

SAMPLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Use Of Force

NOTE: This document is for internal use only. It does not establish a legal duty or standard of care for civil liability, or enlarge an employee's civil or criminal liability in any way. A violation of this policy may only form the basis for internal discipline by this agency and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

I. PURPOSE

To establish effective and lawful guidelines regarding an officer's use of force, both deadly and non-deadly, including definitions, limitations, levels of resistance, levels of control, medical attention provided after an incident, and reporting and review of incidents.

II. POLICY

Officers may use force only when the use of force appears reasonably necessary to accomplish a lawful objective and only in a manner that is objectively reasonable based upon the totality of the circumstances. The use of unjustified or excessive force during an arrest, investigatory stop, vehicle or foot pursuit, or other seizure violates this policy.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Deadly Force: Deadly force refers to the seizure of a person in any manner that is likely to cause death or serious physical injury. Depending on the circumstances, examples of deadly force may include shooting a person with a firearm, intentionally striking a person in the head with an impact weapon, forcing a vehicle off the road at a high speed, and applying a chokehold.
- B. Non-deadly Force: Non-deadly force refers to the seizure of a person by force or threat of force in a manner that is not likely to cause death or serious physical injury.
- C. Seizure: A seizure occurs when an officer has in some way restrained the liberty of a person by an intentional show of authority or by means of physical force intentionally applied. Also, the application of physical force to the body of a person with intent to restrain is a seizure even if the person does not submit and is not subdued.

IV. PROCEDURE

- A. General
 - 1. Depending upon the circumstances with which an officer is confronted, some level of force may be reasonable to accomplish one of the following objectives when the objective is lawful:
 - a. To detain a person.
 - b. To effect an arrest, investigatory stop, or other seizure.
 - c. To overcome resistance.

- d. To prevent an escape from custody.
 - e. To protect oneself or another from injury.
 - f. To enforce a court order or other legal process.
 - g. To exercise control over a person.
 - h. To prevent property damage.
 - i. To prevent a person from committing suicide or self-inflicting serious physical injury.
2. Officers shall use only an objectively reasonable level of force to control a situation. The reasonableness of a level of force depends upon the totality of the circumstances. Factors relevant to the appropriate level of force include, but are not limited to:
- a. The severity of the crime at issue.
 - b. Whether the person poses an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others.
 - c. Whether the person is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight.
 - d. The need for the application of force.
 - e. The relationship between the need and the amount of force used.
 - f. The extent of the injury inflicted.
3. Limits on the Use of Force
- a. Deadly force is permissible only for as long as an officer reasonably believes that the person poses an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or another.
 - b. Once an officer knows a person is fully secured and compliant, the officer must revert to the lowest level of force reasonably believed necessary to maintain lawful control over the person. The use of significant force against a person who the officer knows is fully secured and compliant is unjustified and violates this policy.
 - c. Officers shall not use force against a person solely in response to non-threatening speech. In this policy, “non-threatening” speech refers to speech that is not coupled with the present ability to carry out the threat. A person’s verbal threat to harm an officer is considered non-threatening if the person is physically incapable of harming the officer at the time the threat is made. An example of threatening speech is a threat that is coupled with the present ability to carry it out, which may justify the use of reasonable force to counter the threat. When a specific threat is directed toward an officer indicating the officer may suffer imminent physical harm and the person appears to have the present ability to carry out the threat, the officer does not have to wait for a physical attack before using the appropriate level of force to control the situation. An example would be a person threatens an officer while clinching his fist in a fighting stance.
 - d. Officers shall not use force as a means of punishment or interrogation.
 - e. Officers shall not use force unless it appears reasonably necessary to accomplish a lawful objective.
 - f. When force is justified, officers shall limit its use to a level that is objectively reasonable based upon the totality of the circumstances. Officers shall not use excessive force.

- g. Officers shall not hog-tie a person. Hog-tying refers to binding a person's hands and feet together behind the back.
 - h. Officers shall not use a chokehold or a vascular neck restraint unless deadly force is authorized. Chokehold refers to a physical maneuver that restricts a person's ability to breathe for the purpose of incapacitation. Vascular neck restraint refers to a technique that incapacitates a person by restricting the flow of blood to the brain.
 - i. Whenever feasible, officers shall avoid using force on a person in a manner that is likely to cause positional asphyxia. Officers shall avoid applying pressure to the back of a person who is in a prone position whenever feasible. Officers should not allow a person to lie in a prone position after resistance ceases.
4. The degree of force an officer chooses should be based upon the totality of the circumstances, which includes the officer's training, experience, and tactical evaluation of the threats presented. Based upon the totality of the circumstances known at the time and considering the officer's training and experience, the officer should choose a tactic/procedure that is objectively reasonable and is consistent with one of the following:
- a. The tactic/procedure utilized is a trained technique.
 - b. The tactic/procedure is a dynamic application of a trained technique.
 - c. The tactic/procedure is not trained but appears reasonably necessary under the circumstances.
5. Officers are not required to exhaust lower levels of force before they use a higher level of force. Officers are only required to use a level of force that is objectively reasonable under the totality of the circumstances. Whenever a specific level of control is authorized for a specific level of resistance, that level of control is also authorized for all higher levels of resistance.

B. Duty to Intervene and Report

- 1. The use of unjustified or excessive force is unlawful and will not be tolerated. Any officer who engages in such misconduct, or who fails to report such misconduct, shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- 2. An officer shall not knowingly allow another person to use force that the officer knows is unjustified or excessive under the circumstances. An officer shall, when safe and feasible, intervene to prevent the known use of unjustified or excessive force. An officer's duty to intervene extends to the known use of unjustified or excessive force by personnel from another law enforcement agency or detention facility.
- 3. An officer shall not encourage, conceal, or fail to report the unjustified or excessive use of force. An officer who has knowledge of an unjustified or excessive use of force shall promptly notify a supervisor who was not involved in the incident. Alternatively, the officer may notify the Chief of Police directly.
 - a. When observing or reporting force used by another law enforcement officer or detention officer, an officer should consider the totality of the circumstances and the possibility that the other law enforcement officer or detention officer may have additional information regarding the threat posed by the person.

- b. The reporting requirement applies to all officers and requires self-reporting of the unjustified or excessive use of force.
- c. All reports concerning the use of force shall be truthful and complete in all material respects. An officer shall not knowingly and intentionally omit from a report significant facts about the circumstances under which force was used, details regarding the type or amount of force used, or the identity of a person who used force. At the officer's request, the officer shall be permitted to view all audio and video recordings of the use of force incident before the officer prepares a use of force report or gives a statement regarding the incident.

