*Use of Force*

300.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines on the reasonable use of force. While there is no way to specify the exact amount or type of reasonable force to be applied in any situation; every deputy of the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office is expected to use these guidelines to make such decisions in a professional, impartial and reasonable manner. Even at its lowest level, the use of force is a serious responsibility and the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office recognizes the need for constant evaluation (Government Code § 7286).

300.1.1 DEFINITIONS

ACTIVE RESISTANCE/ASSAULTIVE BEHAVIOR: When a subject verbally or physically indicates their intent to inflict bodily injury, assaults a deputy, or any other person. The deputy reasonably believes there is an imminent danger of violence. The subject may assume a fighting stance, display boxing or mixed martial art skills, attempt to escape, prevent his/her arrest, interfere with a deputy’s lawful authority by inflicting pain or physical injury to the deputy, or any other person.

COMPLIANCE TECHNIQUE: The level of force utilized by a deputy to gain the compliance and control of a subject who refused to comply with a deputy’s verbal commands or physical control techniques.

COOPERATIVE/COMPLIANT: The actions of a subject when they yield to the authority of a deputy with whom they have official contact.

DEADLY FORCE: Any use of force that creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily injury, including but not limited to the discharge of a firearm (Penal Code § 835a).

DE-ESCALATION: When reasonable, deputies should consider slowing down an incident in a manner that allows them to decrease the intensity of a situation by creating more time, distance, and space which can allow for evaluating different tactical options during dynamic situations.

FEASIBLE FORCE: Reasonably capable of being done or carried out under the circumstances to successfully achieve the arrest or lawful objective without increasing risk to the deputy or another person (Government Code § 7286(a)).

FORCE: The application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents or weapons to another person. It is not a use of force when a person allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed, or restrained.

LESS-LETHAL WEAPON: An authorized weapon used to launch, fire, or propel less-lethal munitions to engage a subject with the intent to gain their compliance and overcome a subject’s active resistance or assaultive behavior. Less-lethal munitions when used properly, are less likely to result in a serious bodily injury or fatality and can be used to de-escalate a potentially deadly
situation. (Examples of less-lethal munitions include: Taser, foam/rubber batons, and chemical agents).

**NO FORCE:** The professional command presence or de-escalation skills used by deputies to control an incident and gain the voluntary compliance of a subject in any given situation.

**PASSIVE RESISTANCE/NON-COMPLIANT:** Refusal by a subject to comply with a deputy’s verbal commands. When a subject is passive or resists a deputy’s authority and direction. This includes verbal and physical cues of non-compliance, not physically resistive, but not complying.

**REASONABLENESS:** The Fourth Amendment “reasonableness” inquiry is whether the peace officers’ actions were "objectively reasonable" in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them, at that moment, without regard to their underlying intent or motivation. The "reasonableness" of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, and its calculus must embody an allowance for the fact that peace officers are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force necessary in a particular situation.

**REPORTABLE FORCE:** Any use of physical force by a deputy of this Sheriff’s Office shall be documented. It is the responsibility of the deputy using force to ensure that the use of force is documented completely, promptly, and accurately in an appropriate report. The use of particular weapons such as chemical agents may require the completion of additional report forms as specified in Sheriff's Office policy or law. Actions not considered physical use of force are Sheriff's Office-approved searching or handcuffing when the suspect does not resist.

**SERIOUS BODILY INJURY:** A serious impairment of physical condition, including but not limited to the following: loss of consciousness; concussion; bone fracture; protracted loss or impairment of function of any bodily member or organ; a wound requiring extensive suturing; and serious disfigurement (Penal Code § 243(f)(4)).

**TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES:** All facts known to the deputy at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of force (Penal Code § 835a).

**VIOLENT FELONY:** A violent, forcible, act committed by a subject which threatens serious bodily injury or fatality to the deputy, or any other person.

**300.2 POLICY**
The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. On a daily basis, deputies are involved in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

Deputies must have an understanding of, and true appreciation for, their authority and limitations. This is especially true with respect to overcoming resistance while engaged in the performance of law enforcement duties.

The Office recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting deputies with the authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation and a careful balancing of all interests. It is the policy of
this Office that deputies shall use only that force which is objectively reasonable, given the facts and circumstances known at the time of the event to effectively bring an incident under control. "Reasonableness" of the use of force will be determined from the perspective of a reasonable deputy on scene at the time of the incident.

300.2.1 DUTY TO INTERCEDE
Any deputy present and observing another deputy using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force. A deputy who observes another employee use force that they believe is unreasonable under the circumstances shall promptly report these observations to a supervisor.

