

Elgin Police Department Response to Resistance 2017 Annual Report

Elgin Police Department policy requires all officers to report any use of force (UOF) or show of force (SOF) on an approved department form. Elgin defines these categories, UOF and SOF, as Response to Resistance (RTR). The data from the RTR forms are entered into a database and analyzed each year. Each form, along with the associated reports and video, is reviewed through the chain of command to ensure the force was within policy. A UOF committee comprised of a diverse group of officers from various divisions also reviews UOF incidents to make recommendations on training and policy each year. The following is the analysis and data from 2017.

Core Figures

	2015	2016	Diff	%Change	2017	Diff	%Change
Calls For Service	80,766	94,640	13,874	+17%	91,623	-3017	-3.2%
Arrests	3832	3867	+35	+9%	3724	-143	-4%

Year	2014		2015		2016		2017	
Total RTR Incidents	121		156		198		154	
Use of Force - UOF	85	70%	106	68%	144	73%	109	71%
Show of Force -SOF	36	30%	50	32%	54	27%	45	29%

Total Response to Resistance Incidents (SOF and UOF) – decreased 22% with 44 fewer incidents compared to 2016.

Year	Total	Percent Change from Previous Year
2017	154	-22%
2016	198	27%
2015	156	29%
2014	121	NA

Use of Force – there were 35 fewer incidents in 2017, down 24% compared to 2016.

Year	Total	Percent Change from Previous Year
2017	109	-24%
2016	144	36%
2015	106	25%
2014	85	NA

Show of Force - total incidents decreased by 9 in 2017, a 17% drop from 2016.

Year	Total	Percent Change from Previous Year
2017	45	-17%
2016	54	8%
2015	50	39%
2014	36	NA

According to the National Bureau of Statistics' 2011 Police/Citizens Contact Survey, police use force or threaten force in 1.6% of all contacts. The threat or use of nonfatal force by police included: shouting, cursing, threatening force, pushing or grabbing, hitting or kicking, using pepper spray, using an electroshock weapon, pointing a gun, or using other force. This survey was based on the reported experiences and perspectives of surveyed residents. In 2017, the Elgin Police Department used or threatened force in .17% of all calls for service, down from .21% in 2016.

- 2014 .15% SOF & UOF of all calls for service (121 / 80,658)
- 2014 2.7% SOF & UOF of all arrests (121 / 4,460)
- 2014 1.9% UOF of all arrests (85 / 4,460)

- 2015 .19% SOF & UOF of all calls for service (156 / 80,766)
- 2015 4% SOF & UOF of all arrests (156 / 3,832)
- 2015 2.7% UOF of all arrests (106 / 3,832)

- 2016 .21% SOF & UOF of all calls for service (198 / 94,640)
- 2016 5.1% SOF & UOF of all arrests (198 / 3,867)
- 2016 3.7% UOF of all arrests (144 / 3,867)

- 2017 .17% SOF & UOF of all calls for service (154 / 91,623)
- 2017 4.1% SOF & UOF of all arrests (154 / 3,724)
- 2017 2.9% UOF of all arrests (109 / 3,724)

Month of the Year

Top 5 months of RTR form submitted

2015		2016		2017	
October	21/13%	June	27/14%	July	22/14%
December	20/13%	January	23/12%	February	16/10%
May	16/10%	September	21/11%	September	15/10%
March	15/10%	July	18/9%	August	14/9%
July	15/10%	August	17/9%	March & November	12/8%
Total	87/56%	Total	106/53%	Total	79/51%

Day of the Week

RTR incidents were most common on Wednesdays (32/21%) an increase of 129% compared to 2016. Further review of Wednesday incidents did not reveal any pattern or attributable factors to explain the 2017 Wednesday incidents spike. Wednesday RTR incidents occurred across all shifts, beats, months, age range and genders. The weekends, Friday thru Sunday, accounted for 48% (74) of all incidents.