C. Verbal Dialogue and Commands

1. Control of a person through professional presence and verbal dialogue and commands is the preferred method of control. Because verbal commands are not always effective or appropriate in gaining compliance, and may sometimes be unsafe, officers may escalate the level of force based upon the behavior of the person they are trying to control and the other circumstances with which they are confronted.
2. Officers are not always required to give a verbal command or warning before they use force. If safe, feasible, and tactically sound, however, an officer should give a verbal warning before using force.
3. A verbal warning is not required in a split-second situation, or if the officer reasonably believes that issuing the warning would jeopardize the safety of the officer or another person.
4. When all of the reasonably known circumstances indicate that it is safe and feasible to do so, officers should:
 - a. Try to slow down or stabilize the situation so that more time, options, and resources may become available.
 - b. Consider, based on the officer's observations and the totality of the circumstances, whether a person's noncompliance is a deliberate effort to resist or an inability to comply based on factors including, but not limited to, the person's emotional state or disability.
5. De-escalation tactics may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Requesting additional officers and other resources to the scene, which may make more force options available and may help minimize the overall force used.
 - b. Placing barriers between an uncooperative person and an officer.
 - c. Attempting to isolate the person and contain the scene.
 - d. Minimizing risk from a potential threat using distance, cover, or concealment.
6. Before resorting to force (and to reduce the need for force), an officer should use de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to higher levels of force consistent with their training if safe and feasible.
7. Before using force, officers should consider using the following concepts and tactics if they are safe and feasible:
 - a. Identify himself or herself as a police officer,
 - b. Attempt to verbally de-escalate,
 - c. Attempt to use additional de-escalation tactics or control options,

- d. Give verbal commands and afford the person a reasonable opportunity to comply. Whenever possible, and when such delay will not compromise the safety of the officer or another and will not result in the destruction of evidence, escape of a suspect, or commission of a crime, an officer should allow a person time and opportunity to comply with verbal commands before using force.
8. When an officer uses force, the officer shall de-escalate or terminate the use of force, as appropriate, when resistance decreases or control is achieved.
9. Officers should not compromise their safety or increase the risk of physical harm to the public when applying de-escalation techniques.

D. Soft Empty Hand Techniques

1. Soft empty hand techniques may be used to prevent or control passive or active resistance. They are most often used when verbal commands are not effective and there is noncompliance with lawful orders. However, the use of soft empty hand controls may be reasonably necessary in the absence of verbal commands in some circumstances.
2. Soft empty hand techniques include strength techniques, joint locks, pressure points, and light knee strike/distraction techniques to the person's leg to prevent resistance from the escort position.
3. While soft empty hand control techniques may inflict pain to gain control, they generally will not cause any form of bruising or injury to the person. Soft empty hand control techniques have little or no potential for injury.

E. Pepper Spray

1. Officers shall successfully complete a training course prior to carrying pepper spray.
2. Patrol officers who elect to carry pepper spray shall either carry it on their duty belt or on an approved external vest inside an appropriate pocket to secure the canister.
3. Pepper spray may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
4. Pepper spray is considered a higher level of force than soft empty hand controls.
5. If safe and feasible, an officer should give a verbal warning before using pepper spray against a person.
6. For maximum effect, officers should deploy pepper spray in a one-second burst to the person's face from a range of 5 to 10 feet. However, officers may deviate from this guideline as conditions require.
7. The existence of a legal justification for an initial application of pepper spray does not automatically mean that additional applications of pepper spray will also be justified. Each application of pepper spray must be independently justified under this policy. After each application of pepper spray, the officer shall reassess the need for an additional application.
8. Officers shall not carry any type of pepper spray other than non-flammable spray issued or approved by the department.
9. Officers shall consider environmental hazards when they decide whether or not to deploy pepper spray. Potential hazards include traffic, stairways, ledges, crowd stampedes, and others nearby who may be affected by the spray.

10. After a person has been exposed to pepper spray, officers should remove the person from the affected area as soon as it is safe and practical to do so.
 - a. If the person is compliant after exposure to pepper spray, the officer should position the person to receive fresh air before transport to the jail. If fresh water is available, officers should flush the affected body parts.
 - b. Upon arrival at the jail, the officer should inform docket personnel that the person was exposed to pepper spray.
 - c. If the person is compliant at the jail, docket personnel should allow the person to flush the affected body parts with cool water and mild, non-oil-based soap.
11. Pepper spray may be used to discourage or repel an attack by an animal.

F. Hard Empty Hand Control Techniques

1. Hard empty hand control techniques may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
2. Hard empty hand control techniques are considered a higher level of force than soft empty hand controls and pepper spray.
3. Examples of hard empty hand control techniques include takedowns, strikes, kicks, stuns, and punches.
4. If safe and feasible, an officer should give a verbal warning before using hard empty hand control techniques against a person.

G. TASER

1. Officers shall successfully complete a training course prior to carrying a TASER. Officers shall not carry any conducted energy device other than a departmentally issued or approved TASER.
2. When carried on the officer's equipment belt, the TASER must be worn on the support (weak) side of the belt in either a support-hand-draw or cross-draw position. Alternatively, officers may carry the TASER on an approved external vest in a holster or pocket designed to carry a TASER.
3. A TASER may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
4. The TASER is considered a higher level of force than soft empty hand controls, pepper spray, and hard empty hand controls.
5. If safe and feasible, an officer should give a verbal warning before using a TASER against a person.
6. A TASER is not a substitute for deadly force. When a person is believed to be armed with a dangerous weapon, an officer should not arm himself or herself with a TASER unless another officer at the scene has the immediate ability to deliver deadly force. Officers armed with a TASER should continuously monitor and evaluate the ability of other officers present to deliver deadly force.
7. An officer may draw, brandish, or threaten to use a TASER only when the officer reasonably believes that the potential for its justified use exists.

8. If an officer knows that a person has a medical condition that poses an increased risk of complications from a TASER application—such as a heart condition—the officer should, if feasible, use alternate tactics.
9. The use of a TASER under the following circumstances is always prohibited:
 - a. Against a person who is operating a moving motor vehicle.
 - b. From a moving motor vehicle.
 - c. For coercion or intimidation unrelated to a legitimate need to exercise control.
 - d. To awaken unconscious or intoxicated persons.
 - e. Against persons who are offering only passive resistance without any threat of greater resistance.
10. Unless deadly force is justified, the use of a TASER under the following circumstances is prohibited:
 - a. Against a person who has been exposed to a flammable pepper spray or other flammable substance.
 - i. Department issued or approved non-flammable pepper spray may be used in conjunction with a TASER in accordance with this policy.
 - b. Against a person who is running on a hard surface, such as concrete or asphalt. The sudden loss of muscular control can cause the person to fall head-first and suffer serious physical injury or death.
 - c. Against a person on a ledge or who, when subjected to the effect of the TASER, could reasonably be expected to fall from a dangerous height.
 - d. Against a person who is riding a moving bicycle.
 - e. Against a person in water when a risk of drowning exists.
 - f. Against a woman who the officer knows is pregnant.
11. Target Zones: The preferred target zones for the TASER are:
 - a. On the back of the body: below the neck.
 - b. On the front of the body: below the chest.
 - c. When practical, officers should avoid targeting the chest with a frontal TASER deployment.
 - d. Officers shall not intentionally fire TASER probes at a person's face, head, or neck.
12. The existence of a legal justification for an initial application of a TASER does not automatically mean that additional TASER applications will also be justified. Each TASER application must be independently justified under this policy. After each TASER application, the officer shall reassess the need for an additional application.
13. Officers shall summon EMS to assess any person against whom a TASER has been deployed.
 - a. If the TASER probes have penetrated the skin in a sensitive area (head, neck, groin, or breast of a female) the person shall be transported to a medical facility for removal. If the probes are embedded in non-sensitive areas, EMS may remove them. If EMS is unwilling to remove the probes, an officer shall transport the person to a medical facility for removal of the probes.
14. Removing the cartridge to deploy a TASER in the drive-stun mode is not recommended as a primary TASER deployment technique. However, the drive-stun mode may be employed after the cartridge has been deployed.

