



Santa Clara Police

Training Flash



Lexipol Policy 300 Use of Force Update

Lexipol Policy 300, which covers Use of Force has recently been updated to comply with Government Code 7286. Some of the changes to our Use of Force policy has been highlighted below. Please read the updated Lexipol Policy 300 for all the changes.

- **300.2.1 Fair and unbiased use of force**
 - o Officers will carry out their duties, including the use of force, in a manner that is fair and unbiased
- **300.2.2 & 300.2.3 Duty to intercede & report excessive force**
 - o After taking into account the totality of the circumstances, officers shall intercede and report (to his supervisors) another officer he/she believes has used excessive force
- **300.3 Use of force**
 - o Officers may only use the level of force proportional to the seriousness of the suspected offense or perceived level of actual or threatened resistance
- **300.3.1 Alternative tactics (de-escalation)**
 - o Use de-escalation techniques if feasible when considering time, circumstances, and safety to all parties
 - Summoning additional resources that can respond in a timely manner
 - Formulating a plan with officers before entering an unstable situation
 - Employing tactics to persuade compliance, increase safety, or mitigate higher level of force
 - Use of Crisis Intervention Techniques
- **300.3.3 Factors used to determine the reasonableness of force**
 - o Factors used to determine reasonableness of force
 - Officer's conduct leading up to the use of force
 - Seriousness of suspected offense or "PC" to contact suspect prior to and at the time force was used
 - Apparent need for immediate control or prompt resolution of the situation
- **300.3.5 & 300.3.6 Restrictions on the use of carotid control hold & choke hold (No longer a less lethal option)**
 - o Carotid restraint (restricting blood flow to render the person unconscious), choke holds, or similar holds involving pressure to the sides of a person's neck, trachea, or windpipe are not authorized
- **300.4 Deadly force applications**
 - o If feasible, identification and warning prior to the use of deadly force
- **300.6 Medical consideration**
 - o Promptly provide or procure medical assistance
- **300.7 Supervisor responsibility**
 - o A supervisor should respond to any reported use of force and expect to
 - Obtain a recorded interview from the suspect
 - If Miranda was not waived the statement should not be summarized for criminal prosecution, but his recorded statement should be retained and noted in the report until civil litigation has expired
 - Initiate an administrative investigation if there's a question of policy non-compliance



