



CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

PAX 501

Eddie T. Johnson, *Superintendent of Police*

Volume 17

16 October 2017

NUMBER 11

A MESSAGE FROM FIRST DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT NAVARRO ABOUT THE REVISED USE OF FORCE POLICY

Dear Members,

After months of planning, receiving your input, and training the entire Department, our revised use of force policy is now in effect. The goal of this policy is to incorporate national best practices as well as giving you clearer guidance for a wide variety of situations you may face. I would like to thank you for taking the time to provide your valuable feedback as well as your participation in the first round of training.

While there are many incremental changes compared to the policy it replaces, I would like to highlight some of the more significant changes within this policy, this includes: Identifying the sanctity of human life as the Department's highest priority and the use of de-escalation tactics whenever possible. In situations where these tactics are ineffective, the use of force must be objectively reasonable, necessary, and proportional to the situation.

The new policy also provides more detailed standards on the use of deadly force, above and beyond what is contained within state statute. The use of deadly force is a last resort that is permissible only when necessary to protect against an imminent threat to life or to prevent great bodily harm to you or another person.

Recognizing the sanctity of life, once the scene is safe, and as soon as possible, medical aid must be immediately sought for the injured person by contacting EMS via OEMC and you may provide appropriate medical care consistent with your training.

Furthermore, the new policy also outlines additional limitations and prohibitions on Tasers and OC Spray, including that the initial discharge and each subsequent discharge must be individually justified and documented on the Tactical Response Report (TRR) as a separate use of force.

While these guidelines take into account a wide variety of situations, as police officers, in many instances you must make split second decisions keeping in mind the safety of you, your partner, and the public. Therefore, above all else, utilize this policy, your training, and experience to keep you and your partner safe, while serving our communities in a professional manner.

Thank you for all of your hard work. Stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'K. B. Navarro'.

Kevin B. Navarro
First Deputy Superintendent