15. When a TASER is discharged against a person, a download of the TASER discharge log shall be submitted with the Use of Force Report of the officer who discharged the TASER.

H. Impact Weapons

1. Officers shall successfully complete a training course prior to carrying an ASP tactical baton. Officers shall not carry any baton other than an ASP tactical baton.
2. Impact weapons may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
3. Impact weapons are considered a higher level of force than soft empty hand controls, pepper spray, hard empty hand controls, and the TASER.
4. This level of force refers to targeted strikes to areas of the body that are not likely to cause death or serious physical injury by use of an impact weapon such as a baton.
5. If safe and feasible, an officer should give a verbal warning before using an impact weapon against a person.
6. Flashlights, radios, and firearms are not recommended as impact weapons. However, emergency self-defense situations involving these, and other, objects may occur. In such cases, this policy shall govern the application of force with such objects.
7. The use of an impact weapon to intentionally deliver a strike to the head is permissible only when the use of deadly force is justified. Officers are cautioned that impact weapon strikes to the head may cause death or serious physical injury.
8. When impact weapon strikes are justified, officers should target the motor points of the person's arms and/or legs. These are the radial and median nerve motor points of the arms and the common peroneal, femoral, and tibial nerve motor points of the legs. **(Refer to Appendix A – Baton Target Zone Chart).**

I. Canine Apprehension by Biting

1. A canine handler may use a canine to apprehend a person by biting only:
 - a. To control active aggression or aggravated active aggression when the officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe, or
 - b. When the officer reasonably believes the person is a violent offender who is engaged in active resistance and that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
2. Apprehension by canine bite is considered a higher level of force than soft empty hand controls, pepper spray, hard empty hand controls, the TASER, and impact weapons.
3. If safe and feasible, a canine handler who confronts a person must announce a loud and clear verbal warning and afford the person an opportunity to surrender before deploying the canine.
4. When a canine is used to search a building, the handler shall announce a loud and clear verbal warning and afford the person an opportunity to surrender before deploying the canine.
5. Before deploying an apprehension canine for an outdoor search, the handler shall announce a loud and clear verbal warning and afford the person an opportunity to surrender before deploying the canine.

6. When a canine alerts that a person is behind a closed door or hiding within a confined area, the handler shall announce a new loud and clear verbal warning and afford the person an opportunity to surrender before sending the canine into the area.
7. To the extent that it is safe and feasible, the handler shall maintain close contact with the canine during a search. When the canine makes a find, the handler shall recall the canine as soon as the handler can be reasonably assured that the person wants to submit or does not pose a credible threat of assault or escape. When the person's only act of physical resistance is non-lethal self-protection in response to being bitten (*e.g.*, trying to push the dog away), the handler shall recall the canine.
8. Apprehension canines shall not be deployed when the person is known to be a juvenile and there is no reason to believe that the juvenile poses a threat to inflict death or serious physical injury.
9. Officers shall not use a canine solely to intimidate, coerce, or frighten a person, or against a person who appears too feeble or intoxicated to offer violent resistance or escape.
10. In crowd control situations, canines may not be used as a deterrent to protect property only. The use of canines for crowd control is authorized during a riot, potential riot conditions, or other large unauthorized assemblies only where there is a reasonable likelihood that injury to officers or others could occur and when crowds cannot be controlled by any other means.
11. The canine handler shall summon EMS whenever any person is bitten by a canine. An arrestee who has been bitten by a canine must be transported to the emergency room to be examined by a physician prior to admission to jail, even if the person states that he or she will refuse treatment.
12. Whenever a canine fails to release a bite on its handler's command, the handler shall notify a supervisor and the canine must be removed from active service and placed in remedial training until the release-on-command concern has been corrected.
13. Canine handlers shall comply with the quarantine requirement as outlined in the Alabama Code § 3-7A-9, when applicable. Police dogs are exempt from the quarantine requirement only when:
 - a. The bite or exposure occurred within the line of duty,
 - b. Evidence of proper immunization against rabies is presented to the health officer or rabies officer, and
 - c. The canine is examined by a licensed veterinarian immediately at the end of ten days after the incident.
14. Record-Keeping
 - a. A canine deployment is defined as an active search in which the canine has an assigned task and is actually used in the search.
 - b. A canine apprehension is defined as any occasion on which a canine is deployed and plays a clear and well-documented role in the capture of a person.
 - c. Canine handlers shall keep accurate records on canine deployments, apprehensions, and bites.

J. Specialty Impact Munitions

1. Specialty impact munitions may be used to prevent or control active aggression when the officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
2. Specialty impact weapons are considered a higher level of force than soft empty hand controls, pepper spray, hard empty hand controls, the TASER, impact weapons, and apprehension by canine bite.
3. Specialty impact munitions are commercially manufactured munitions that are designed to engage a person with a non-lethal impact projectile from a safe distance. Specialty impact munitions should be targeted below the person's waist.
4. Specialty impact munitions may only be utilized by officers who have successfully completed training in their use.
5. Specialty impact munitions are not a substitute for deadly force. An officer may not arm himself or herself with a specialty impact munitions weapon unless another officer at the scene has the immediate ability to deliver deadly force. Officers armed with specialty impact munitions weapons should continuously monitor and evaluate the ability of other officers present to deliver deadly force.
6. It is the responsibility of the officer arming himself or herself with a specialty impact munitions weapon to ensure that the weapon is loaded only with specialty impact munitions (and not lethal ammunition) each time the weapon is deployed.
 - a. To avoid an accidental discharge of live shotgun ammunition while attempting to deploy a specialty impact munition, officers equipped with specialty impact munitions that are deployed with a shotgun shall not carry live shotgun ammunition.
7. Like any use of force, deployment of specialty impact munitions must be evaluated using the criteria in this policy. Deployment of specialty impact munitions at areas below the waist is considered non-deadly force. The intentional targeting of the head, neck, or torso above the waist with specialty impact munitions is considered deadly force.
8. If safe and feasible, an officer must issue a verbal warning before using a specialty impact munitions weapon against a person.
9. All persons taken into custody who have been struck with an impact projectile will be seen by EMS at the scene.
10. Absent an imminent risk of harm to officers or citizens, specialty impact munitions will not be used in crowd control situations. Specialty impact munitions will not be used solely to move or disperse crowds.
11. Specialty impact munitions may be deployed in other jurisdictions pursuant to a mutual aid request. In the event that a person struck with a specialty impact munition is taken into custody by another agency, officers from that agency shall be notified of the need for medical assessment.

K. Deadly Force

1. Introduction
 - a. This policy is not to be construed to require an officer to take unreasonable risks. In assessing the need to use deadly force, the paramount consideration always should be the safety of officers and the public.

