



EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: 2017 April 19

SUBJECT: 2016 Criminal Flight Event Report

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That this report be received for information.

INTRODUCTION:

The EPS Traffic Section conducts an annual review of all criminal flight events. The data analysis is to enable a better understanding of criminal flight event factors and results. Ultimately, this information can be referred to when making decisions regarding policy changes, training, and preferred techniques.

ATTACHMENTS:

Report: EPS Criminal Flight Event Summary Analysis 2016.

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Reviewed by: A/DC JOLLY
NOTED.

Reviewed By: Superintendent Terry Rocchio
Operational Support Division

2017 APR 26.

Chief of Police:

CHIEF R.R. KNECHT
EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

MAY 04 2017



EPS Criminal Flight Events Summary Analysis

2016

Prepared for the Edmonton Police Commission

**Edmonton Police Service
Traffic Services Branch**

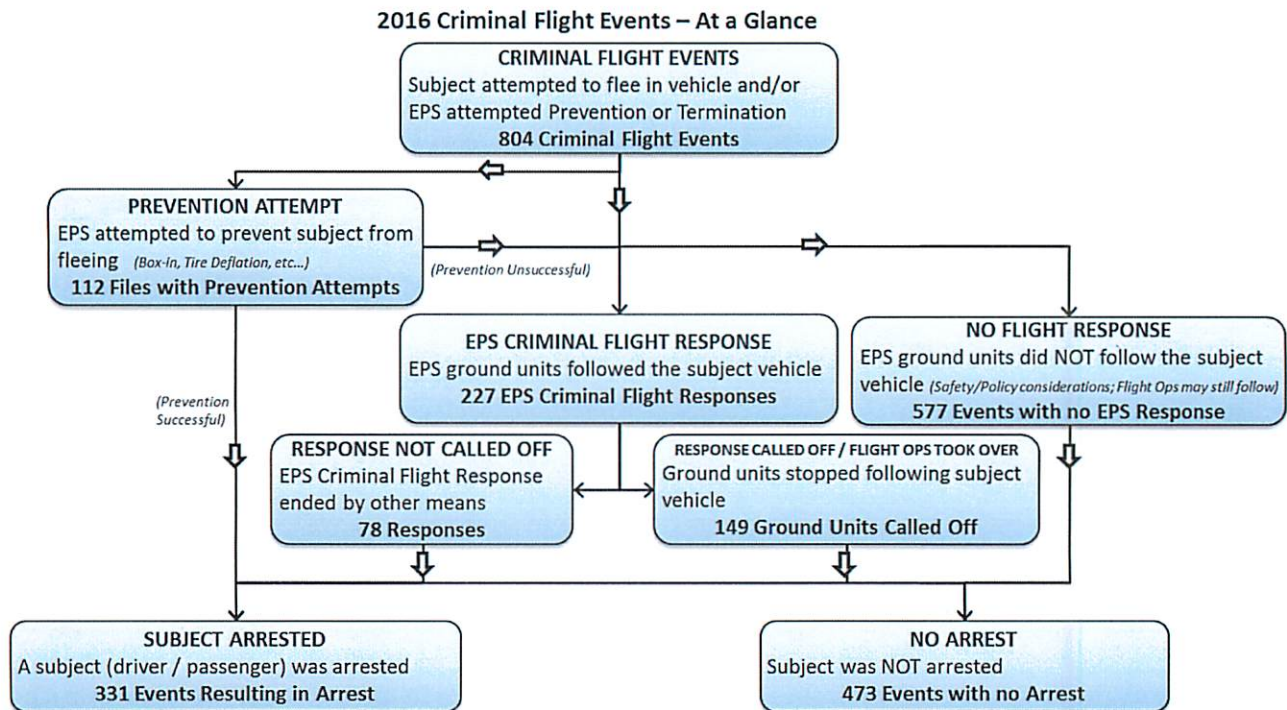
April 19, 2017

Definitions

When a subject in a vehicle flees from the police (a **Criminal Flight**), an EPS officer may attempt to prevent them from fleeing (**Prevention Attempt**), or follow in their police vehicle (**Criminal Flight Response**). A **Criminal Flight Event** is an event which involves one or multiple of the above situations.

EPS Policy dictates when an officer can initiate a **Criminal Flight Response** and when they cannot. At any point, a **Criminal Flight Response** can be called off for safety reasons or if Flight Ops is available to take over. Although Flight Ops is involved in many Criminal Flight Events, a **Criminal Flight Response** refers only to when EPS ground units are following a subject vehicle that is actively attempting to evade police.

