



TOGETHER ★ TRUST ★ TRANSPARENCY ★ TRUTH

TOGETHER WE BUILD TRUST THROUGH TRANSPARENCY AND TRUTH.

The Sacramento Police Department & #8CantWait:

Prohibit Chokeholds-The use of the carotid control hold or any type of “choke hold” is not an authorized use of force option at the Sacramento Police Department.

Require De-escalation- De-escalation is a core principle referenced throughout our updated Use of Force Policy. The principle is defined and re-emphasized through listed techniques within the policy.

Require Warning Before Shooting-The SPD Use of Force Policy governing the discharge of firearms directs that officers if feasible, give a verbal warning prior to using deadly force.

Require Exhausting All Alternatives Prior to Shooting- In determining whether deadly force is necessary, officers are required to evaluate each situation, considering the circumstances of each case and shall use other available resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible.

Duty to Intervene- SPD Policy mandates that an officer shall intercede when present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is necessary.

Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles- SPD Policy directs that officers shall not discharge a firearm at or from a moving vehicle except in a few narrowly tailored circumstances.

Require Appropriate Force Selection- SPD Policy directs that officers shall continually assess their use of force selection and either transition to a different use of force or discontinue a use of force based on their assessment, ensuring their use of force remains reasonable for the circumstances.

Require Comprehensive Reporting- Officers are required to notify the field supervisor anytime they use a reportable use of force and shall complete the applicable report. The report shall

include a complete description of how and why force was used, as well as a description of injuries that the suspect received or claims to have received.

Additional Information:

Ban Chokeholds-Effective 6/6/2020, the use of the carotid control hold was suspended indefinitely as an approved technique and is no longer taught or authorized for use by SPD officers. The official policy was revised and signed on 6/8/20 and is posted on the SPD transparency webpage.

Require De-escalation-The SPD Use of Force Policy was revised effective 5/6/17 to direct that officers, when feasible under the totality of the circumstances and where it may be accomplished without increasing the risk of harm to officers or others, attempt to de-escalate situations. Officers are now trained and directed to employ techniques to stabilize a situation, to decrease the likelihood of the need to use force, and to increase the likelihood of voluntary compliance. De-escalation techniques include, but are not limited to, gathering information about the incident, assessing risks, using crisis intervention techniques, communicating and coordinating a response, and utilizing available resources (such as personnel, equipment; usage of time, distance, and cover). This policy is in line with best practices as articulated in *PERF Guiding Principles on Use of Force* published March of 2016, and the International Chiefs of Police (IACP) *National Consensus Policy and Discussion Paper on Use of Force* published October of 2017; as well as in the *California DOJ 2019 Report and Recommendations to the Sacramento Police Department*.

Require Warning Before Shooting-Language was added to SPD Policy effective 5/6/17 governing the discharge of firearms to include the requirement for officers to utilize a verbal warning prior to using deadly force. The current SPD Use of Force Policy governing the discharge of firearms directs that officers if feasible, and if doing so would not increase the danger to the officer or others, give a verbal warning prior to using deadly force. This policy is in line with DOJ recommendations to SPD. In some situations, such as in the recent officer involved shooting at West Stockton Boulevard on 4/11/20, where the suspect immediately opened fire on officers as he exited his vehicle, it is not feasible to give a warning prior to officers returning fire to protect themselves or the public.

See Officer Involved Shooting:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLROWtq8JGPOabbfmkqv3pG0Qk953uAtIs>

Require Exhausting All Alternatives Prior to Shooting-SPD Policy was revised on 9/18/19 to articulate that the use of a firearm or other deadly force is the most serious decision an officer may make. In determining whether deadly force is necessary, officers are required to evaluate each situation considering the circumstances of each case and shall use other available

resources and techniques if reasonably safe and feasible to a reasonable officer. In determining the appropriate level of force, officers shall evaluate each situation in light of facts and circumstances of each particular case to include factors such as the severity of the crime, the level or type of threat presented, the availability of other resources, the immediacy of the threat, the danger posed to the community, and other additional circumstances. In some situations, such as the recent officer involved shooting at West Stockton Boulevard on 4/11/20, where the suspect immediately opened fire on officers as he exited his vehicle, it is not feasible to exhaust all alternatives prior to using deadly force to stop an immediate and deadly threat.