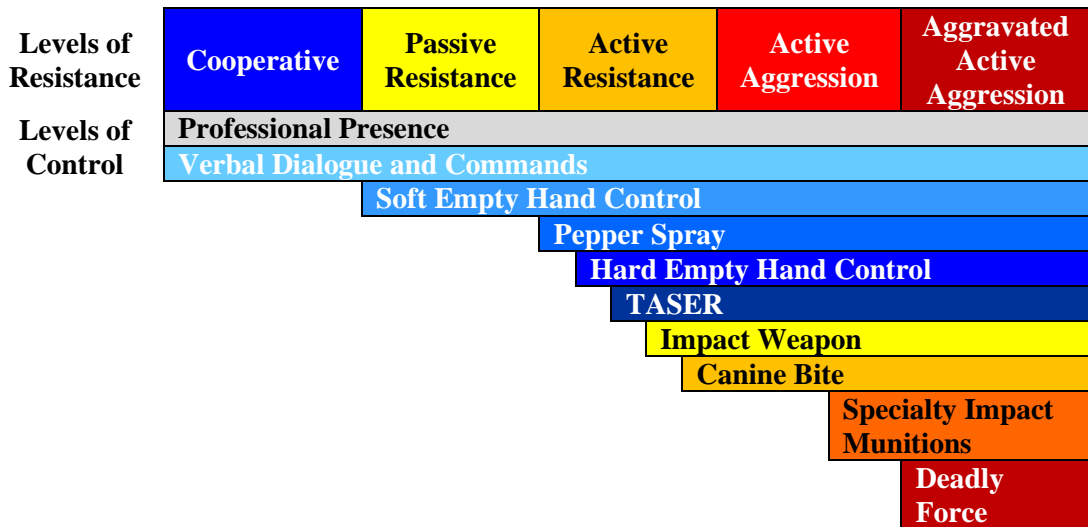
- b. The reasonableness of an officer's decision to use deadly force must be viewed from the perspective of the officer on the scene, who may often be forced to make a split-second decision in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving and without the advantage of hindsight.
2. Deadly Force Policy
 - a. Defense of Life: An officer may use deadly force only when the officer has probable cause to believe that the object of such force poses an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or another person.
 - b. Prevention of Escape: An officer may use deadly force to prevent the escape of a fleeing person when the officer has probable cause to believe: (1) the person has committed a felony involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious physical injury or death, and (2) the person's escape would pose an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or another person.
 - c. Verbal Warnings: If feasible, and if to do so would not increase the danger to the officer or another person, a verbal warning to submit to the authority of the officer shall be given prior to the use of deadly force.
 - d. Warning Shots: Officers shall not fire warning shots.
 - e. Vehicles: Weapons may not be fired solely to disable moving vehicles. Weapons may be fired at the driver or other occupant of a moving motor vehicle only when the officer has probable cause to believe that the person poses an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or another person, and the officer reasonably believes that the use of deadly force does not create a danger to the public that outweighs the likely benefit of its use.
 3. Application of Deadly Force
 - a. When the decision is made to use deadly force against a person, an officer may continue to use deadly force until the person surrenders or no longer poses an imminent danger.
 - b. When deadly force is permitted under this policy, attempts to shoot to cause minor injury are unrealistic and can prove dangerous to officers and others because they are unlikely to achieve the intended purpose of bringing an imminent danger to a timely halt.
 - c. Even when deadly force is permitted, officers should assess whether its use creates a danger to third parties that outweighs the likely benefits of its use.
 4. Dangerous Vehicle Pursuits
 - a. The decision to use deadly force against a person who is actively operating a motor vehicle in a manner that poses an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to officers or others must be evaluated under the "Defense of Life" section of this policy.
 - b. The "Prevention of Escape" section of this policy does not impose any pre-conditions to the use of deadly force against a person when the person's method of flight actively poses an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to officers or others.

5. Vicious Animals
 - a. An officer may use deadly force against a vicious animal when the officer has probable cause to believe that the use of deadly force is necessary to prevent the animal from injuring the officer or another person.

L. Handling Weapons

1. An officer shall not draw, brandish, or threaten to use any weapon unless the officer reasonably believes that use of the weapon may become necessary as authorized by this policy.
2. An officer shall not draw or brandish any weapon for exhibition purposes or engage in horseplay or joke with a weapon.
3. The unintentional or unjustified discharge of a firearm, or any form of horseplay or joke-playing involving a firearm, may result in disciplinary action up to and potentially including termination.
4. An officer shall always handle every firearm as if it is loaded.
5. An officer shall not aim a firearm at anyone or anything the officer is not prepared to destroy. An officer shall not aim a firearm at another person unless the officer reasonably believes that use of the firearm against that person may become necessary as authorized by this policy. Otherwise, an officer shall always aim the firearm in a safe direction. A safe direction is the direction in which the firearm will cause no physical injury and the least property damage if it discharges.
6. An officer handling a firearm shall keep his or her finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until the officer has made the decision to fire the weapon in a manner consistent with this policy.
7. Before discharging a firearm, the officer must reasonably believe that the intended target is a legitimate object of deadly force as authorized by this policy.

M. Use of Force Model



1. The Use of Force Model is a guideline for officers in making critical use of force decisions. The above image illustrates the options that an officer has at each level

of resistance. It should be noted that professional presence and verbal interaction are present at every level of resistance.

2. Both state and federal law require that all force be objectively reasonable. In *Graham v. Connor*, the United States Supreme Court stated, “the test of reasonableness under the Fourth Amendment is not capable of precise definition or mechanical application, however, its proper application requires careful attention to the facts and circumstances of each particular case including the severity of the crime at issue, whether the suspect poses an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others and whether he is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight.” In addition, an officer should consider the officer’s own abilities, as well as the officer’s perception of the person’s abilities and intention.
3. In deciding which level of control an officer should use, the officer should reasonably believe that a lower level of control is not sufficient, and a higher level of control is not reasonably necessary. The Use of Force Model is not designed to be a step-by-step progression. Therefore, the escalation and de-escalation by the officer or the person may not be sequential.
4. Whenever a specific level control is authorized for a specific level of resistance, that level of control is also authorized for all higher levels of resistance.
5. When a specific provision of this policy conflicts with this Model, the officer should rely upon the policy provision. For example, officers may not use deadly force when it creates an unreasonable danger to innocent third parties.
6. For purposes of the Use of Force Model, the applicable level of resistance is determined based upon the officer’s objectively reasonable assessment of the person’s capability and intention, as manifested through the person’s actions, words, body language, mental state, proximity to a weapon, known history, and other relevant factors.
 - a. In some cases, an officer may correctly assess a person’s level of resistance as active resistance, active aggression, or aggravated active aggression even though the person is not, at that moment, engaged in any physical action at all.
 - b. If, based upon a person’s verbal or nonverbal behavior, an officer reasonably believes that the person intends to fight or flee and has the ability to do so, the officer may preemptively apply force to the extent reasonably believed necessary to overcome the anticipated resistance. The officer is not required to allow the person to gain the tactical advantage of making the first move.
 - c. A person who disobeys a command to drop a firearm may, depending upon the totality of the circumstances, be assessed at the aggravated active aggression level of resistance even though the person is not, at that moment, aiming the firearm at a person.
7. The levels of resistance, listed in order from lowest to highest, are:
 - a. **Passive Resistance:** The person does not cooperate with an officer’s commands, but also does not take action to prevent being taken into custody. An example of this would be a protestor who lies in front of a doorway and must be carried away upon arrest. Alternatively, the person may express the intention not to comply through verbal or non-verbal means.
 - b. **Active Resistance:** A person who engages in active resistance takes affirmative action to prevent being taken into custody. The goal of this action is escape or