Day	2015	2016	2017
Sunday	24/15%	39/20%	29/19%
Monday	21/13%	23/12%	20/13%
Tuesday	18/11%	25/13%	14/9%
Wednesday	13/ 8%	14/ 7%	32/21%
Thursday	18/11%	24/12%	14/9%
Friday	26/17%	38/19%	20/13%
Saturday	36/23%	35/18%	25/16%
RTR's	156	199	154

Time of Day

Time of day for RTR incidents remained constant with 88% of all RTR incidents occurring between 1400-0600 hours, similar to other years.

Time	2015	2016	2017
0600-1400	17/11%	22/11%	19/12%
1400-2200	68/44%	86/44%	65/42%
2200-0600	71/45%	90/45%	70/46%
Total	156	198	154

Top 5 Beats

Beats 101 and 601 combined for 48 total RTR incidents resulting in 31% of all RTR's.

Beat	RTR's
101	25 / 16%
601	23 / 15%
301	16 / 10%
401	15 / 10%
501/701	14 / 9%
Total (6/15)	107 / 69%

Analysis of Type of Force Used

Often more than one UOF option is documented on an RTR form. Arm/wrist controls (51%) remains the most common form of force used but decreased 6% in frequency and was down 30% in occurrences compared to

2016. Suspect taken to the ground (44%) remained the second most common form of force used, although its use decreased 3% in frequency and declined 31% in occurrence compared to 2016. The use of pressure point tactics declined the most, at -6% in frequency and -64% in occurrences.

Top 5 UOF methods	2016	2017	Difference	% Freq
Total RTR's	198	154	-44/-22%	
Arm/wrist controls	114/57%	79/51%	-35/-31%	-6%
Suspect taken to the ground	64/32%	68/44%	+4/6%	+12%
Strikes, kick/knees	14/7%	11/7%	-3/-21%	none
TASER (discharged & contact)	23/12%	12/8%	-11/-48%	-4%
Pressure point tactics	22/11%	8/5%	-14/-64%	-6%

TASER	2015	2016	Diff	%Freq	2017	Diff	%Freq
Drawn/pointed	42/27%	51/26%	+9/+21%	-1%	39/25%	-12/-31%	-1%
Discharged/contact	23/15%	23/12%	None	-3%	12/8%	-11/-48%	-4%

OC	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Spray discharged	6	2	5	0	1
Pointed	0	1	1	0	1

40mm Less Lethal

The 40mm less lethal (rubber bullet) launchers were only utilized by the SWAT team until 2017. In 2017, select officers on each shift were trained in their use and the launchers are kept in supervisor vehicles.

40MM	2014	2015	2016	2017	TOTAL
Pointed	0	0	0	2	2
Used	1	0	1	0	2

There was no documented use of the following use of force options in 2017:

Force Option	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Handgun discharged	0	0	0	0	0
Long gun discharged	0	0	0	0	0
Pepperball discharged	0	0	0	0	0
K9 bite	0	0	0	0	0
Baton strikes	0	0	0	0	0

The Elgin Police Department continues its success of avoiding the use of deadly force and more aggressive force options when confronted with resistance from offenders.

Analysis by Gender of Offenders

Gender	2014	2015	2016	2017
Male	83.4% (101)	89.7% (140)	86.8% (172)	86% (132)
Female	16.5% (20)	9% (14)	12.6% (25)	14% (22)

Analysis by Race of Offenders

Race	2016	2017	Diff	% Frequency
Black	59/30%	58/38%	-1 / -2%	+8%
Hispanic	79/40%	61/40%	-18 / -23%	none
White	58/29%	32/21%	-26 / -45%	-8%

2017	Black	Hispanic	White
Use and Show of Force	58/38%	61/40%	32/21%
Resisting/Obstructing Arrest/ Agg Assault/Agg Battery to P.O (283)	110/39%	72/25%	86/30%
All Crime Suspects by Race (10076)	2,356/23%	1,855/18%	3,820/38%
All Arrests by Race (3724)	955/26%	990/27%	1,548/42%

