



## 2017 Law Enforcement Transparency Annual Report

June 28, 2018

**Background:** Utah Code [77-7-8.5](#), directs all Utah Law enforcement agencies to report anytime they deploy a tactical group or when a forcible entry is made. The Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) was tasked with summarizing these annual reporting requirements.

The Utah Law Enforcement Transparency (LET) reporting interface was added to the Utah Criminal Justice Information System (UCJIS) in 2014. CCJJ paid to build the interface on UCJIS using federal grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice - Justice Assistance Grant. Law Enforcement agencies throughout the state utilize the UCJIS-LET site to report tactical group deployments and forcible entry incidents as they occur throughout the year (see Table 1 on page 6 for the agency questionnaire). A reportable incident is defined as: **1) anytime a forcible entry is made while servicing a warrant or 2) anytime a "Tactical Group" is deployed (SWAT, Drug Task Force, etc.) and/or makes a forcible entry with or without a warrant.**

All Utah Law Enforcement Agencies are responsible for reporting forcible entry incidents and tactical team deployments through-out the year. As a reminder, CCJJ uses a comprehensive email contact list of Utah law enforcement agencies and task forces directing them to report on the UCJIS-LET site at the end of each year. It should be noted that the information presented in this report is only as accurate and complete as the data reported by each individual law enforcement agency and their willingness to provide it.

## Summary of Findings:

**There were 221 forcible entries that occurred** out of the 486 total incidents reported in 2017 (45.5%). The remaining 265 incidents involved tactical team deployments without forced entry or warrants served where forcible entry was not necessary. While the number of reported incidents was similar between 2015 and 2016, the number of reported incidents increased in 2017.

Close to 40 percent of these incidents occurred in Salt Lake County, which was followed by Utah and Cache County at 23 and 10 percent respectively. Similar to 2016, the majority of the reason for law enforcement deployment pertained to drug crimes (77%), followed by “evidence” (9%), property crimes (4%), and person crimes (3.5%). A threat assessment was completed 82 percent of the time.

Warrants were obtained in 94 percent of the reported incidents. The vast majority of these warrants pertained to drug crimes (81%), followed by crimes against persons (6%), violent crimes against persons (5%), and property crimes (5%). Other non-violent person crimes represented the remaining reason for warrants at 2 percent.

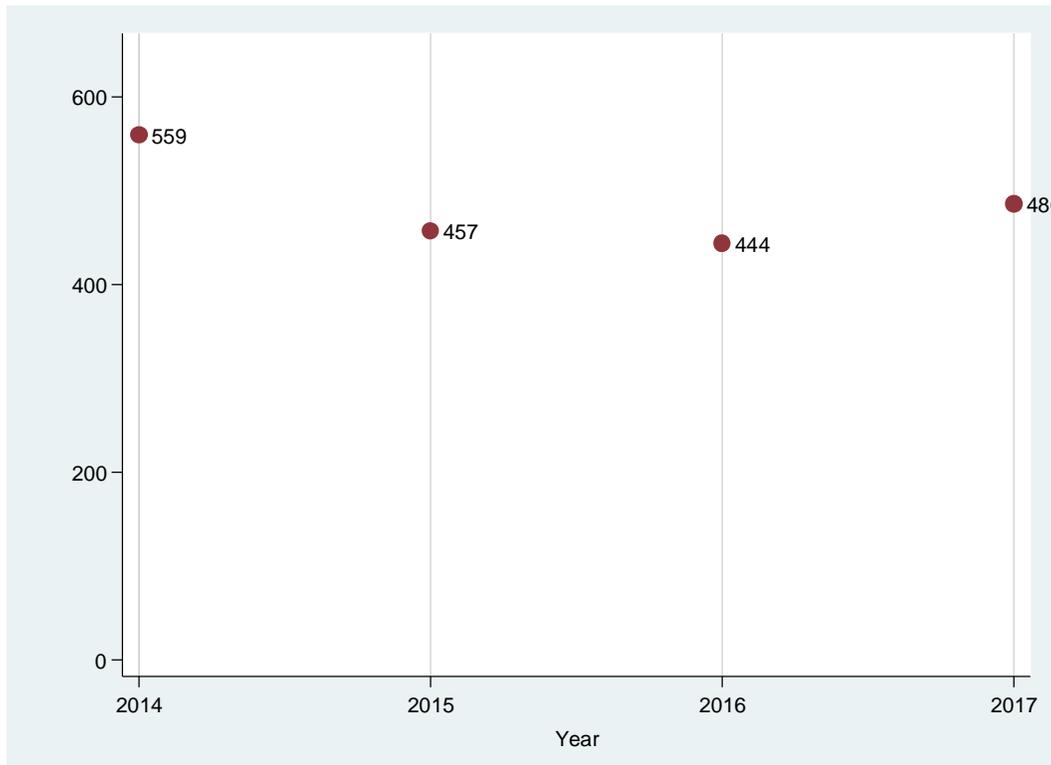
Similar to 2016, “No-Knock-Night” and “Knock & Announce-Day” warrants were obtained in more than 70 percent of all reported incidents. This was followed by “Knock & Announce-Night” (20%) and “No-Knock-Day” (6%). Tactical groups obtained “No-Knock-Night” warrants at a higher rate than the other groups (67% vs. 32% respectively). Evidence was seized in the majority of the reported incidents (> 90%), with property being seized 12.5 percent of the time. The mean number of arrests across all incidents was 1.7 (min=0, max=24).