- avoidance of apprehension, and not injury to the officer. This action may include tensing muscles to prevent handcuffing, twisting, pulling, holding onto fixed objects, hiding, walking away, or running away.
- c. Active Aggression: At the active aggression level of resistance, the person is intent on assaulting the officer or someone else. This aggression may manifest itself through shoving, striking, elbowing, kicking, or biting. The person may also engage in self-injurious behavior.
 - d. Aggravated Active Aggression: Aggravated active aggression includes actions that are likely to result in death or serious physical injury to the officer or another person. These actions may include use of a firearm, use of a blunt or bladed weapon, and extreme physical force. A person's operation of a motor vehicle in a manner that poses an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to officers or others is also classified as aggravated active aggression.
8. The levels of control, listed in order from lowest to highest, are:
- a. Professional Presence: The display of visual images of authority as well as a professional manner are present at every level of resistance. This includes all symbols of police authority including the badge, uniform, and police vehicles with markings and/or emergency lights.
 - b. Verbal Dialogue and Commands: Communication is critical to any potential use of force situation. This level of control includes verbal requests, directions, or commands from the officer to a person. Verbal interaction may be present at every level of resistance.
 - c. Soft Empty Hand Control: These techniques include strength techniques, joint locks, pressure points, and light knee strike/distraction techniques to the person's leg (to prevent resistance from the escort position). Soft empty hand control may be used to prevent or control passive or active resistance.
 - d. Pepper Spray: Pepper spray may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
 - e. Hard Empty Hand Control: These techniques are impact-oriented and include takedowns, strikes, kicks, stuns, and punches. Hard empty hand control may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
 - f. TASER: The TASER may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
 - g. Impact Weapon: This level of force refers to targeted strikes to areas of the body that are not likely to cause death or serious physical injury by use of an impact weapon such as a baton. Impact weapons may be used to prevent or control active resistance or active aggression when an officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
 - h. Canine Apprehension by Biting: A canine handler may use a canine to apprehend a person by biting only (a) to control active aggression or aggravated active aggression when the officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe, or (b) when reasonably necessary to apprehend a suspected violent offender who is engaged in active resistance.

- i. Specialty Impact Munitions: Specialty impact munitions are commercially manufactured munitions that are designed to engage a person with a non-lethal impact-producing projectile from a safe distance. Specialty impact munitions should be targeted below the person's waist. Specialty impact munitions may be used to prevent or control active aggression when the officer reasonably believes that lower levels of force would be ineffective or unsafe.
- j. Deadly Force: Deadly force is any type of force that is reasonably likely to cause death or serious injury. An officer may use deadly force only when the officer has probable cause to believe that the object of such force poses an imminent danger of death or serious physical injury to the officer or another person. If safe and feasible, an officer must give a warning before using deadly force.

N. Medical Assistance

1. Officers shall summon EMS for a person in the following situations:
 - a. The person has been shot with a firearm or has suffered any other form of penetrating or puncture wound.
 - b. A TASER has been deployed against the person.
 - c. The person has been struck with a specialty impact munition.
 - d. The person has experienced an impact or blow to the head.
 - e. The person experiences chest pains or respiratory distress.
 - f. The person loses consciousness, even momentarily, or exhibits an altered mental state.
 - g. The person has uncontrolled bleeding or major blood loss.
 - h. The person appears to have suffered a broken bone.
 - i. The person was involved in a protracted struggle in which the person's endurance level appears to have been enhanced by drugs or mental imbalance.
 - j. Officers believe the person swallowed drugs, even if the person denies it.
 - k. The person requests medical assistance, even if the officer does not believe the person needs it.
 - l. An officer believes the person needs medical assistance, even if the person indicates that he or she will refuse treatment.
2. Officers shall document all injuries and the nature of the medical assistance provided in their reports on the incident.

O. Use Of Force Reporting Required

1. Any officer who uses significant physical force, which includes any of the following levels of force, against another person shall complete an Incident/Offense Report or Offense Supplement on the incident and a Use of Force Report (**Appendix B**):
 - a. Aiming any Weapon at a Person
 - b. Pepper Spray
 - c. Hard Empty Hand Control
 - d. TASER
 - e. Impact Weapon
 - f. Canine Bite
 - g. Specialty Impact Munitions

- h. Deadly Force
- 2. For reporting purposes, significant physical force is any level of physical force beyond:
 - a. Restraints,
 - b. Escorting or moving a compliant person, or
 - c. Drawing or brandishing a firearm or other weapon while executing lawful duties. However, use of force reporting is required if the weapon was aimed at a person.
- 3. An officer shall immediately notify the on-duty patrol supervisor whenever the officer uses any level of force that is reportable under this policy.
- 4. Each officer who uses reportable force during an incident shall prepare his or her own separate Use of Force Report. When an officer uses reportable force against more than one person during a single incident, the officer shall prepare a separate Use of Force Report for each person against whom the officer used force, except that when the force was limited to aiming a weapon at multiple people the officer may prepare one Use of Force Report and list the names of all people in the narrative.
- 5. The officer completing the Use of Force Report shall include specific references to incident/offense reports, arrest reports, injury reports, etc. The report shall include:
 - a. The event that prompted the use of force.
 - b. All officer(s) present or involved in the use of force.
 - c. Any officer, suspect, or bystander injuries or deaths.
 - d. The case number(s) of all reports related to the use of force incident.
 - e. Listing of all body-worn or in-car camera recordings.
- 6. For each Use of Force Report, the officer shall attach a succinct narrative that contains a clear description of the circumstances which prompted the use of force and specifically how much force the officer used. The purpose of the narrative is to enable management to determine:
 - a. Whether the use of force was justified,
 - b. Whether the officer's use of force was limited to a reasonable level, and
 - c. Whether the officer terminated the use of force at the appropriate point. The officer is not expected to provide a full account of the entire event in the initial Use of Force Report narrative.
- 7. Whenever the use of force reporting requirement is triggered, all other officers present during the incident shall submit an Offense Supplement report.
- 8. Whenever a detainee complains of an injury, whether the injury occurred before or during the encounter, and regardless of the severity of the injury or whether the injury is visible, each officer present shall include any available information concerning the injury on the report or supplement and update as needed.
- 9. Whenever an officer's firearm discharges other than while training, the officer shall immediately notify his or her immediate supervisor, and each officer present shall submit a report or supplement concerning the discharge.
- 10. Any time an officer discharges a firearm in an attempt to use deadly force even if the suspect is not shot, a complete investigation will be conducted by Internal Affairs and an outside agency. The investigation will determine if the attempted deadly force was justified.