When observing force used by a law enforcement officer, each deputy should take into account the totality of the circumstances and the possibility that other law enforcement officers may have additional information regarding the threat posed by the subject (Government Code § 7286(b)).

300.2.2 FAIR AND UNBIASED USE OF FORCE
Deputies are expected to carry out their duties, including the use of force, in a manner that is fair and unbiased (Government Code § 7286(b)). See the Bias-Based Policing Policy for additional guidance.

300.2.3 DUTY TO REPORT EXCESSIVE FORCE
Any deputy who observes a law enforcement officer or an employee use force that potentially exceeds what the deputy reasonably believes to be necessary shall promptly report these observations to a supervisor as soon as feasible (Government Code § 7286(b)).

300.3 USE OF FORCE
Deputies shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the deputy at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose (Penal Code § 835a).

The reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable deputy on the scene at the time of the incident. Any evaluation of reasonableness must allow for the fact that deputies are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force that reasonably appears necessary in a particular situation, with limited information and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation a deputy might encounter, deputies are entrusted to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force in each incident. Deputies may only use a level of force that they reasonably believe is proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or the reasonably perceived level of actual or threatened resistance (Government Code § 7286(b)).

It is also recognized that circumstances may arise in which deputies reasonably believe that it would be impractical or ineffective to use any of the approved tools, weapons, or methods provided
by the Office. Deputies may find it more effective or reasonable to improvise their response to rapidly unfolding conditions that they are confronting. In such circumstances, the use of any improvised device or method must nonetheless be objectively reasonable and utilized only to the degree that reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

While the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter is to avoid or minimize injury, nothing in this policy requires a deputy to retreat or be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force.

300.3.1 LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR USE OF FORCE
California Penal Code Section 835: An arrest is made by an actual restraint of the person, or by submission to the custody of an officer. The person arrested may be subject to such restraint as is reasonable for his/her arrest and detention.

California Penal Code Section 835a: Any peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a public offense may use reasonable force to effect the arrest, prevent escape or to overcome resistance. A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from his/her efforts by reason of resistance or threatened resistance of the subject being arrested; nor shall such officer be deemed an aggressor or lose their right to self-defense by the use of reasonable force to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. Retreat does not mean tactical repositioning or other de-escalation techniques (Penal Code § 835a).

Title 15, California Code of Regulations Section 3268: (Reasonable Force) The force that an objective, trained and competent employee, faced with similar facts and circumstances, would consider necessary and reasonable to subdue an attacker, overcome resistance, effect custody, or gain compliance with a lawful order.

300.3.2 FACTORS USED TO DETERMINE THE REASONABLENESS OF FORCE
When determining whether to apply force and evaluating whether a deputy has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration, as time and circumstances permit (Government Code § 7286(b)). These factors include but are not limited to:

(a) The apparent immediacy and severity of the threat to deputies or others (Penal Code § 835a).
(b) The conduct of the individual being confronted, as reasonably perceived by the deputy at the time (Penal Code § 835a).
(c) Deputy/subject factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, the number of deputies available vs. subjects).
(d) The conduct of the involved deputy leading up to the use of force (Penal Code § 835a).
(e) The effects of suspected drugs or alcohol.
(f) The individual's apparent mental state or capacity (Penal Code § 835a).
(g) The individual’s apparent ability to understand and comply with deputy commands (Penal Code § 835a).

(h) Proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.

(i) The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and his/her ability to resist despite being restrained.

(j) The availability of other reasonable and feasible options and their possible effectiveness (Penal Code § 835a).

(k) Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual prior to and at the time force is used.

(l) Training and experience of the deputy.

(m) Potential for injury to deputies, suspects, bystanders, and others.

(n) Whether the person appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the deputy.

(o) The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape.

(p) The apparent need for immediate control of the subject or a prompt resolution of the situation.

(q) Whether the conduct of the individual being confronted no longer reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to the deputy or others.

(r) Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence.

(s) Any other exigent circumstances.

300.3.3 PAIN COMPLIANCE TECHNIQUES

Pain compliance techniques may be effective in controlling a physically or actively resisting individual. Deputies may only apply those pain compliance techniques for which they have successfully completed Office-approved training. Deputies utilizing any pain compliance technique should consider:

(a) The degree to which the application of the technique may be controlled given the level of resistance.

(b) Whether the subject can comply with the direction or orders of the deputy.

(c) Whether the subject has been given sufficient opportunity to comply.