Weapons (including non-firearms) were brandished by suspects in 17 of the 486 reported incidents (3.5%). One incident involved firearms being used by suspects. This incident pertained to forcible entry.

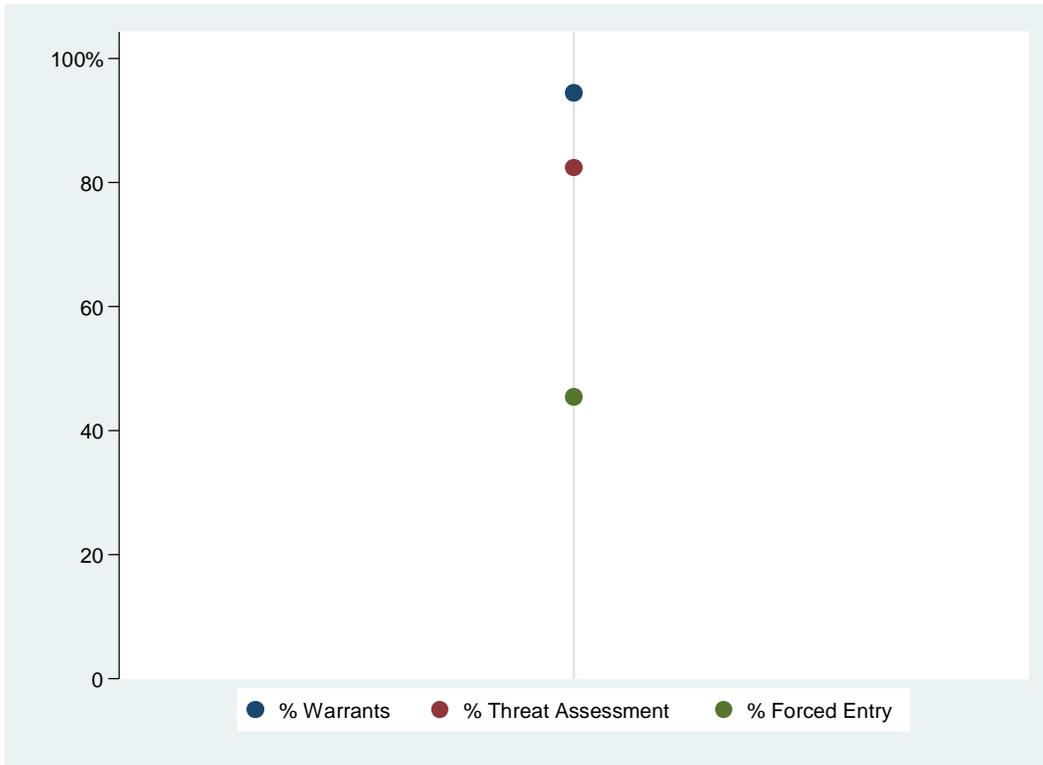
One of the reported incidents resulted in officer shots, with three civilians being injured and no reported fatalities. Two law enforcement officers were injured as a result of the 486 incidents, with one reported fatality. One of the incidents resulted in an animal being injured, with no reported fatality.