11. Initial written reports and supplements shall be submitted without unreasonable delay, considering the nature and severity of the incident, the officer's need to review incident video and/or consult legal counsel, the officer's need to recover from injuries sustained during the incident, and the officer's need to sleep or rest following the incident. Officers shall not be required to write incident reports in an exhausted, sleep-deprived, or seriously injured condition.

P. Use Of Force Review

1. All use of force incidents will be reviewed to determine if:
 - a. The officer's actions and response complied with department policy.
 - b. The relevant policy was clearly understandable and effective to address the situation.
 - c. The officer's particular response indicates a need for special counseling or training.
 - d. Whether the situation requires further action or investigation.
 - e. The quality of supervision prior to, during, and after the incident was adequate.
2. An on-duty patrol supervisor shall respond to the scene and investigate any reportable use of force, unless the incident is otherwise being investigated by CID, Internal Affairs, or another law enforcement agency. When the patrol supervisor was directly involved in the use of force, he or she shall notify the patrol commander, or Chief of Police, and the duty to investigate the use of force shall be assigned to another supervisor.
3. The investigating supervisor shall ensure that all witnesses are identified and asked to provide a statement.
4. The investigating supervisor shall ensure that complete photo documentation is made, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Any officer, suspect, or bystander injuries or deaths.
 - b. Any use of force related property damage.
 - c. For a TASER discharge, the investigating supervisor should, whenever feasible, photograph the locations where the probes hit both before and after removal of the probes, as well as all parts of the body where a drive stun was applied. The investigating supervisor should also collect the TASER cartridge as evidence.
5. The investigating supervisor shall complete an initial review of the Use of Force Report, including:
 - a. Review each Use of Force Report and any supplement to ensure that the report is properly completed and that each officer has attached a narrative that meets the requirements of this policy.
 - b. Review all available in-car or body camera recordings from the event to assess the circumstances surrounding the use of force.
 - c. Any recommendations: training, commendation, policy, or violations observed or noted.
6. After completion of the review the investigating supervisor shall prepare a narrative supplement for attachment to the Use of Force Report containing a detailed account of his or her investigation and findings. In addition, he or she shall indicate approval, or lack thereof, of the officer's actions in the appropriate section of the Use of Force Report.

7. The investigating supervisor shall attach any associated administrative reports to the Use of Force Report and forward the entire report to the Patrol Commander.
8. After receiving copies of the Use of Force Report and other available sources of information regarding the event, including in-car or body camera recordings of the incident and witness statements, the Patrol Commander shall review the use of force event and surrounding circumstances.
9. The Patrol Commander will attach any additional administrative reports or information along with any findings, comments, or recommendations to the Use of Force Report and forward the entire report to the Chief of Police.
10. The Chief of Police shall also review all Use of Force Reports for compliance with department policy and document any action to be taken, including policy revisions, remedial training, disciplinary action, administrative action, or, if appropriate, referral for criminal prosecution.
11. If it appears that the use of force may have been unjustified or excessive, if death or serious physical injury resulted, or if the Chief of Police otherwise determines that further investigation is appropriate, the Chief of Police may order one or more of the following actions:
 - a. The Chief of Police may order an internal investigation.
 - b. The Chief of Police may request an outside investigation by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency State Bureau of Investigation, the Alabama Attorney General's office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or another outside agency.
 - c. The Chief of Police may place an officer on paid administrative duty or paid administrative leave pending the outcome of an investigation or until the Chief of Police is satisfied that the officer should return to regular duty.
 - d. The Chief of Police may initiate disciplinary action or termination proceedings.

Q. ALEA-CJIS and APOSTC Reporting

1. As required in Alabama Administrative Code § 265-X-3-.11, this agency shall document on ALEA-CJIS Form 15 and report to ALEA-CJIS information based on a use of force incident resulting in a fatality, serious bodily injury, or when a firearm is discharged toward a person. In addition, in accordance with Alabama Code § 41-27-12 and Alabama Administrative Code § 265-X-3-.10, when complaints are made alleging excessive force, ALEA-CJIS Form 16 shall be provided to the complainant for completion and submission to ALEA-CJIS.
2. As required in Alabama Code §§ 36-21-55 through 55.1, inclusive, and § 36-21-55.4, this agency shall document and report to APOSTC information based on a use of force complaint or investigation any disciplinary action or reassignment for cause, or a reportable separation, as defined. This information shall be reported even if the law enforcement officer separates from the investigating law enforcement agency prior to serving any recommended suspension, or separation, including a resignation pending investigation, a resignation agreed upon by the officer and the agency after the filing of a complaint, or a resignation during an open investigation involving the officer.