The application of any pain compliance technique shall be discontinued once the deputy determines that compliance has been achieved, or is ineffective.

300.3.4 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CAROTID CONTROL HOLD

Deputies of this office are not authorized to use a carotid restraint hold, except in situations where the use of deadly force is allowed by law. A carotid restraint means a vascular neck restraint or any similar restraint, hold, or other defensive tactic in which pressure is applied to the sides of a
person’s neck that involves a substantial risk of restricting blood flow and may render the person unconscious in order to subdue or control the person (Government Code § 7286.5).

300.3.5 USE OF FORCE TO SEIZE EVIDENCE
In general, deputies may use reasonable force to lawfully seize evidence and to prevent the destruction of evidence. However, deputies are discouraged from using force solely to prevent a person from swallowing evidence or contraband. In the instance when force is used, deputies should not intentionally use any technique that restricts blood flow to the head, restricts respiration or which creates a reasonable likelihood that blood flow to the head or respiration would be restricted. Deputies are encouraged to use techniques and methods taught by the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office for this specific purpose.

300.3.6 ALTERNATIVE TACTICS - DE-ESCALATION
As time and circumstances reasonably permit, and when community and officer safety would not be compromised, deputies should consider actions that may increase deputy safety and may decrease the need for using force:

(a) Summoning additional resources that are able to respond in a reasonably timely manner.

(b) Formulating a plan with responding deputies before entering an unstable situation that does not reasonably appear to require immediate intervention.

(c) Employing other tactics that do not unreasonably increase deputy jeopardy.

In addition, when reasonable, deputies should evaluate the totality of circumstances presented at the time in each situation and, when feasible, consider and utilize reasonably available alternative tactics and techniques that may persuade an individual to voluntarily comply or may mitigate the need to use a higher level of force to resolve the situation before applying force (Government Code § 7286(b)). Such alternatives may include but are not limited to:

(a) Attempts to de-escalate a situation.

(b) If reasonably available, the use of crisis intervention techniques by properly trained personnel.

300.3.7 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF A CHOKE HOLD
Deputies of this office are not authorized to use a choke hold, except in situations where the use of deadly force is allowed by law. A choke hold means any defensive tactic or force option in which direct pressure is applied to a person’s trachea or windpipe (Government Code § 7286.5).

300.4 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS
Where feasible, the deputy shall, prior to the use of deadly force, make reasonable efforts to identify him/herself as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the deputy has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts (Penal Code 835a).
If an objectively reasonable deputy would consider it safe and feasible to do so under the totality of the circumstances, deputies shall evaluate and use other reasonably available resources and techniques when determining whether to use deadly force. To the extent that it is reasonably practical, deputies should consider their surroundings and any potential risks to bystanders prior to discharging a firearm (Government Code § 7286(b)).

The use of deadly force is only justified when the deputy reasonably believes it is necessary in the following circumstances (Penal Code § 835a):

(a) A deputy may use deadly force to protect him/herself or others from what he/she reasonably believes is an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the deputy or another person.

(b) A deputy may use deadly force to apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the deputy reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Where feasible, the deputy shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the deputy has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

Deputies shall not use deadly force against a person based on the danger that person poses to him/herself, if an objectively reasonable deputy would believe the person does not pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the deputy or to another person (Penal Code § 835a).

An “imminent” threat of death or serious bodily injury exists when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable deputy in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the deputy or another person. A deputy’s subjective fear of future harm alone is insufficient as an imminent threat. An imminent threat is one that from appearances is reasonably believed to require instant attention (Penal Code § 835a).

300.4.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES
Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective and may involve additional considerations and risks. When feasible, deputies should take reasonable steps to move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants. A deputy should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the deputy reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the imminent threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the deputy or others (Government Code § 7286(b)).

Deputies should not shoot at any part of a vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle.
300.4.2 DISPLAYING OF FIREARMS

Given that individuals might perceive the display of a firearm as a potential application of force, deputies should carefully evaluate each tactical situation and use sound discretion when drawing a firearm in public by considering the following guidelines (Government Code § 7286(b)):

(a) If the deputy does not initially perceive a threat but reasonably believes that the potential for such threat exists, firearms should generally be kept in the low-ready or other position not directed toward an individual.

(b) If the deputy reasonably believes that a threat exists based on the totality of circumstances presented at the time (e.g., high-risk stop, tactical entry, armed encounter), firearms may be directed toward such threat until the deputy no longer perceives such threat.

Once it is reasonably safe to do so, deputies should carefully secure all firearms.

