation and analysis of mandated “Use of Force” reports. These Use of Force reports are collected and used only to identify individual and group training requirements, or organizational Use of Force policy requirements.

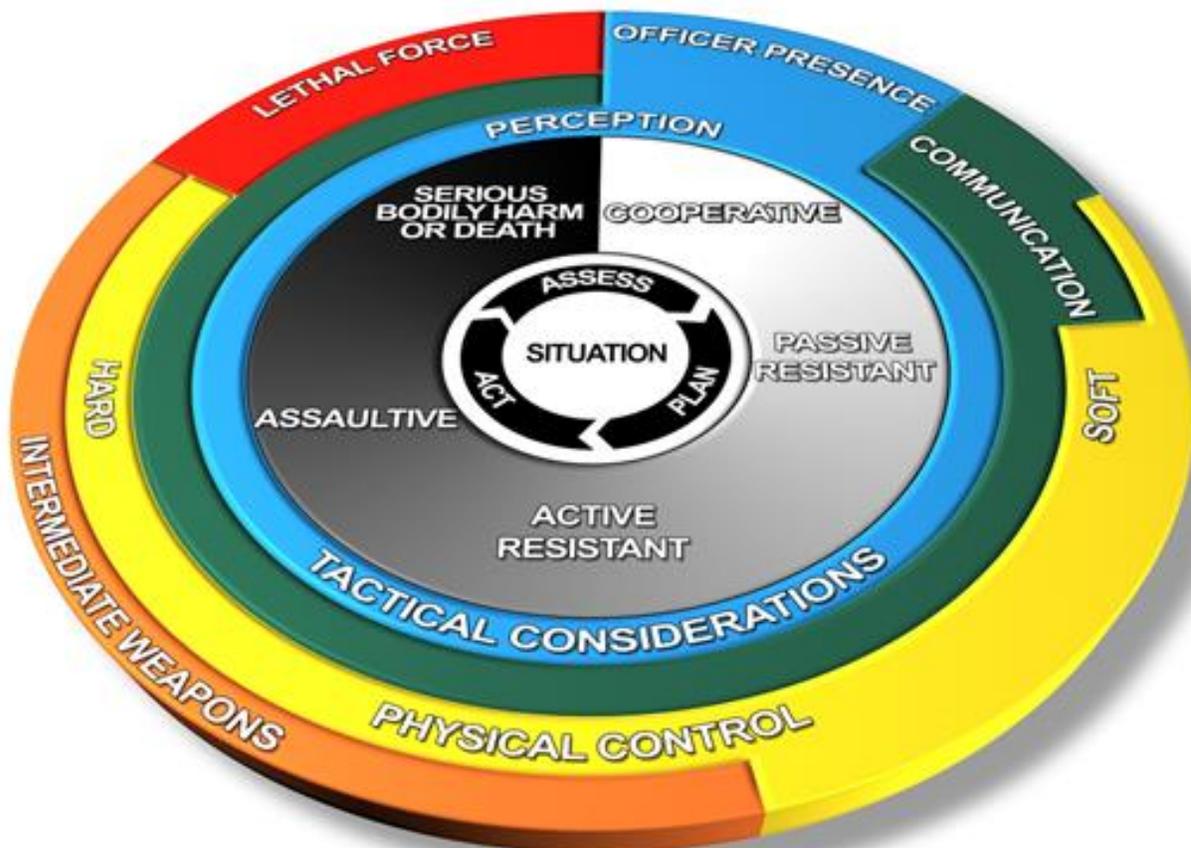
Officers interact on a daily basis with members of the public in which their issues and concerns are resolved without having to use force at a level that would require the submission of a report as indicated above. There are also times when the interactions are dynamic and more than one use of force option may be required to control and resolve the situation.