2016 Criminal Flight Summary



Summary: Criminal Flight Events and EPS Response, 2015 and 2016			
Category	2015	2016	Change
Total Criminal Flight Events	461	804	+ 343
EPS Prevention Attempt (# of files)	47	112	+ 65
EPS Criminal Flight Response	211	227	+ 16
Criminal Flight Events where a Subject Arrested	252	331	+ 79

2016 Key Findings

Criminal Flight Events were up significantly from 2015 to 2016 (up 343 events), at least partially attributable to another year of policy adjustments, reporting improvements, member education, and divisional engagement. Some key findings from 2016:

- **Increase in Criminal Flight Events and Reporting Rates**
 - Criminal Flight Events increased by +74.4%, up 343 files from 2015.
 - This increase was driven by a considerable rise in reports for events with no EPS Criminal Flight Response (up +130.8%, or 327 files).
 - The EPS initiated a response in 28.2% of 2016 Criminal Flight Events (227 events), compared to 45.8% in 2015 (211 events.)
 - This is likely due to greater member awareness and improved reporting procedures.
- **Increase in Criminal Flight Preventions**
 - There was an increase in EPS Prevention Attempts (+65 events).
 - A technique was successful in 80.4% of the events. The most common prevention technique used was a vehicle box-in.
- **Short Duration of Criminal Flight Events**
 - Of the 804 Criminal Flight Events, 479 (59.6%) lasted 1 minute or less.
 - Short durations limit the opportunity for Flight Ops involvement. Flight Ops was involved in 165 Criminal Flight Events (20.5%).
- **Outcomes**
 - In most Criminal Flight Responses (149, or 65.6%) the EPS ground response was called off or Flight Ops took over. A response will be called off for safety concerns, or to adhere to policy.
 - Ninety-eight (98) Criminal Flight Events involved collisions (not including deliberate contact.) There were six injury collisions, and one fatal collision.
 - In the fatal collision, two occupants in a suspect vehicle were killed in a crash after an EPS Criminal Flight Response had been terminated.
 - An arrest was made in 331 events (an increase of +79 events from 2015.)
- **Police Vehicle Operations (PVO) Auditor and Criminal Flight Working Group**
 - The EPS PVO Audit Sergeant (position created in 2015) and the Criminal Flight Working Group continue to have an impact on EPS handling of Criminal Flight Events.
 - Divisional outreach led to better awareness of policy and procedure: compliance increased from 74.0% in 2015 to 81.7% in 2016.
 - Improved follow-up and coordination enhanced divisional reviews.
 - The creation of a streamlined electronic form simplified reporting and significantly reduced administrative time.

The EPS saw positive results from improvements to Criminal Flight Event handling in 2015 and 2016. Compliance with policy and procedure increased, and there were improvements with reporting and divisional follow-up. Work continues to improve EPS processes and maintain best practices in relation to these dynamic events.



EPS Criminal Flight Event Analysis 2016 Annual Report

Presented for Information
Edmonton Police Commission

June 22, 2017
Inspector Jonathan Coughlan



2016 Annual Report

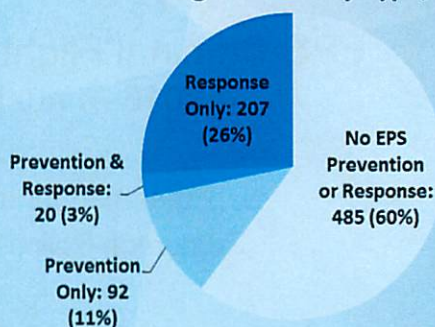
- What is a Criminal Flight Event?
- What is a Criminal Flight Response?
- What is a Prevention Technique?



2016 Annual Report

- 804 Criminal Flight Events
- 227 Criminal Flight Responses
- 112 Prevention Attempts

Criminal Flight Events by Type, 2016

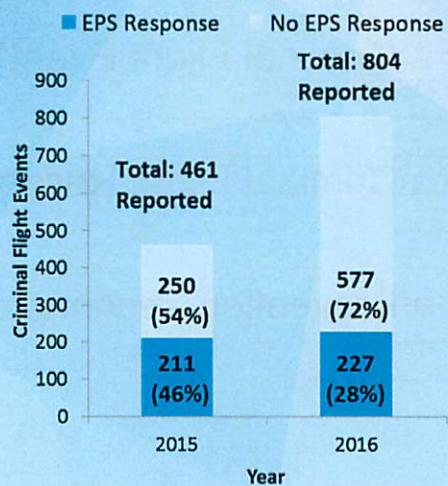


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2016 Annual Report

Criminal Flights: EPS Response Rate
2015 and 2016



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2016 Annual Report

- 331 resulted in arrest
- Flight Operations assisted in 165 events
- 98 collisions during a criminal flight event

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2016 Annual Report

- 2016 – Improved oversight and tracking;
- 2016 - Reporting procedure
- All changes support the EPS goals and vision.

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