## Figures of Summary Findings

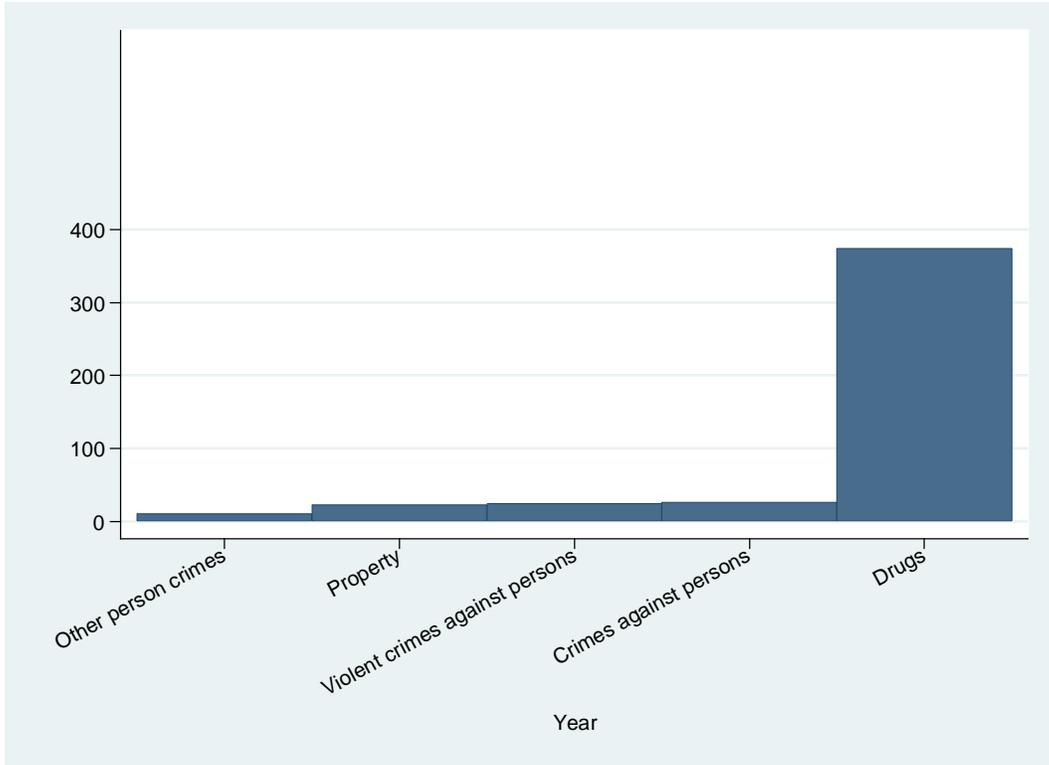
**Figure 1. Total Number of Incidents Reported: 2014 - 2017:** While the number of reported incidents declined by 18 percent between 2014 and 2015 and remained similar between 2015 and 2016; the number of reported incidents increased in 2017.



**Figure 2. Selected Summary Statistics:** Warrants were used 94 percent of the time, with a threat assessment being completed 82 percent of the time. 45.5 percent of all reported incidents included the use of forced entry.



**Figure 3. Breakdown of Warrant Nature 2016:** The reason that a judge issued a warrant pertained to drugs 81 percent of the time (n=374). Twenty-six (6%) of the reported incidents pertained to crimes against persons, followed by property and violent crimes against persons (at 5% respectively).



**Table 1. UCJIS-LET Incident Report Questionnaire**

**No Incidents to Report**

\*No Incidents for the Year      \*Year

\*Agency                              \*Submitter

**Incidents Entry**

\*Agency                              \*Case Number

\*Responsible Agency ORI      \*Submitter

\*Incident Date

\*Region    \*Agency/Task Force/Tactical Group Deployed

\*Region    \*Law Enforcement Agencies Involved or Providing Resources

\*County    \*City    \*ZIP

\*Reason for Deployment      \*Reason Detail

\*Warrant: Yes/No (if yes)    \*Warrant Type    \*Nature of Warrant

\*Judge/Magistrate Authorizing Warrant

\*Threat Assessment Completed: Yes/No    \*Number of Arrests    \*Evidence Seized: Yes/No

\*Property Seized – Not as Evidence: Yes/No    \*Forcible Entry: Yes/No

\*Firearm Discharged by Officer(s): Yes/No (if yes)    \*Shots Fired - Officer (1)

\*Weapon Brandished by Non-LEO: Yes/No

\*Weapon Used Against LEO: Yes/No (if yes)    \*Was the Weapon a Firearm: Yes/No (if yes)    \*Shots Fired - Suspect (1)

\*LEO Injured or Killed: Yes/No (if yes)    \*Number of Persons Injured    \*Number of LEO's Killed

\*Person Injured or Killed by LEO: Yes/No (if yes)    \*Number of LEO's Injured    \*Number of Persons Killed

\*Domestic Animal Injured or Killed by LEO: Yes/No (if yes)    \*Number of Animals Injured    \*Number of Animals Killed

Comments (optional)