### **USE OF FORCE MODEL**

The Province of Ontario provides police services in Ontario with a standard “Use of Force Model” as set out in Appendix “A”. This model depicts the use of force options which are appropriate based on the situation the officer encounters. The model considers that the same situation faced by different officers may lead to the use of different force options based on the perception of the officers and their individual characteristics. It does not mandate single specific force options; rather it provides a range of options that may be appropriate for the situation based on the subject behaviours.



## Ontario Use of Force Model (2004)



The officer continuously assesses the situation and selects the most reasonable option relative to those circumstances as perceived at that point in time.



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### **Subject Behaviours**

#### *Co-operative*

The subject responds appropriately to the officers' presence, direction and control.

#### *Resistant (Passive)*

The subject refuses, with little or no physical action, to cooperate with the officer's lawful direction.

#### *Resistant (Active)*

The subject uses non-assaultive physical action to resist. The subject refuses to comply with the officer's lawful direction.

#### *Assaultive*

The subject attempts to apply, or applies force to any person; attempts or threatens by an act or gesture to apply force to another person.

#### *Serious Bodily Harm or Death*

The subject exhibits actions that the officer reasonably believes are intended to or likely to cause serious bodily harm or death to any person.

### **Use of Force Options**

#### *Officer Presence*

While not strictly a use of force option the simple presence of an officer can affect both the subject and the situation.

#### *Communication*

An officer can use verbal and non-verbal communication to control and/or resolve the situation.

#### *Physical Control (Soft)*

Control oriented techniques including restraining techniques, joint locks and non-resistant handcuffing.

#### *Physical Control (Hard)*

Techniques intended to stop a subject's behaviour or allow application of a control technique. Hard control has a higher probability of causing injury and includes empty hand strikes such as punches and kicks.

#### *Intermediate Weapons*

Force option that involves the use of a less-lethal weapon. Less lethal weapons are those whose use is not intended to cause serious injury or death.

#### *Lethal Force*

The use of a force option involving any weapon or technique intended to or reasonably likely to cause serious bodily harm or death.



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### 2014/2015 USE OF FORCE STATISTICS ANALYSIS

In 2015 the Barrie Police Service received 62,523 calls for service. This number does not accurately capture the exponentially larger number of Police/Public interactions that occur every single day in every month throughout the year. Of the vast number of these interactions only an exceptionally low number of the Police/Public interactions involve any use of force. Pursuant to Provincial Adequacy Standard #AI-012 of the Police Services Act, the vast majority of police/subject interactions which are resolved with using force is not of a level requiring the submission of a "Use of Force" report. Situations involving use of force are dynamic and many involve the use of more than one use of force option. Officer presence and Communication are used to deescalate all situations, however when these fail, other use of force options must be considered.

The total number of reports increased from 2014 to 2015 by 3 incidents

**2015:** 77 incidents reported (3 of which to destroy animals)

**2014:** 74 incidents reported (4 of which to destroy animals)

**Communication** is the first method used to help deescalate all situations. If a Use of Force Report is submitted, communication was not effective as a **sole** method of controlling a subject and the officer resolved the matter using other means of Use of Force.

**2015:** 0 effective of 77 incidents

**2014:** 3 effective of 74 incidents \*3 effective reports include a firearm drawn and communication being effective together.

The use of **Physical control** which resulted in medical attention being required, decreased from 2014 and was effective approximately in the same number of incidents.

**2015:** 7 effective of 19 incidents \*Remaining 12 incidents resolved using other means of Use of Force.

**2014:** 9 effective of 22 incidents \*Remaining 13 incidents resolved using other means of Use of Force

The use of **Intermediate Weapons** has increased slightly in 2015, but continues to be highly effective. See Charts 1.1 and 1.2.

