

Pittsburgh Bureau of Police



Subject Resistance Report -

2017 Annual Review

Prepared by the staff of the Pittsburgh Police Training Academy.

2017 Use of Force Review

In 2017, officers responded to 236834 calls for service which was a 3.06% increase when compared to 2016 (Table #1).

Table 1: Calls for Service Comparison 2016-2017			
	2016	2017	Percent Change
January	17979	18176	1.10%
February	17031	16987	-3.58%
March	19324	19431	0.55%
April	20133	19620	-2.55%
May	20771	19920	-4.10%
June	20209	20564	1.76%
July	19612	21351	8.87%
August	20651	21501	4.12%
September	19387	20611	6.31%
October	19445	20947	7.72%
November	17441	19099	9.51%
December	17224	18627	8.15%
Totals	229207	236834	3.06%

Of the 236,834 calls, there were 637 SRR Reports filed (Table #2) or 0.3% which required officers to utilize force against resisting subjects.

TABLE 2: Use of Force Incidents by Zone of Occurrence			
Location	2016	2017	Percent Change
Zone 1	130	141	8.46%
Zone 2	130	112	-13.85%
Zone 3	181	216	19.34%
Zone 4	52	41	-21.15%
Zone 5	93	87	-6.45%
Zone 6	33	38	15.15%
Other	5	2	-60.00%
Totals	624	637	2.08%

Officers made 13711 arrests in 2017 (Table #3) and force was necessary in 4.6% of the arrests.

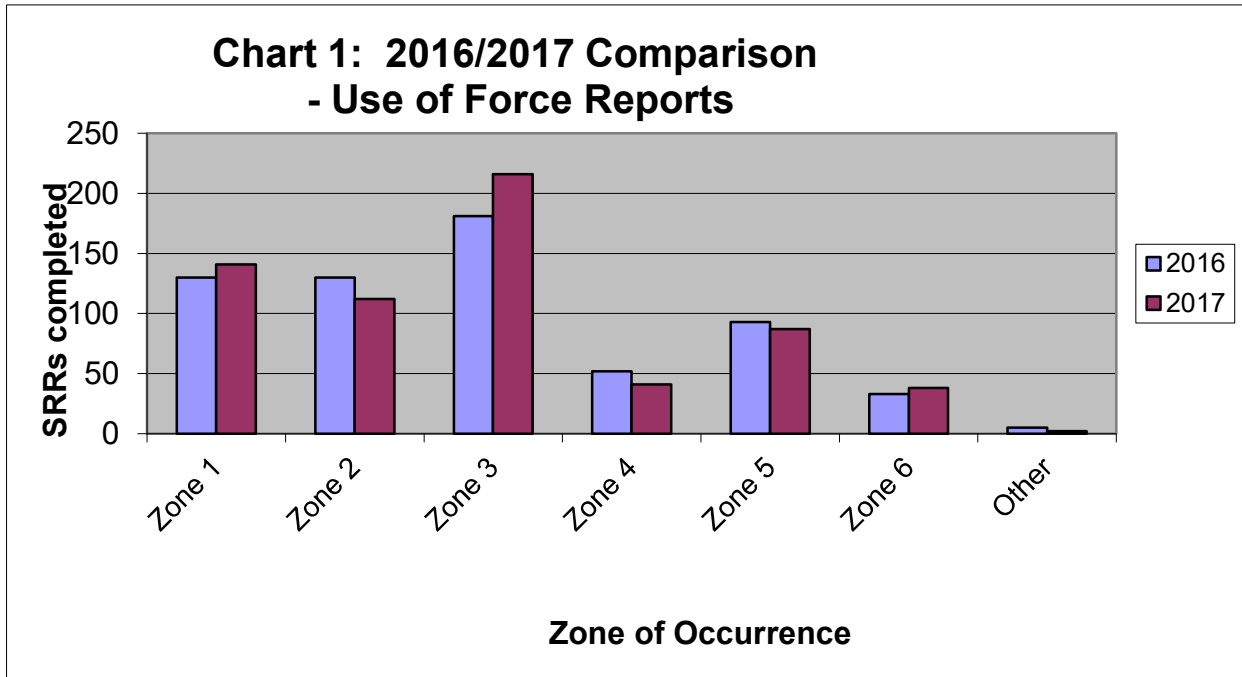
Table 3: TOTAL ARRESTS 2016 vs.2017													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Yearly Total
2017	1147	1129	1137	1145	1130	1263	1235	1153	1221	1147	1041	963	13711
2016	940	1074	1105	1012	1110	998	950	938	1000	1000	947	873	11947
Change	22%	5%	3%	13%	12%	27%	30%	23%	22%	15%	10%	10%	15%

Citywide, there was a 3.1% increase in total Subject Resistance Reports completed when comparing 2017 to 2016.

Table #4 – S.R.R.s by Zone with Monthly / Yearly Totals*

- Totals are for individual incidents and do not include multiple SRRs for the same actor.