300.5 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE

Any use of physical force by a member of this Sheriff's Office shall be documented. Actions not considered physical use of force are Sheriff's Office-approved searching or handcuffing when the suspect does not resist.

It is the responsibility of the member using force to ensure that the use of force is documented completely, promptly, and accurately in an appropriate report depending on the nature of the incident. The use of particular weapons such as chemical agents may require the completion of additional report forms as specified in Sheriff's Office policy and/or law.

(a) Body worn camera video footage shall be uploaded into Evidence.com and categorized as Use of Force.

(b) Photographs of all involved parties shall be taken to document both physical injury and/or the lack of physical injury to any party.

1. If for some reason a deputy is unable to capture body worn camera video footage or take photographs to document the physical condition of the parties involved in a use of force when he/she has a sustained or alleged an injury, the deputy shall document the reason these actions were not taken in a Sheriff's Office report.

300.5.1 NOTIFICATION TO SUPERVISORS

Supervisory notification shall be made as soon as practicable following the application of force in any of the following circumstances:

(a) The application caused a visible injury.

(b) The application would lead a reasonable deputy to conclude that the individual may have experienced more than momentary discomfort.

(c) The individual subjected to the force complained of injury or continuing pain.

(d) The individual indicates intent to pursue litigation.

(e) Any application of a TASER device or control device.

(f) Any application of a restraint device other than handcuffs, shackles, or belly chains.
(g) The individual subjected to the force was rendered unconscious.

(h) An individual was struck or kicked.

(i) An individual alleges unreasonable force was used or that any of the above has occurred.

(j) All incidents where a firearm is directly pointed at a person to gain compliance. This does not include the drawing of a firearm and maintaining it at a low ready, or safe direction away from the person contacted.

(k) All correctional deputies shall report any use of force as soon as practical.

300.5.2 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
The Professional Standards Lieutenant, or the authorized designee shall ensure that data required by the Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding all officer-involved shootings and incidents involving use of force resulting in serious bodily injury is collected and forwarded to the DOJ as required by Government Code § 12525.2.

300.6 MEDICAL CONSIDERATION
Once it is reasonably safe to do so, properly trained deputies should promptly provide or procure medical assistance for any person injured or claiming to have been injured in a use of force incident (Government Code § 7286(b)).

Prior to booking or release, medical assistance shall be obtained for any person who exhibits signs of physical distress, who has sustained visible injury, expresses a complaint of injury or continuing pain, or who was rendered unconscious. Any individual exhibiting signs of physical distress after an encounter should be continuously monitored until he/she can be medically assessed.

Based upon the deputy’s initial assessment of the nature and extent of the subject’s injuries, medical assistance may consist of examination by fire personnel, paramedics, hospital staff, or medical staff at the jail. If any such individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal shall be fully documented in related reports and, whenever practicable, should be witnessed by another deputy and/or medical personnel. If a recording is made of the contact or an interview with the individual, any refusal should be included in the recording, if possible.

The on-scene supervisor or, if the on-scene supervisor is not available, the primary handling deputy shall ensure that any person providing medical care or receiving custody of a person following any use of force is informed that the person was subjected to force. This notification shall include a description of the force used and any other circumstances the deputy reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the subject (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

Persons who exhibit extreme agitation, violent irrational behavior accompanied by profuse sweating, extraordinary strength beyond their physical characteristics and imperviousness to pain (sometimes called “excited delirium”), or who require a protracted physical encounter with multiple deputies to be brought under control, may be at an increased risk of sudden death. Calls involving these persons should be considered medical emergencies. Deputies who reasonably suspect
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a medical emergency should request medical assistance as soon as practical. In the Detention Division, all incarcerated inmates shall be seen by jail medical staff for any use of force.

300.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY
A supervisor should respond to any reported use of force, if reasonably available. The responding supervisor is expected to (Government Code § 7286(b)):

(a) Obtain the basic facts from the involved deputies. Absent an allegation of misconduct or excessive force, this will be considered a routine contact in the normal course of duties.

(b) Ensure that any injured parties are examined and treated.

(c) When possible, separately obtain a recorded interview with the subject upon whom force was applied. If this interview is conducted without the person having voluntarily waived his/her Miranda rights, the following shall apply:
   1. The content of the interview should not be summarized or included in any related criminal charges.
   2. The fact that a recorded interview was conducted should be documented in a property or other report.
   3. The recording of the interview should be distinctly marked for retention until all potential for civil litigation has expired.