#### **Aerosol Weapons**

**2015:** 1 effective of 3 incidents

**2014:** 4 effective of 4 incidents



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## Impact Weapons (Batons)

**2015:** There were no incidents of Baton Use

**2014:** 1 effective of 1 incident

## Conducted Energy Weapons (CEW)

**2015:** 45 Effective of 49 incidents

**2014:** 36 Effective of 38 incidents

## ARWEN

**2015:** There were no incidents of ARWEN use

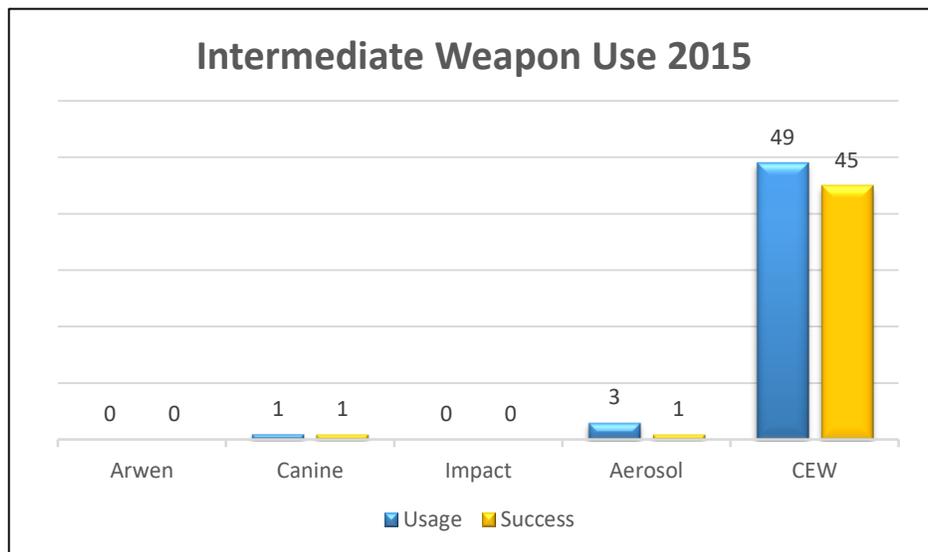
**2014:** There were no incidents of ARWEN use

## Canine

**2015:** 1 effective of 1 incident

**2014:** 1 effective of 1 incident

Chart 1.1

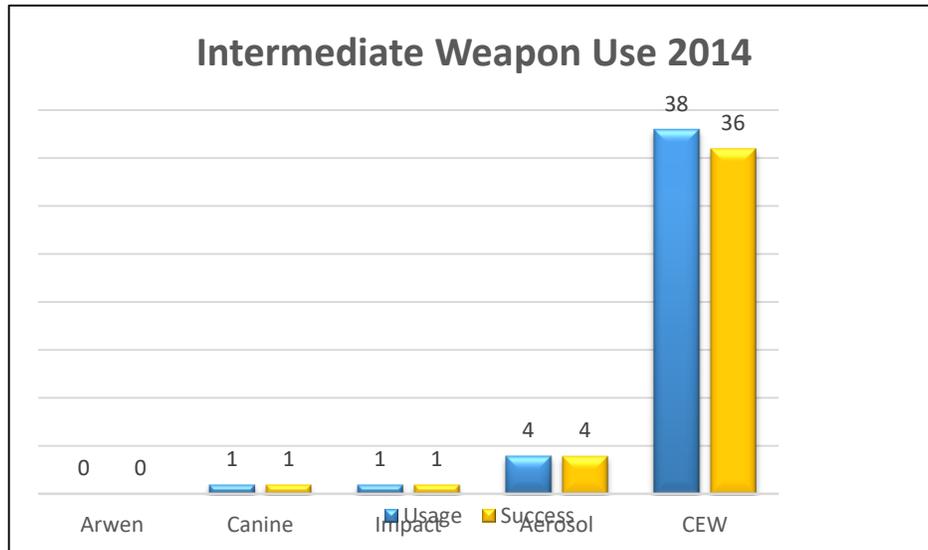


- Ineffective Usage of CEW: see chart 4.1 on page 9



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Chart 1.2



- Ineffective Usage of CEW: see chart 4.2 on page 9

The use of **Lethal Force** generally involves the display or discharge of a firearm. A firearm was drawn or pointed at a person on 30 occasions in 2015. The actual discharges of firearms in 2015 were solely for the purpose of the destruction of two injured or suffering animals.