Age	2016	2017
15-19	43	25
20-24	48	40
25-29	38	33
30-34	18	14
35-39	10	13
40-44	12	5
45-49	9	9
50-54	12	7
55-59	2	2
Under 15	4	5
Over 59	1	1
Unknown	1	0
Various	0	0
Total Incidents	198	154

Top 4 age groups

2015	2016	2017
20-24 - 33/21%	20-24 - 48/24%	20-24 - 40/26%
15-19 - 28/18%	15-19 - 43/22%	25-29 - 33/21%
25-29 - 24/15%	25-29 - 38/19%	15-19 - 25/16%
30-34 - 20/13%	30-34 - 18/ 9%	30-34 - 14/9%
105/67%	148/74%	112/72%
Under 15	Under 15	Under 15
5/3%	4/2%	5/3%
Over 59	Over 59	Over 59
1/0.6%	1/0.5%	1/.6%

The 15-24 year age group continues to be the most non-compliant age group accounting for 47% of all response to resistance incidents in 2017.

Although uncommon, young teens and pre-teens as well as senior citizens occasionally resist the police and require a RTR tactic. Due to this demographic's age being younger or older than the age of the general population that has a higher propensity of resisting law enforcement, additional review of these cases is performed to ensure adherence to law and policy. The following is a summary of RTR incidents that involved younger and senior offenders.

Under 15 years of age – % of all RTR's						
Report #	Age	Gender	Show Force	Forced Used	Offender Resistance	Offender Injury
17-33236	14	F		Arm/Wrist Controls	Grabbing & Pulling away	None
17-51016	14	M		Arm/Wrist Controls	Pulling away	Minor
17-69124	14	M		Arm/Wrist Controls	Pulling away	None
17-82317	14	F		Arm/Wrist Controls	Pulling away	None
17-84315	14	M		Arm/Wrist Controls & Taken to Ground	Pulling away, strikes, & fleeing	Minor
Over 59 years of age - .5% of all RTR's						
17-57430	63	M	Taser drawn/Not pointed	None	Fighting stance	None

All of the above cases had additional review by internal compliance who verified the force used was within policy.

Regarding the two reported minor injuries:

Report 17-51016: this case involved a fight call at a park with a resisting juvenile suspect who refused to comply with officer's lawful orders. The subject attempted to reach towards his pants despite officer's warnings to remain still during a pat down. The suspect's movements prompted an officer to grab the suspect's arm and push the suspect against a squad car to restrict the suspect's movements. The suspect complained of a sore back and stomach but declined medical treatment and no injury was observed by officers.

Report 17-84315: this case involved a fight call and a resisting juvenile who fled from officers. The suspect was apprehended by officers and continued to resist to be handcuffed. The suspect and two officers fell to the ground where the suspect continued to resist and was handcuffed. The suspect had visible abrasions to his face and hands due to being on the ground. The suspect was treated at the scene by the Elgin Fire Department. The suspect's mother declined further treatment for the suspect at the scene. Both officers suffered abrasions and soreness.

Analysis of Intoxicants and/or Emotionally Disturbed

Approximately 55% of RTR incidents involved subjects who were believed to be under the influence of some type of intoxicant.

The 10% decrease in RTR incidents involving the emotionally disturbed may be the result of a continued department-wide increase in mental health training. Through crisis intervention training officers have become more adept at identifying symptoms of mental illness and more skilled at effectively interacting with community members with mental health issues. As in previous years, alcohol, drugs and mental illness account for the vast majority of use of force incident.

	2015	2016	Change	Freq	2017	% Change	Freq Chg
Alcohol	81/52%	97/49%	+16 / +20%	-3%	66/43%	-31 / -32%	-6%
Drugs	26/17%	33/17%	+7 / +27%	0	18/12%	-15 / -45%	-5%
Emotionally Disturbed	31/20%	42/21%	+11 / +35%	+1%	38/25%	-4 / -10%	+4%
Total	138/89%	172/87%	+34 / +25%	-3%	122/79%	-50 / -29%	-7%

Analysis of Injuries to Officers and Offenders

There were no major injuries reported by offenders. Four (15%) of the minor injuries sustained by offenders were described as TASER probe punctures. The remaining minor injuries were described as minor sprains, abrasions, cuts, scratches, and contusions along with complaints of pain and soreness.