(d) Once any initial medical assessment has been completed or first aid has been rendered, ensure that photographs have been taken of any areas involving visible injury or complaint of pain, as well as overall photographs of uninjured areas. These photographs should be retained until all potential for civil litigation has expired.

(e) Identify any witnesses not already included in related reports.

(f) Review and approve all related reports.

(g) Determine if there is any indication that the subject may pursue civil litigation.
   1. If there is an indication of potential civil litigation, the supervisor should complete and route a notification of a potential claim through the appropriate channels.

(h) Evaluate the circumstances surrounding the incident and initiate an administrative investigation if there is a question of policy non-compliance or if for any reason further investigation may be appropriate.

In the event that a supervisor is unable to respond to the scene of an incident involving the reported application of force, the supervisor is still expected to complete as many of the above items as circumstances permit.

Prior to going on their regular days off, the supervisor will complete the use of force report in the administrative investigation management database and forward it to the Use of Force Lieutenant for review.
In the event that the supervisor believes the incident may give rise to potential civil litigation, the Watch Commander and Risk Management shall be notified.

300.7.1 USE OF FORCE LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITY
The Use of Force Lieutenant shall review each use of force by any personnel within his/her command to ensure compliance with this policy and to address any training issues. If a use of force is determined to be potentially outside the parameters of this policy, it will be assigned to Internal Affairs for additional investigation to determine if there were any violations of this, or any other policy.

300.8 TRAINING
Deputies, investigators, and supervisors will receive periodic training on this policy and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding (Government Code § 7286(b)).

Subject to available resources, the Professional Standards Bureau Lieutenant should ensure that deputies receive periodic training on de-escalation tactics, including alternatives to force.

Training should also include (Government Code § 7286(b)):
(a) Guidelines regarding vulnerable populations, including but not limited to children, elderly persons, pregnant individuals, and individuals with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities.
(b) Training courses required by and consistent with POST guidelines set forth in Penal Code § 13519.10.

300.8.1 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS
Assistant Sheriffs are required to ensure that all sworn personnel under their command qualify in accordance with this policy.
(a) Use of Force Instructors refers to Defensive Tactics and Firearms Instructors.
(b) The Use of Force Instructors will keep a record of all those who attend training.
(c) All sworn personnel must attend use of force training each quarter.
(1) For the Law Enforcement Division, it will consist of, at minimum, four (4) hours of training: Two (2) hours of defensive tactics and two (2) hours of firearms.
(2) For the Detention Division, it will consist of, at minimum, two (2) hours of defensive tactics training.
(d) The quarters will be divided as follows:
(1) First Quarter: January through March
(2) Second Quarter: April through June
(3) Third Quarter: July through September
(4) Fourth Quarter: October through December
(e) Failure to comply with this training (attendance and/or qualification) may result in disciplinary action.
1. Only the Sheriff, or his designee, may exempt a deputy from the provisions mandated in this policy.

2. If a deputy fails to attend at least one use of force training during a quarter, the deputy shall attend the first training offered of the following quarter.

   (f) Management is not required to attend the defensive tactics portion of this training. Management from the Law Enforcement division is required to attend the firearms portion of the training.

If a deputy fails to qualify after remediation, the Use of Force Instructor shall immediately notify the Use of Force Lieutenant verbally, and shall prepare a memo to be sent, via chain of command, as soon as practical, for determination of action.

**300.9 USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS**

At least annually, the Law Enforcement Division Administration Captain and the Detention Division Captain, or their designee, should prepare a report on use of force incidents. The report should be submitted to the Sheriff. The report should not contain the names of deputies, suspects or case numbers, and should include:

   (a) The identification of any trends in the use of force by members.

   (b) Training needs recommendations.

   (c) Equipment needs recommendations.

   (d) Policy revision recommendations.

**300.10 RECORDS RETENTION**

Use of Force Reports shall be kept on file for a period of five (5) years, after which time such reports shall be deleted according to applicable State of California statute and County of Sonoma Ordinance.

**300.11 USE OF FORCE COMPLAINTS**

The receipt, processing, and investigation of civilian complaints involving use of force incidents should be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy (Government Code § 7286(b)).

**300.12 POLICY REVIEW**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee should regularly review and update this policy to reflect developing practices and procedures (Government Code § 7286(b)).

**300.13 POLICY AVAILABILITY**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee should ensure this policy is accessible to the public (Government Code § 7286(c)).
300.14 PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS
Requests for public records involving a deputy’s personnel records shall be processed in accordance with Penal Code § 832.7 and the Personnel Records and Records Maintenance and Release policies (Government Code § 7286(b)).