### Firearm Drawn/Pointed

**2015:** 29 effective of 30 incidents \* 1 Ineffective Firearm Drawn/Pointed: Suspect had indicated that he had a knife causing the officer to draw firearm. Suspect ran at officer and seeing no weapon the officer holstered firearm and his Conducted Energy Weapon was used to subdue individual.

**2014:** 17 effective of 18 incidents \* 1 Ineffective Firearm Drawn/Pointed: Suspect ran at officer and physical force used to subdue individual.

### Firearm Discharges (animals)

**2015:** 2 effective of 2 incidents

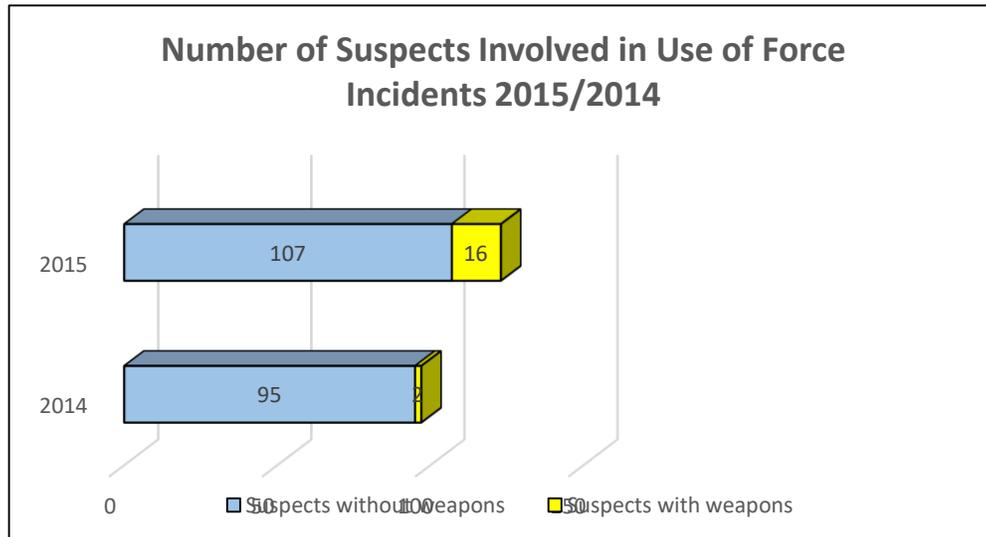
**2014:** 4 effective of 4 incident

The number of suspects involved in use of force incidents saw an increase from 2014 to 2015. The number of suspects with weapons increased in 2015. See chart 2.1.