APPROVED: CHIEF OF POLICE

DATE

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS ORDER

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER

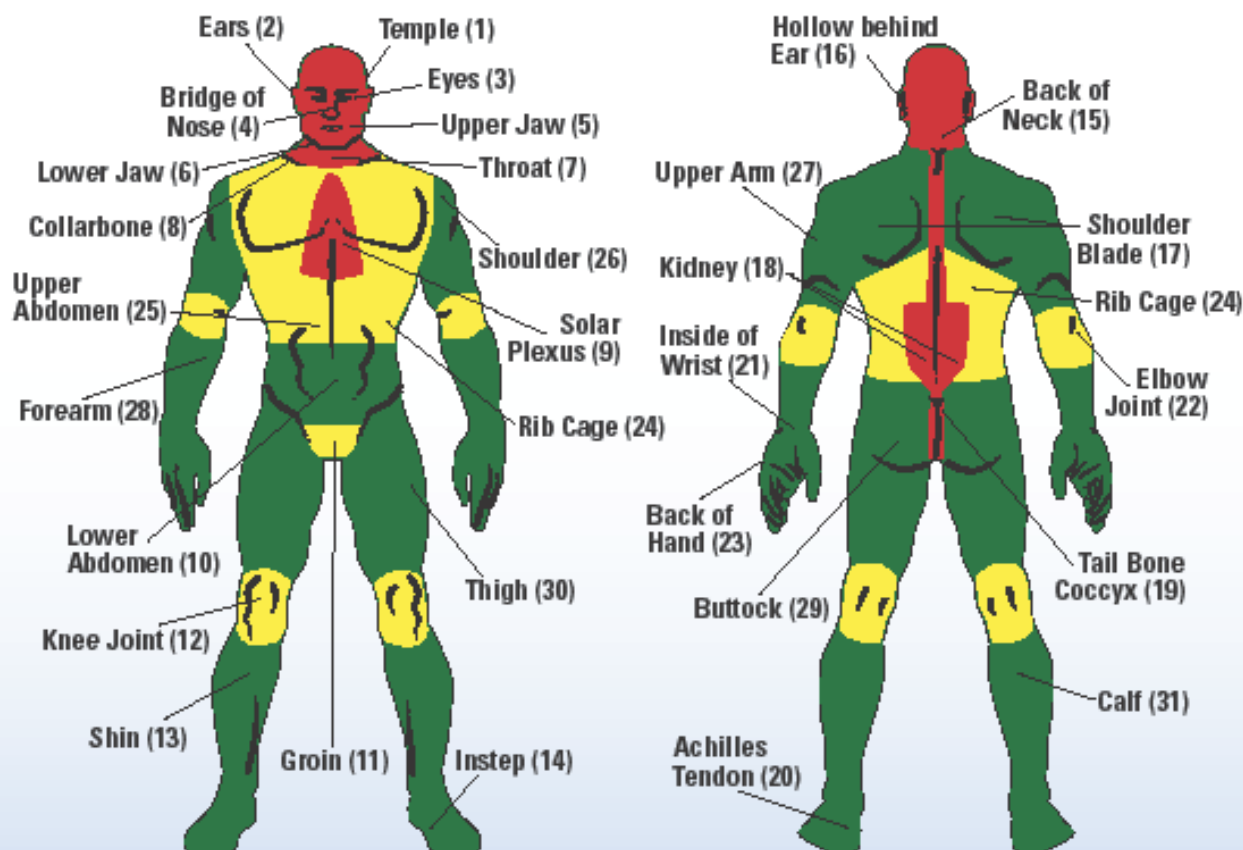
DATE

DISCLAIMER

NOTE: These documents are being provided to you by the AMIC/MWCF Loss Control Division and are not intended to be legal advice. They do not identify all the issues surrounding a particular topic. Laws and “Best Practices” change and policies must be continually reviewed and updated as needed. Public agencies are encouraged to review their procedures with an expert or an attorney who is knowledgeable about the topic. Reliance on this information is at the sole risk of the user.

BATON CHART

Escalation of Trauma By Vital And Vulnerable Striking Areas



STRIKING AREAS

GREEN	YELLOW	RED
<p>REASONING Minimal level of resultant trauma. Injury tends to be temporary rather than long-lasting, however exceptions can occur.</p> <p>Except for the HEAD, NECK, SPINE, the whole body is a Green Target Area for the application of baton blocking and restraint skills.</p>	<p>REASONING Moderate to serious level of resultant trauma. Injury tends to be more long-lasting, but may also be temporary.</p>	<p>REASONING Highest level of resultant trauma. Injury tends to range from serious to long-lasting rather than temporary and may include unconsciousness, serious bodily injury, shock or death.</p>

When performing Static/Dynamic training techniques utilizing this baton chart as a reference, it is suggested to use training batons while performing any technique. If utilizing a training suit it is also recommended to utilize training batons while performing striking, jabbing techniques.

Sample Police Department

REPORTING OFFICER ID

CASE NUMBER

Use of Force Report

APPENDIX B

PAGE 1 OF 4

OFFICER STATUS:

- ON DUTY
 OFF DUTY
 UNIFORM
 PLAINCLOTHES
 OTHER:

INCIDENT DATE	INCIDENT TIME	INCIDENT LOCATION	ZONE
INITIAL REASON FOR CONTACT		SUBJECT'S PRIMARY OFFENSE	

EVENT TYPE

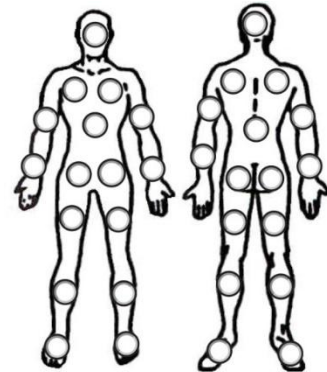
<input type="checkbox"/> SIMPLE TRAFFIC STOP	<input type="checkbox"/> HIGH RISK TRAFFIC STOP	<input type="checkbox"/> DUI
<input type="checkbox"/> DOMESTIC DISPUTE	<input type="checkbox"/> SIMPLE ASSAULT	<input type="checkbox"/> AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
<input type="checkbox"/> SUSPICIOUS PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/> ARREST WARRANT	<input type="checkbox"/> SEARCH WARRANT
<input type="checkbox"/> DRUG INVESTIGATION	<input type="checkbox"/> BURGLARY	<input type="checkbox"/> ROBBERY
<input type="checkbox"/> ESCAPE	<input type="checkbox"/> COURT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

SUBJECT INFORMATION

SUBJECT'S NAME	SEX	RACE	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
ADDRESS	DOB	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER			

SUBJECT'S LEVELS OF RESISTANCE

- COOPERATIVE
 PASSIVE RESISTANCE
 ACTIVE RESISTANCE
 ACTIVE AGGRESSION
 AGGRAVATED ACTIVE AGGRESSION



INDICATE STRIKES/INJURIES TO OFFICER

DESCRIBE RESISTANCE

ARMED?

- YES NO

IF ARMED, WEAPON TYPE:

- FIREARM
 KNIFE
 IMPACT WEAPON
 OTHER:

DESCRIBE WEAPON:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> KNOWN HISTORY OF VIOLENCE | <input type="checkbox"/> RAN AWAY | <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCK OFFICER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WANTED FOR VIOLENT OFFENSE | <input type="checkbox"/> FLED IN VEHICLE | <input type="checkbox"/> KICKED OFFICER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> REPORTED TO BE ARMED | <input type="checkbox"/> TENSED MUSCLES | <input type="checkbox"/> GRABBED OFFICER'S EQUIPMENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ASSAULTED CITIZEN | <input type="checkbox"/> PULLED AWAY | <input type="checkbox"/> GRABBED OFFICER'S FIREARM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DAMAGED PROPERTY | <input type="checkbox"/> SHOVED OFFICER | <input type="checkbox"/> IMPACT WEAPON ASSAULT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED TO COMPLY | <input type="checkbox"/> GRABBED OFFICER | <input type="checkbox"/> EDGED WEAPON ASSAULT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MADE THREATS | <input type="checkbox"/> SWUNG AT OFFICER | <input type="checkbox"/> FIREARM ASSAULT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WALKED AWAY | <input type="checkbox"/> TACKLED OFFICER | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

IMPAIRMENT: ALCOHOL DRUGS MENTAL ILLNESS NONE APPARENT

Sample Police Department

REPORTING OFFICER

CASE NUMBER

Use of Force Report

PAGE 2 OF 4

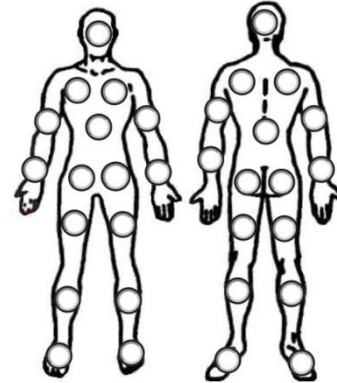
OFFICER'S ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE OF USING FORCE

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEFEND SELF | <input type="checkbox"/> EFFECT DETENTION | <input type="checkbox"/> PREVENT PROPERTY DAMAGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEFEND ANOTHER | <input type="checkbox"/> MAKE ARREST | <input type="checkbox"/> PREVENT ESCAPE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREVENT SELF-INJURIOUS BEHAVIOR | <input type="checkbox"/> ENFORCE COURT ORDER | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

OFFICER'S LEVELS OF CONTROL

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> VERBAL COMMANDS | DESCRIBE TYPE/FREQUENCY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SOFT EMPTY HAND | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PEPPER SPRAY | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HARD EMPTY HAND | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TASER | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IMPACT WEAPON | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CANINE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPEC. IMPACT MUN. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DRAWN FIREARM | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FIREARM USE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: | |



INDICATE STRIKES/INJURIES TO SUBJECT

RESTRAINTS APPLIED?