See Officer Involved Shooting:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLR0Wtq8JGPQabbfmkqv3pG0Qk953uAtIs>

Duty to Intervene- Excessive Force: SPD Policy was revised on 5/6/17 to include the mandate that an officer shall intercede when present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is necessary. Officers shall report potential excessive force to a superior officer and or Internal Affairs when present and observing another officer using force that the officer believes to be beyond that which is necessary. This policy is in line with best practices as articulated in PERF *Guiding Principles on Use of Force* published March of 2016, and the International Chiefs of Police (IACP) *National Consensus Policy and Discussion Paper on Use of Force* published October of 2017.

Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles- SPD Policy directs that officers shall not discharge a firearm at or from a moving vehicle unless one of the following circumstances exists:

1. Deadly force, or the imminent threat of deadly force, is being used against an officer or another person by means other than the moving vehicle (such as a drive-by shooting in progress).
2. The driver is using or is attempting to use the vehicle as a means to cause injury or death to the officer or another person (such as the terrorist attack in New York or Barcelona in 2017, where a suspect intentionally used a vehicle to run over pedestrians and bicyclists).
3. When the driver of a vehicle continues to present an ongoing imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to officers or another person and deadly force is feasible to preserve the lives of the officer or another person (such as the 2017 terrorist attacks in New York or Barcelona as mentioned above).

See Article on 2017 Barcelona Van Attack:

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/08/21/europe/barcelona-attack/index.html>

See Article on 2017 NYC Truck attack:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/31/nyregion/police-shooting-lower-manhattan.html>

Require Use of Force Continuum- Officers have a variety of force options available to them to include their command presence, use of verbal commands, control holds, a variety of less-lethal weapons, and lethal force options. Officers do not need to follow a continuum of force, but shall select the use of force they deem appropriate for the circumstances, ensuring their use of force complies with the law, the provisions of the Department Use of Force policy, and the any specific department orders or manuals governing the type of force they select to use. Officers shall continue to assess their use of force selection and either transition to a different use of force or discontinue a use of force based on their assessment, ensuring their use of force remains reasonable for the circumstances. Officers are taught that the force they use must be appropriate and proportional to the resistance or threat that they encounter and that they must continually assess the situation in order to de-escalate or immediately cease the use of force when appropriate. This policy is in line with best practices as articulated in PERF *Guiding Principles on Use of Force* published March of 2016, and the International Chiefs of Police (IACP) *National Consensus Policy and Discussion Paper on Use of Force* published October of 2017.

Require Comprehensive Reporting- The Sacramento Police Department's use of Force Policy mandates that officers notify the field supervisor anytime they use a reportable use of force and that officers complete an applicable report. This includes any use of force used to overcome a combative, physically aggressive, or fleeing subject who has delayed, obstructed, or fought with an officer, or any use of force that results in a visible injury or complaint of pain by the subject to whom force was applied. The report shall include a complete description of how and why force was used, as well as a description of injuries that the suspect received or claims to have received. Upon notification of a reportable use of force, the officer's field supervisor is required to respond to the location of the arrest to ensure that a thorough investigation takes place. A use of force report shall be submitted for management review using use of force tracking software. Higher levels of force such as officer involved shootings or uses of force resulting in serious bodily injury or death are investigated using a multidisciplinary approach with additional reporting requirements and oversight involving outside agencies such as the District Attorney's Office and the Office of Public Safety Accountability. This policy is in line with best practices as articulated in PERF *Guiding Principles on Use of Force* published March of 2016, and the International Chiefs of Police (IACP) *National Consensus Policy and Discussion Paper on Use of Force* published October of 2017; as well as in the California DOJ *2019 Report and Recommendations to the Sacramento Police Department*.

References-Best Practices:

PERF Guiding Principles on Use of Force published March of 2016 see:
<https://www.policeforum.org/assets/30%20guiding%20principles.pdf>

International Chiefs of Police (IACP) National Consensus Policy and Discussion Paper on Use of Force published October of 2017 see:

https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/National_Consensus_Policy_On_Use_Of_Force.pdf

California DOJ 2019 Report and Recommendations to the Sacramento Police Department. See:

<https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/attachments/press-docs/spd-report.pdf>

Sacramento Police Use of Force Policy: GO 580.02 See:

<https://www.cityofsacramento.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/Police/Transparency/GO/Section-500/GO-58002-Use-of-Force-6820.pdf?la=en>