



USE OF FORCE GUIDELINES



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RESCINDS:	G02-08		
INDEX CATEGORY:	Field Operations		

I. PURPOSE

This directive:

- A. states Department policy regarding the use of force.
- B. provides guidelines for the use of force.

Department members will refer to the Special Order titled "Use of Force" for procedures to be followed for Use of Force incidents.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

[Chapter 720, Article 5, Section 7-5](#), of the Illinois Compiled Statutes provides in part:

"A peace officer ... need not retreat or desist from efforts to make a lawful arrest because of resistance or threatened resistance to the arrest. He is justified in the use of any force which he reasonably believes to be necessary to effect the arrest and of any force which he reasonably believes to be necessary to defend himself or another from bodily harm while making the arrest."

III. DEPARTMENT POLICY

- A. When a Department member engages a member of the public, the member will do so in such a manner which affords that person the respect and dignity to which all persons are entitled. The use of excessive force or unwarranted physical force or unprofessional conduct by a Department member will not be tolerated under any circumstances, and all members will strictly adhere to the provisions of the Department directive entitled "**Prohibition Regarding Racial Profiling and Other Bias Based Policing.**"
- B. Department members will use an amount of force reasonably necessary based on the totality of the circumstances to perform a lawful task, effect an arrest, overcome resistance, control a subject, or protect themselves or others from injury.
- C. As set forth by the United States Supreme Court in *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989), the central inquiry in every use of force is whether the amount of force used by the officer was objectively reasonable in light of the particular circumstances faced by the officer.
 - 1. Reasonableness is not capable of precise definition or mechanical application. Circumstances that may govern the reasonableness of using a particular force option include, but are not limited to:
 - a. the severity of the crime at issue,
 - b. whether the subject poses an immediate threat to the safety of officers or others,
 - c. whether the subject is actively resisting arrest or attempting to evade arrest by flight.
 - 2. The reasonableness of a particular use of force will be judged under the totality of the circumstances viewed from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene.
- D. The Department has adopted a Use of Force Model in order to provide members guidance on the reasonableness of a particular response option.

- E. All Department members are obligated to ensure compliance with all laws and Department regulations. If a member knows that another Department member is using excessive force against a subject, the member will take appropriate action. The action required by the member will depend upon the circumstances of the incident. However, appropriate actions may include, but are not limited to, verbal or physical intervention, immediate notification to a supervisor, or a direct order by a supervisor to cease the use of excessive force.
- F. Sworn members and detention aides in the performance of their duties will complete a Tactical Response Report as specified in the Department directive entitled "**Incidents Requiring the Completion of a Tactical Response Report.**"
- G. The On-Call Incident Commander will be responsible for conducting the investigation into the appropriateness of any use of force that involves:
 - 1. the discharge of a firearm by or at a Department member.
 - 2. a member's use of force, by whatever means, that results in the death of any individual.
 - 3. any lesser use of force by a Department member when that use of force stems from the same incident in which another member used force in Items III-G-1 or III-G-2.
- H. Department members will seek medical assistance for an arrestee who has injuries or illnesses consistent with the procedures outlined in the Department directives entitled "**Processing Persons Under Department Control**" and "**Hospitalized Arrestees.**"

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00-148 LMT(PMD)

GLOSSARY TERMS:

- 1. **Zone of Safety**

The distance to be maintained between the subject and the responding member(s). This distance should be greater than the effective range of the weapon (other than a firearm) and it may vary with each situation (e.g., type of weapon possessed, condition of the subject, surrounding area).
- 2. **Deadly Force (720 ILCS 5/7-8)**
 - A. Deadly force is force which is likely to cause death or great bodily harm and includes
 - 1. The firing of a firearm in the direction of the person to be arrested, even though no intent exists to kill or inflict great bodily harm; and
 - 2. The firing of a firearm at a vehicle in which the person to be arrested is riding.
 - B. A peace officer's discharge of a firearm using ammunition designed to disable or control an individual without creating the likelihood of death or great bodily harm (i.e., impact munitions) shall not be considered force likely to cause death or bodily harm
- 3. **Use of Force to Prevent Escape (720 ILCS 5/7-9)**

A peace officer or other person who has an arrested person in custody is justified in the use of such force to prevent the escape of the arrested person from custody as he would be justified in using if he were arresting the person.

4. **Forcible Felony (720 ILCS 5/2-8)**

A forcible felony means any treason, first degree murder, second degree murder, predatory criminal sexual assault of a child, aggravated criminal sexual assault, criminal sexual assault, robbery, burglary, residential burglary, aggravated arson, arson, aggravated kidnapping, kidnapping, aggravated battery resulting in great bodily harm or permanent disability or disfigurement, and any other felony which involves the use or threat of physical force or violence against any individual.

ADDENDA:

1. G03-02-01 - The Use of Force Model
2. G03-02-02 - Force Options
3. G03-02-03 - Deadly Force
4. G03-02-04 - Canines as a Force Option
5. G03-02-05 - Incidents Requiring the Completion of a Tactical Response Report
6. G03-02-06 - Firearms Discharge Incidents Involving Sworn Members
7. G03-02-07 - Other Weapon Discharge Incidents