- NONE HANDCUFFS LEG IRONS OTHER:

WARNING GIVEN BEFORE FORCE ADMINISTERED?

- YES NO NOT SAFE NOT FEASIBLE

EMPTY HAND CONTROLS EFFECTIVE Y () N ()

- PRESSURE POINT(S) CONTROL HOLD(S) TAKEDOWN(S) STRIKE(S) NOT USED
- KICK(S) STUN(S) SHOULDER PIN OTHER:

PEPPER SPRAY EFFECTIVE Y () N ()

- NOT USED
- Subject allowed to flush affected area with cool water Y () N ()
- Remarks:

- DISTANCE 1'-5' 5'-10' 10'+ OTHER:

IMPACT WEAPON EFFECTIVE Y () N ()

- NOT USED
- BATON FLASHLIGHT OTHER:

TASER EFFECTIVE Y () N ()

- AIMED BUT NOT DEPLOYED NOT USED

APPLICATION

CYCLES

DISTANCE

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PROBES | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 0'-5' | <input type="checkbox"/> 11'-15' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DRIVE STUN | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6'-10' | <input type="checkbox"/> 16'-21' |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LASER ONLY | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER | | |

DID PROBES PENETRATE THE SKIN? YES NO

TASER SERIAL NUMBER

TASER CARTRIDGE NUMBER

WAS TASER EFFECTIVE?

- YES NO

IF NOT, WHY?

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HEAVY CLOTHING | <input type="checkbox"/> WIRE BROKE | <input type="checkbox"/> ONLY ONE PROBE HIT | <input type="checkbox"/> PROBE STRIKES TOO CLOSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MISSED | <input type="checkbox"/> MALFUNCTION | <input type="checkbox"/> LOW MUSCLE MASS | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

Sample Police Department

REPORTING OFFICER

CASE NUMBER

Use of Force Report

CANINE BITE		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT USED
<input type="checkbox"/> DEPLOY, NO BITE	<input type="checkbox"/> DEPLOY AND BITE	DURATION OF BITE: _____ SECONDS
NAME OF CANINE: _____		EFFECTIVE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
SPECIALTY IMPACT MUNITIONS		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT USED
TYPE	DISTANCE	NUMBER OF ROUNDS
BEAN BAG	_____ FEET	_____
OTHER:	_____ FEET	_____
WAS SPECIALTY IMPACT MUNITION EFFECTIVE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO IF NOT, WHY?		
<input type="checkbox"/> CLOTHING	<input type="checkbox"/> MISSED	<input type="checkbox"/> MALFUNCTION <input type="checkbox"/> NO PHYSICAL EFFECT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
POINTED FIREARM		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT USED
NUMBER OF OFFICERS: _____		NUMBER OF SUBJECTS: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> HANDGUN (DISTANCE: _____ FEET)	<input type="checkbox"/> SHOTGUN (DISTANCE: _____ FEET)	<input type="checkbox"/> RIFLE (DISTANCE: _____ FEET)
<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIALTY IMPACT WEAPON (DISTANCE: _____ FEET)		
DISCHARGED FIREARM		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT USED
WEAPON	SUBJECT	RESULT
<input type="checkbox"/> HANDGUN (PRIMARY)	<input type="checkbox"/> PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/> INJURY
<input type="checkbox"/> HANDGUN (SECONDARY)	<input type="checkbox"/> ANIMAL	<input type="checkbox"/> DEATH
<input type="checkbox"/> SHOTGUN	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:	<input type="checkbox"/> MISSED
<input type="checkbox"/> RIFLE		<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
NUMBER OF ROUNDS FIRED: _____		NUMBER OF HITS: _____
FIREARM MAKE, MODEL, CALIBER, SERIAL NUMBER		EFFECTIVE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

INJURY INFORMATION

MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR OFFICER		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT INJURED
<input type="checkbox"/> EMS	NAME OF EMS AGENCY	NAME OF TREATING MEDIC
<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL	NAME OF HOSPITAL	NAME OF TREATING PHYSICIAN
DESCRIBE INJURIES		
MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR SUBJECT		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT INJURED
<input type="checkbox"/> EMS	NAME OF EMS AGENCY	NAME OF TREATING MEDIC
<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL	NAME OF HOSPITAL	NAME OF TREATING PHYSICIAN
DESCRIBE INJURIES		

ARREST INFORMATION

SUBJECT ARRESTED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
CHARGE 1	CHARGE 2	CHARGE 3	CHARGE 4

Sample Police Department

REPORTING OFFICER

CASE NUMBER

Use of Force Report

WITNESS INFORMATION

Table with 3 columns: NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE. Contains 5 rows for witness information.

ATTACH USE OF FORCE REPORT NARRATIVE

OFFICER'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE: _____

CHAIN OF COMMAND REVIEW

SUPERVISOR'S INVESTIGATION

- Checkboxes for: RESPONDED TO SCENE, VIEWED OFFICER, VIEWED SUBJECT, SOUGHT WITNESSES, IN-CAR VIDEO AVAILABLE, INSPECTED SCENE, SPOKE TO OFFICER, SPOKE TO SUBJECT, SPOKE TO WITNESSES, BODYCAM VIDEO AVAILABLE, PHOTOS OF SCENE, PHOTOS OF OFFICER INJURIES, PHOTOS OF SUBJECT INJURIES, STATEMENTS FROM WITNESSES, DISPATCH AUDIO AVAILABLE.

IF NOT, EXPLAIN:

AUDIO/VIDEO REVIEWED BY:

- Checkboxes for: EVIDENCE COLLECTED, NOTIFIED INVESTIGATOR, COPIED, PRESERVED, NOTIFIED COMMAND STAFF.

ATTACH SUPERVISOR'S NARRATIVE

I concur with the Officer's actions as described in this Use of Force Report and attached narrative.

I do not concur with the Officer's actions as described in this Use of Force Report and attached narrative. As a result, I am submitting a letter attached to this form stating my concerns and recommendations for appropriate follow up.

PRINT NAME OF SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE DATE

PATROL COMMANDER

I concur with the Officer's actions as described in this Use of Force Report and attached narrative.

I do not concur with the Officer's actions as described in this Use of Force Report and attached narrative. As a result, I am submitting a letter attached to this form stating my concerns and recommendations for appropriate follow up.

PRINT NAME OF PATROL COMMANDER SIGNATURE DATE

CHIEF OF POLICE

I concur with the Officer's actions as described in this Use of Force Report and attached narrative.

I do not concur with the Officer's actions as described in this Use of Force Report and attached narrative. As a result, I am submitting a letter attached to this form stating my concerns and instructions for appropriate follow up.