TABLE 4: 2017 Monthly Totals by Zone of Occurrence													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Zone 1	6	10	5	11	12	9	17	12	13	9	9	13	126
Zone 2	7	5	13	14	15	12	13	5	10	9	7	6	116
Zone 3	15	19	7	12	18	15	20	13	16	9	13	8	165
Zone 4	7	3	2	7	4	2	4	5	2	3	2	5	46
Zone 5	3	8	9	7	6	15	10	3	15	6	13	4	99
Zone 6	2	1	0	3	2	5	3	8	6	1	1	2	34
Out of City	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
Monthly Total	41	47	36	54	58	59	67	46	62	37	46	38	
	Total												591



Force Options

Chart #2 shows the force options utilized by our officers in 2017. The three most frequently used force options in 2017 were attempts to control resisting subjects by grabbing, pushing, or pulling (categorized as “Other”), forcible handcuffing, and takedowns. These were also the most frequently used levels in 2016 (please see Table #7 for a comparison of 2016 to 2017). The TASER was used a total of 61 times during 2017 which was a 20% decrease in usage when compared to 2016. It should be noted that the most frequent levels of force have been and continue to be at the lower end of the force continuum

Table 7: Force Option Comparison 2016-2017			
	2016 Total	2017 Total	Percentage Change
Forcible Handcuffing	381	375	-1.57%
Takedowns	292	297	1.71%
Taser	103	85	-17.48%
Personal Weapons	81	73	-9.88%
Other (grab, push, pull)	355	374	5.35%
ODET	8	5	-37.5%
Neck Restraint	1	2	100%
OC Spray	20	17	-15%
Impact Weapons	9	11	22.22%
Maximal Restraint	18	15	-16.67%
Stop Sticks	4	3	-25%
Canine	18	12	-33.33%
Firearms	1	0	-100%
Total	1291	1269	-1.70%

Table #8 provides a breakdown of the levels of resistance employed by resisting subjects against officers.

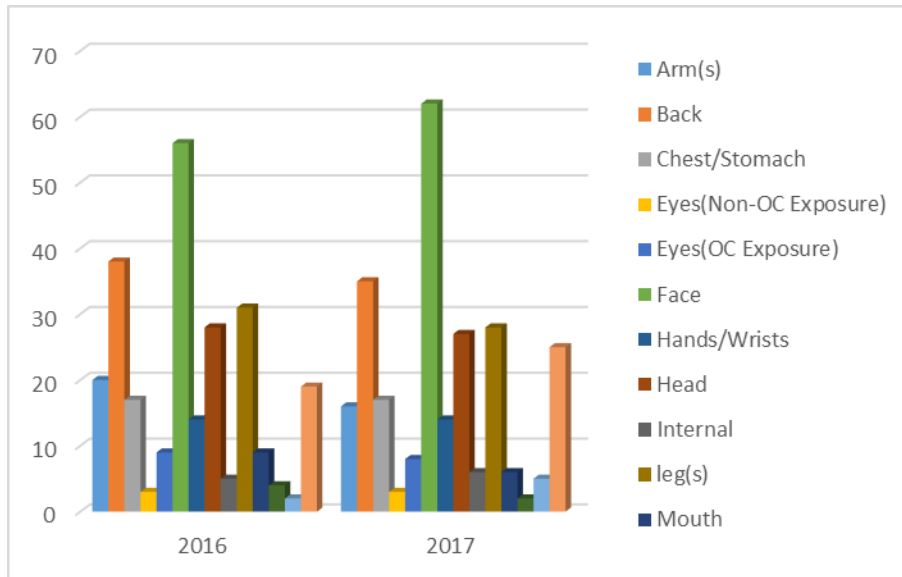
Table 8: Subject Resistance Level								
	Defensive Resistance		Verbal Non-compliance		Active Resistance		Assaultive Behavior	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Totals	570	565	552	527	234	223	6	12
% Change	-0.88%		-4.53%		-4.70%		100%	

Table #9 is a comparison of 2017 to 2016 of the initial reasons for officers having to use force/control techniques.

Table 9: SRR Incidents by Initial Reason for Use of Force										
	Defend Self		Defend Another		Restrain for Subject's Safety		Effecting Arrest		Other	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Totals	232	226	189	179	151	133	532	505	68	90
% Change	2.65%		5.59%		13.53%		5.35%		-24.44%	

Injury Review – Resisting Subjects

35% or 254 of the resisting subjects reported injuries in 2017. This is down slightly from the 37% that reported injuries in 2016. The most common type of injury to resisting subjects is cuts/abrasions to the face, back, head, and hands resulting from strikes to the face or from the ground during a takedown or ground fighting.



Injury Review – Officers

8.5% or 61 officers reported injuries while engaged with resisting subjects in 2017. This is approximately the same percentage of officers who reported injuries in 2016. Common injuries to officers were arm, hand and wrist injuries, cuts, and abrasions.

Incident Types

The following table depicts subject resistance incidents by type (on-view arrests, warrant arrests, involuntary commitment, prisoner transport or other).

Table 11: Subject Resistance Incidents by Type (2016 v. 2017)										
	On-View Arrest		Warrant Arrest		Involuntary Commitment		Prisoner Transport		Other	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Totals	540	506	19	22	56	59	3	5	89	84
% Change	6.71%		-15.78		-5.36%		-66%		5.95%	