## 2015 Annual Use of Force Report

Chart 2.1



**Injuries to Officers.** See Chart 3.1.

**2015** – No officers were injured

**2014** – 1 Officer was injured

**Injuries to Suspects.** See Chart 3.1

**2015:** 21 Suspects had injuries

**2014:** 10 Suspects had injuries

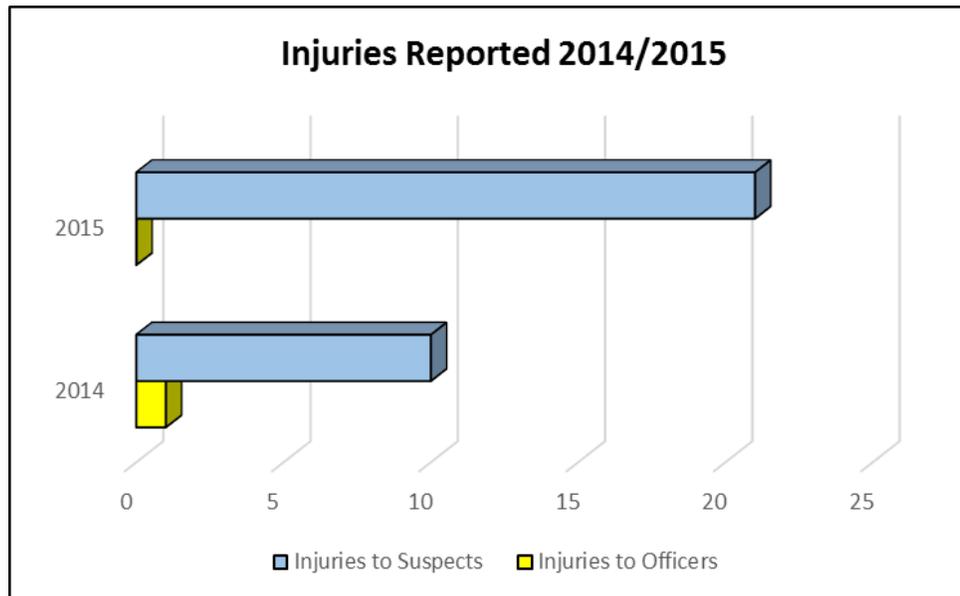
62% of all injuries to suspects were for CEW probe removal. All injuries were minor in nature with the exception of one instance where the suspect had injured himself prior to Police arrival.

Intermediate weapons are the most effective when dealing with actively resistant/ assaultive subjects. Use of force training covers all of the use of force options provided to all members of the Service annually by our Training Unit. The rates of effective deployment and relative moderate injury rates indicate members are able to use their knowledge, skills and abilities effectively when confronted with a situation requiring the use of force.



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Chart 3.1



### CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPONS

The Barrie Police Service has equipped officers with Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs) since 2004 after the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS) approved the use of the weapon for members of containment/tactical teams and front line supervisors.

In November 2013, the use of CEWs was enhanced to approve front-line officers by the MCSCS. In March 2014, the Service approved the issue of CEWs to selected front-line officers. A total of 96 members of the Service are issued with a CEW.

All officers that carry the CEW are initially required to be trained and qualified in the weapon and they must also re-qualify annually. All training and administration of the CEW program is the responsibility of our Training Unit.

The Barrie Police Service exceeds the manufacture's recommended standards for training and maintenance.



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## CEW OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT STATISTICS

### Applications

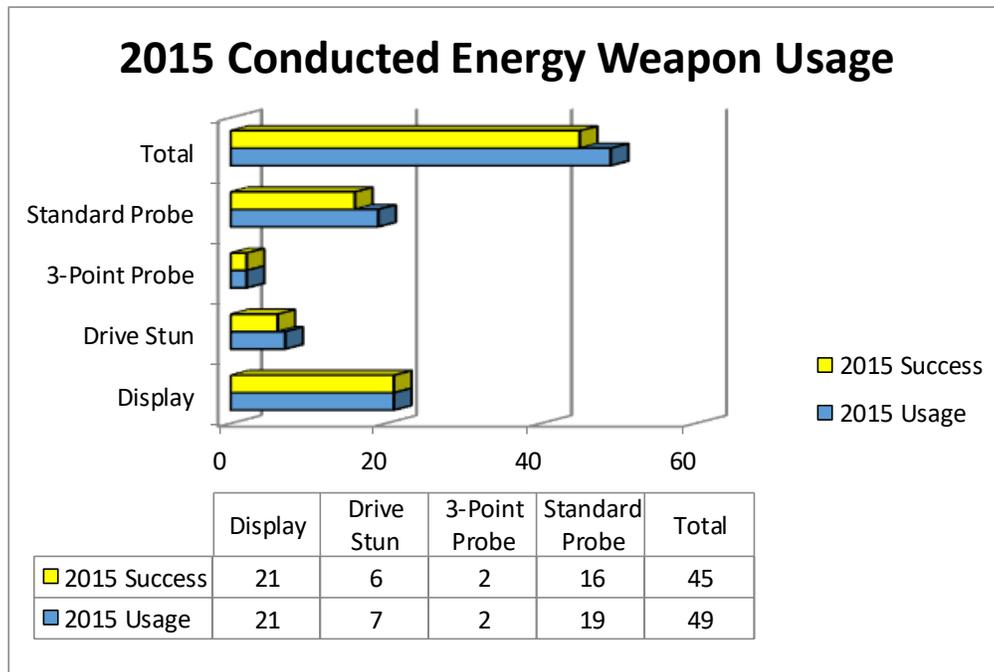
The 2015 statistics revealed an increase in the application of the Conducted Energy Weapon. The CEW, when used in the display mode, continues to be an effective option in resolving situations. See Charts 4.1 and 4.2.

