
	<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>  <b>USE OF FORCE</b>		<b><u>NUMBER</u></b>  <b>402/47</b>
	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>  <b>08-26-09</b>	<b>AMENDS:</b>  <b>07-11-08</b>	<b>RESCINDS:</b>
<b>DISTRIBUTION: Administration, CID, Patrol, Communications, Clerical</b>		<b>REFERENCES: CALEA 1.3.1 / IACLEA 1.3.1 / TPCFA Chpt. 6</b>	

- .10 Whenever a member finds it necessary to use force to achieve a lawful police objective, that member exhausts every reasonable means of employing the minimum amount of force to affect the objective before escalating to the next, more forceful method. However, nothing in this order is interpreted to mean that a member is required to engage in prolonged combat or struggle rather than resorting to that method which most quickly and safely brings the actor under control. (see [Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S. 386 \(1989\)](#))
- .11 The amount and degree of force used in attaining a police objective as authorized in the [Texas Penal Code, Chapter 9](#), is determined by the circumstances surrounding the incident, including but not limited to:
- A. The nature of the case; and
  - B. The behavior of the subject against whom force is directed.
- .12 Under normal circumstances, the member uses verbal persuasion first, and physical strength, skill, or a [baton](#) (utilized after other reasonable alternatives have been exhausted or would be effective) to effect an arrest.
- .13 A weapon is not displayed or brandished as a threat unless its actual use in a situation would be proper, or if the circumstances call for using a weapon to control a dangerous situation.
- .14 The use of force against another is not justified in response to:
- A. Verbal provocation or spitting; or
  - B. To harass or punish; or
  - C. To interview or interrogate.
- .15 All instances of the use of force shall be documented in the officers report of the incident. Officers shall fully detail the facts and circumstances surrounding the use of force. Additionally, officers shall complete the "Type of Force Used by Law Enf. (if any):" drop down box field

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located under the Person's tab in Crimestar by activating the "Med" radio button and selecting one of the following categories:

- A. EC = Empty Hand Control
- B. IW = Intermediate Weapons
- C. LF = Lethal Force
- D. OP = Officer Presence
- E. VC = Verbal Control

The officer shall also complete the "Injuries Sustained" free text field by briefly describing the nature of the injuries sustained by the individual force was used against.