Offender	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
None	73/70%	95/79%	127/81%	167/84%	128/83%
Minor	31/30	26/21%	27/17%	31/16%	26/17%
Major	0	0	2/1%	0	0

Minor injuries were described as minor sprains, abrasions, cuts, scratches and contusions along with complaints of pain and soreness. There were no reported exposures to blood or bodily fluids.

Officer	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
None	86/83%	93/77%	139/89%	176/89%	130/84%
Minor	18/17%	26/21%	16/10%	21/11%	24/16%
Major	0	2/2%	1/ .6%	1/ .5%	0

Use of Force - Report of Inquiry

There were two complaints of improper UOF in 2017. Per EPD SOP Internal Affairs, 52.1, both incidents were assigned a Report of Inquiry number and an internal investigation was conducted resulting in the following dispositions:

03/21/17 17-17 Exonerated

The incident involved a dispatched call of a large group fighting in the street. Several subjects were armed with bats, including the complainant who, while armed with a bat, struck a

subject in the presence of officers. The complainant, while still armed with the bat, fled from officers and was tasered during a struggle with officers. The complainant was arrested for Aggravated Battery and Resisting a Police Officer during which a minor arm and shoulder pain complaint was made. The complainant completed a Citizen Sworn Affidavit and participated in an initial follow-up interview. When viewing the squad car video of the incident that conflicted with many of the complainant's allegations as to her and the officer's actions during the incident, she decided to no longer proceed with her complaint against the officer. One witness listed by the complainant did not corroborate her allegations and another witness declined to answer or return numerous phone calls.

07/18/17 17-24 Exonerated for UOF; sustained for conduct and policy violations.

The incident involved a dispatched call of a loud music complaint. Arriving officers encountered a large party attended by the two arrestees. One arrestee made physical contact with an officer and was arrested for Battery and Resisting a Peace Officer. The other arrestee attempted to interfere as officers escorted the initial arrestee by blocking officers egress path to the squad car. This resistance prompted an officer's repeated warning of the use of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) (pepper) spray if the subject did not comply with officers orders to move away from them. The subject did not comply and was sprayed with OC. The arrestee's mother completed a Citizen Sworn Affidavit and participated in an initial follow-up interview. The arrestees declined to participate in the investigation. No witnesses were provided by the complainant or located in the course of the investigation. Video evidence was reviewed and provided evidence of lawful arrests and the use of OC spray to be within department policy. The officer who deployed the OC spray was, however, found to be in violation of department policies for failing to use de-escalation strategies in an attempt to gain voluntary compliance.

Conclusion

The Elgin Police Department addressed 91,623 calls for service and made 3,724 arrests in 2017 in which officers were required to deal with conflict and violence of varying degrees. The Elgin Police Department values the sanctity of human life and emphasizes the primary goal of seeking voluntary compliance from citizens. Elgin police officers used force in .17% of all incidents and 2.9% of all arrests in 2017. There were no reports of a major injury by arrestees when force was used due to Elgin police officer's effective and selective UOF options. The Elgin Police Department's commitment to provide officer training in de-escalation, tactics, and decision-making has proved beneficial at limiting the UOF to the lower end of the spectrum.

The Elgin Police Department's policies, training, and layers of review of RTR reports helps ensure that the department uses force in a responsible and proportionate manner. Each year, additional review is conducted by the UOF committee, which makes recommendations for additional training, policy changes and additional equipment or tactics. In 2018, additional de-escalation training is planned and officers will be certified in verbal judo. The department is committed to continuous improvement to make officers and citizens safer in situations that may require use of force.