



Springfield Police Department

Use of Force Reporting Relevant Policy/Procedures



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Date: February 5th, 2025





UOF – 2 (Use of Force Reporting)

- IV. Procedures

- A. General Reporting Requirements

- (1) For all uses of force (i.e., any force above un-resisted handcuffing), the officer(s) using force, when safe to do so, are required to immediately orally report the use of force to an uninvolved supervisor.

- (2) In addition to immediately notifying the uninvolved supervisor, an officer using force will document the force in the BlueTeam system and by writing a use of force narrative before the end of their shift.



UOF – 3 (UOF Review and Investigation)

Reportable Use of Force Events (UOF) are broken into Level 2 through Level 5

Definition of Level 2 Use of Force

- Level Two (2) Force includes:
 - (1) uses of force such as wrist lock, arm bar, and single use of OC spray, where there is no reported or observed injury beyond the level of discomfort commonly associated with the use of OC spray, however in the event of a single use of OC spray, all available body worn camera footage will be tagged and investigated within 72 hours;
 - (2) pointing a firearm or Conducted Electrical Weapon (“CEW”) at an individual;
 - (3) “cycling” a CEW as a form of warning (“Displaying the Arc”);
 - (4) pressure point compliance techniques that do not result in injury; and
 - (5) forcible takedowns that do not result in actual injury or complaint of injury.

It does not include escorting, touching, or handcuffing a person with minimal or no resistance.
- *CEW = Conducted Electrical Weapon (i.e. TASER)
- *OC spray = Oleoresin Capsicum Spray (i.e. Pepper Spray)

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Definition of Level 3 Use of Force

- Level Three (3) Force: An intermediate Use of Force that causes or could reasonably be expected to cause an injury greater than transitory pain but does not rise to a Level 4 or 5 Use of Force. Level 3 may include uses of force such as
 - (1) the use of OC spray if there is an injury reported or observed, or if OC spray is used more than once on the same individual; and
 - (2) pressure point compliance techniques.



Definition of Level 4 Use of Force

- Level Four (4) Force: A serious level of force including
 - (1) any discharge of a CEW in drive stun or probe mode, aimed at a person, that is not Level 2 or 3 force, including where a CEW is fired at a person but misses;
 - (2) weaponless defense techniques (e.g., elbow or closed-fist strikes, kicks);
 - (3) any discharge of a less-lethal launcher/munition;
 - (4) any canine inflicted injury, except those that would otherwise Level 3 force; and
 - (5) any strike, other than a strike with impact weapon, to the head, neck, sternum, spine, groin, or kidney area.



Definition of Level 5 Use of Force

- Level Five (5) Force: The most serious level of force, to include
 - (1) strikes to the head, neck, sternum, spine, groin, or kidney area with an impact weapon;
 - (2) weaponless defense techniques (e.g., elbow or closed-fist strikes, kicks) directed to the head, neck, sternum, spine, groin, or kidney area that results in visible injury, and/or requires medical attention, and/or results in complaint of injury;
 - (3) firearms discharges, including unintentional firearm discharges;
 - (4) applications of three or more CEW cycles on an individual during a single encounter regardless of the mode (probe or drive-stun) or duration of the application and regardless of whether the applications are by the same or different officers;
 - (5) uses of force resulting in death, serious physical injury, loss of consciousness, or requiring hospitalization; and
 - (6) uses of deadly force.