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**ISSUE: 22-12**

## **TRAINING BULLETIN**

**DATE: March 29, 2022**

### **Use of Force Definitions and Reporting**

Recently, several questions have been posed regarding what constitutes use of force and what the reporting requirements are for different types of force. Although several policies are pending revisions, it appears necessary to provide immediate clarification for these matters to better describe the intent behind the policies.

DPPM Section F-100 currently describes a reportable use of force as:

Any UOF that causes injury as defined below; any UOF whether or not it results in injury, involving the discharge of a firearm, a canine bite, or use of an impact weapon, chemical agent, or CEW; and any UOF, whether or not it results in injury, that deviates from the techniques taught and the equipment provided by the Sheriff's Office (see in section E.5.).

DPPM Section F-100 also states in part, "the pointing of a firearm at a person shall be documented in a crime/incident or supplemental report."

These definitions appear to have caused confusion regarding what is and is not considered reportable use of force and may have caused the pointing of a firearm to not be documented in a BlueTeam entry.

The policy revision being reviewed defines a reportable use of force as:

- Any use of force that causes injury as defined below
- Any use of force whether or not it results in injury involving:
  - The discharge of a firearm
  - A canine bite
  - The use of an impact weapon
  - The use of a chemical agent
  - The use of a personal impact weapon
  - The use of a CEW
  - The intentional aiming of a firearm, CEW, or extended range impact weapon at a person beyond incidental pointing during a building search, high-risk traffic stop, or while in the low-ready position during other similar circumstances.
    - Documentation is not required when a firearm is presented but not pointed at an individual.

- The application of a trained control hold which requires force beyond standard application (i.e. a take down or significant force to overcome resistance)
- Any use of force, whether or not it results in injury, that deviates from the techniques taught and the equipment provided by the Sheriff's Office.
  - Standard control holds and techniques used during the escorting and placement of an inmate into a sobering or safety cell does not constitute reportable use of force.

Furthermore, **all** reportable use of force will require a BlueTeam entry. The goal is to identify all lower levels of force which were used to attempt or accomplish de-escalation during an incident.

While the policy revisions are undergoing an extensive review, the new language set forth above will be utilized to identify what is a reportable use of force. All reportable use of force will require a BlueTeam entry.

This directive will remain in effect until DPPM F-100 has been revised and published.

I have read and understand Training Bulletin 22-12 Use of Force Definitions and Reporting dated March 29, 2022.

**IMPORTANT**

Please **SIGN IN** to acknowledge your reading after  
reviewing the Training Bulletin

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CAD ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

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