

West Sacramento Police Department Policy Manual—8cantwait Comparison Citations

Note: full text of the West Sacramento Police Department Policy Manual can be viewed [here](#).

WSPD POLICY 300.3.4 CAROTID CONTROL HOLD SUSPENDED

Use of the Carotid restraint is suspended effective June 10, 2020.

WSPD POLICY 300.1 USE OF FORCE

This policy provides guidelines on the reasonable use of force. While there is no way to specify the exact amount or type of reasonable force to be applied in any situation, every member of this department is expected to use these guidelines to make such decisions in a professional, impartial and reasonable manner.

The West Sacramento Police Department's highest priority is safeguarding the life, dignity, and liberty of all persons. Officers shall demonstrate this principle in their daily interactions with the community they are sworn to protect and serve. The Department is committed to accomplishing this mission with respect and minimal reliance on the use of force by using appropriate tactical deployment, use of appropriate crisis intervention techniques, and an effort to de-escalate incidences prior to the application of any use of force, whenever feasible.

WSPD POLICY 300.3.3 DE-ESCALATION

Employing techniques to stabilize a situation, to increase the ability to modulate the types and applications of force, to decrease the likelihood of the need to use force, and to increase the likelihood of voluntary compliance.

Officers shall use only that amount of force necessary under the circumstances presented that they reasonably believe is required. When using force, officers shall continuously reassess the perceived threat to select a reasonable use of force response. When reasonable under the totality of the circumstances and where it may be accomplished without increasing the risk of harm to officers or others, officers should attempt to de-escalate situations. De-escalation techniques include, but are not limited to, gathering information about the incident; assessing risks; gathering resources (personnel and equipment); using time, distance, cover; using crisis intervention techniques; and communicating and coordinating a response.

WSPD POLICY 300.4 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS

If an objectively reasonable officer would consider it safe and feasible to do so under the totality of the circumstances, officers should evaluate the use of other reasonably available resources and techniques when determining whether to use deadly force. The use of deadly force is only justified in the following circumstances (Penal Code § 835a):

(a) An officer may use deadly force to protect him/herself or others from what he/she reasonably believes is an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person.

(b) An officer may use deadly force to apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Where feasible, the officer shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

Officers shall not use deadly force against a person based on the danger that person poses to him/herself, if an objectively reasonable officer would believe the person does not pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person (Penal Code § 835a).

An "imminent" threat of death or serious bodily injury exists when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable officer in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person. An officer's subjective fear of future harm alone is insufficient as an imminent threat. An imminent threat is one that from appearances is reasonably believed to require instant attention (Penal Code § 835a).

WSPD POLICY 300.2.1 DUTY TO INTERCEDE

Any officer present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force. An officer who observes another employee use force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law should promptly report these observations to a supervisor.

WSPD POLICY 300.4.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES

Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective. Officers should move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants. An officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the officer or others.

Officers should not shoot at any part of a vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle.

WSPD POLICY 300.5 REPORTING USE OF FORCE

Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely, and accurately in an appropriate report, depending on the nature of the incident. The officer should articulate the factors perceived and why he/she believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances. To collect data for purposes of training, resource allocation, analysis and related purposes, the Department

may require the completion of additional report forms, as specified in department policy, procedure, or law.

WSPD POLICY 300.5.1 NOTIFICATION TO SUPERVISORS

Supervisory notification shall be made as soon as practicable following the application of force in any of the following circumstances:

- (a) The application caused a visible injury.*
- (b) The application would lead a reasonable officer to conclude that the individual may have experienced more than momentary discomfort.*
- (c) The individual subjected to the force complained of injury or continuing pain.*
- (d) The individual indicates intent to pursue litigation.*
- (e) Any application of a TASER device or control device.*
- (f) Any application of a restraint device other than handcuffs, shackles, or belly chains.*
- (g) The individual subjected to the force was rendered unconscious.*
- (h) An individual was struck or kicked.*
- (i) An individual alleges any of the above has occurred.*