



LIBERTY POLICE DEPARTMENT
LIBERTY, TENNESSEE

GENERAL ORDER

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

USE OF FORCE				
G.O. Number	Effective Date	Date Issued	☒ New	
200.40	09/02/2026	08/19/2026	☐ Amended	
Approved:	<i>David R. Callahan</i>	Rescinds:	General Order 1 Use of Force – Deadly and Non-Deadly	
		Accreditation Standards:	2.4, 2.4-A, 2.4-B, 2.4-C, 2.4-D, 2.4-E, 2.4-F, 2.4-G, 2.4-H, 2.4-I, 2.4-J, 2.4-K	
	Chief of Police	Reviewing Authority:	Chief of Police	
This General Order is exclusively for departmental use and does not apply in any criminal or civil proceedings. It should not be interpreted as establishing a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense concerning third-party claims. Violations of this General Order will only result in departmental administrative sanctions. Violations of law will form the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in a judicial setting.				

I. USE OF FORCE GUIDELINES	- 4 -
II. AUTHORIZED USE OF FORCE	- 4 -
III. RESTRICTIONS	- 6 -
IV. LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS	- 7 -
V. WEAPONS OF OPPORTUNITY	- 10 -
VI. MEDICAL AID	- 10 -
VII. REPORTING AND INVESTIGATING	- 11 -
VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE	- 14 -
IX. OTHER JURISDICTIONS	- 15 -
X. USE OF FORCE REVIEWS	- 15 -
XI. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW/ANALYSIS	- 15 -
XII. TRAINING	- 16 -
XIII. INQUIRIES, COMPLAINTS, AND INVESTIGATIONS	- 16 -

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this procedure is to establish guidelines for the appropriate use of less-lethal and deadly force.

POLICY:

This procedure outlines guidelines for Liberty Police Department personnel on the use of less lethal and deadly force, as well as the subsequent investigation. It aligns with the department's philosophy, established professional and legal standards, and compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws. Officers must always bear in mind that the use of deadly force will be limited to situations of strong and compelling need. Officers shall use only the force that is objectively reasonable to effectively bring an incident under control while protecting the safety of the officer and others. Officers shall use force only when no reasonably effective alternative appears to exist and shall use only the level of force which a reasonably prudent officer would use under the same or similar circumstances. When deadly force is justified, it shall be considered a last resort and be employed for effect and not for warning.

DEFINITIONS:

Chokehold – the intentional and prolonged application of force to the throat, windpipe, or airway of another person that prevents the intake of air. The term does not include any hold involving contact with another person's neck that is not intended to prevent air intake.

Command Staff – shall consist of the Chief of Police and Majors.

Deadly Force – discharging of a firearm or the use of an instrument like a knife, club, baton, or any other use of force in a manner that, in accordance with [T.C.A. 39-11-620](#), is likely to cause death or great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent disfigurement.

De-escalation – taking action, whether verbally or non-verbally, during a potential force encounter with the intent to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat. This allows for more time, options, and resources to be mobilized to resolve the situation without resorting to force or minimizing the force required. De-escalation techniques may include command presence, advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion, and tactical repositioning.

Empty Hand Techniques – a level of force that has a low probability of causing soft connective tissue damage or bone fractures and avoids vital areas of the body. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- a. Grabs/grips on a subject that are secure, firm, and applied using a level of force proportionate to the context of the threat;
- b. Holds applied quickly to appropriate areas of the body; and
- c. Joint locks.

Excessive Use of Force – use of force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law, policy, or the observing officer's employing department.

Exigent Circumstances – those circumstances that would cause a reasonable person to believe that a particular action is necessary to prevent physical harm to an individual, the destruction of relevant evidence, the escape of a suspect, or some other consequence improperly frustrating legitimate law enforcement efforts.

Expandable Baton – an expandable baton approved by the department referred to hereafter as the “baton.”

Grave Sexual Abuse – Aggravated rape, rape, aggravated rape of a child, rape of a child pursuant to [T.C.A. 39-11-106](#).

Great Bodily Harm – harm to the body, which involves a risk of death, serious permanent disfigurement, or loss of or impairment of a bodily function or bodily organ.

Imminent Danger – in relation to homicide in self-defense, this term means an immediate danger that must be instantly met and cannot be guarded against by calling for the assistance of others or the protection of the law. It also includes the appearance of a threatened and impending injury that would place a reasonable and prudent person in immediate need of self-defense.

Impact Projectiles – often referred to generically as “bean bags” and “rubber bullets.” They are designed to incapacitate a subject with a minimal potential for causing death or serious physical injury when compared to conventional projectiles when used in accordance with department policy and training guidelines.

Impact Weapon (Baton) – a less-lethal instrument designed to deliver kinetic force through controlled striking, jabbing, or blocking techniques for the purpose of gaining compliance. Referred to hereafter as a “baton.”

In-Custody Death – a death, or the onset of a physiological condition resulting in death, that occurs while a subject is in law enforcement custody or while an attempt is being made to take a subject into custody. The death may or may not involve the application of force.

Less-Lethal Force – any response to resistance other than that which is considered deadly force that involves physical effort to control, restrain, or overcome the resistance of another.

Objectively Reasonable – the determination that the necessity for using force and the level of force used is based upon the officer’s evaluation of the situation considering the totality of the circumstances known to the officer at the time the force is used and upon what a reasonably prudent officer would use under the same or similar situations. The reasonableness of any response to resistance will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable law enforcement officer without the benefit of hindsight.

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray – an aerosol spray agent approved by the department.

Vascular Neck Restraint – technique that can be used to incapacitate individuals by restricting the flow of blood to their brain.

Warning Shot – the intentional discharge of a firearm for the purpose of warning or seeking compliance from an individual but not intended to cause physical injury.

Weapon of Opportunity – a readily available object or empty hand technique as a weapon in circumstances or situations where a subject's actions constitute an active physical resistance or higher resistance response.

PROCEDURES:

I. USE OF FORCE GUIDELINES

- A. Officers shall only use that degree of force necessary to effect lawful objectives. Liberty Police Department will not tolerate any excessive use of force. Any act suspected of being an excessive use of force will result in an investigation and disciplinary action for sustained violations.
- B. Use of physical force should be discontinued when resistance ceases or when the incident is under control.
- C. Physical force shall not be used against individuals in restraints, except as objectively reasonable to prevent their escape or prevent imminent bodily injury to the individual, the officer, or another person. In these situations, only the minimal amount of force necessary to control the situation shall be used.
- D. Officers are expressly prohibited from using any force with the objective of rendering punishment, retribution, or coercion.
- E. Duty to Intervene – An officer observing another officer use force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances, shall intervene to stop the use of unreasonable force. If necessary, the officer witnessing the unreasonable use of force will take custody of the offender or control the scene. An officer who observes another officer use force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law shall report his or her observation to a supervisor as soon as possible. The rank or seniority of the officer involved in the application of force shall not factor in the observing officer's duty to intervene.

II. AUTHORIZED USE OF FORCE

A. De-escalation

- 1. An officer shall use de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to higher levels of force consistent with his or her training whenever possible and appropriate before resorting to force and to reduce the need for force.

2. Whenever possible and when such delay will not compromise the safety of the officer or another and will not result in the destruction of evidence, escape of a suspect, or commission of a crime, an officer shall allow an individual time and opportunity to submit to verbal commands before force can be used.

B. **Less-Lethal Force** – When de-escalation techniques are not effective or appropriate, an officer may consider the use of less-lethal force to control a non-compliant or actively resistant individual. An officer is authorized to use department approved, less-lethal force techniques and issued equipment to:

1. Protect the officer and others from immediate physical harm;
2. Restrain or subdue an individual who is actively resisting or evading arrest; or
3. Bring an unlawful situation safely and effectively under control.

C. **Deadly Force** – An officer is authorized to use deadly force when it is objectively reasonable under the totality of the circumstances. When feasible, the officer shall identify himself or herself as a law enforcement officer and warn of his or her intent to use deadly force.

In accordance with [T.C.A. 39-11-620](#), the use of deadly force is justified when one (1) or more of the following apply:

1. To protect the officer or others from what is reasonably believed to be an immediate threat of death or serious bodily injury or grave sexual abuse.
2. To prevent the escape of a fleeing subject when the officer has probable cause to believe that the person has committed, or intends to commit a felony involving serious bodily injury, death or grave sexual abuse, and the officer reasonably believes that there is an imminent risk of serious bodily injury, death or grave sexual abuse to the officer or another if the subject is not immediately apprehended.

See, [Tennessee v. Garner, 471 U.S.1, 85 \(1985\)](#): The United States Supreme Court ruled that the use of deadly force to prevent the escape of a suspected felon violates the Fourth Amendment prohibition against unreasonable seizure if used against an apparently unarmed, non-violent suspect (the case involved a burglary suspect). The Supreme Court further stated that deadly force may be used against an offender who has attempted or committed an offense involving the infliction or threatened infliction of great bodily harm. Deadly force may not be used against an unarmed, non-violent, property crime offender. The United States Supreme Court decision went on to state that when an officer is justified in the use of deadly force he will, if feasible, first give a verbal warning. (Example: "Police Officer, Halt").

D. **Use of Firearm to Euthanize Animals**

Officers may euthanize an animal as a humanitarian measure, where an animal is seriously injured, and humaneness demands its immediate removal from further suffering. Officers

should seek the authorization of their supervisor and the animal's owner whenever practical.

III. RESTRICTIONS

A. Officers are **not** authorized to:

1. Utilize deadly force against persons whose actions are a threat only to themselves or property.
2. Fire warning shots.
3. Draw or display a firearm unless:
 - a. There is a fear for personal safety or the safety of others.
 - b. The intent of this provision is to permit officers to protect their person and others and to avoid the necessity of having to use a firearm when the threat of doing so might accomplish the purpose. Examples of drawing and displaying a firearm for personal safety may include, but are not limited to, the search of a structure for a suspected felon or a high-risk traffic stop.
4. Discharge a firearm **at** a moving vehicle unless:
 - a. A person in the vehicle is threatening the officer or another person with deadly force by means other than the vehicle; or
 - b. The vehicle is operated in a manner deliberately intended to strike an officer or another person, and all other reasonable means of defense have been exhausted (or are not present or practical), which includes moving out of the path of the vehicle.
 - c. Intentionally place themselves in the path of an oncoming vehicle and attempt to disable the vehicle by discharging their firearm
5. Discharge a firearm from a moving vehicle unless:
 - a. The officer is justified in using deadly force; and
 - b. Only as a last resort to prevent the death or severe injury, while considering the safety of bystanders.
6. Utilize chokeholds or vascular neck restraints unless deadly force is authorized.

IV. LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS

Less-Lethal weapons are not fundamentally designed to cause death or great bodily harm. The following are department approved less-lethal options which require additional due diligence in their use/application:

- A. **OC spray's** physiological effects make its use more suitable in certain situations. Proper use will aid in making an arrest with minimum force. OC is a viable option for the following situations:
 1. Defend against the use of unlawful force;
 2. Effect custody of a combative or resisting subject;
 3. Control crowds;
 4. Defend against animal attacks;
 5. Control a person who is resisting an officer's efforts to arrest.

- B. **Baton** an impact weapon (baton) is an intermediate force option whose physiological and mechanical effects make its use appropriate in certain circumstances. Proper application of approved striking and blocking techniques will assist in gaining control of a subject with a level of force that is objectively reasonable and proportionate to the resistance encountered. The baton is a viable option in the following situations:
 1. Defend against the use of unlawful force;
 2. Effect custody of a combative or actively resisting subject;
 3. Counter assaultive behavior when lesser force options are ineffective or impractical;
 4. Defend against animal attacks;
 5. Protect the officer or another person from imminent physical harm.

- C. **Impact projectiles** are primarily designed for use against subjects who appear to pose a threat of death or serious bodily injury to themselves or others.
 1. There is a broad range of scenarios in which use of an impact projectile may be justified. Major factors to consider when deciding whether such use is justified include the following:
 - a. The seriousness of any crime committed by the individual.
 - b. Whether the individual is armed and, if so, the potential lethality/threat.

- c. The propensity of the individual to be violent.
 - d. The urgency of the situation and potential impact of actions that may be committed by the suspect.
 - e. The ability of officers to use an impact projectile against the suspect in accordance with policy and training.
 - f. The potential for collateral damage to officers, another person(s), or property should the impact projectile incapacitate the suspect, e.g., the suspect is allegedly holding a triggering device connected to explosives or other destructible devices.
- 2. Consideration may be given to the use of impact projectiles against those who are posing a threat of death or serious bodily injury to themselves or others.
 - 3. Deployment of an impact projectile should be at the direction of a supervisor unless it is reasonably likely that failure to take immediate action would result in injury, death, or serious property damage.

D. Deployment, Strike Areas, and Follow Up

- 1. Specific deployment weapons shall be designated for deployment of impact projectiles or chemical munitions and shall be definitively marked by paint or other conspicuous distinguishing features as authorized by the department. These shotguns shall not be used for any other purpose, shall be loaded with only less-than-lethal impact projectiles or chemical munitions, and shall be kept only by authorized personnel in a manner designated by the department.
- 2. Officers shall inform other police personnel in the immediate vicinity that impact rounds will be deployed so that the shot will not precipitate the use of firearms by other officers.
- 3. Suspects who are struck with a projectile should be restrained, as needed, and transported to a medical facility for examination.

E. **Pepper Projectiles** – The department issued launchers offer officers a less-lethal force option for addressing unruly crowd situations and other events requiring a tactical law enforcement response.

- 1. Officers shall successfully complete Department-approved launcher training, qualify and demonstrate proficiency with the weapon before assignment or deployment.
- 2. Deployment

- a. The application of a pepper projectile is not intended to be, and should not be, applied as:
 - 1) A reactive immediate use defensive weapon, or
 - 2) An employed force option in a deadly force situation (i.e., when an officer believes it is objectively reasonable to use deadly force to defend their life or the life of another person from an imminent threat of serious injury or death).
- b. A pepper projectile may be deployed and applied in response to:
 - 1) Unruly crowd management situations in order to control crowd movement, defend an area or to disperse persons in defiance of lawful orders or committing criminal offenses, and
 - 2) For other events requiring a tactical law enforcement response.
- c. Tactical considerations for officers and field supervisors in situations listed in subsection B above include, but are not necessarily limited to:
 - 1) Containing the movements and actions of the suspect(s),
 - 2) Evacuating all potential victims from the area,
 - 3) Establishing an arrest team (or teams) of available officers,
 - 4) Separating weapons from suspects,
 - 5) Having at least one deadly force cover officer, and
 - 6) Positioning the arrest team in a manner to quickly secure the suspect(s) while avoiding contamination from the OC powder of the pepper projectiles.
- d. The application decision is the responsibility of the projectile operator and/or the on-scene supervisor based upon their training and the ongoing evaluation of the situation.
- e. The above protocols do not prohibit a projectile operator from deploying and applying a pepper projectile launcher in other situations where it is objectively reasonable to do so to overcome resistance in order to accomplish lawful objectives.

3. Medical Aid Protocols

The following medical aid protocols augment those of this General Order and are applicable concerning exposure to the OC powder of a pepper projectile.

- a. Securing the suspect to minimize the risk of injury to the person, officers, or bystanders,
- b. As soon as practical, offering the person relief by exposing them to fresh air and rinsing their face and other exposed areas with water,
- c. Asking the person if they have a history of medical problems associated with breathing or high blood pressure and monitoring them for any signs of a medical emergency,
- d. If a medical emergency exists, summoning emergency medical services (EMS) and providing emergency care until relieved by EMS,
- e. Assisting with the decontamination of, and providing information about the OC powder to, any citizen unintentionally exposed to OC during the PepperBall® Launcher application,
- f. Making proper personnel notifications concerning OC powder contamination when the person is delivered to a medical or detention facility, and
- g. Adhering to the protocols of Communicable Disease Control whenever a police vehicle is contaminated with body fluids from the mucus membranes of a person who was contaminated with OC powder from a PepperBall® Launcher application.

V. WEAPONS OF OPPORTUNITY

Weapons of Opportunity – Nothing in this procedure shall prevent an officer from utilizing any readily available object or empty hand technique as a weapon in circumstances or situations where the actions of a subject constitute deadly force resistance that could result in great bodily harm, permanent disability, permanent disfigurement, or death to the officer or others.

VI. MEDICAL AID

- A. Medical Aid – Any time a person has visible injuries or complains of being injured as a result of the force used against him/her by an officer, the officer must take appropriate actions to provide medical care for the injured person. This includes providing first aid, requesting emergency medical services, and/or arranging for other transportation to a hospital or emergency medical facility.
- B. Officers trained in proper treatment procedures for persons exposed to chemical sprays and the effects of other non-deadly forces shall render appropriate medical aid. If the person is

offered and/or refuses treatment, this refusal shall be recorded in the police report, along with all relevant information. In addition, the officer will also notify their supervisor as soon as practical. If warranted, the supervisor will arrange to have photographs taken of the person's injuries and those photographs will be attached to the report.

VII. REPORTING AND INVESTIGATING

A. Reporting

1. In any of the following situations, the requirements in [Section B \(below\)](#) shall be met:
 - a. Any application of a lethal or less-lethal weapon;
 - b. Any time an officer takes action, including weaponless physical force that results in, or is alleged to have resulted in, the injury or death of another person;
 - c. Any time an officer discharges a firearm including the accidental discharge of a firearm involving a member of the public, or initiates any action that could be considered a form of deadly force; or
 - d. Any time a police K9 comes into direct physical contact with a subject during an apprehension.
 - e. The discharge of a firearm for training, recreational purposes, to euthanize animals, or the accidental discharge of a firearm not involving a member of the public shall not be considered a use of force.
2. The Chief of Police will determine the amount of time required to complete the reporting requirements in section B (below) any time an officer takes action, to include weaponless physical force that results in, or is alleged to have resulted in, great bodily harm or death of another person.
3. Any time an officer draws a firearm and points it at a suspect to gain suspect compliance, and no force is used, a **Subject Compliance Report** shall be completed and routed as indicated on the report.

B. Reporting Requirements

1. The officer shall notify a shift supervisor as soon as circumstances allow.
2. Complete a **Use of Force Report**. The primary officer shall list all other employees involved in or witnessing the incident.
3. The Use of Force Report and Incident report must be completed and forwarded to the shift supervisor or designee as soon as practical after the incident. Each officer using force shall complete a Use of Force Report. Officers who are only witnesses to the use

of force shall complete a continuation report in the Zuercher system. Backup officers who arrive on scene after the use of force, or do not witness the use of force, do not have to be listed on the Use of Force Report.

4. The shift supervisor will be held responsible to ensure that reporting requirements are met before the Officer(s) leaves their tour of duty. When extraordinary circumstances exist, such as those incidents resulting in the death or serious injury of a person, the Chief of Police may grant an extension, on a case-by-case basis, and assign an alternate date and time for the Use of Force Reports to be completed and submitted.

C. Shift Supervisor Responsibilities

1. The shift supervisor, or designee, shall respond to the scene to ensure that medical aid is provided as required.
2. The shift supervisor shall review the incident, including any available video footage, and shall document his or her findings on the Use of Force Report. The shift supervisor, or designee, is responsible for ensuring all necessary Incident reports, Continuation reports and Use of Force reports are correctly completed, reviewed for accuracy, and submitted as required. The shift supervisor will sign the report(s) and forward them to the Department Major.
3. If the use of force involves an officer who does not report to a Patrol Supervisor at that time, the officer's Unit Supervisor shall have the primary responsibility to ensure all necessary Incident reports, Continuation reports and Use of Force reports are correctly completed, reviewed for accuracy, and submitted as required. The Unit Supervisor will sign the report(s) and forward them to the Department Major.
4. Supervisors involved in a Use of Force incident will forward their completed Incident report and Use of Force Report to the next level of command not involved in the incident for review.
5. If an on-duty or off-duty officer has been involved in a use of force incident, which has resulted in the death or serious injury to any person, the Shift Supervisor will immediately report the incident to the Chief of Police, via the chain of command. This also includes incidents where any firearm is accidentally or purposefully discharged which results in injury or death to any person.
6. **The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) shall be contacted at 615-744-4600 if any of the following events occur:**
 1. The shooting of a person by an Liberty Police Department officer acting in the line of duty.
 2. The death of an arrestee while in the care, custody, or control of an Liberty Police Department Officer.

3. The death of an arrestee shortly after being in the care, custody, or control of an Liberty Police Department Officer.
4. The death of an intended arrestee during an arrest attempt by an Liberty Police Department Officer.

D. INVESTIGATING

The following procedure will be used to investigate every incident where force is used in which great bodily injury or death occurs by an Liberty Police Department officer, while on or off duty.

1. The involved officer's responsibilities:

- a. Whenever an officer discharges a firearm and uses force in which great bodily injury or death occurs, the officer shall immediately:
- b. Determine the physical condition of any injured person and render first aid, when appropriate, as described in this policy.
- c. Request any necessary medical assistance.
- d. Notify a Patrol Supervisor.
- e. The officer shall remain at the scene, unless he or she is transported to a hospital with injuries, until the arrival of the Patrol Supervisor and appropriate investigators.
- f. The officer is responsible for protecting their weapon or firearm and submitting it for examination to the appropriate investigator. Whenever possible, a supervisor or investigator will exchange the weapon for a replacement one.
- g. The officer shall not discuss the incident with anyone except his or her supervisor, investigative personnel, attorney, or chaplain.
- h. When placed on Administrative Leave, the officer shall remain subject to recall at any reasonable time.

2. The Patrol Supervisor shall be responsible for the following tasks:

- a. Respond immediately to the scene;
- b. Make sure all medical attention has been addressed;
- c. Take charge of and secure the scene until investigators arrive;

- d. Notify:
 - 1. Operations Division Commander
 - 2. Department Major
 - 3. Chief of Police
 - 4. The TBI shall be contacted at **615-744-4600**
 - e. Confirm all witnesses, including officers, remain at the scene and are kept separated to maintain proper police protocol and witness credibility;
 - f. Confirm the needs of the involved officer(s) are met;
 - g. Complete an Incident Report; and
 - h. Assign an officer to maintain a Crime Scene Log.
- 3. Department Major Responsibilities:**
- a. Respond to the scene immediately;
 - b. Ensure that the TBI has been notified and meet with the assigned case agent; and
 - c. A detective may be assigned to the crime scene to ascertain that all evidence is collected and, more importantly, to act as a liaison with the TBI case agent.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

In every instance in which an officer uses deadly force and where such force results in great bodily injury or death of another person, the officer shall be placed on Administrative Leave with pay and be relieved of his or her normal duties following the tour of duty in which the great bodily injury or death occurred. An officer placed on Administrative Leave with pay shall retain full pay and benefits and shall ensure his or her availability.

- A. The Chief of Police may authorize a psychological debriefing by qualified medical personnel to determine the officer's welfare status.
- B. At the discretion of the Chief of Police, officers on Administrative Leave may be assigned administrative duty at any time.
- C. At the conclusion of the investigation, appropriate action shall be taken in accordance with the findings of the investigation.

IX. OTHER JURISDICTIONS

Use of Force incidents in which death, great bodily injury, or the discharge of a firearm occurs in another jurisdiction, whether on or off duty, including fresh pursuit and mutual aid incidents, shall be investigated in accordance with this procedure except as follows:

- A. The agency for the other jurisdiction shall be notified by the Major of Operations.
- B. The Chief of Police shall be notified regardless of jurisdiction.
- C. The command of the scene and security of evidence shall be maintained until TBI investigators arrive.

X. USE OF FORCE REVIEWS

- A. Use of Force Reports, Incident Reports, Continuation Reports, and any other related documents shall be forwarded to the Office of the Chief of Police without delay.
- B. The Department Major shall conduct an administrative review based on the Use of Force Report, Incident Report(s), Supplement Report(s) and any other available reports/documents, after every use of force incident. The Major of Operations may confer with department instructors/trainers who specialize in the field of force used, as needed. The review shall include:
 - 1. Policy considerations.
 - 2. Training considerations; and
 - 3. Tactical considerations.
- C. After recommendations resulting from the administrative review, the Chief of Police shall make the final decision regarding any action to be taken against any officer.

XI. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW/ANALYSIS

- A. Annually, the Department Major will analyze all Use of Force incidents from the preceding year.
- B. The analysis shall examine individual Use of Force Reports to detect any patterns or trends that could indicate training needs, policy modifications, or that other department requirements be updated.
- C. The administrative review/analysis shall be provided to the Chief of Police.

XII. TRAINING

- A. All officers shall receive training, at least annually, on this Use of Force policy and related legal updates.
- B. Liberty Police Department officers authorized to carry lethal or less-lethal weapons shall receive training on use of force and receive a copy of this procedure prior to authorization/assignment. Authorization/Assignment shall be at the commencement of the Field Training program (FTO).
- C. In addition, training shall be provided on a regular and periodic basis and designed to:
 - 1. Provide techniques for the use and reinforce the importance of de-escalation;
 - 2. Simulate actual shooting situations and conditions; and
 - 3. Enhance officers' discretion and judgment in using less-lethal and deadly force in accordance with this policy.
- D. All department authorized weapons shall only be carried/used, on duty and off duty, after successful completion of a course on their proper use and carrying. No unauthorized weapons shall be carried.
- E. All officers shall qualify in the use of all less-lethal weapons, at least every two years, re-qualify on such weapons or techniques under the instruction of a certified instructor.
- F. Training and proficiency results for any authorized weapon will be documented in the training files. Officers must annually demonstrate proficiency with weapons in compliance with Tennessee P.O.S.T. requirements.
- G. All officers who fail to demonstrate the required proficiency with department-issued weapons shall receive remedial training. Remedial instruction for department-issued firearms shall follow the Department's Firearms Policy.

XIII. INQUIRIES, COMPLAINTS, AND INVESTIGATIONS

- A. Liberty Police Department shall investigate every incident involving the use of deadly force, the infliction of great bodily injury, or the unauthorized discharge of a firearm by an officer.
- B. Complaints alleging unauthorized use of force will be documented in accordance with General Order 200.13 Internal Affairs.

RELATED FORMS:

Use of Force Report and Review
Subject Compliance Report