### Reporting

As in previous years, whenever an officer deploys a CEW during the course of his/her duties, a Provincial Use of Force report is required. There are four deployment types, display, drive stun, three point contact or probe deployment. As such, the deployment statistics are listed under those four deployment types. Also recorded is whether or not the application was successful in bringing the situation to a peaceful end.

In 2015 the CEW was utilized in 49 deployments. CEW usage resulted in 21 display only events of which all 21 resulted in compliance. The CEW was deployed (either drive stun, or probe mode) a total of 28 times. Of the 28 deployments, 6 of 7 drive stun deployments were successful in gaining compliance, while 2 of 2 three point contact deployments were successful in gaining compliance. Using probe deployments, 16 of 19 probe deployments aided in gaining compliance. See Charts 4.1 and 4.2.

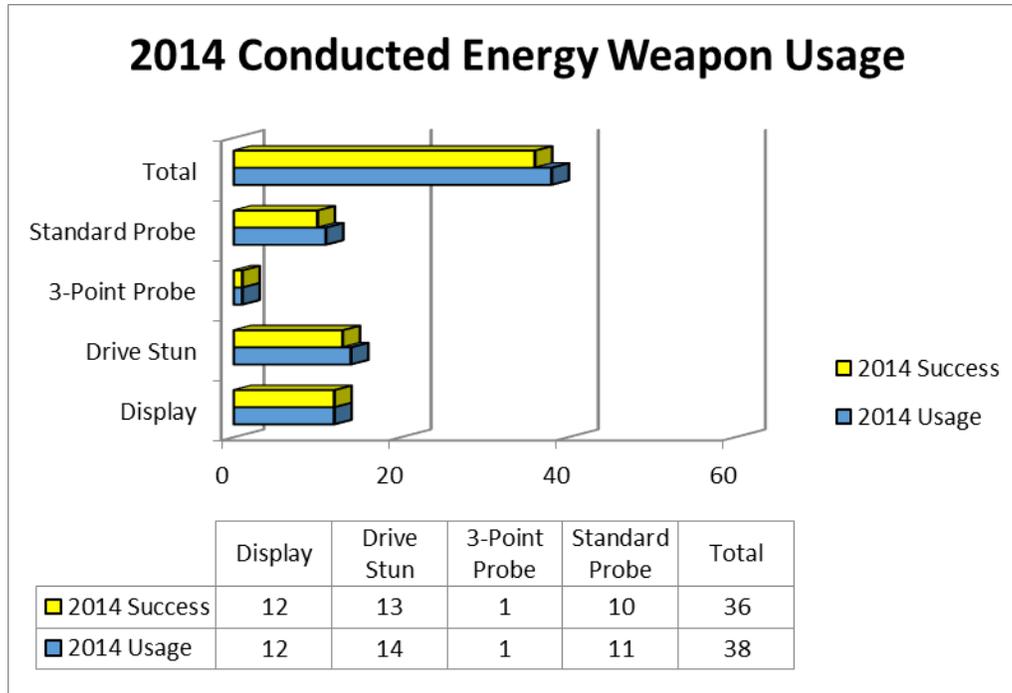
Chart 4.1





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Chart 4.2



## Recommendation

That the Board receive the report for information

Prepared by: Sergeant Tim Conroy