

ATHERTON PD LEXIPOL POLICIES



8 CAN'T WAIT

- 1 **Require De-escalation:** De-escalation and crisis intervention techniques and consideration of alternatives to physical force are to be used and are less likely to result in death or serious physical injury. These techniques can be used in an attempt to de-escalate a potentially deadly situation.
- 2 **Duty to Intervene:** Any officer present and observing another using force that is clearly beyond what is objectively reasonable under the circumstances, when in a position to do so, should intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force.
- 3 **Ban Chokeholds & Strangleholds:** Chokeholds and strangleholds are strictly prohibited. The use of the carotid control hold has been suspended, except in situations when an officer is defending against an imminent threat of death or serious injury.
- 4 **Require Warning Before Shooting:** Control devices may be used when a decision has been made to control, restrain or arrest a subject who is violent or who demonstrates the intent to be violent. In this case, when reasonable, a verbal warning and opportunity to comply should be done before the use of the devices.
- 5 **Ban Shooting at Moving Vehicles:** Officers should move out of the way of an approaching vehicle, instead of firing their weapon at the vehicle or any of its occupants. An officer should only fire their gun at a moving vehicle or its occupants when there is believed to be 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.
- 6 **Require Exhaust All Alternatives Before Shooting:** 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.
- 7 **Require 'Use of Force' Continuum:** Officers are involved on a daily basis in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use reasonable force in carrying out their duties. Vesting officers with authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation and a careful balancing of all interest.
- 8 **Require Comprehensive Reporting:** Any use of force by an officer should 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 they believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances.